

PH 0504343

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED SEP 21 1977
DATE ENTERED FEB 14 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
 Allentown Mill
AND/OR COMMON
Old Mill

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
42 South Main Street
CITY, TOWN
Allentown
STATE
New Jersey
VICINITY OF
4th
COUNTY
Monmouth
CODE
25
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Samuel Corky Danch
STREET & NUMBER
330 Old York Road
CITY, TOWN
Yardville
STATE
New Jersey 08620
VICINITY OF

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Allentown Municipal Building
STREET & NUMBER
8 North Main Street
CITY, TOWN
Allentown
STATE
New Jersey 08501

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
September 18, 1964
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Hall of Records, Deed Section
CITY, TOWN
Freehold
STATE
New Jersey
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

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
<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

The Allentown Mill is a 3 1/2 story stuccoed brick structure with a pitched roof, 5 bays along the front and 3 bays deep. The mill structure is set directly on the edge of Old York Road at the point where it curves sharply and crosses Doctors Creek, which at one time supplied power.

The sluice passes through the south end of the basement under a brick arch. There it encounters, but does not turn, the undershot steel watson water wheel, which is 8 feet in diameter. The water gates remain as does the old drive train, but the rest of the milling machinery has been dismantled and stored within the building. It could, however, be reassembled and used.

The other floors are more or less open and clear, punctuated only by six chamfered support posts, each of which is 12" by 12". These posts are framed into summer beams, a pair of which run the length of each floor. Joists are 9 1/2" by 5". The main stair occurs in the northeast corner of the building. Flooring is of narrow gauge yellow pine.

The main entrance is in the center bay of the front (east) facade. All windows are 6 over 6. There is also an entry door in the center bay of the north side, which is surmounted on successive levels by other doors which were used for loading freight.

In 1960 a small frame wing was built at the rear of the mill, and the roof was recovered in tin.

Despite the recovering of the mill building, its massing and fenestration are intact and its prominent position in the center of Allentown, on a crucial curve in the main road, continues to be visually impressive.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1855

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Lesly

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The mill in Allentown was an industrial and commercial mainstay of the area, which, along with its predecessor on the site, generated much of the town's growth. This relationship with Allentown is dramatically visible in the mill's position, commanding the center of town next to Doctors Creek. The large mill separates the town into halves and appears to force the main road to bend around it.

The water powered grist mill in Allentown, New Jersey, was built in 1706 by Nathan Allen. He owned it for approximately 30 years, then sold it in 1737 to Stoffel Longstreet. The next sale came in 1761 to James English who in turn sold it in 1774 to Robert Rhea. In 1776, Joseph Height (founder of Hightstown, New Jersey) became owner. Arthur Donaldson bought the mill in 1779 and sold the property in 1788 to Robert Pidgeon who, in 1792, sold to John Imlay the founder of Imlaystown, New Jersey. Aaron and George Steward bought the mill in 1796 and sold it to Richard Brewer in 1835. In 1845 Abel Cafferty bought the property and in 1855 he rebuilt the mill after a devastating fire. Henry A. Ford became the owner in 1895. He remained the owner until 1912 when he sold to Westly Burtis and Thomas Everham. They sold in 1914 to John R. Conine who was the last proprietor to grind flour, using natural energy. In 1952 Frank Drialo bought the mill and converted to electric motors, not to grind flour but to mix live stock feed. Before selling in 1960, Drialo gutted the building of almost all the useful machinery. This left new owner William Chamberlain with an empty building. Chamberlain rented spaces to various concerns (beauty salon, furniture refinisher, picture framer, offices, etc.) and he conducted an antique business until 1975 when he traded the mill for a farm. The new owners, a real estate agency (Illmensee Realty), sold to the present owner Corky Danch on December 31, 1975.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Storms, Dean, History of Allentown, New Jersey. Allentown Messenger, 1965.
 Ellis, Franklin, History of Monmouth County, 1885, Philadelphia.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2 acre
 UTM REFERENCES

A

1	8
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5	3	5	1	8	0
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4	4	4	7	1	8	0
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 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

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 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE

Samuel Corky Danch

(Jonathan Fricker, Office of Historic Preservation,
 609-292-2028)
 February 1977

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

330 Old York Road

TELEPHONE

609-259-2345

CITY OR TOWN

Yardville

STATE

New Jersey 08620

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL XX

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.

Deputy

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

Assistant Commissioner, Dept. Environmental Protection

DATE

8-18-77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Robert B. Rettig

DATE

2/14/78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charles A. ...

DATE

2-7-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER