Form No. 10-300 REV. (9/77)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
AUBURN MILLS HISTORIC DISTRICT

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Junction of Routes 82 and 253 — NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Yorklyn — X VICINITY OF — CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT One

STATE Delaware — CODE 10 — COUNTY New Castle — CODE 002

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
X DISTRICT	— PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	— AGRICULTURE	— MUSEUM
— BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	— UNOCCUPIED	— COMMERCIAL	— PARK
— STRUCTURE	— BOTH	— WORK IN PROGRESS	— EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
— SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	— ENTERTAINMENT	— RELIGIOUS
— OBJECT	— IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	— GOVERNMENT	— SCIENTIFIC
	— BEING CONSIDERED	— YES: UNRESTRICTED	X INDUSTRIAL	— TRANSPORTATION
		— NO	— MILITARY	— OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Multiple

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN — STATE
— VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC
City/County Building — FORM AS SUBMITTED TO O.A.H.P.

STREET & NUMBER
800 French Street

CITY, TOWN — STATE
Wilmington — Delaware

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Delaware Cultural Resource Survey; N-5003

DATE
1978 — FEDERAL X STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Hall of Records

CITY, TOWN — STATE
Dover — Delaware

OWNER OF PROPERTY

National Vulcanized Fiber Company
P.O. Box 68
Yorklyn, Delaware 19736

Mr. Thomas Marshall
Route 82
Yorklyn, Delaware 19736

FORM AS SUBMITTED TO OAHP

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Auburn Mills Historic District is situated in northern New Castle County, Delaware, immediately west of Yorklyn on Route 253, off of Route 82. The district is bounded to the south and east by Red Clay Creek, on the west by the property of Thomas Marshall, and to the north by Route 82. The complex, begun in the mid-eighteenth century and heavily developed in the years between 1890 and 1910, contains numerous industrial, commercial, and domestic structures.

1. Horatio Gates Garrett House (N-5003.1), also (N-575): Built in the mid- to late-eighteenth century as a one-room-plan, two-story fieldstone dwelling, the Garrett House was substantially enlarged by Horatio Gates Garrett in the first decade of the nineteenth century with the addition of a two-story, side-hall, double-pile wing of similar construction. A second addition was made to the rear of the original block in the mid-nineteenth century and consists of a two-room-plan, rubble stone, masonry lean-to with one end extending approximately five feet beyond the original north gable end. While the interior of the original house contains some early trim in the form of a chimney cupboard with flat-paneled doors and original flooring, the early-nineteenth-century wing possesses all of its original first floor federal-period woodwork, including mantels visually supported on highly stylized and lightly-fluted pilasters carrying a full entablature with offset capitals, an open-string stair with turned newel and two stick balusters per tread, a full chair rail circumscribing the room interiors, flat-paneled chimney closets, and original raised-panel front door with a reeded marble door sill. Both the original block and the first addition are covered with gable roofs and stand over fully-excavated cellars. The house remained in use as the mill owner's residence by the Garretts, Puseys, Leas, Clarks, and Marshalls until the completion of the Israel Marshall house in 1897.

2. Israel Marshall House (N-5003.2), also (N-4086): The Marshall House was built in 1897 at a cost of approximately $12,000 and is an example of eclectic architecture at its finest. The north front of the house is two bays wide, two-and-one-half-stories high, with a small two-and-one-half-story turret on the eastern corner. A larger turret caps a porte cocher on the western corner. The walls are built of random, uncoursed gray stone. There is a gable roof over the main portion of the house and over the porte cocher wing; the two turrets have sharp conical roofs. Gabled dormers jut out from the center roof and there is an eyelet dormer in the roof of the west wing. All of these roofs as well as portions of the upper walls were originally covered with polygonal slate shingles, most of which have been replaced by composition shingles. Presently, there is also a raised-seam red tin roof on the sun porch of the eastern facade, which was added in the 1920's.

A one-story veranda runs the length of the north facade, encircling the eastern turret where it ends in the sun porch. It is made of wood, built on stone pilings, with latticework between. Turned wooden posts support the shingled roof and a closely-spaced wooden railing follows its outside rim. There are several other piazzas on the upper stories of the house which are also supported by turned wooden posts.

FORM AS SUBMITTED TO OAHP.

