

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **MAY 28 1986**

date entered **6-26-86**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Shafer's Mill (preferred), Ascension Day

and/or common Shafer's Mill

2. Location

street & number 3018 Bennies Hill Road N/A not for publication

city, town Middletown vicinity of Sixth Congressional District

state Maryland code 24 county Frederick code 021

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Michael A. Eggleston (Margaret R.)

street & number 7656 Wesley Road

city, town Manassas N/A vicinity of state Virginia 22110

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse

street & number 100 West Patrick Street

city, town Frederick state Maryland 21701

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust
Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1985 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources		Number of previously listed National Register properties included in this nomination: <u>0</u>
Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings	Original and historical functions and uses: residential
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total	

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The house called Shafer's Mill is a first quarter nineteenth century brick house Georgian in form and Federal in decorative detailing. Two and a half stories high with a metal sheet covered gable roof, the house has a five bay symmetrical facade (southeast elevation), a one story gable roofed wing projecting from the east side of the back, internal end chimneys in each gable, a wooden molded cornice, and stone foundation walls. The bricks are laid in Flemish bond in the facade and common bond on the other elevations. The window and door openings have brick flat arches. The principal windows have double-hung wooden sashes with nine-over-nine lights, narrow frames with a beaded edge, and wooden sills. A frame porch extends along the western side of the wing. On the interior, rooms are arranged about a central hall with two rooms to the west and one large room to the east through which the kitchen room in the wing is reached. The decorative detailing consists primarily of architrave molding (two step in the principal rooms and one step in the others), chair rail, fluted and paneled pilastered mantels, six-panel doors, open-string staircase to the attic, and graining. Although the building is in a deteriorated condition it retains a high level of integrity of historic features and fabrics.

8. Significance

F:4-15

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1812-1830s **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: B, C
 Applicable exceptions: none
 Significance evaluated: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The significance of the house called Shafer's Mill in Frederick County is derived from the architectural character of the building. The house embodies the distinctive characteristics of the rural domestic architecture of central and western Maryland and south-central Pennsylvania in the first quarter of the nineteenth century. These structures, which usually represent the second generation of the building stock, generally are two and a half stories high, of brick construction, and Georgian in form with Federal decorative detailing. The facades are usually laid in Flemish bond with wooden molded cornices. The feature that sets this house apart from the majority of the other extant examples is the large proportions of the form. Shafer's Mill has an unusually high level of integrity of historic fabric and features, including graining on the doors, but is in only fair structural condition primarily due to neglect over time. Additional significance is acquired from association with the John Shafer, Jr. (1753-1823), and his son Peter Shafer (1802-1896) who operated four mills in this area. The house was built for John Shafer, Jr. and occupied by him until his death and then by Peter Shafer until the 1830s. John and Peter Shafer are described in local history as two of the most important millers in the Middletown area in the nineteenth century.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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See Continuation Sheet No. 7

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 3.056 acres

Quadrangle name Middleton, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	8	2	7	9	1	7	0	4	3	6	5	3	3	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael A. Eggleston; edited & revised by state historic preservation office

organization date May 1986

street & number 7656 Wesley Road telephone (703) 369-2194

city or town Manassas state Virginia 22110

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Michael A. Eggleston* date 5-22-86

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
Entered in the
National Register

Alonzo Byers date 6-26-86
Keeper of the National Register

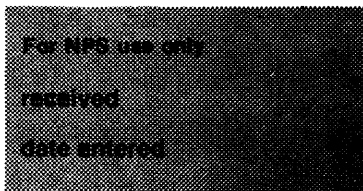
Attest: date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet Shafer's Mill Frederick County, Maryland Item number 7 Page 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The house called Shafer's Mill stands along the northwesterly side of Bennies Hill Road to the west of Cone Branch, southwest of Middletown in western Frederick County. The house faces southeast and sits close to the road surrounded by fairly flat terrain that is overgrown with weeds and trees. No ancillary domestic structures or mills historically associated with the house and mill complex still stand though rubble near the house may represent a foundation.

The house is a first-quarter nineteenth century brick structure, two and a half stories high with a symmetrical five bay facade, gable roof, wooden cornice, and internal end chimneys. A one story gable-roofed wing extends from the back. The bricks are laid in Flemish bond and those of the other elevations in common bond. The facade openings have Queen closers, some on both sides and some on only one side. The house has huge proportions and stands on a rubble stone foundation with window openings, most of which are now below grade. The roof is covered with corrugated sheet metal.

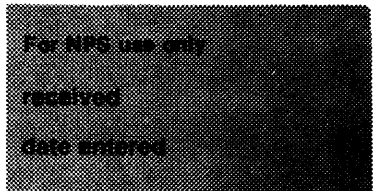
The principal windows are rectangular with double-hung, nine-over-nine sashes and narrow beaded frames, wooden sills, and brick flat arches. Each of the gable ends of the main block have two four-over-two double-hung wooden sash windows. Several of the windows have replacement lower sashes. Some windows appear to have early glass. None have exterior shutters in situ though evidence of hinges is present.

The gable ends are four bays wide with windows on both floors in the outer bays. The end wall of the wing is blank. The northeasterly elevation of the wing has two windows. The opposite elevation has a door and a frame porch with a closet at the end. The porch and closet are covered by an extension of the gable roof. The roof is covered with sheet metal.

On the interior, the rooms are arranged around a wide hall with two rooms to the left of the entrance and a large room, partitioned into two probably about 1900, to the right with the kitchen to the back of this room. The decorative detailing consists primarily of architrave molding and chair rail, two step in the principal rooms and one step in the others; fluted and paneled pilastered mantels with plain entablatures; and six panel doors with raised panels. Several of the doors are grained which appears to be the original finish. On the second floor, two of the rooms have clothes pegs.

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Continuation sheet Shafer's Mill Frederick County, Maryland Item number 7 Page 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

On the facade wall of the first floor front room to the left of the entrance is an inverted T-shaped molded element imbedded in the plaster. This element, possibly for picture hanging, appears in a few other Frederick County houses but historical references to it are not known.

The principal staircase is the open well open string type with two flights and open to the attic. The ends of the steps have decorated brackets. The newels are slender turned columns. The balustrade consists of slender rectangular balusters supporting a round rail. A half round rail forms a chair rail up the staircase and along sections of both floor halls, a feature not commonly found in the state. This half-rail affect is not carried up the staircase to the attic which has the traditional two-step type found generally in the principal rooms of the house.

The kitchen contains a large fireplace opening with the shelf missing. To the right of the fireplace is a low closet, then a winder stair leading to the attic above the kitchen. A deteriorated floor covering was found by the present owners under linoleum. Other features of the house include wind braces in the roof of the main block, physical and photo-documentation of a bell cot centered on the roof of the main block, and plaster walls. The date of the bell cot is not known. The woodwork is of southern yellow pine.

Integrity

The house has a high level of integrity of historic fabric. Most of the interior decorative detailing (window and door trim, mantels, doors, baseboard, stair balustrade and newels), original floor plan, and structural features including the staircase carriage remain intact and in good condition. Although most of the interior woodwork was painted in recent years, some examples of early graining on doors exists. On the exterior, the brickwork is intact although it shows signs of repointing and weathering. Not visible on a late nineteenth century photograph of the facade but clearly evident today is the crude repointing of put-log holes from construction. Window sash and exterior trim are in varying stages of deterioration. The above referenced historic photograph illustrates a wood shingle roof with a bell cot.

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Continuation sheet Shafer's Mill Frederick County, Maryland Item number 8 Page 3

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Earliest references to the property surrounding the house called Shafer's Mill are contained in the land records of Frederick County, Maryland. Circa 1744, John Mason received a patent for a small parcel of land one half mile from the dwelling. The patent was called "Mason's Folly" and included a mill site. On 24 May 1754, a survey was completed for Daniel Dulany, Jr. that included the land upon which the dwelling now stands. This was called "The Resurvey of Mason's Folly" and included 1540 acres.¹ Title to this land passed to Daniel's son, Daniel III, who was a Tory. The property was seized and retained by the Commissioners for the protection of confiscated British property in 1781.² The parcel, 90 acres, upon which the dwelling now stands was purchased at auction in 1781 by John Shafer and Jacob Derner, his father-in-law. The price paid was 184 pounds for land that was mountainous and unusable for agriculture.³

John Shafer (1753-1823) resided near Middletown prior to the revolution, served from Maryland in the conflict and owned his own mill after the Revolution.⁴ Which mill and where it was has not been confirmed. In 1788, John Shafer purchased Jacob Derner's share of the land. Both were described as "farmers"⁵ and so it appears that milling was not a full time occupation.⁵ From 1788 through 1820, John Shafer purchased several thousand acres of land around Middletown to become one of the largest land owners in the region. Source of his wealth is not explained. He served in the War of 1812 as a Captain and on 25 May 1812 had a survey made of all lands adjacent to the dwelling (356 acres).⁶ The land surveyed is entitled "Ascension Day." John Shafer described it as his "home plantation" in his will. Several sentences in the will described the dwelling which he left to his son, Peter.⁷ The will mentions only one mill (left to son, John) which was several hundred meters west of the dwelling. John Shafer died on 8 September 1823 and his estate was divided among his children.

Peter Shafer (1802-1896), his family and mother resided in the dwelling through the 1830s when his mother died. He subsequently moved to Middletown and lived there until his death in the late 19th century. From circa 1840 to 1 February 1878, the dwelling was leased to John H. Flook who constructed two mills immediately adjacent to the dwelling.⁸ John Flook resided in the dwelling during the Civil War. A photograph taken circa 1875 shows family members and a clear view of the front of the dwelling. The dwelling appears today much as it did then, including the boarded window over the front door. Peter Shafer sold the dwelling and

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Continuation sheet Shafer's Mill
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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

surrounding land to John H. Flook on 1 February 1878. From then the dwelling changed hands several times (from Flook to Keafauver to Koogle families) over a period of thirty years to 1917. A local resident recalls today that Daniel Koogle operated a mill adjacent to the dwelling. The dwelling was purchased by Washington Castle on 24 April, 1917 and has remained in the Castle family since then until 1984. Over the past 70 years, the land has been devoted to agriculture and hog raising. The dwelling has been referred to in this century as the "old brick farmhouse."

The Shafer family owned four mills all adjacent to this house. The importance of the Shafers is described by William Grove in History of Carrollton Manor (p. 357):

"The Shafer's were great millers and lumber men, they built saw, flour and woolen mills. They made a success of the lumber business and when a financial crisis came they gave aid to the manufacturers, saying the Valley could not afford to lose its industries. Much of the fine timber was used in making barrels, and more than one hundred coopers in and around Middletown were employed in making flour and whiskey barrels."

The four mills shown in the 1873 Atlas of Frederick County are:

Old Mill: Built by Casper Remsburg in 1770 as a flour and saw mill. It was a large stone building three stories high. It had two water wheels 24 feet high and was one of the largest mills in Middletown Valley. The Frederick County Historical Society has a photograph of it. In 1800, John Shafer owned and ran the mill. The mill appears on the 1807 map of Frederick County. After 1820, the mill was run by William Jarboe. After William Jarboe's death in 1836, the mill was sold to James Edmonds. It was converted to a woolen mill and made blankets and uniforms during the Civil War. The mill was torn down in 1878.

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Frederick County, Maryland Item number 8 Page 5

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Grist Mill: Built circa 1810 by John Shafer, Jr., it was willed to him at his father's death in 1823. John Shafer, Jr. sold the mill to Henry Remsburg in 1834. The mill was converted to a woolen factory. It was torn down after 1873.

Saw Mill: Built by Peter Shafer after 1823, it was run by John Hansen Flook who finally purchased it in 1878. It survived into this century and was torn down about 1910.

Chopping Mill: Adjacent to the Saw Mill, it shares the same history.

Biography of Owners:

John Shafer

(Owner 1782-1823)

John Shafer was born in 1753 and resided near Middletown; by 1770 he was in the milling trade. He married Anna Marie Derner c. 1775 and their first child was baptized in the Middletown Dutch church in 1776. John Shafer served in the Revolution as a private from Maryland and was a captain in the war of 1812. He was a farmer, miller, bank official and, at the time of his death in 1823, very wealthy, owning several thousand acres of land in Middletown Valley. His obituary was published in the Frederick newspaper. He and his father-in-law, Jacob Derner, purchased Shafer's Mill from the Commissioners for the Preservation of Confiscated British Property in 1782. He bought out Jacob Derner in 1788 and the dwelling is thought to date from that period.

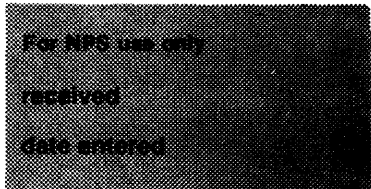
Peter Shafer

(Owner 1823-1878)

Peter Shafer was the youngest son of John Shafer and was born in 1802. He was a farmer and a miller. He was the last member of the family in the lumber business. He married Miltida Biser and lived on the southwest corner of Jefferson and Main streets in Middletown. He died in 1896. He was willed Shafer's Mill by his father and sold to John Hansen Flook in 1878.

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

John Hansen Flook
(Owner 1878-1881)

John Hansen Flook was a farmer and miller. He leased Shafer's Mill from Peter Shafer c. 1855 and purchased the property in 1878. He died in 1881.

William Keafauver
(Owner 1881-1889)

William E. Keafauver was a farmer. He defaulted payment of mortgage on Shafer's Mill and the property was sold by mortgager.

Daniel Koogle
(Owner 1889-1907)

Daniel Koogle was a farmer who owned Shafer's Mill until his death in 1907. His granddaughter lives near Middletown today and recalls that Daniel Koogle operated the Saw Mill. She is able to identify the site of the mill and the course of the mill race through Shafer's Mill. The mill was torn down c. 1910.

Daniel S. Koogle
(Owner 1907-1908)

Daniel S. Koogle received Shafer's Mill from his father's will.

Salina S. Koogle
(Owner 1908-1917)

Salina S. Koogle owned Shafer's Mill and died in 1917. the property was sold as part of the estate.

Washington Castle
(Owner 1917-1944)

Washington S. castle was a farmer. He defaulted on mortgage payments and the property was sold at auction.

Floyd C. Main
George W. Cramer
Newton C. Himes
Washington Castle
Lauretta E. Himes
Roy K. Castle
John Chambers
Michael Eggleston

Owner 1944
Owner 1944
Owner 1944-1945
Owner 1945-1957
Owner 1957-1963
Owner 1963-1984
Owner 1984
Owner from November 1984 to present

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Footnotes:

1. Land Records of Frederick County, Liber TH01, Folio 317.
2. Aubrey C. Land, The Dulanys of Maryland, p. 326.
3. Land Records of Frederick County, Liber WR8, Folio 36.
4. William J. Grove, History of Carrollton Manor, p. 436.
5. Land Records of Frederick County, Liber WR8, Folio 36.
6. Grove, p. 255.
7. Records of Frederick County, Liber HS3, Folio 187 (Wills).
8. Titus, Atlas of Frederick County, Middletown District.
9. Land Records of Frederick County, Liber 321, Folio 471.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Federal Census Records: 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850.

Grove, William J. History of Carrollton Manor. Frederick: Markey & Bielfeld, 1928.

Land, Aubrey C. The Dulanys of Maryland. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1955.

Records of Frederick County, Maryland:

- Liber WR8, Folio 36, 19 March 1788 (Land Record).
- Liber TH01, Folio 317, 7 May 1812 (Survey Record)
- Liber HS3, Folio 187, 1 May 1821 (Will of John Shafer)
- Liber TG8, Folio 690, 1 February 1878 (Land Record)
- Liber AF2, Folio 685, 3 February 1881 (Land Record)
- Liber WIP9, Folio 616, 20 July 1889 (Land Record)
- Liber STH280, Folio 212, 24 April 1907 (Land Record)
- Liber STH282, Folio 440, 2 April 1908 (Land Record)
- Book 321, Folio 471, 24 April 1917 (Land Record)
- Book 444, Folio 199, 4 October 1944 (Land Record)
- Book 444, Folio 448, 31 October 1944 (Land Record)
- Book 444, Folio 449, 25 November 1944 (Land Record)
- Book 450, Folio 55, 19 September 1945 (Land Record)
- Book 589, Folio 37, 6 September 1957 (Land Record)
- Book 692, Folio 178, 9 October 1963 (Land Record)
- Book 1247 Folio 843, 27 July 1984 (Land Record)
- Plat Book 30, Folio 64, 25 September 1984 (Survey Record)
- Book 1261, Folio 823, 7 November 1984 (Land Record)

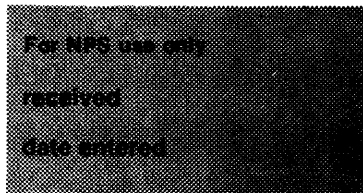
Titus. Atlas of Frederick County, Maryland. 1873.

Varle, C. A Map of Frederick and Washington Counties. 1808.

