# National Register of Historic Places Inventory -- Nomination Form

**Name**
Union Bryarly's Hill

**Location**
Darkestown

**Classification**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Present Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building(s)</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Unoccupied</td>
<td>Commercial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Work in Progress</td>
<td>Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Public Acquisition</td>
<td>Accessible</td>
<td>Educational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object</td>
<td>IN PROCESS</td>
<td>YES: Restricted</td>
<td>Entertainment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BEING CONSIDERED</td>
<td>YES: RESTRICTED</td>
<td>Government</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Owner of Property**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Robert P. Bryarly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Location of Legal Description**

- Courthouse, Berkeley County Registry of Deeds, etc.

**Representation in Existing Surveys**

- Berkeley County Historical Society & Berkeley County Historical Landmarks Commission Survey

**Date**
1973-1978

**Depositary for Survey Records**
Berkeley County Courthouse

**City, Town**
Martinsburg, W. Va. 25401
DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Deteriorated
- Ruins
- Unexposed

CHECK ONE

- Unaltered
- Altered

CHECK ONE

- Original Site

---.-------...

DESCRIPT

E THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

1. Bryarly Mill. The mill is a two story, three bay building with a gable roof of brown painted trim. It is constructed of brick in five row common bond with inside end chimney on the north gable. The entrance door is a board and batten door cut in the Dutch fashion, each section having two battens. It is constructed with bent nails and has an elbow lock. The pegged frame windows are six over six double sash windows with brick flat arches. A frame one story appendage is on the north side. Part of the machinery is still in the basement though much has been removed.

2. Mansion House. The Bryarly house is a three bay, two story L shaped house of frame construction on a stone foundation with a tin gable roof. The floor plan is central hall, one room each side with brick interior end chimneys. This is one of the earlier frame houses of Berkeley County which still remains today, built ca. 1835. The rear section (one room, two story) of the ell was added about 20 years later.

3. Log Smokehouse and Combination Ice House building. The logs are exposed only on the east side, the rest are covered with German siding. The icehouse joins on the west side of the smokehouse.

4. Log Miller's House. Built in 1751 it is only 2 bays wide but is a two story building with a small wing and gable roof.

5. Site of Distillery.

6. Foundation. The foundation measures 10' x 12' and is located about 200 yards south of the mill. It is 7' deep with stone floor built on a hillside by laying a stone wall and then filling up on the exposed sides with several feet of stone. An archaeology dig is in process which is actually just cleaning out the inside which was completely filled with junk, stone and dirt. It has not been determined what the building was used for.
The mill complex is significant for various reasons. James Buckles, who laid out the town of Jamestown (Darkestown) was establishing a business (or industry) for his town plus he was drawing the people from the neighboring plantation to his town to buy needed merchandise. The present mill building is the second merchant (flour and grist) mill building and is one of two brick mill buildings known to have been in Berkeley County and the only one standing. The brick building was built about 1835 by Robert Bryarly who had purchased the early mill in 1831 from George Keller. When James Buckles entered into a partnership with Edward Beeson and Benjamin Shipman in 1791, it was stated the grist mill was to be 36' x 21', 2 stories high with roof. The mill was to have one pair of burstones, one pair of country stones or cullings to houdening chests everything sufficient for a county grist or corn mill. It was Robert Bryarly who built a new flour and grist mill. The mill operated until ca. 1900. The log miller house was for the miller. The Bryarlys were of means and built a manor house which has passed to Robert P. Bryarly in 1851, then to son Richard Bryarly in 1901; to Henry P. Bryarly in 1950, to his son, the present owner, Robert P. Bryarly. The first Robert P. Bryarly did not build the mansion house for his own residence but for his son, Richard Bryarly. Robert Bryarly left 6 houses with land to his children. His estate listed over a dozen slaves. The stone foundation and distillery site are included for their importance as historic archeology sites. The distillery was operated pre-1810 until ca. 1900. In its later years it was associated with the Hannis Distillery of Martinsburg.

The unidentified foundation which has been used as a trash pit for years has yielded a very valuable collection of artifacts dated from the 1860 to 1930s. Approximately 400 bottles have been found. Their value range is price from $50.00 down. Some are local Martinsburg bottles dating back to the 1860s. A study of the artifacts could contribute much to ways and culture of a "miller" family. Also included in the nomination is the old road which passes in front of the foundation and stone fences.
GEORGEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

QUADRANGLE NAME

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

UTM REFERENCES

SCALE

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Included as part of the Darkesville Historical District.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE  Don C. Wood, Genealogist, Historian, Historic Archaeologist

ORGANIZATION  President, Berkeley County Historical Society

Chairman, Berkeley County Historical Landmarks Commission

STREET & NUMBER  Route 3, Box 79

TELEPHONE  267-7187

CITY OR TOWN  Martinsburg, W. Va. 25401

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

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE