

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

23

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# 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 **DONEGAL MILLS PLANTATION**

AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER  
Trout Run Road, R. D. #1

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
16th

CITY, TOWN  
Mount Joy

VICINITY OF

STATE  
Pennsylvania

CODE  
42

COUNTY  
Lancaster

CODE  
071

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

### CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

### OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

### STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

### PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME  
Franklin B. Zink and Joanne B. Zink

STREET & NUMBER  
301 East Main Street

CITY, TOWN  
Mount Joy

VICINITY OF

STATE  
Pennsylvania 17552

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Lancaster County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER  
East King Street

CITY, TOWN  
Lancaster

STATE  
Pennsylvania

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE  
The Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE  
12/9/76

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS  
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

CITY, TOWN  
Harrisburg

STATE  
Pennsylvania

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Donegal Mills Plantation is located in the valley formed by Donegal Creek, southwest of the town of Mount Joy. The grist mill was constructed in 1775 although earlier ownership of the property dates to 1720.

The plantation today consists of the grist mill, the mansion house, the miller's house, and a bake house although early photographs show other sheds and outbuildings.

The mansion was built prior to 1790, a 38' x 33' stone structure with a floor plan of four rooms over four. The first addition to the house circa 1820 was a frame kitchen wing and garret room added to the rear of the house, 16' x 16'. The second and major addition, occurred circa 1830, a stone two story addition to the north end of the main house making it a total of 60' in length. The mansion today is a two story gable roof stuccoed stone structure with a large full length porch supported by five brick and stucco columns. Six bays long the front facade has a double door in the third bay and a single door in the sixth bay. The window frames are flat with plain frames and lugsills and are single sash. Both doors are recessed with horizontal panelling topped by plain glass transoms.

The first floor interior of the main section is divided into three rooms. The front left room has a corner fireplace and is furnished as a livingroom. Directly behind it is the dining room also with corner fireplace. To the left of the stair hall is an alcove and small sitting room. The newer section to the right is divided into two rooms, a parlor in front and kitchen in the rear. The rear addition has a large fireplace and kitchen room on the first story and a sleeping room in the loft.

The windows are single sash with large sills. Doors on three stories are located on the miller house side of the mill. An inset beam located above the third story was used for hoisting grain and equipment to all three floors. Originally run by water with an interior overshot wheel, the mill was converted to steam in the 1870's.

None of the original mill equipment remains today. The mill interior is being developed as a museum with examples of mill machinery from other mills.

The miller's house today is three and one-half stories, stucco covered, stone house with a gable roof. Three bays by two bays the house measures 25' by 30'. The windows are 6 over 6 and have plain wooden frames and sills. The second and third story windows have louvered shutters. A recessed 2 lite door and one lite transom is located in the second bay of the front facade and has a pyramidal roofed porch. The original house was adjacent to or part of the mill and dates to 1775. After 1815, and probably circa 1830, the house was enlarged by 12' to the rear and 1½ stories added. Later a one story frame building was added to the east end of the house but has been removed.

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The bake house was built in two stages, the first section was 15½' by 20' with the bake oven extending out of the west wall. The second addition was added to the west end enclosing the bake oven. The building with the additions measures 45½' by 15½'. It is a two story, gable roof frame structure with wide clapboard siding, and is four bays by two bays. Windows are 9 over 6 and have plain wooden frames and sills. Doors are located in the first and fourth bays.

# 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 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" 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 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 c. 1775, c. 1790, c. 1810 and 1830 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Donegal Mills Plantation was settled in about 1720 by David Byers and the land, 332 acres, was surveyed for him on October 24, 1739. After periods of ownership by John Willson and George Clingen, Abraham Stouffer purchased the property on May 6, 1773. Between 1775 and 1779 Stouffer erected a grist mill on the Donegal Springs Creek on the northern edge of the property. It was during this period that the miller's house was also built. The mill site became a rural industrial location which contributed a great deal to the economy of the area for some one-hundred and fifty years, until the mill was deactivated in 1925.