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Continuation sheet Shafer's Mill Item number 10 Page 8
Frederick County

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Verbal Boundary Description: Beginning at a point in the center of Bennies Hill Road on the bridge over the Cone Branch thence with the Cone Branch N 43 degrees 58' 31" W 424.64 feet, then with Cone Branch N 34 degrees 48' 33" E 109.19 feet, then with the Cone Branch N 58 degrees 18' 46" E 240.83 feet, then S 59 degrees 53' 12" E 213.29 feet to a stone planted, then S 59 degrees 53' 12" E 35.71 feet to a point in the center of Bennies Hill Road, then with said road S 36 degrees 16' 46" W 27.46 feet, then continuing with said road S 04 degrees 28' 58" W 218.70 feet, then with said road S 44 degrees 35' 52" W 220 feet past the front of 3018 Bennies Hill Road to the point of beginning.

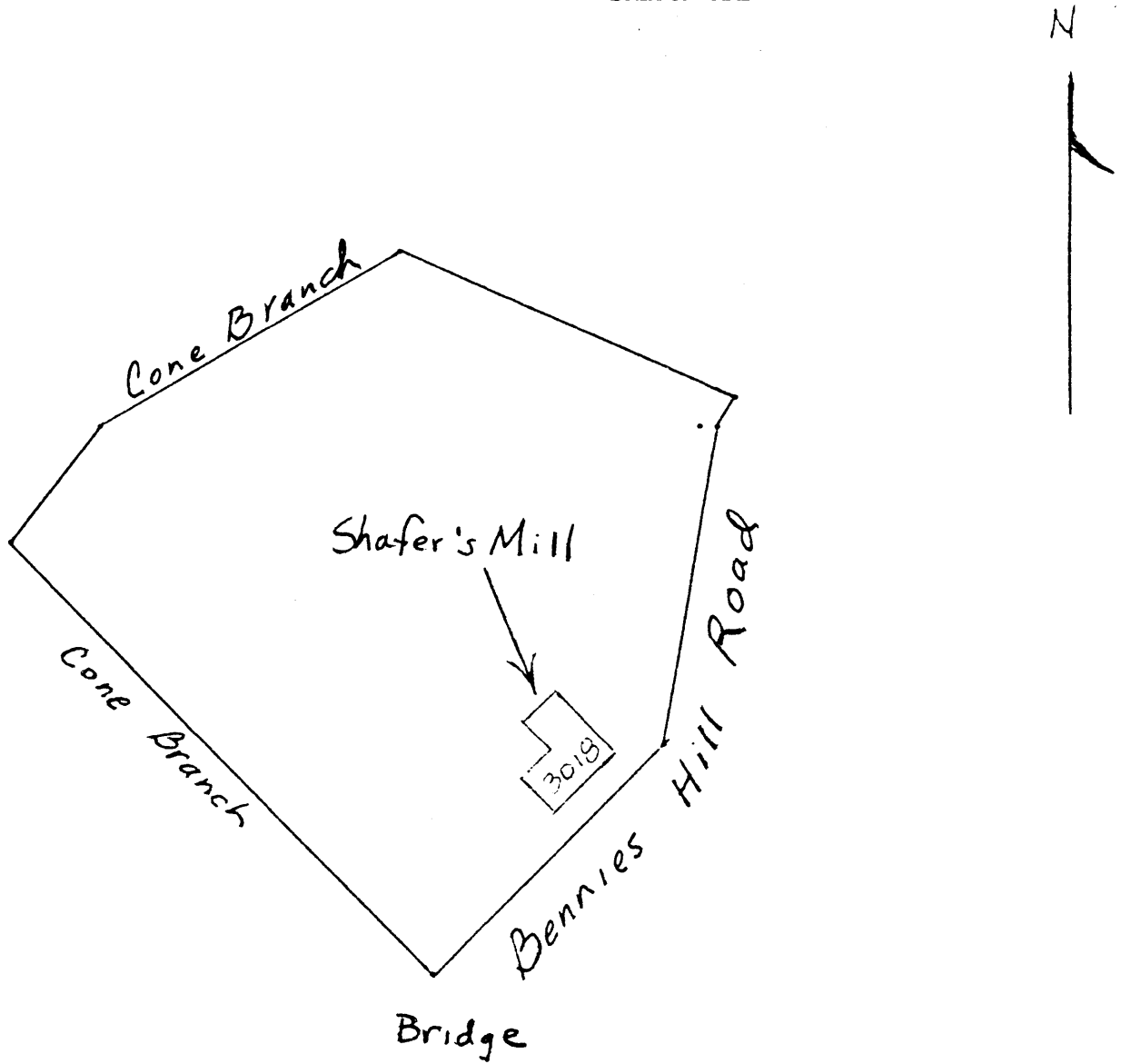
Boundary Justification: The boundaries are drawn to provide an appropriate setting that reflects the historic rural character of the house and consist primarily of natural (Cone Branch) and man-made (Bennies Hill Road) borders that form visual barriers ringing most of the property. None of the mill sites appear to be located on this property although piles of stone rubble may indicate ancillary domestic structures. The nominated acreage includes most of the area upon which we would expect to find possible artifacts and foundations of these ancillary buildings.

