

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

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

**1. Name of Property**

Historic name: Paul's Ottobine Mill

Other names/site number: VDHR File No. 082-5652

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**2. Location**

Street & number: 8061 Judge Paul Road

City or town: Dayton State: Virginia County: Rockingham

Not For Publication:  N/A Vicinity:  X

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A  B  C  D

<p>_____  <b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>  <u>Virginia Department of Historic Resources</u>  <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>Date</b></p>
--	-------------------------------

<p>In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p>_____  <b>Signature of commenting official:</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>Date</b></p>
<p><b>Title :</b></p>	<p><b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

---

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

---

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

---

#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

---

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION: manufacturing facility: mill

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

---

---

---

---

---

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

---

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD, METAL, STONE, CONCRETE

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

---

### Summary Paragraph

Paul's Ottobine Mill is located at 8061 Judge Paul Road in southwest Rockingham County, Virginia. The mill, built in 1937-1938 on the foundation of a mill that burned in 1937, stands on the east side of a small knoll amid rolling fields and woodlots. Nearby flows Beaver Creek, a tributary of the North and Shenandoah rivers, and to the north across a meadow runs Highway 257. A small, narrow, spring-fed pond runs along the edge of the woods and field behind the mill; the tail race is believed to have run into it at one time. Near the mill, on a separate parcel, stands a one-story frame garage that may have functioned in association with the mill business. The mill is a two-story frame building with attic and basement stories, weatherboard siding, and a metal-sheathed gambrel roof. A one-story office wing projects at a front corner. Other exterior features include an overshot wheel of metal construction; a metal flume; a foundation of sandstone, limestone, and concrete; a front entry porch; historic sliding and Dutch doors; and one-over-one replacement windows. The interior preserves most of its historic milling machinery such as millstones, gearing, belt drives, grain bins, elevators, and so forth. It is also, as of this writing (October 2016), in the midst of a conversion to a dwelling with added walls, ceilings, and modern utilities on the first and second floors. The conversion is being done in such a way as to preserve most of the milling machinery in place. As a result, the property retains a high level of integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association. The

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

nominated area of approximately 0.7 acre occupies the northeast end of the parcel on which the mill stands.

---

## Narrative Description

### *Exterior*

The mill is rectangular in footprint and oriented so that its front gambrel end faces northeastward, although for simplicity sake the front will be described as the north side, the back as the south side, and so forth. The weatherboards are plain and are painted white, their historic color. Most are original to the 1930s construction although a few lower courses were replaced in kind in recent years. The extant one-over-one window sash, installed in recent years, replaced historic six-over-six window sash. The foundation is a composite of materials representing different phases of the mill's evolution. The stonework dates to the nineteenth century and consists of blue-gray limestone on the rear elevation, adjoining the wheel well, and honey-colored to reddish sandstone on other elevations. A number of sandstone blocks on the foundation's east elevation, which has windows and an entry, are carved with initials and dates. The initials include ES (framed and with serifs suggesting the carving is nineteenth-century), DF[K?], and JC[W?]. Prior to the 1937 fire the stonework continued a couple of courses higher than it does now, and there were stone lintels over the door and window openings of a lighter color than the surrounding sandstone stonework, suggesting the lintels were limestone. The concrete, which bears the impressions of circular-sawn formwork, repairs sections of stonework and also forms the majority of the wall adjoining the wheel well. Some concrete features on the property date to 1928, however all or virtually all of the mill foundation concrete dates to the mill's reconstruction in 1937-1938. A millstone of pinkish conglomerate rock, said to be from France (historically a source of millstones) is set into the ground in front of the basement entry as a pavement.

The front entry has a double-leaf sliding door of heavy board construction with inset windows. Behind it, in a recently created recess, are newer French doors with sidelights. One of the sliding door jambs has cyphering and a truck license plate number written in pencil. In front of the entry is a wood deck at the location of a former loading platform (possibly built in 1980 in place of an earlier platform) and overhead is a cantilevered shed roof. Under the deck is a receiving hopper for grain supported on two log posts. The office wing, which projects from the west front corner, has a shed roof, a sandstone foundation, an interior brick stove flue at a corner, and a roof projection that shelters a Dutch door into the main section of the mill. The office foundation appears to be separated from the main foundation by a seam, which may indicate that the wing that existed at the location before the 1937 fire was an addition (otherwise, if the office wing was added after 1937-1938, its foundation would presumably have been concrete). The Dutch door by the office and the one into the basement are constructed of vertical boards that are z-braced on their inside faces.

The waterwheel is of sheet-iron construction with a spoked structure. Its lower part rests in a water-filled depression, a remnant of the wheel well. At the top of the wheel is a boxy penstock

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

and flume pipe, both made of iron. The flume extends beyond the mill on the west side where it is supported by triangular poured concrete supports. It connects to a large concrete trough with a metal apparatus at its front end that may have worked a head gate to control the flow of water. Water was supplied to the box and flume from a race-fed pond on what is now a separate property. On the elevation above the waterwheel is a pulley wheel for a power take-off to run machinery outside the mill, and, in the roof eave, the vent of a dust exhaust.

*Interior: First Floor*

The first-floor walls and ceiling originally had exposed framing members. In the dwelling conversion the walls and ceiling have been insulated and sheathed with plaster board. (The second floor is in the process of being similarly sheathed. The exception to the living-area re-sheathing is the office which retains its historic beaded and un-beaded tongue-and-groove sheathing.) A double row of heavy chamfered posts extends from front to back. These posts are constructed with heavy round-headed wire nails (wire nails are the only sort to be observed in the mill). The historic floorboards have been lightly sanded and conditioned with linseed oil so that evidence of wear is apparent. Newly created spaces—an open kitchen and enclosed bedroom and bathrooms—are located on the east side of the first floor with an open space (used as a living room) extending from the front entry to a back stair, thus preserving some of the historic openness of the original space. On the west side of the space are historic grain bins constructed of stacked two-by-fours. The bins extend from the basement to the attic so the part visible on the first floor is just a part of the whole. The bins have been made into closets with the addition of floors and ceilings and z-braced wood doors on tracks. An interesting feature is a niche with a round opening on its floor that permits a view into the bin interior.

The office is entered through a wood and glass panel door and has two indoor windows that look into the main space of the mill, one of which is near the outside entry on the west side of the mill. Part of the office is separated from the rest by a waist-high partition constructed of pickets similar to a picket fence, with a gate, a service counter, and a corner post with a decorative polygonal top. The stove flue stands in a corner, its lower half concrete and its upper half brick. On a structural post just outside the office door is an apparently historic-period no smoking sign. Near it are scales with a wood upright section with blue paint and decorative iron and brass fittings.

Throughout the space are clusters of the rectangular-section wood chutes known as elevators which extend in various configurations from the basement to the top of the attic. The first-floor elevators have wood handles connected to wires that run up through the ceiling and second floor to the attic where the wires attach to rocker arms. The apparatus appears to have served for adjusting the canvas elevator belts inside the chutes. At the south end of the space are the millstones, a single run (pair) contained in a drum-like enclosure. Above the hole at the center of the runner (upper) stone is a small spout or hopper and above that is a larger movable hopper. Grain poured into the upper hopper from a chute with a foldable end that allowed it to be moved out of the way for millstone maintenance. That maintenance was performed with the aid of a crane, a heavy timber arm attached to a column-like cylindrical shaft that pivots on a chamfered

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

base. Near the crane, above a shed-like modern enclosure for bedroom closets, is a set of ceiling-mounted belt wheels, part of the system of pulley wheels and drive shafts that is more extensive on other floors. Nearby is a corner stair to the second floor, constructed of rough lumber. The lower of the stair's two runs has been reconstructed. The bedroom, which occupies the floor's southeast corner, contains a wall-mounted pulley wheel with a shaft that leads to the power take-off wheel on the exterior. Also in the bedroom is a hand-turned wheel for operating the penstock at the top of the waterwheel outside.

*Interior: Second Floor*

The second floor repeats many of the features and finishes of the first floor including the stacked two-by-four grain bins, support posts (not chamfered on this level but with narrow beveled corners), and ceiling-mounted pulley wheels and drive shafts. Mounted on a post under the north end of the drive shaft is a shelf-like frame that probably once held a tray to catch lubricant. Angled spouts delivered grain or product to large bins of varying construction, board-and-batten or beaded tongue-and-groove (the tongue-and-groove box may be a flour box). Some spouts have small windows on their undersides that allowed the miller to monitor the flow of product through them. At the north or front end of the space are large trap doors in the floor and ceiling. These were opened to allow supplies to be hoisted from inside the entry on the first floor to the upper floors. A bedroom and bathroom have been created in the southeast corner and at the time of survey (October 2016) stud walls were partially completed for other bedrooms.

*Interior: Attic*

The attic contains the upper parts of the grain bins and elevators. The bins, which rise to about waist level and are open at the top, are painted with the numerals I, II, and III. The tops of the elevators can be opened for maintenance and are reached by ladder stairs and catwalks. Near the south end of the space sits a Gorton's Standard Flour Dresser, so identified by black stenciled letters. The long machine is handsomely constructed of wood and iron with chamfered rails and supports, a two-tone beaded tongue-and-groove enclosure, and ornamental cast iron pulls. Inside is a screen drum used to dress (purify) flour and on the end are various gears and chain belts. Other stenciling identifies the Maish and Gorton Manufacturing Company of Warsaw, Indiana; patent dates; and the Corbett Mill and Machine Company of Washington, D.C. (the latter label identifies an Archimedes screw mechanism attached to the bottom of the dresser).

Also in the attic is a Eureka Dustless Receiving Separator manufactured at the S. Howes Company Eureka Works of Silver Creek, New York. The large upright machine of wood and iron construction blew dust and other debris into a wood duct that snakes across the ceiling to the dust exhaust at the south end. The machine has cast iron flourishes, stenciled arabesques, and one of the mill's few surviving power belts, made of stitched brown leather. At the north end of the space, over the trap door to the floor below, is a hoist pulley. Insulation will be added between the exposed rafters and end-wall studs and sheathed over.

*Interior: Basement*

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

The commanding feature of the basement is the big iron gear wheel at the south end, which attaches to the waterwheel outside. The gear wheel, which is in two halves bolted together, extends down into an interior pit that occupies the whole end of the space. A smaller but still large gear wheel with wood teeth mounted on a metal rim translated the slow rpms of the larger wheel to a drive shaft and pulley wheels that ran the milling machinery throughout the mill. The drive shaft has a toothed clutch operated by a long metal handle with a decorative end. Mounted to a heavy frame work that spans the pit are the gears that operate the millstones on the floor above. Other features include the bottom ends of the elevators; the concrete enclosure of the hoppers at the bottom of the grain bins; a hopper-like bin into which grain poured through the receiving hopper on the outside of the mill; and a red-painted metal fixture labeled with the names Triumph and the C. O. Bartlett and Snow Company of Cleveland, Ohio. The basement floor, which is dirt, has a recent covering of gravel, and around much of the perimeter of the space runs a poured concrete reinforcing curb. Resting on the curb is half of a large gear wheel like the one attached to the waterwheel, either a replacement part or part of a wheel that pre-existed the 1937 fire.

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

---

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1938-1954

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1938

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

UNKNOWN

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Paul's Ottobine Mill in the community of Ottobine, Rockingham County, Virginia, was built in 1937-1938. The two-story gambrel-roofed mill, which stands on the foundation of an earlier mill, was built for Judge John Paul Jr. Records indicate a mill stood at the site as early as 1799, and Paul family ownership dates back to 1840. The mill retains an overshot wheel and metal flume as well as extensive machinery including millstones, belt drives, and elevators. The mill closed in 1954 and is currently being converted to a dwelling. Paul's Ottobine Mill is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A in the Industry area of significance as a largely intact water-powered gristmill that is exemplary of traditional mill construction with such features as chamfered posts, a pivoting millstone crane, and vintage machinery. The period of significance extends from the mill's completion in 1938 until 1954 when milling operations ceased. The mill is eligible at the local level of significance.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Evidence for a mill at the site of the 1937-1938 mill dates to 1799 when Jonathan (or Jonothan) Shipman owned the site. A 1799 Rockingham County court suit includes the information: "Jonathan Shipman Mill and dam was established at October fourth 1799." The purpose of the suit was to assess damages to adjacent landowners whose lands might be inundated by the millpond, although a jury found "that no land would be overflowed or any damage would be done to the neighborhood." The land on which Shipman's mill stood was granted to Shipman's father, Isaiah Shipman, in 1756. A mill lease from 1819 mentioned the mill, a tailrace, a cooper's shop, a dwelling, and other buildings. In 1840 Peter Paul Jr. purchased the mill. Paul was already involved in its operation as a consequence of his marriage to Maria Whitmore, the daughter of the mill's former owner (the mill was known as Whitmore's Mill during the Whitmore family ownership). During the antebellum period the mill functioned as a community gathering place, as indicated by an April 1838 newspaper announcement which ordered a rifle company to muster "at Paul's Mill, Beaver Creek."<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Seymour Paul notes; McCleary, "Ottobine Mill." A number of individuals assisted the preparation of the report, foremost among them the owner of the mill, John A. Paul. Family members Seymour Paul and Penny Imeson shared their research on and photos of the mill. Other assistance was provided by the staffs of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society, the Rockingham County Circuit Court, and the Massanutten Regional Library, and by Aubrey Von Lindern and Lena Sweeten McDonald with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

Paul had the mill rebuilt. A mill journal begun in May 1847 listed “Expenses of Building Mill” including the gathering of rock and wood and the construction of a lime kiln. The current mill’s foundation presumably dates to this period. A historic photo which appears to date to ca. 1900 shows what is probably the 1840s mill, a two-story frame building with a gabled attic story, weatherboard siding, and six-over-six windows. The photo shows two overshot wheels positioned in tandem in the wheel pit and fed by a wood flume. The mill was recorded in the industrial census of 1850 which noted a capitalized value of \$3,000. The mill employed two male workers in the production of \$6,500 worth of flour and plank, the latter indicating the presence of a sawmill. The mill’s role in the Ottobine community is demonstrated by a variety of activities and enterprises during the mid- and late nineteenth century. A store stood nearby and was designated a voting place in the early 1840s. In 1885 a store stood across the road from the mill, as shown on a map of that year. Also in the 1880s, the Ottobine Post Office operated at the mill. The 1885 map seems to show the post office sharing the same building, which lends support to the tradition that the post office operated out of the mill basement, although the mill’s presumably pre-1900 office wing would have been suited for the purpose. According to one source the post office operated in the nearby Paul House (it is possible and perhaps even likely that the post office moved around). The mill may have been known as Belfont Mills in 1866.<sup>2</sup>

By 1884 management of the mill had passed to Peter and Maria’s son Abram Paul (1846-1937). Abram Paul, a Confederate veteran (his first battle was Gettysburg), was active in county politics as a Republican, although he never ran for office. His obituary referred to him as “Uncle Abe” and noted that he was “quiet, intelligent, and unassuming” with a reputation for sound judgment and generosity. In 1888 an area newspaper noted that the mill had gone through “a thorough repair” and was “in operation again.” Given the period of the repairs they may have involved the installation of roller milling technology. Roller mills, which use steel rollers to grind grain rather than stones, are known to have been used in the mill in the early twentieth century.<sup>3</sup>

Abram Paul retired from active milling in 1920. That year Paul and Henry T. Shickel formed a partnership to operate the mill under the name of Ottobine Roller Mills. Shickel served as the miller, his role in the 1930s when he and his brother Aubrey Shickel ran the mill. Improvements were made in the late 1920s such as the pouring of a concrete millpond in 1928, with initials and the name W. H. Heatwole[?] inscribed in the concrete. (The millpond, which survives as an overgrown depression, is located outside the nominated area.) Otterbine Roller Mills went bankrupt in 1935 and the mill was sold at auction. Judge John Paul Jr. (1883-1964) purchased the mill for \$6,000 and leased it out. Judge Paul had a distinguished career in politics, serving in the state Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives, and in the judiciary which included his

---

<sup>2</sup> Seymour Paul notes; *Atlas of Rockingham County*; Downs et al, *Mills of Rockingham County*, vol. 1, p. 418; Chataigne, *Chataigne’s Virginia Business Directory . . . 1880-81*, 452; McCleary, “Ottobine Mill.”

<sup>3</sup> Downs et al, *Mills of Rockingham County*, vol. 1, p. 419; Seymour Paul notes; *Daily News Record*, January 12, 1937.

