

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Kinder's Mill

and/or common N/A

USE THIS COPY  
FOR DUPLICATING

2. Location

street & number 3 miles south of Beallsville on LR 62194 at Piper Road N/A not for publication

city, town Deemston N/A vicinity of

state Pennsylvania code 042 county Washington code 125

3. Classification

| Category  | Ownership                                   | Status  | Present Use                            |   |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <input type="checkbox"/> public             | <input type="checkbox"/> occupied                     | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture   | <input type="checkbox"/> museum                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied        | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial    | <input type="checkbox"/> park                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <input type="checkbox"/> both               | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress             | <input type="checkbox"/> educational   | <input type="checkbox"/> private residence        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                   | <b>Accessible</b>                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | N/A in process                              | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted              | <input type="checkbox"/> government    | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific               |
|   | N/A being considered                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation           |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> no                           | <input type="checkbox"/> military      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant |

4. Owner of Property

name Woody Gilliland

street & number Rd. #1 Box 115

city, town Marianna N/A vicinity of state Pennsylvania 15345

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Courthouse

street & number Main Street

city, town Washington state Pennsylvania

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

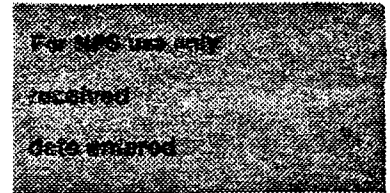
date N/A N/A federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state

United States Department of the Interior  
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Continuation sheet Kinder's Mill, Washington Co. Item number 7, 9, 10 Page 2

narrow flu running up the easternmost corner of the structure from an arched fireplace in the first story. Throughout the interior are neatly chamfered wooden columns at midspan of the floors. One of the mill's millstones rests outside the structure while the other is (according to the owners) sealed within the concrete floor of the present first story. The first story has a metal framework bolted to the floor which was installed to serve as stalls when the structure was used as a dairy barn.

Kinder's Mill constructed c. 1782, possesses fair integrity even with the loss of milling machinery. The milling machinery was removed probably about 1890 when the mill was converted to a distillery. However, clues such as round mortises on the largely intact framing and flooring provides some indication of how the machinery was organized. In addition, complete removal of milling machinery has occurred quite frequently among extant grist mill buildings in southwestern Pennsylvania. Quite importantly, the exterior of Kinder's Mill survives mostly intact to portray the building's significance and former use. Since this mill is being nominated for its exterior design and construction, the removal of the milling machinery does not pose a critical loss of integrity.

Major Bibliographic References (continued)

Stotz, Charles Morse. The Architectural Heritage of Western Pennsylvania.  
(U. of Pittsburgh, 1966). pgs 268-9

Swetnam, George. Guidebook to Historic Western Pennsylvania.  
(U. of Pittsburgh, 1976). p. 223

Killen, Warren and Mary. Unpublished Kinder family genealogy, 6 Norman Ave., Washington, PA. 15301

Boundary Justification

The boundaries include the mill structure and immediately adjacent property on all sides. About fifty feet north of the mill is a wood frame late nineteenth century house which has been aluminum sided and details altered until it is no longer of historic significance. There are no other structures within view of the mill, or natural features which are tied to the mill or of historic significance. About three quarters of a mile east of the mill, the stone farmhouse built by the Kinder family is still standing, but it has been thoroughly rehabilitated and is part of a large, self-contained farm complex made up mostly of new buildings. It is separated from the mill by a wooded ridge of land, and the farm and mill have been separate land parcels for about a hundred years.

# 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/         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian    |
| <input 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 type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |   | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

**Specific dates** c. 1782      **Builder/Architect** unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Kinder's Mill is a significant example of an industrial building type now rare in southwestern Pennsylvania. The rarity of this grist mill is increased by the building's fieldstone construction. Stone constructed industrial and agricultural buildings are not common in western Pennsylvania and no other example of stone-constructed grist mill has been found standing in southwestern Pennsylvania.

Although Solon and Elizabeth Buck in their book The Planting of Civilization in Western Pennsylvania cite nearly 600 "wheat mills" in western Pennsylvania and over one hundred in Washington County in 1810, very few of these buildings survive. David Mackey's reconnaissance survey of Washington County architecture (Preserving our Past, 1975) identified only three additional mills surviving in the county, all dating to the second quarter of the 19th century. None of these were constructed of stone.

The rarity of stone grist mill construction is reflected in Charles Morse Stotz's, The Architectural Heritage of Early Western Pennsylvania (written when there were many more mills standing in the region than there are today) which does not mention all-stone mill structures. In A Guidebook to Historic Western Pennsylvania, George Swetnam and Helene Smith also makes no reference to stone grist mills. Finally, the historic and architectural survey files of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission contain no records of extant stone grist mills in southwestern Pennsylvania.

According to family records of the Kinder family, Kinder's Mill was built prior to 1800. The property was claimed by George Kinder, a Dutch immigrant who moved here from Berks County, in 1782. George Kinder's son, Valentine Kinder, participated in the Whiskey Rebellion. Family sources say that an important meeting was held here during the rebellion. This may have been the occasion documented in Creigh's History of Washington County (1869) wherein twenty-nine residents of Bethlehem Township swore allegiance to uphold the United States Constitution at the close of the Rebellion, on December 29, 1794. Among the twenty-nine was "Valentine Kender" (sic.). In 1804, according to family records, Valentine Kinder's twenty-one year old son, George Kinder II, was killed in an accident at the mill. The property remained in the hands of George Kinder's only child, Valentine Kinder III, until the late 1800s. Valentine Kinder III died in 1890.

The mill was bought c1890 by the Thompson family. The Thompsons converted the mill to a distillery which they operated until the on-set of Prohibition, at which time the business moved to Canada where it is still active (there are associated buildings once owned by the Thompson Distillery Company in West Brownsville, about ten miles away). At the time when the distillery was located here, the crossroads at the mill was known as Thompson's Corners. Sometime after the distillery moved, the structure was used as a dairy barn. The metal framework of a half dozen cow stalls remains in the first floor of the structure. The structure has been vacant for the past fifteen years.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Buck, Solon J. & Elizabeth. The Planting of Civilization in Western Pennsylvania. U. of Pittsburgh, 1979.) 300-303.  
 Creigh, Alfred. History of Washington County. (1870) p. 107  
 Mackey, David Preserving Our Past (Marceline, Missouri: Walworth Pub. 1975) pg. 8,72 108-9.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 0.1 acre

Quadrangle name Ellsworth

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

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**Verbal boundary description and justification** Beginning at the NW corner of the intersection of Piper Rd. & LR62194, proceeding northward along the W. edge of LR62194 eighty feet, thence westward a right angle with LR62194 eighty feet, thence southward at a right angle with the N edge of Piper Rd. eighty feet, thence along Piper Rd. eighty ft. to a point of origin. (see Cont. sheet

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Terry A. Necciai

organization N/A date June 1986

street & number 400 Meade Street telephone (412) 258-4285

city or town Monongahela City 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 

title LARRY E. TISE, State Historic Preservation Officer date 9/10/86

### For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