SHAFER'S MILL

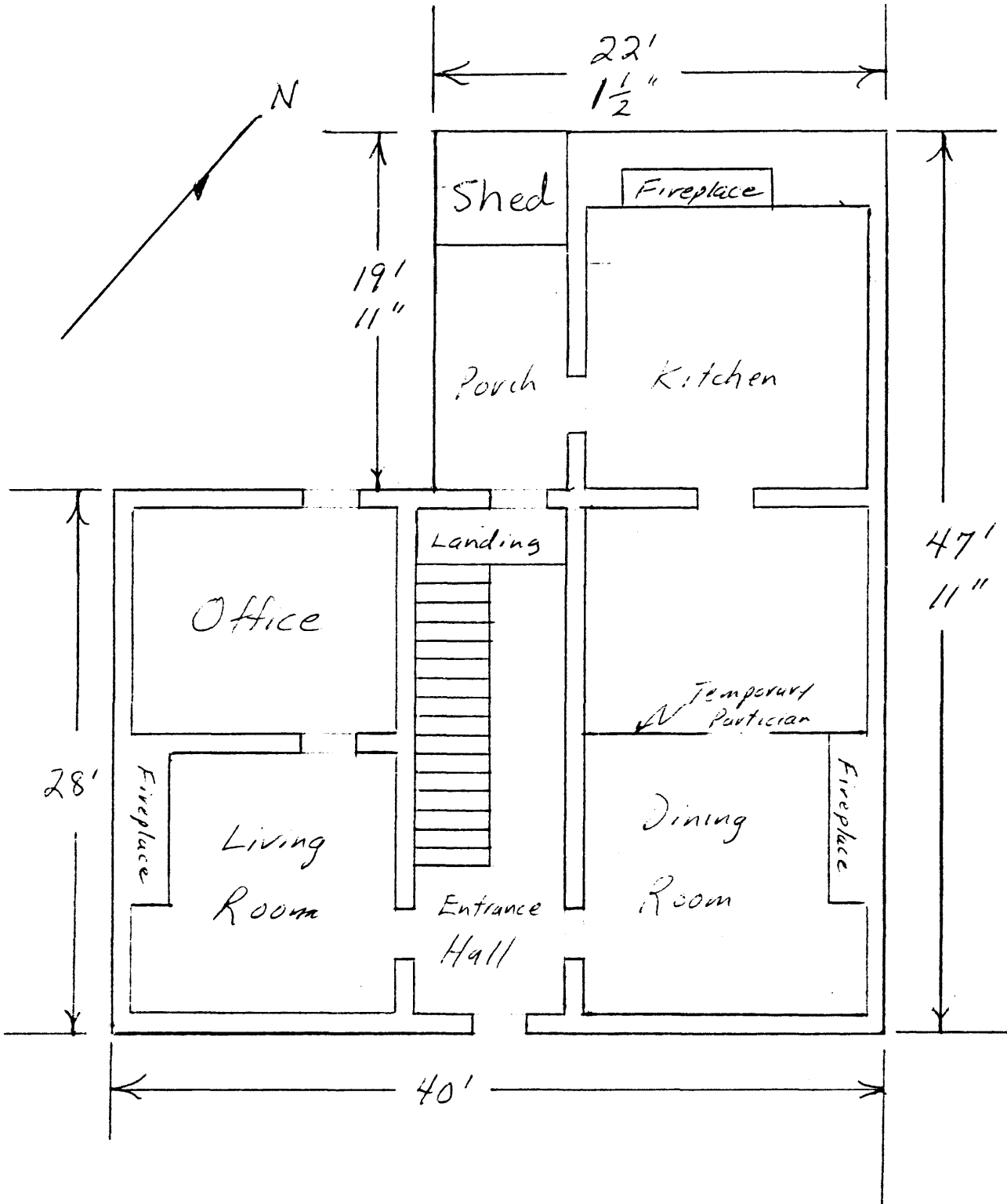
3018 Bennies Hill Road
Middletown vicinity