Window treatment in the house varies considerably. There are circular windows in the gabled ends of several third-story dormers. Originally, there were stained glass windows on the western facade where the stairwell is located. Most of the rest of the windows are tall, narrow rectangles set in white wooden sashes. The glass in these windows consists of a single, large beveled pane below and several smaller panes above. They have marble sills and are set beneath flat stone arches. The main entrance is a unique door and window treatment set side-by-side beneath a large stone arch.

Decorative detail is held to a minimum on the exterior of the house. A plain white boxed cornice is supported by plain sawn-wood brackets. Slightly more elaborate brackets are posed beneath the piazzas of the third story. The most elaborate detail is found on the porte cocher with its slender wooden pilasters and large expanse of shingled wall. The shingles are separated from the stone portion of the wall by means of a decorative wooden molding with rows of dentilation and beaded motifs. The front door also has some decorative detail in the form of modest scrollwork and carved sunflower motifs.

The main door of the house opens onto a large hall, from which an elaborate staircase rises to the second floor. To the left, sliding doors on either side of the hearth lead into a large formal parlor. This parlor was originally two rooms, each with a corner fireplace. The wall between them was torn down in 1922, at which time the connecting sun porch was added. The end fireplaces were replaced with one central hearth. A dining room and kitchen, with a narrow hall and enclosed circular stairway at the rear of the house, completed the first floor. In 1933, a large modern kitchen and breakfast nook was added and the old kitchen was converted into a study. These additions are difficult to note from the exterior, for the stone and style were matched exactly and the water table continues in an unbroken line around this new southern end.

The upper stories contain bedrooms and at least two original bathrooms. An elevator was installed behind the back stairs around 1950; a frame addition to the second story was built around 1956. There is a full basement beneath the house which, at present, is storage for the boiler and woodburning cook stove originally used in the house.

The entrance hall is a spacious, cheerful room with built-in settees around the staircase and in the semi-circular western corner. The stairway is a fascinating combination of Arts and Crafts turned balusters on the second floor and turned balusters in an oriental pattern in the main hall itself. The newel posts end in carved relief sunflower motifs. The floor, staircase and recessed Elizabethan-style wall panels are all of oak. The woodwork and door trim is also of a wide molded oak. The windows have built-in louvered shutters which

fold into the walls when not in use. However, the most striking feature of this room is undoubtedly the mantle. It is composed of a full mantle shelf with an elaborate beaded edge, below which is a panel of carved naturalistic foliage and more beading. The shelf is supported in the center by curved brackets and on either end by three-dimensional carved chimeras, each of which rests on a base and is topped by an ornate capital. The mantle shelf, in turn, supports two smaller griffins which flank a large mirror.

The griffins are topped by Egyptian urns and a smaller shelf with running dentilation. The beaded molding is repeated in a frame for the mirror. The hearth bed is laid in glazes of a solid color, with a decorative border of tiles in a stylized flora motif.

The other rooms in the house display equally impressive treasures . Photographs taken by Tom Marshall's father shortly after the house was built show plaster walls covered with Arts and Crafts wallpaper in stylized and naturalistic prints. The mantles and hearth beds are different in each room -- in one a fine example of Colonial revival; in another, a masterpiece in the Beaux Art tradition. All hearth beds are inlaid with small glazed tiles; all have unique stylized borders; many have built-in mirrors. Open round arches lead from room to room. Decorative plaster work is attached to the inside of these arches giving the effect of elaborate capitals. Although at present the ceilings are coffered, originally they were of plaster covered with paper. They were replaced in 1920, when they began to fall in.

Behind the house are a garage, display building, and pump house - all of the same uncoursed stone construction. Each of the secondary structures is more restrained in design than the Marshall House although, in their detailing, they display some of the same architectural eclecticism found in the 1897 dwelling. The garage and display building currently house the museum operations for the Magic Age of Steam.

3. The "Bank" (N-5003.3), also (N-466): Adjacent to the Garrett House stands a continuous block of three workers' housing units known as "The Bank" and built in the mid-nineteenth century when Auburn operated as a textile mill. The entire structure is of rubble stone construction finished with a thick whitewash. Built into a natural embankment, the structure rises two full stories over a row of full cellars entered from the facade. The bank is covered with a plain gable roof forming a full attic and each unit is provided with a gable end chimney pile. The bank remains in excellent condition and is still utilized as a three-family dwelling.

4. Auburn Store/NVF Office (N-5003.4): Erected in the latter part of the nineteenth century, the Auburn Store stands north of the bank and fronts on Route 252 and the Paper Mills. Of brick stretcher bond construction, the store was built as a center-hall-plan, one-room deep commercial building with a central doorway flanked on either side by bow-front display windows. A fourth opening, a doorway, also opened from the facade at the south end and led into a storage room. The one-story structure is covered with a slate-tiled gable roof with projecting eaves and a brick cross gable. The front of the Auburn Store is spanned by a full length, shed-roofed porch over a stone paved walkway. When the store was converted to a foreman's office by NVF the original commercial furnishings and bow windows were removed, but the building continues in use and is in excellent condition.

5. Frame Workers' Housing Site (N-5003.5): A row of two-story frame workers' houses finished with board-and-batten siding and a dormered gable roof stood to the north of the Auburn Store until the mid-twentieth century, when it was demolished. Panoramic photographs of Auburn, taken by Thomas Marshall, Sr., between 1890 and 1910, show the structure inhabited by workers in the adjacent paper mill.

6. Insulite Mill (N-5003.6): Erected under the direction of Israel Marshall in 1900, the Insulite Mill remains as a rambling, heavily-whitewashed, rubble stone industrial structure. It was in this mill that Israel and Elwood Marshall installed their own patented continuous fiber machine. The insulite mill, built over an earlier row of workers' houses, was powered by steam produced in a large boiler room in the north end of the building. Although gutted of all its machinery, the Insulite Mill, with its towering smokestack, slate roof and vast interior spaces, is maintained as a storage area for the plant.

7. Blacksmith's Shop Site (N-5003.7): Directly adjacent to the north gable end of the Insulite Mill stood a low gable roof, open-fronted structure, used as a blacksmith's shop. In the early twentieth century the smith provided not only custom parts and repairs for the mills, but also conducted a brisk local trade for the residents of Auburn and the surrounding farms. The blacksmith's shop was deemed unsafe and demolished by NVF in 1967-77.

8. Auburn Mill (N-5003.8), also (N-1083): Across Route 253 from the bank, Auburn Store and Insulite Mill stands the stuccoed, multi-storied Auburn Paper Mills. Although a mill of one sort or another has operated on this site since the mid-nineteenth century, the present structure began in the 1880's as William Clark replaced his textile mills with a papermaking operation following a devastating fire in 1880. Photographs taken by Thomas Marshall, Sr. illustrate the enlargement of the mills between 1890 and 1914. The two-story frame mill purchased

from Clark around 1890 by the Marshall Brothers received first a separate one-story rubble stone masonry wing, and then a separate one-story brick wing finished with plain brick pilasters placed between each window on both facades. Later, the three contiguous structures were made one, and a continuous paper machine installed. Marshall photographs illustrate the machinery in its original condition and operation, including a full complement of Downingtown (Pa.) Manufacturing Company drying rolls which remain in use today. At one time the paper produced in the Auburn Mill was made from recycled rags but, at present, all papermaking activities stem from imported wood pulp.

Although the earliest mills were undoubtedly water-powered, the Marshall's utilized steam with an auxiliary water wheel. Around 1905 the metal overshot water wheel was installed off the south end of the mill to aid the steam engines at peak working times but, in its operation, proved to be a drag on the extant power system rather than an aid. Needless to say, the use of the water wheel was discontinued and the iron wheel eventually dismantled. Just prior to the installation of the water wheel, a double action Corliss engine was installed exterior to the two-story frame portion of the mill. The Corliss engine, one of at least two incorporated by the Marshalls into their various mills, was eventually dismantled. At present, the disassembled engine is stored in New Castle, Delaware.

Although the exterior textiles of the Auburn Mills have been altered with later applications of stucco and paint, the structure and some of the machinery remain as they were developed by the Marshalls prior to the First World War and are in excellent condition.

9. Utility Shed (N-5003.9): Built in the early-twentieth century, the frame utility shed stands to the south gable end of the Auburn Mills; one-story in elevation, the shed was likely erected to house machinery associated with the water wheel installation.

10. Trolley Line Trestle Piers (N-5003.10): A trolley connecting the Red Clay Creek Valley community to Wilmington crossed the creek at Auburn Mills. All that remains of the line are two skewed stone piers approximately ten feet long, six feet in height, and tapering to pointed ends as buttresses against flood waters and drifting debris. The piers are located directly southeast of the mill with one on either side of the creek.

11. Garrett Bank Barn Site (N-5003.11): Early photographs taken by Thomas Marshall, Sr. and an 1812 Road Plat illustrate the presence of a large frame bank barn with four bays, resting on a stone-walled stable area. Aboveground, no traces remain of the barn which stood slightly to the southeast of the Garrett House.

12. Storage Shed Site (N-5003.12): Illustrated in a circa 1905 photograph, the shed appears as a one-story frame-walled bank structure covered with vertical board siding and an overhanging wood shingle roof. The demolition date of the structure is unknown, although it was badly deteriorated at the time the photograph was taken.

13. Supervisor's House (N-5004) Physically outside the bounds of the Auburn Mills Historic District, but intrinsically related to it, is the Supervisor's House. Probably erected during the tenure of William Clark, the Supervisor's dwelling stands south of mills across Red Clay Creek at the junction of Routes 252 and 255. The house is two stories in elevation, of stuccoed stone construction with a balanced three-bay facade, and covered with a flat gable roof finished with a corbelled brick cornice. The Supervisor's house is currently owned by the Benge family and is in excellent condition. The Supervisor's house is situated too far from the core of the Auburn Mills Historic District to justify an expansion of the proposed district bounds to include this house. The property may meet the criteria for subsequent individual nomination. It is mentioned within the context of the district nomination to recognize that it survives.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	X INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

FORM AS SUBMITTED TO O.A.H.P.

SPECIFIC DATES BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Auburn complex is significant primarily for the continuity and use of the same mill seat for various industries, including grist milling, woolen milling and papermaking, from the 1700's through the present time, and the extent of interaction between life and work within the community. With the advent of papermaking and the Marshall Brothers, the site is known for the invention and use of fiber and the continuous fiber machine. The insulite mill, which is still standing, housed the first continuous fiber machine. The workers' housing, representing architecture from several periods, is located directly across the street from the mill buildings. There are also archaeological sites for other workers' housing, the blacksmith's shop, the trolley and a mill building. The planning of the community, as such, led to an extensive interaction between family life and work in the mill creating a community unique and yet typical of a small milling town.

Today, National Vulcanized Fibre (NVF) operates the mill for the manufacture of paper as a base for the construction of fiber.

The Marshall Brothers plant has grown with the changes in the manufacture of paper. Some of the original machinery, such as the driers made in Downington, Pennsylvania, and the wet end of the paper machine made by Pusey and Jones of Wilmington, Delaware, are still in use in the plant. Up until this decade, the overshot water wheel was still in place. Surprisingly, the wheel was used as an aid for the steam engines until the employees discovered that the engines were dragging the wheel rather than the wheel taking some of the engine's burden. Consequently, water and steam power worked hand-in-hand in the running of the mill well into the 1900's.

Not only have there been changes in the making of paper, but the Marshall Brothers' plant invented a new product of paper - fiber. Fiber is made by bonding sheets of paper together with an acid. It is primarily used as an insulator. Today, NVF manufactures other by-products of paper such as Phenolite, Filamite and Lamicor.

The community is still laid out essentially tha way it evolved from the original mill site back in the 1700's. The mill seat was originally established by John Garrett, sometime after he purchased a tract of land from Letitia Penn in 1726. The mill was first used to grind grain and saw lumber. In 1805, Horatio Gates Garrett advertised for apprentice papermakers for the Yorklyn Mill.

A road plat, dated 1812 among the New Castle County Road Papers, clearly illustrates the house of H. Garrett, an unidentified outbuilding, and a paper mill situated on a race running adjacent to a shallow bend in Red Clay Creek. The land and buildings

went to Thomas Lea in 1813 and the mill was remodeled for the spinning of cotton. Since each of the Lea mills was given a special name, this site was called the "Auburn Mills" and was known as "Auburn" until 1872, when the hamlet was renamed Yorklyn. Later in 1813, the nephew of Thomas Lea, Jacob Pusey, took over the operation of the cotton mill. Lea sold the mill to Pusey sometime before 1830, and in 1862 Pusey sold the site to William and James Clark.

Jacob Pusey, signing himself as a cotton spinner, responded to a questionnaire published by the Treasury Department in 1837. His cotton mill operated 1,400 spindles powered by water and produced an estimated 70,000 to 100,000 pounds of yarn a year. He employed six men at six dollars per week, twelve women at two dollars and twenty-five cents, children at a dollar and twenty-five cents. The labor force worked "eleven hours, exclusive of meals, and about fifty weeks in the year," and annually consumed about "$2,000 of breadstuffs, meat and vegetables; $1,000 domestic dry goods and groceries." The yarn produced at the mills was typically sold on six months' credit to buyers in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and the southern and western states and, although a small amount was sold at the mills, sent overland by wagon for shipment by water. In 1880, Clark's woolen mill burnt and was rebuilt as a paper mill. Then, T. Elwood Marshall, Israel W. Marshall, and S. Franklin Evart bought the mill from Clark. In 1899, the Marshalls built a new paper mill in Yorklyn. The idea for the manufacture of fiber was fully initiated by Israel and Elwood Marshall, developing and constructing a continuous fiber machine in the insulite mill in 1900. The "National Fibre and Insulation Company" was incorporated on January 27, 1905, with J. Warren Marshall as president. From here the company grew with the production of fiber until 1922, when the Marshalls' company consolidated with "American Vulcanized Fibre Company" to form the present "National Vulcanized Fibre Company." Consequently, the mills in Yorklyn have grown and NVF is the largest vulcanized fiber manufacturing company in the world. Workers' housing is still located across from the Marshall Brothers Plant of NVF, just as it was when H. Garrett had six houses built by 1812 for the accommodation of workmen at the paper mill.

Due to the continuity of the mill site from the 1700's, the architecture represents the panorama of vernacular architecture from the late-eighteenth to the early-twentieth centuries. The Garrett house went from an original one-room-plan through a series of additions to a center-hall, double-pile plan. The house, which was first used as owner's housing, is now used for workers' housing and has been ever since the Marshalls built their mansion on the hill about 1897.

The Marshall House was built in 1897 for Israel W. Marshall. The Marshall family came from nearby Pennsylvania, where they had been farmers since the mid-eighteenth century. In 1890, Israel and his brother T. Elwood Marshall purchased the paper mills at Auburn

(Yorklyn). A large tract of land went with the purchase, including that land upon which the house was built. From the arrival of the Marshalls in 1890 up to the present the family has played a vital role in the community, actively participating in the operation of the mills and acquiring many other landholdings in the neighborhood.

According to Thomas C. Marshall, present owner of the house, Israel acquired the concept for his new house from a house he had long admired in Wilmington, Delaware. He approached the owner, who was a retired sea captain, and was graciously given a tour of the house. The plans for this house, which was torn down around 1920, came from a firm in New York. Mr. Marshall then wrote to the firm obtaining his own set of plans from which the house was built. Unfortunately, the name of the firm is unknown and none of the plans exist today.

The house is a unique expression of several different trends of architecture popular in America and Europe in the late nineteenth century. The results of the aesthetic movement of William Morris and his followers can be readily seen in the outstanding craftsmanship and individuality of the Marshall house. The Oriental pattern of the turned balusters, the sunflower motif so frequently employed, the stylized and naturalistic floral motifs of the hearth beds and wallpaper, and the carved mantles are all manifestations of this movement. Norman Shaw's influence on the house can be seen in such things as the irregular plan and asymmetrical massing of parts. The variety of window treatment, the entrance hall plan, and an appreciation of materials on the exterior all have their source in Shaw's Manorial and Queen Anne styles. There is also an air of the Romanesque about the house, which probably derived from the work of the influential American architect, H. H. Richardson.

The Marshall house is a blending of different elements which, for reasons of utility and taste, appealed to both the architect and builder. It is a marvelous statement of the freedom with which an architect could work in the late-nineteenth century. That it was brilliantly executed with fine materials and expert workmanship contributes to the statement that this residence makes to the community - solidarity and prosperity, elegance, and good taste.

The row homes are common for the time and area, representing the economical and yet commodious structures characteristic of industrial communities. As far as the mill itself is concerned, the structure is a series of separate buildings that have been joined and expanded to make the mill a single-process factory. All the mills owned by NVF were built in this manner, except the last mill completed in the 1960's as a complete unit.

FORM AS SUBMITTED TO O.A.N.P.

The community provides not only architectural significance, but archaeological significance as well. Photographic evidence exists for the frame row between the office and the insulite for a blacksmith's shop, located at the end of the insulite and the piers of the trolley that served the area with commuter trains to Kennett Square and a means to Philadelphia. Some residents of Yorklyn sent their children to the high school in Kennett Square by trolley, as the two-room schoolhouse on Yorklyn Road went up only to the eighth grade.

The stone houses on Benge Road opposite the mill were known as "The Bank." Many of the houses developed as focal points for the community over the years. When the Clarks owned the mill, the family lived in the old Garrett house. The 1870 census for Christiana lists the members of the Clark household including Mary L., age fourteen, who was keeping house for her father. Besides the Clarks, the census describes a community of approximately sixteen individual households made up of various tradesmen, craftsmen, and workers including a storekeeper, shoemaker, teamster, paper mill worker, carpenters, and an apprentice, mechanic, wheelwright, dressmaker, foreman and eighteen laborers. Wives remained at home "keeping house," and the overall complex was surrounded by farmers. The largest number of residents in the village came from the areas of Delaware, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, but there were a number of Irish families who had emigrated and had their families in the United States.

The Marshalls also lived in the house and, therefore, lived next to their help in the mills. The superintendent's house is on the hill over the race bridge and, even though it is removed from the main group of homes on "The Bank," the superintendent was still very close to the workers living in row homes. The most important and reliable workers were given the housing closest to the mill. The frame row, which was located right next to the insulite, was an example of the constant and daily interaction between family life and work in the mills. A woman who lived in the last row home closest to the insulite used to cook meals for the men in the mills. Her husband worked for NVF. During special holidays, pies and cakes would be part of the fare. The men in the mills did not have a scheduled lunch or dinner break, but ate their meals between jobs in the mill.

The blacksmith's shop was also considered a center of the community and defined the little cluster of houses, the surrounding farms, and the mill as one integrated unit. Work for both the community and the mill was done at the shop and the bill paid by the Marshall brothers. The only acetylene welding outfit in the area was located at the blacksmith's. All broken equipment from the farms was brought there and the mill workers themselves often came over to repair some of their own tools.

The Auburn complex is significant for, most importantly, the continuity of the mill seat from the 1700's to the present and the interaction between work in the mills and family life of the community. Complementing these two themes are the architectural, archaeological, industrial, and inventive qualities of the complex. All combine in Auburn, a small community and entity unto itself spanning over two hundred years and various industrial changes.

FORM AS SUBMITTED TO NPS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Beers, D.G., Atlas of the State of Delaware. Philadelphia: Pomeroy & Beers, 1868.
Historic American Engineering Record Inventory (DE-14)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 17 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Kennett Square

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	18	441620	440620
B	18	441777	440660
C	18	441910	440570
D	18	441800	440250
E	18	441620	440260
F			
G			
H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The district is bounded on the northeast by the southwest edge of Route 82 and on the east, south, and west by the boundary line of Mill Creek Hundred and Christiana Hundred (there is a slight jut to the east from the east boundary line to include within the district bounds a stone pier for the ~~[illegible]~~ TROLLEY LINE TRESTLE.

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
F. Bernard Herman, Lecturer; and Lorraine Drossin, Student

ORGANIZATION
University of Delaware, American Studies Program

DATE
January 1979

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE
(302) 738-2371

CITY OR TOWN
Newark

STATE
Delaware

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS: FORM AS SUBMITTED TO ...

NATIONAL ___ STATE X 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.

Deputy
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Chief, Bureau of Archaeology & Historic Preservation DATE 10/4/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

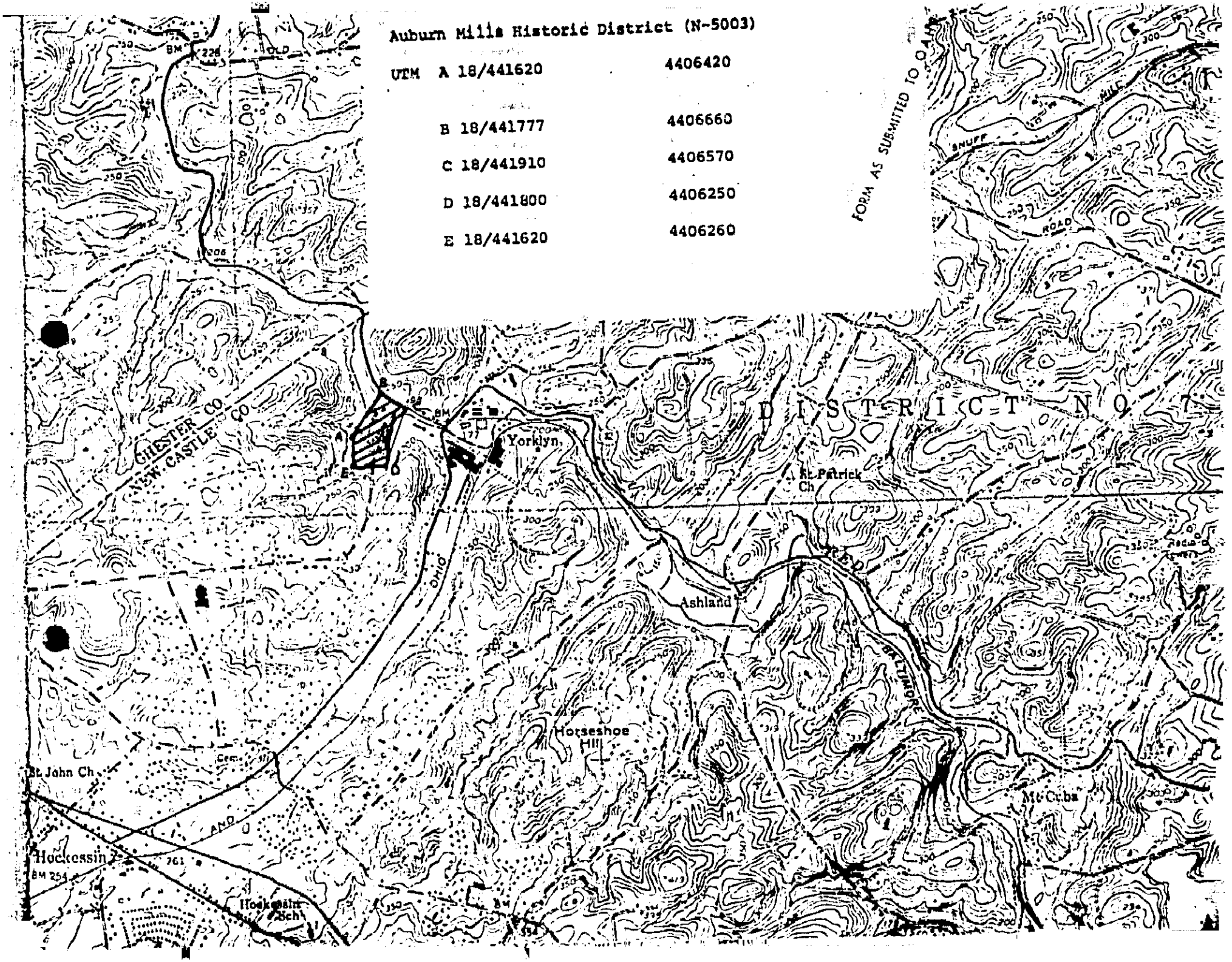
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

GPO 921-803

Auburn Mills Historic District (N-5003)

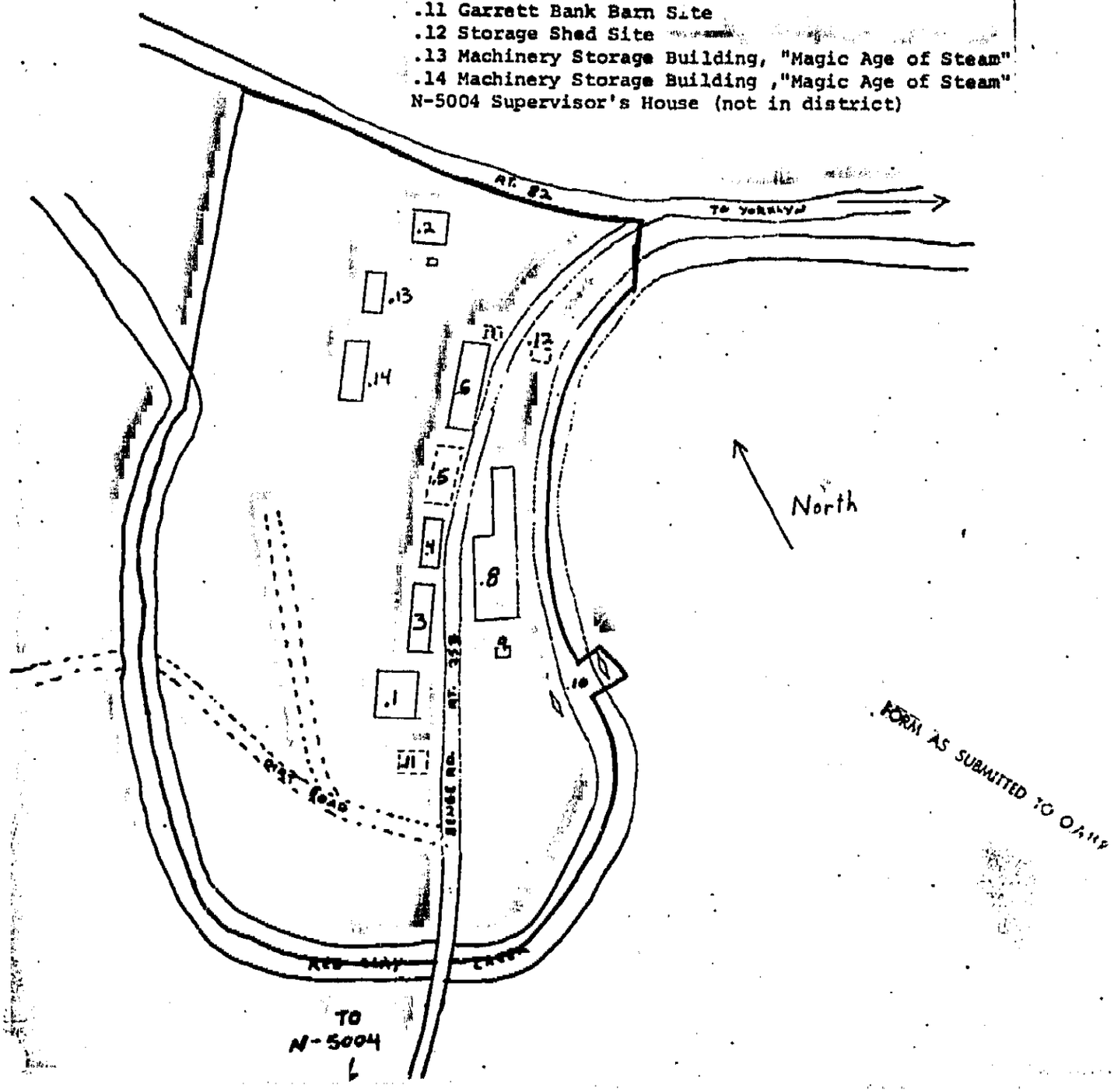
UTM	A 18/441620	4406420
	B 18/441777	4406660
	C 18/441910	4406570
	D 18/441800	4406250
	E 18/441620	4406260

FORM AS SUBMITTED TO OAHP



Auburn Mills Historic District (N-5003)
Sketch map (not to scale)

.1 Horatio Gates Garrett House (also N-575)
.2 Israel Marshall House (also N-4096)
.3 The "Bank" (also N-446)
.4 Auburn Store/N.V.F. Office
.5 Frame Worker's Housing Site
.6 Insulite Mill
.8 Auburn Mills (also N-1083)
.9 Utility Shed
.10 Trolley Line Trestle Piers Ruins
.11 Garrett Bank Barn Site
.12 Storage Shed Site
.13 Machinery Storage Building, "Magic Age of Steam"
.14 Machinery Storage Building ,"Magic Age of Steam"
N-5004 Supervisor's House (not in district)



FORM AS SUBMITTED TO OAHP

Name: Auburn Mills Historic District (N-5003)

Location: Yorklyn, Delaware

Photographer: Bernie Herman

Date: 1979

Location of Negative: Div. of Hist. & Cult. Affairs
B/AHP Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware

Description:
A winter view of the district, looking northeast along Benge Road (Route 253)

Photograph Number:
1 of 26