

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name: Shade Gap Feed and Flour Mill

other name/site number: N/A

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number: 1 mi. north of Shade Gap on Route 522

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Shade Gap (Dublin Township)

vicinity: N/A

state: PA county: Huntingdon

code: 061 zip code: 17239

=====

3. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
1	1 buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ 6 structures
_____	_____ objects
1	7 Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Industrial Resources of
Huntingdon County

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Shade Gap Mill

Page #2

HAER Identification #: PA 061.063

DESCRIPTION OF APPEARANCE:

Less than a mile north of Shade Gap Borough, along Route 522, stands the Shade Gap Mill. This 40 x 30-foot three-story frame grist mill roller has a one-story frame office joined to its southwest corner. The structure has a rubble stone foundation, timber post and beam framing, clapboard siding, six-over-six double-hung windows, and a metal gambrel roof with a centrally-placed cross-gable hoist housing on the west side. The mill's gambrel roof, unusual in this area, eliminates the need for an extension above the roof for the elevator heads. Virtually all the mill's late 19th and early 20th century machinery remains in place. The tax records do not indicate any major change to the structure after 1846 suggesting that the mill has not changed much.

The Shade Gap mill retains all its old flour and feed milling machinery, including its metal water wheel, pulleys and shafts, elevators and hoists. Only the deisel engine, most recently used by the Hesses for power, was removed less than fifteen years ago. The majority of old equipment was manufactured in Pennsylvania by The Wolf Company of Chambersburg and Sprout Waldron Company of Muncy. The machinery occupies the first and third stories of the mill, with storage bins in the second story. The water wheel and gearing for powering the mill remain in the basement. This is the only one of the county's seven surviving grist mills which retains enough of its milling machinery to provide information on the technology of milling during the period to which the equipment dates. The mill ceased operation in 1973-74. The millrace has been filled in and the dam destroyed by road construction.

In 1975 the mill was purchased by its current owners with the intent of restarting the flour mill. Circumstances, however, changed the purpose of the site and the owners constructed a feed mill with attached storage and retail office south of the original mill. The basement and foundation is poured concrete, with a timber frame first floor over the retail space and first through third floor of the feed mill. Within the past five years the space between the original mill and the retail area has been covered with aluminum siding over a timber frame. Five round and one rectangular metal feed storage bins lie to the southern most end of the site. These recent structures do not contribute to the eligibility of the resource.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Shade Gap Mill

Page #2

SIGNIFICANCE:

Brice X. Blair erected this grist mill in the Shade Gap Narrows in 1846. Blair was the grandson of a pioneer settler in this area and the father of J.C. Blair, a prominent Huntingdon manufacturer. Blair sold the mill in 1854 to Mathias Shoop, who added an "engine and fixtures" (presumably a steam engine) to the mill's water-powered wheel. Joshua Price became the owner in 1861, and the mill remained in the Price family until 1897. In 1912, it was purchased by C.S. Hess and operated by him and his sons until 1973. Throughout its history, the mill produced flour and corn meal, as well as animal feeds.

The current owners purchased the mill in 1975, intending to continue the milling of buckwheat flour and corn meal, along with agricultural products. They erected modern structures adjacent to the old mill for their new equipment, but have become so involved in the expanding business that they have not pursued the idea of producing flour.

The Shade Gap Mill is eligible under Criterion C for engineering. This mill is not only a good example of a late nineteenth/early twentieth century feed and flour mill in Huntingdon County it is also the only mill that retains almost all of its original machinery intact and in situ.

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain):

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

09 Agriculture/Subsistence

Subfunctions:

09A Processing

Current Functions :

09 Agriculture/Subsistence

Subfunctions:

09A Processing

09B Storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

80 Other

Other Description: Grist Mill

Materials: foundation Stone roof Metal
walls Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: AC

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : _____

Areas of Significance: Engineering
Industry

Period(s) of Significance: 1846-1939 _____

Significant Dates : 1846 _____

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Builder Blair, Brice X.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. X See continuation sheet.

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

X See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- X recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # PA 061.063

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- X Other -- Specify Repository: Huntingdon Co. Historical Society

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property: 1.0

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	18	255755	4452270	B	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____

_____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: _____ See continuation sheet.
 Tax parcel # 12-03-02.1 defines the boundaries of this resource.

Boundary Justification: _____ See continuation sheet.
 The boundaries include the buildings and structures associated with milling industry at this place.

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Deborah L. Suciu - Historic Preservation Specialist

Organization: PHMC - BHP

Date: November 1989

Street & Number: Box 1026 State Museum

Telephone: (717) 783-5796

City or Town: Harrisburg

State: PA ZIP: 17108-1026

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9

Shade Gap Mill

Page #2

SOURCES:

Africa, J. Simpson. History of Huntingdon and Blair Counties, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1883), pp. 265-66.

Booher, Gerald and Jan. Owners. Interview, 8 December 1988.

Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania: An Inventory of Historic Engineering and Industrial Sites, Historic American Building Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, National Park Service(unpublished, 1988).

Huntingdon County Records. Tax Assessments for Dublin Township, 1845-1865.

[Huntingdon County Historical Society]

Miller, M.A. Meet the Blair Family (Altoona: Blair County Historical Society, 1946), pp. 16-17.

Shade Gap Area Centennial (Huntingdon: Shade Gap Historical Committee, 1971), p. 29.

Shedd, Nancy S. HAER consultant 1988; President Huntingdon County Historical Society: interviews 1988-89

Shedd, Nancy S. and Harshbarger, Jean P. Second Century 1887-1987: A Hunting-don County Bicentennial Album (Huntingdon: Huntingdon County Historical Society, 1987), p. 6.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Shade Gap Mill

Section number 11 Page 1

This nomination contains material taken directly from the unpublished report prepared in 1988 for the Historic American Engineering Record (see Bibliographical References).

The author of that report, Nancy Shedd, is a major contributor to the text of this nomination although not the preparer.

SHADE GAP MILL
HUNTINGDON Co.
SHADE GAP QUAD
ZONE 18
255755 N 452270

5464 III NW
(ORRISONIA)

453

452

451

10'

4449

20 MI.
SCALE