Frederick County
Maryland

SKETCH MAP



First Floor
1/8" = 1 Ft



Shafer's Mill

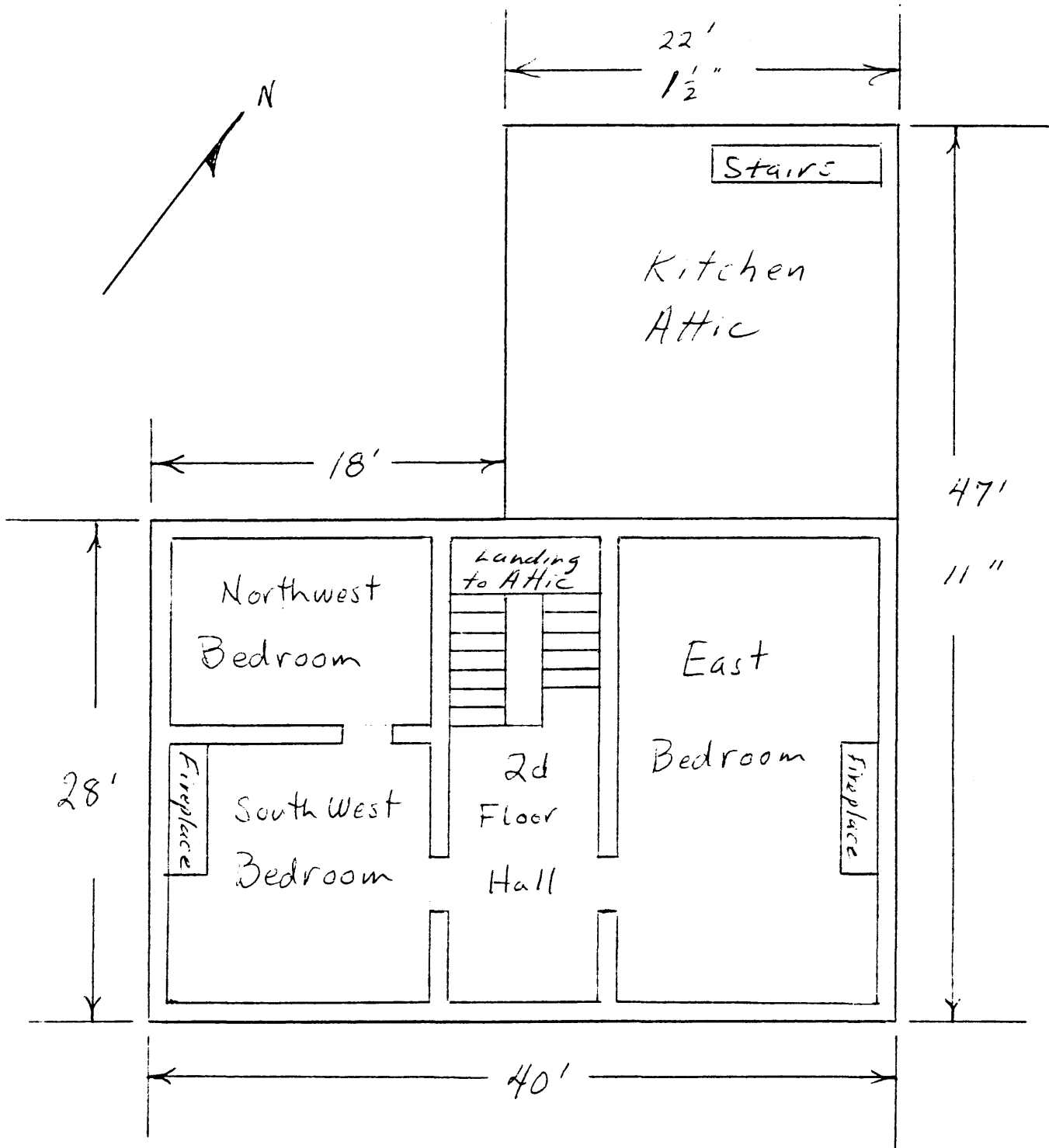
F-4-15

Frederick County
Maryland

first floor plan

2d Floor

1/8" = 1'



Shafer's Mill

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Frederick County
Maryland

second floor plan