On October 22, 1784, Jacob Kraybill, miller of Elizabeth Township, sold to the famous Lancaster County iron master, Peter Grubb, a grist mill and 212½ acres of land in Elizabeth Township which Grubb later built Mount Hope Furnace. 28 days later Kraybill purchased Donegal Mills and 277½ acres from Abraham Stouffer, beginning 86 years and three generations of ownership by three Jacob Kraybills. During this period the Mansion House (c. 1790) was built and expanded (c. 1810 and c. 1830). The mill was built (1830) and the miller's house was enlarged. In addition, in his will of 1810, the first Jacob left land and money to erect a Church. Kraybill Mennonite Church, Graveyard, and School are the result of his generosity.

The addition of steam power to the mill could not stave off the economic recession of the 1870's and the Kraybill family sold out and the mill and mansion house were split up and were owned by several families during this period. The mansion house became a country estate and the mill was reduced to grinding cattle feed.

The mill became Nissley's Mill after its purchase in 1880 by Levi Nissley, who retained ownership until 1925. During these years the mill ran by water power in times of abundant water and by steam when there wasn't. The mill was never to regain the level of importance that it had during the period from 1790 to 1860 when it was an economic focus for the area. The miller's house became the home of Nissley's family and was expanded with a frame addition to the east side to accommodate this large family.

The mill was deactivated in 1925 and stripped of equipment, the mansion house sold in 1930 and the property fell into disrepair until purchased in several parcels and over a period of time by George Brown, II. Inherited by his daughter, Joanne Brown Zink, she and her

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husband, Franklin B. Zink, began rebuilding, repairing and refurbishing the property until opening it to the public on July 4, 1974 as the Donegal Mills Plantation.

It is one of a very few rural water powered grist mill sites which developed in the late 18th century into commercial-industrial locations which still has many unchanged early buildings, pre-1830, that has not as yet been changed by "progress" and has not been encroached upon by suburban development. A unique site in Lancaster County and Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Secondly, the mansion house is also unique as a result of the architectural changes to the c. 1790 four over four basic stone house made in the 1830's. The northern addition, central hall, two story front porch with brick columns, and the stucco covering produced a truly rare example of architecture - a monumental Ionic Order portico which made it one of the few examples of large-scale Greek Revival domestic architecture in all Lancaster County as well as Southeastern Pennsylvania.

The mansion house, miller's house, and bake house have been furnished with authentic local period pieces which, with the tastefully cared-for grounds, make it an asset to the cultural history of Pennsylvania.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Kraybill, Spencer L., History of the Kraybill Family in America: 1754-1972.  
(pub. by Author, Fairfax, Virginia, 1972).  
Lord, Arthur C., "Donegal Mills: A Case Study in Historical Geography".  
Journal of the Lancaster County Historical Society (Lancaster, Penna.)  
Accepted for Publication in 1977.  
Ziegler, J. L., Donegal Presbyterian Church. (McManus, Philadelphia, 1902).

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.5 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	8	3	6	8	6	4	0	4	4	3	8	1	3	0
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING												

B 

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING												

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Arthur C. Lord, Professor/Susan M. Zacher, Curator

ORGANIZATION

Millersville State College/Pa. Hist. & Mus. Comm. April, 1977

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Millersville State College/P. O. Box 1026

TELEPHONE

717-787-4363

CITY OR TOWN

Millersville/Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

**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

*William J. Wewer*

TITLE

WILLIAM J. WEWER, Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

DATE

6/10/77

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



4442  
 4441  
 4440  
 4439  
 4438  
 4437

LANDISVILLE 5 MI.  
 12 MI. TO U.S. 222

MI. (COLUMBIA EAST)  
 5764 III SW

ZONE 18  
 368 640  
 4438 130

County, Pa.