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

entering of the first school desegregation order in Virginia in 1956. He donated property which became Paul State Forest, located just north of the mill.<sup>4</sup>

The mill experienced two calamities a few years into John Paul's ownership. One was the maiming of a child who was playing in the mill basement. The boy's arm was caught "by a belt running from a feed mill to a grindstone" and had to be amputated. Then, on May 29, 1937, the mill burned. A newspaper account described the burning building as a "mass of flames" and estimated \$20,000 would be needed to replace it. A photo of the mill ruins show that the building was burned down to the foundation (no reused timbers were seen in the mill during investigation). A month before the fire the mill advertised that it had reopened after a thorough overhaul of the machinery, and offered the milling of "flour, scratch feed, and water ground-burr meal" to customers. (Scratch feed is chicken feed, in this case probably made from byproducts.) Given that the mill had been recently overhauled, it seems possible the fire was the result of a machinery problem. Such was the case for the fire that burned down Rockingham County's Elkton Milling Company in 1933, caused by a "hotbox" or overheated axle bearing.<sup>5</sup>

John Paul rebuilt the mill by the end of 1938. The new mill, like its predecessors, ran on waterpower. Waterpower was still a favorite power source for the county's gristmills in the 1930s, for both existing mills and newly constructed ones. For example, the Elkton Milling Company, which rebuilt its plant in 1933, used waterpower supplemented by electric power during times of low water. Glick's Mill, located not far from Ottobine in the community of Montezuma, used waterpower supplemented by an engine during the period, presumably a gasoline engine. Paul's Ottobine Mill may have operated on supplemental engine power as well, if the power take-off mounted on the outside of the mill could be used in reverse. A change from the earlier mill was the construction of the concrete wall that faces the wheel pit on the basement level. Previous to the 1937 fire this wall had been a framed "water wall," a feature that facilitated repairs and the moving of gearing and machinery in and out of the mill.<sup>6</sup>

Flour bags from the mid-century period provide clues to the mill's products. Each is identified "Paul's Ottobine Mill" and includes the brands Paul's White House Flour (with a picture of the mill), Ottobine's Best Roller Flour (with a picture of a bird), and Big Otto Corn Meal (with an otter in the logo). (Interestingly, the Big Otto brand was also packed by the Elkton Milling Company, suggesting that mill, the one in Ottobine, and perhaps others were marketing flour milled at another, unknown facility.) Because the various flour labels do not use the 1920s-1930s name Ottobine Roller Mills, they presumably date to the period of the current mill. In a reflection of the mill's former prominence as a place of assembly, a high school group from the nearby town of Dayton held a party on the grounds in December 1940, complete with a picnic, bonfire,

---

<sup>4</sup> *Daily News Record*, January 12, 1937; Downs et al, *Mills of Rockingham County*, vol. 2, p. 542, and vol. 3, p. 566; Snyder, "Paul's Mill;" Rockingham County Deed Book 164, pp. 81-82; Paul, "Paul's Ottobine Mill."

<sup>5</sup> Downs et al, *Mills of Rockingham County*, vol. 1, p. 123, and vol. 2, p. 542; *Daily News Record*, April 22 and June 1, 1937.

<sup>6</sup> John A. Paul personal communication; Seymour Paul notes; Downs et al, *Mills of Rockingham County*, vol. 1, p. 123.

Paul's Ottobine Mill

Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA

County and State

and “folk games.” A miller during the period was Thomas Miller Jarman who died in 1938. Later millers or employees included Winter Myer and individuals with the last names Caricof and Revercomb (spellings uncertain). The Hensleys may have been the last millers to operate the mill.<sup>7</sup>

John A. Paul (b. 1938), the nephew of John Paul Jr., recalls visits to the mill when he was a boy of about ten or twelve. Shortly after, in 1954, the mill shut down. The building sat vacant for a decade or so before it was leased by Daniel Brubaker for use as a silo manufacturing workshop, an enterprise which grew into the Virginia Silo Company. John A. Paul acquired the mill in recent decades. Paul replaced the windows in order to weatherize the building for use as storage. More recently, in 2015, Paul commenced rehabilitating the building as a dwelling.<sup>8</sup>

---

<sup>7</sup> John A. Paul personal communication; Downs et al, *Mills of Rockingham County*, vol. 1, pp. 129, 262; *Daily News Record*, November 8, 1938, and December 7, 1940; McCleary, “Ottobine Mill.”

