

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

3

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Power Plant and Dam No. 4

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER  
Potomac River at the Berkeley-Jefferson Line

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN  
Sherhardstown

VICINITY OF  
WV

STATE

COUNTY  
Berkeley

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME  
Potomac Edison Company

STREET & NUMBER  
P. O. Box 1458

CITY, TOWN  
Hagerstown, Md. 21740

VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Berkeley County  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN  
Martinsburg, WV 25401

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE S-26 Group D, Section III, Berkeley County Historical Society & Berkeley  
County Historical Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE  
1973-78

FEDERAL STATE  COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS Berkeley County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN  
Martinsburg, WV 25401

STATE

# DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

The building at Dam No. 4 appears as a one story building on a high, stoned foundation with a concrete belt course separating the two sections. Construction is of coursed limestone with grapevine mortar. The long 5 bay building has a gable roof with 3 large exhausts evenly spaced on the grey, shingle roof. All 5 windows of the main floor are 2/2 double sash with plain concrete lintels. Immediately below the belt course are 6 small, double paned casement windows which give light to the basement area. The building is very tall and there is considerable distance from this row of windows to the base of the building above the causeway.

The south gable contains the main entrance with a large metal roll door, the size of a garage door, and a normal size entrance door beside it. A narrow 2/2 double sash window is in the gable. All have concrete lintels. The roof overhang is in a stick style.

The building is riveted into the hillside so the main floor is the top floor. It is an open area, with exposed wooden rafters and cross beams. Hanging lights illuminate the room. The stone walls are not plastered and the floor is concrete. Two generators in yellow cages are noisily busy making electricity from the flow of the water over the dam. Two small wooden stairwells lead to the basement areas where two water driven generator, sheve wheels are each located in a separate stone shaft. A row of small iron casement doors allow for ventillation and protection from rising water. There are 2 doors over each of 3 arches that allow the water, that entered through the wheel pits on the west side, to escape into the stone lined causeway.

The west side of the building has only 3 bays of windows and beneath the cement belt course are the 3 immense wheel pits. The impression is of size and strength and the building has a good design. A stone interior chimney is on this side of the roof.

Many of the stones used in construction are huge and have holes through them that perhaps facilitated putting them in place during initial construction.

A fence of concrete posts with beveled edges and 3 yellow painted metal bars per section protect the area above the causeway.

Several dams have been replaced. The original was built as part of the C & O Canal system.

# SIGNIFICANCE

Dam # 4

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900- 1910	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1910

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The power plant is significant for engineering and stone, individual buildings built in 1910 to serve as a power generation station for the electric industry of Berkeley County, which has played a major role in its industrial development. The Dam No. 4 purchase ca. 1908 was a major development of the Martinsburg Electric Company. The power plant and dam create a very picturesque setting on the Potomac River.





BERKELEY Co.



ZONE 17 — ZONE 16

M A R Y L A N D

WASHINGTON COUNTY

DAM 5

WASHINGTON COUNTY

MARYLAND

DAM #4

JEFFERSON COUNTY

