



PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FORM (PIF) for INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

Note: PIFs are prepared by applicants and evaluated by DHR staff and the State Review Board based on information known at the time of preparation. Recommendations concerning PIFs are subject to change if new information becomes available.

DHR No. (to be completed by DHR staff) 042-0091

1. General Property Information

Property name: Kings Pond / Cross Mill Gallery

Property address: 13405 Independence Rd, 13395 Independence Rel

City or Town: Ashland Va

Zip code: 22005

Name of the Independent City or County where the property is located: Hanover

Category of Property (choose only one of the following):

Building ☐

Site ☒

Structure ☐

Object ☐

2. Physical Aspects

Acreage: 24.3

Setting (choose only one of the following):

Urban ☐ Suburban ☐ Town ☐ Village ☐ Hamlet ☐ Rural ☒

Briefly describe the property's overall location and setting, including any notable landscape features:

Kings Pond Mill/Cross Mill is located west of the town of Ashland and sits on 24 plus Acres w/ a 4 Acre mill pond. Turn of the Century Gress/Floor Mill converted to an Art Gallery in 1971 by Nancy & Jack Witt. www.CrossmillGallery.com. The mill is the main gallery with 2 dwellings called the Miller House on the south side of the property with a separate driveway entrance.

3. Architectural Description

Architectural Style(s):

Vernacular

If the property was designed by an architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other professional, please list here: Not Known

If the builder is known, please list here: _____

Date of construction (can be approximate): Turn of Century 1905 est.

Narrative Description (Please do not exceed one page in describing the property):

Briefly describe the property's general characteristics, such as its current use (and historic use if different), as well as the primary building or structure on the property (such as a house, store, mill, factory, depot, bridge, etc.). Include the materials and method(s) of construction, physical appearance and condition (exterior and interior), and any additions or other major alterations.

Cross Mill Gallery was established back in the mid 60's when artist Nancy Camden Witt and husband Jack Witt bought and renovated what was the decommissioned Kings Pond Mill into a working art studio and gallery space. It officially open in 1971 and has since been a working art gallery, teaching studio artist retreat and event center.

The mill history dates back to the early 1900's and possibly has history dating back to the mid 1700's. The Cross family built the original mill grinding wheat and corn for local farmers. Many of the original features from the old mill still remain in place, include grain shoots, paddle wheel, grinding stones, gearing and main structures from basement to 3rd floor studio.

- Miller Houses = Two woodframe 2 bdrm houses w/ breezeway separate entrance, wooden garage and foundation of the original smoke house.
- Both structures have standing seen mid & roofing.

In a bullet list, include any outbuildings or secondary resources or major landscape features (such as barns, sheds, dam and mill pond, storage tanks, scales, railroad spurs, etc.), including their condition and their estimated construction dates.

- Site - 24.3 Acres corner of Independence & Patriot Henry Hwy
 - 2 miles W- from Ashland Train station and the Township
 - - Mill w/ millpond
 - Ice Pit
 - Miller houses
 - Well groomed Gardens
 - Dam made out of Bedrock
 - Paddle Wheel
 - Garage
- All above dates back to 1905 and garden est. 1970's

4. Property's History and Significance (Please do not exceed one page)

Briefly explain the property's historic importance, such as significant events, persons, and/or families associated with the property.

If the property is important for its architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, or other aspects of design, please include a brief explanation of this aspect.

Artist

The mill was built by Cross Family ^{1905?} and remodeled in 1938. Some suggest the site dates back to activity in the mid 1700's. The mill operated until the late 1950's and the purchased by the Witt family in the mid 60's. Very well known in the art world Nancy Will is well documented and was Va Artist of the year in 1994.

Husband Jack Will also well known in the art world created multiple art sculptures including the "Bogangles" in Jackson Ward and other statues in front of Federal bldgs in DC and other areas around the country.

Jack Will resides in Va Beach and is in his later years of life.

Mill

Mill site and structure is well preserved in its bldgs and the grounds are/have been maintained. Dam is maintained to this date with Race to paddle wheel in place but needs repair.

Please list all sources of information used to research the history of the property, such as deeds, census and tax records, and/or published articles and books. (It is not necessary to attach lengthy articles or family genealogies to this form.)

- Deed Records and Sale title search
- Family and local accounts of property use
- DHR data logged on site attached
- Well documented artist history online and original artwork in the mill remains

5. Property Ownership (Check as many categories as apply):

Private: ☒ Public\Local ☐ Public\State ☐ Public\Federal ☐

Current Legal Owner(s) of the Property (If the property has more than one owner, please list each below or on an additional sheet.)

name/title: Kings Pond LLC, Jon Beckner
organization: Grossmill Arts LLC
street & number: 17242 Tulip Poplar Rd
city or town: Beaverton state: Va zip code: 23065
e-mail: Jon@HighgateRVA.com telephone: 252-202-4854

Legal Owner's Signature: _____

Date: 3/3/25

•• Signature required for processing all applications. ••

In the event of corporate ownership you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person.

Contact person: _____
Daytime Telephone: _____

Applicant Information (Individual completing form if other than legal owner of property)

name/title: _____
organization: _____
street & number: _____
city or town: _____ state: _____ zip code: _____
e-mail: _____ telephone: _____
Date: _____

PLEASE DO NOT ATTACH CONTINUATION SHEETS TO THIS FORM. THANK YOU!

PIF BOUNDARY MAP

King's Pond Mill
Hanover County, VA
DHR ID# 042-0091

 Proposed Boundary

0 200 400 600
 Feet



































































































































