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DESCRIPTION (Check One) K Good - Fair Deteriorated Excellent Ruins Unexposed CONDITION (Check One) (Check One) X Altered Unaltered Moved 🔀 Original Site DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE Noxontown, at the northern tip of the mill pond of the same name, today shows little evidence of what was once a prosperous country mill seat and village. Remaining are Thomas Noxon's fine brick house and a small frame mill. The house is a four-bay structure of two-and-a-half stories with a two-story frame wing. The transomed main door is located in the left center bay and a flat-roofed porch covers it and its two flanking bays. The porch is detailed with fluted square columns and a denticulated cornice. This detailing is not repeated in the cornice of the gable roof. The facade is also broken by a brick belt course just below the second floor windows. It has been painted white. The interior has been significantly altered so that the original plan has been obscured. At some time during the nineteenth century, the datestone, inscribed "Thomas Noxon, 1740," was removed.

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The thirty-by-forty-foot, two-and-a-half-story frame mill pre-Ο Z dates the house. It is of the simplest construction and has changed Ś little since its erection. The metal roof is a later addition 161 Small windows with six-over-six sash pierce the walls in an unsymmetrical pattern. A split door would allow light and enter while keeping animals out. A shed to the east side stands the mill race and still covers the remains of the milling machine 121 At one time a bakehouse, a brew-house and a malt-house stood adjacent to the mill. A hotel or tavern provided lodgings for those who attended the annual Noxontown Fair as well as travelers. Now, however, none of these structures remain, although the old King's Road still crosses the mill dam.

GNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	🔀 18th Century	20th Century
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REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropria	ite)	
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was an important			ughout the centuria
Perrou.			
The origina	l patent for the	site of Thomas	Noxon's house and
mill was given to	o Lucas Abel, who	o died sometime	before 1679. When
the land title wa	as reconfirmed u	nder English rul	e, the tract, call
Mountain Neck or	Lucasses Neck,	was patented to	Edmund Cantwell, o
of the most prom	inent settlers o	n the Delaware.	When he died, his
estate included	more than one the	ousand acres. H	e left Mountain Ne
to his daughter.	Elizabeth Cantwo	ell Garretson. wi	ho, with her husba

SEE INSTRUCTION

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1702 Sympson deeded Hansen one-third of his part of the tract. One-half of this one-third part was in turn deeded by Hansen to Jacob Rycker. In 1735, Rycker deeded his one-sixth part of the tract to Thomas Noxon. Noxon, born in Kingston, New York, in 1669, first acquired Delaware property in 1726. Since grain was the most important crop in this region during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries,

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Henry, conveyed it in 1701 to Isaac Hansen and James Sympson.

Noxon recognized the need for gristmills. He is known to have built or operated at least three mills on branches of the Appoquinimink,

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES						
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Scharf, J. Thomas. <u>History of Delaware, 1609-1888</u> , in 2 vol. Philadelph:						ia:
	L.J. Richards & Co., 1888.					
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Macdonald, Betty Harrington.	Histo	oric Lar	dmarks of D	elaware and	the Fast	torn
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Joan M. Norton, Historic Site	Surve	vor			ć	n i
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tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public	11	National Register.				
89-665), I hereby nominate this property for incl				- -		
in the National Register and certify that it has evaluated according to the criteria and procedur	11		DI X Y	11. 1. 1. 1.		
forth by the National Park Service. The recomm	11	Tobern Utley				
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(July 1969)	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	Delaware		
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Form	10-300a
(July	1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued) ---

the first on Mill Branch, the next on Deep Creek creating

Lucas Abel had established Lucasses Landing where Noxontown Would later flourish. Noxon, too, saw the potential for navigation here in 1735, when he bought one acre of land on the southeast side of Sassafras Creek and the right to build a mill dam from there to Lucasses Landing.

Noxon and his mill prospered. He served in several public offices including a seat in the Assembly of 1739, the office of Speaker in 1741, and the much-envied job of county surveyor. His mill seat grew into a town which was chartered in 1742. Part of the town's prosperity is due to the famous fair that was held there annually. Livestock, home products and imports from England were sold.

