

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

9400246

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: Corriveau Mill

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:

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

2. Location

Street & number: Off South Side of Route 1, .3 miles Southwest of Paridis Road

City or town: Frenchville (Upper) State: Maine County: Aroostook

Not For Publication: n/a Vicinity: n/a

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

	<u>JHP - Me.</u>	<u>10/28/13</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:		Date
MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION		
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		

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

**CORRIVEAU MILL ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTATION (REMOVAL)**

AROOSTOOK COUNTY, MAINE

Name of Property _____

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:)

Joe Eason H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

12.18.13
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

**CORRIVEAU MILL ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTATION (REMOVAL)**

Name of Property

AROOSTOOK COUNTY, MAINE

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.) (Refer to photographs)

This documentation is presented to remove the Corriveau Mill from the National Register of Historic Places.

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

The Corriveau Mill (NR: 94001246) in Frenchville, Maine was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 28, 1994 in recognition of its industrial significance under Criterion A, and as a good example of an early twentieth century mill under Criterion C. Built in 1907 and enlarged in the late 1930s it was noteworthy as a multi-purpose complex which combined buckwheat milling operations with a wool carding mill and later a planing mill. The carding mill machinery was believed to date to the early nineteenth century. The mill was last used in 1981 to grind buckwheat, and began to fall into disrepair. Despite local attempts to raise money to restore the mill and being named to the Maine Preservation "Most Endangered List" in 2004, the owners of the building had the building demolished in 2005. Prior to demolition the building was extensively photographed and the valuable milling equipment was relocated to the Acadian Village in Van Buren, Maine and is now displayed in a new, barn-like building. This additional documentation is submitted in order to remove the Corriveau House from the National Register as per 36 CFR 60.15 (a)(1) because "the property has ceased to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register because the qualities which caused it to be originally listed have been lost or destroyed...". A copy of a newspaper article recording the demolition of the mill is enclosed.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (If appropriate.)

N/A

**CORRIVEAU MILL ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTATION (REMOVAL)**

AROOSTOOK COUNTY, MAINE

Name of Property

County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Banville, Beurmond. "Historic Corriveau Mill in Frenchville torn down." *Bangor Daily News*, August 5, 2005, p. 1.

10. Form Prepared By

name/title: Christi A. Mitchell
organization: Maine Historic Preservation Commission
street & number: 55 Capitol Street
city or town: Augusta state: Maine zip code: 04353
e-mail: christi.mitchell@maine.gov
telephone: (207) 287-2132 x 2
date: 3 September 2013

Additional Documentation

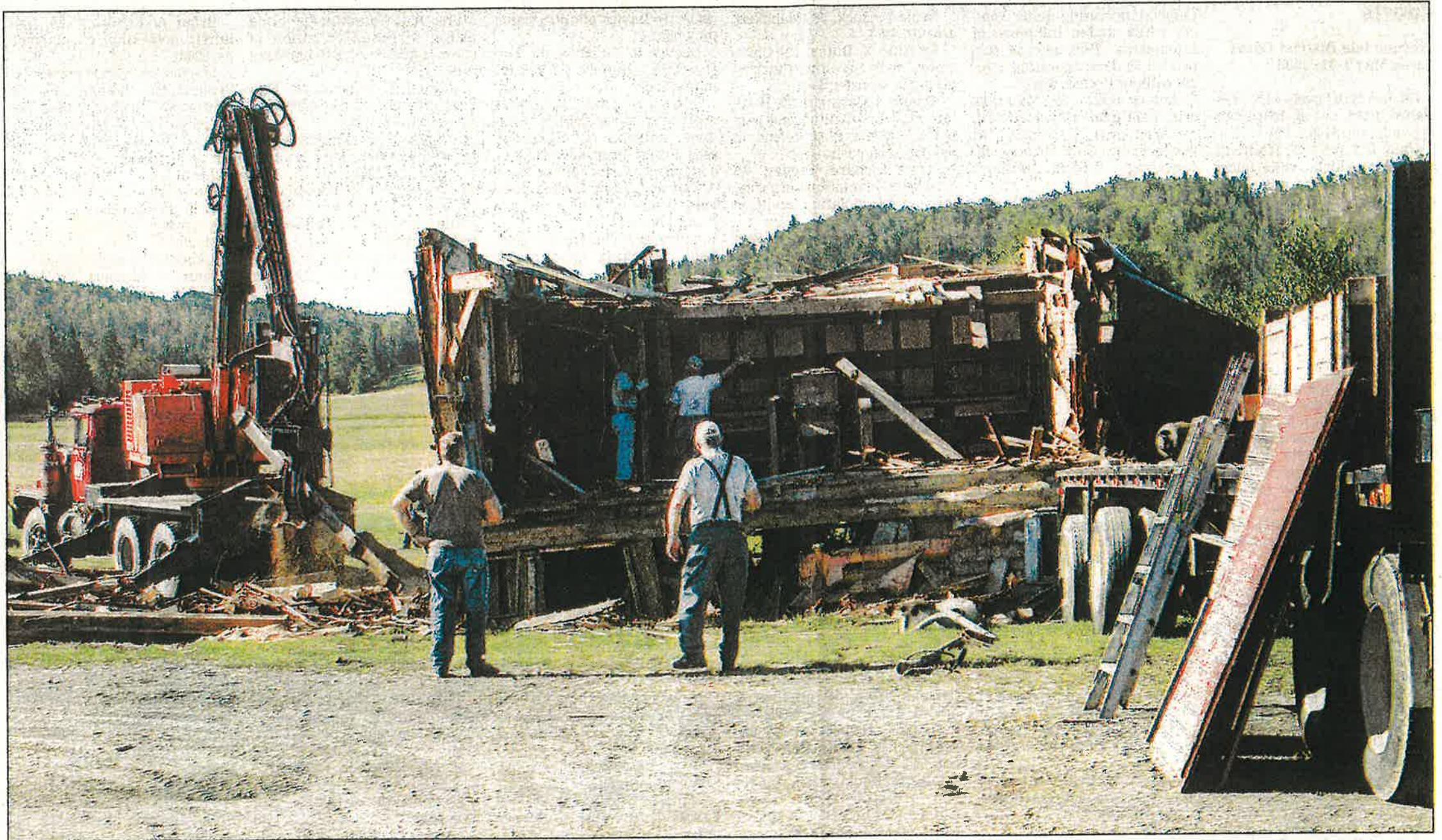
Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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.)

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.

Local & Regional



BANGOR DAILY NEWS PHOTOS BY BEURMOND BANVILLE
The Corriveau Mill in Frenchville was razed Wednesday and Thursday. The equipment inside, some of which dates back to 1800, is being moved to the Acadian Village in Van Buren. On Thursday morning, workers (above) from the Acadian Village were at the site taking equipment apart.

Historic Corriveau Mill in Frenchville torn down

BY BEURMOND BANVILLE
OF THE NEWS STAFF

FRENCHVILLE — Gedeon Corriveau was pensive Thursday as workers removed the machinery and tore down the all too familiar red building at the Corriveau Mill.

The building housing the 150-year-old wool-carding mill and gristmill has been falling down. It was to the point that it was no longer safe for anyone to enter the structure, one of Corriveau's daughters said as her father walked around the area.

About 10 years ago, local volunteers shored up the building with 6-by-6-inch beams held in place by railroad rails, but even that effort could not stop the aging process.

Half a dozen workers were at the site Thursday moving machinery to the Acadian Village at Van Buren.

In the meantime, Clarence

Roy of Frenchville was operating a huge log loader and dismantling the building. The wood, some of it more than 125 years old, was being piled several hundred feet away from the Corriveau home. At some point, a huge bonfire will be fed by the pile of dilapidated wood.

The Corriveau Mill was entered in the National Register of Historic Places in the State of

"I started working in that mill when I was 13 years old. I have many emotions watching this."

Gedeon Corriveau

Maine in 1994. The carding side of the mill had a Schofield Wool-Carding Machine. The machine was manufactured in the United States around 1803. It was moved several times, and was last used by Mrs. George Corriveau, Corriveau's mother, in the mid-1960s.

Corriveau, 79, stopped processing buckwheat in the gristmill in 1981.

"I started working in that mill when I was 13 years old," he said. "I have many emotions watching this."

It's not known exactly when the "Red Mill" was built, but it may have been in the early 1900s. The Rev. Thomas Albert mentioned it in his 1907 history of the St. John Valley. Five families owned it before Corriveau's family purchased it in July 1912.

The equipment inside the mill was much older. It is unknown where the apparatus for the gristmill came from.



Some of the old gristmill equipment is visible Thursday at the Corriveau Mill in Frenchville.

Family members said they know the gristmill was operating as far back as 1845.

It is known that the carding mill operated in Fort Kent before being moved to Canada and then to Frenchville at the turn of the 1900s.

At its peak, the carding mill processed as much as 70,000 pounds of wool a year. It still carded as much as 300 pounds of wool a day in the 1960s.

When Corriveau stopped operating the gristmill, the pri-

mary reason was the lack of parts, but the number of farmers who grew buckwheat had also dwindled.

In its heyday, the gristmill operated 24 hours a day, processing up to eight barrels of flour per hour. It ran under steam power, with a gasoline engine for backup. Corriveau changed it to electrical power in 1958.

When Corriveau stopped operating the mill, it was the only gristmill operating in the United States.

At one time, there were 13 gristmills in the St. John Valley. Farmers harvested 11,000 acres of buckwheat when the industry flourished. By 1980, the acreage had dropped to 4,000 acres, and the acreage dropped dramatically two years later.

"I wish someone would interview my father and record all the history he has in his head," Monique Pelletier, Corriveau's daughter, said Thursday morning. "He knows so much about agriculture, the mills, making

paper and so many things."

Corriveau retired from Fraser Paper after working there 33 years. He was operating the family farm at the same time.

He is a veteran of the U.S. Army and a charter member of the Frenchville Volunteer Fire Department. He was feted for 55 years of service two years ago.

Corriveau and his wife, Aline, raised eight children on their family farm. The farm, located on U.S. Route 1 at Frenchville, is an original land grant farm.



Gedeon Corriveau