<sup>8</sup> John A. Paul personal communication; Seymour Paul notes. Ann McCleary recorded the information that the mill closed ca. 1947, but the 1950s date has more support in family tradition.

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

*An Atlas of Rockingham County, Virginia*. Philadelphia: D. J. Lake and Company, 1885 (2013 reprint by the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society).

Chataigne, J. H., comp. *Chataigne's Virginia Business Directory and Gazetteer, 1880-81*. Richmond, Va.: Baughman Brothers, 1880.

Downs, Janet Baugher; Earl J. Downs; and Pat Turner Ritchie, comps. *Mills of Rockingham County*. Volumes 1 through 4. Dayton, Va.: Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society, 1997-2003.

*Daily News Record* (Harrisonburg, Va.).

McCleary, Ann. "Ottobine Mill." Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey Form, 1982.

Paul, John A. "Paul's Ottobine Mill." Virginia Department of Historic Resources Preliminary Information Form, 2016.

\_\_\_\_\_. Personal communication with the author, October 2016.

Paul, Seymour. Notes on Paul's Ottobine Mill. Report (2008) in private collection, Ottobine, Va.

\_\_\_\_\_. Personal communication with the author, October 2016.

Rockingham County deed records. Rockingham County Court House, Harrisonburg, Va.

Showalter, Noah D. *Atlas of Rockingham County, Virginia*. Staunton, Va.: McClure, 1939.

Snyder, Miles E. "Paul's Mill." Works Progress Administration of Virginia Historical Inventory Report, January 29, 1937.

United States census of industry for Rockingham County, 1850.

---

### 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

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

\_\_\_ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- \_\_\_ Other State agency
- \_\_\_ Federal agency
- \_\_\_ Local government
- \_\_\_ University
- \_\_\_ Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** DHR ID# 082-5262

---

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** approx. 0.7 acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 38.428940 | Longitude: -79.037490 |
| 2. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 3. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 4. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |          |          |           |
|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The true and correct historic boundaries are shown on the approximately 1:60-scale Sketch Map/Photo Key that accompanies the nomination.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries encompass the mill and flume stand as well as the property's historic setting. Other resources potentially associated with this property in the historic period, such as a garage that stands south of the mill and the concrete-lined mill pond, are not part of the mill property today.

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: J. Daniel Pezzoni  
organization: Landmark Preservation Associates  
street & number: 6 Houston St.  
city or town: Lexington state: Virginia zip code: 24450  
e-mail: gilespezzoni@rockbridge.net  
telephone: (540) 464-5315  
date: November 23, 2016

---

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

**Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to

Paul's Ottobine Mill  
Name of Property

Rockingham County, VA  
County and State

the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### **Photo Log**

Name of Property: Paul's Ottobine Mill  
City or Vicinity: Dayton vicinity, Rockingham County, Virginia  
Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni  
Date Photographed: October 2016

Photo 1 of 8: VA\_RockinghamCounty\_Paul'sOttobineMill\_0001  
View: East and north (front) elevations, view facing west.

Photo 2 of 8: VA\_RockinghamCounty\_Paul'sOttobineMill\_0002  
View: North (front) and west elevations, view facing southeast.

Photo 3 of 8: VA\_RockinghamCounty\_Paul'sOttobineMill\_0003  
View: South elevation, view facing northeast.

Photo 4 of 8: VA\_RockinghamCounty\_Paul'sOttobineMill\_0004  
View: Flume, view facing west.

Photo 5 of 8: VA\_RockinghamCounty\_Paul'sOttobineMill\_0005  
View: Gear wheel in basement.

Photo 6 of 8: VA\_RockinghamCounty\_Paul'sOttobineMill\_0006  
View: Millstones, hoppers, crane, and other equipment on first floor.

Photo 7 of 8: VA\_RockinghamCounty\_Paul'sOttobineMill\_0007  
View: Grain bin on first floor.

Photo 8 of 8: VA\_RockinghamCounty\_Paul'sOttobineMill\_0008  
View: Attic.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Virginia Cultural Resource Information System

**LOCATION MAP**

**Paul's Ottobine Mill**

**Rockingham County, VA**

**DHR No. 082-5652**

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Latitude: 38.428940

Longitude: -79.037490



**Paul's Ottobine Mill  
(boundary is approximate)**



Feet



1:9,028 / 1"=752 Feet

**Title:**

**Date: 2/15/2017**

*DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.*

*Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.*

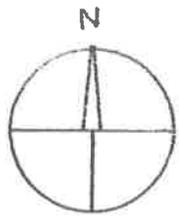
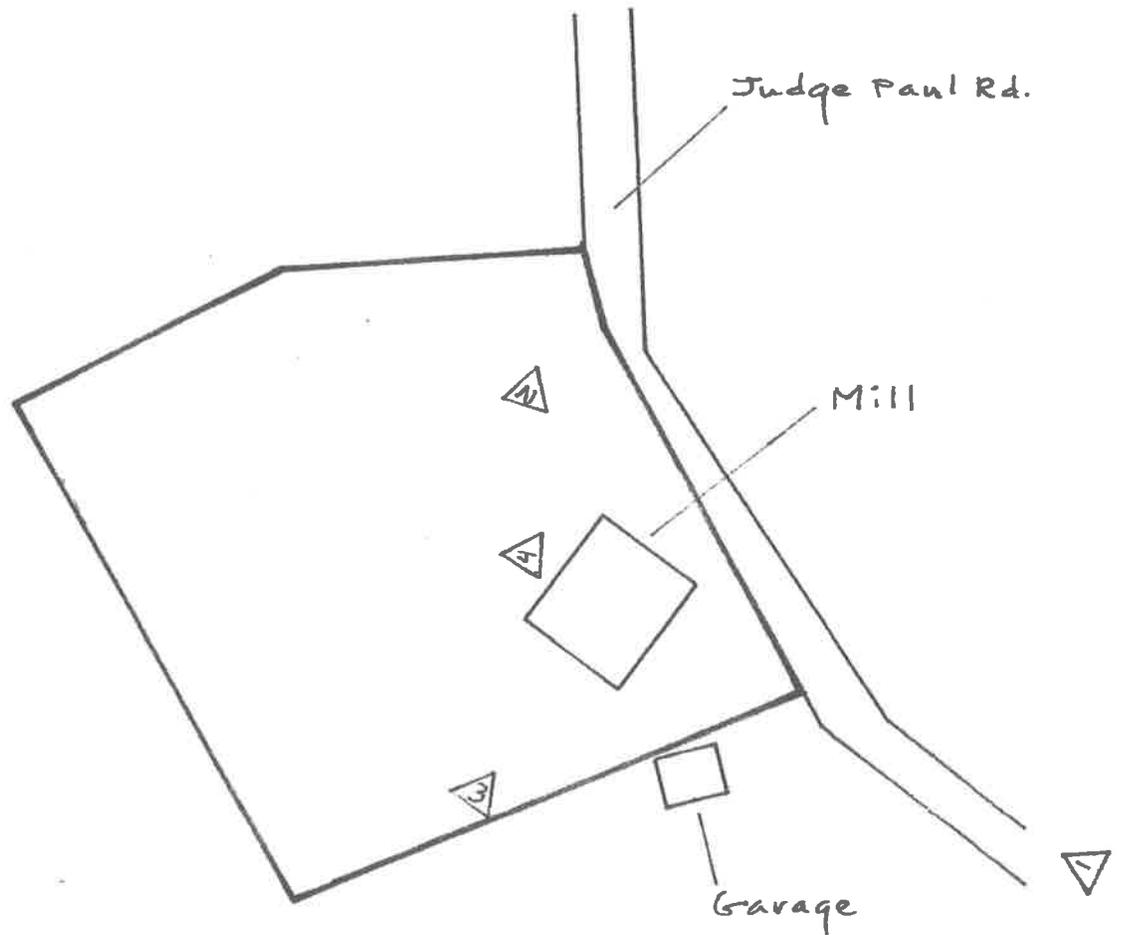
Sketch Map/ Photo Key

# Paul's Ottobine Mill

Rockingham Co., Va.

DHR No. 082-5652

Number and direction of view of nomination photos indicated by triangular markers.



0 60  
Scale in ft.  
(approx.)