In 1743, when Thomas Noxon died, the mill passed to his son, Benjamin, who owned it when the Revolutionary War broke out. The people of Noxontown do not seem to have been affected by the war initially. A letter from Colonel John Haslet to Caesar Rodney in October 1776 reflects this:

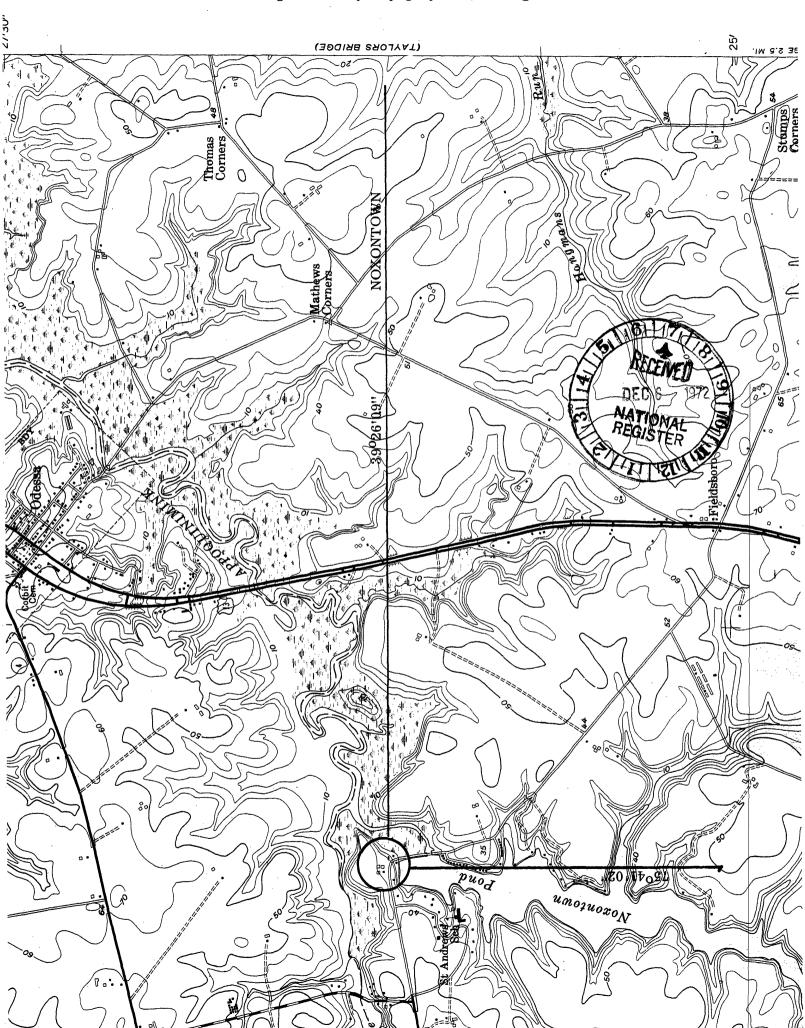
Have wrote Nicol Vndyke a most flaming letter, running O'er with Patriotism, praying him not to let the People attend Noxontown fair rather than the Election, and sell their Birthright for a piece of Gingerbread - Dr. Tilton writes Capt. Clark on ye same head on back of letter.

However, when General Howe landed below Head of Elk and marched toward Philadelphia in August of 1777, Noxontown became the <u>headquarters</u> for Caesar Rodney, who stationed himself there with four hundred militia from

Form 10-300a (July 1969)	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR	Delaware COUNTY New Castle		
(JUIY 1909)	NATIONAL PARK SERVICE			
	NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES			
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		ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
	(Continuation Sheet)	JUN 2 1973		
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8. STAT	EMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE - 2 (continued)	-		
Kent and	Sussex, in an effort to protect the mi	lls ag <mark>ain</mark> st Britis	sh	
raiding	parties.			
The	mill passed out of the hands of the No	xon family but it		
continue	d in active use, as a merchant mill unt	il 1855 and therea	fter	
solely a	s a custom mill.			
Tho	mas Noxon had built a unique bur	ial vault near his	5	
home, and	d he, along with his wife and children,	is buried there.		
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	INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM	New Castle		
		FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE		
	(Continuation Sheet)	JUL 2 1973		
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9. MAJ	OR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (continued	1)		
Amo	lter, Walter. <u>Lewis Evans and His Maps</u> erican Philosophical Society. New Seric 971) Philadelphia. July 1971.	. Transactions of the es, Vol. 61, Part 7		
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