### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
#### INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

See instructions in HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

**NAME**

**Historic**

Power Plant and Dam No.4

**LOCATION**

**Street & Number**

Potomac River at the Berkeley-Jefferson Line

**City, Town**

Shepherdstown

**State**

WV

**County**

Berkeley

**Classification**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Present Use</th>
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<td><em>District</em></td>
<td><em>Public</em></td>
<td><em>Occupied</em></td>
<td><em>Agriculture</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Building(s)</em></td>
<td><em>Private</em></td>
<td><em>Unoccupied</em></td>
<td><em>Commercial</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Structure</em></td>
<td><em>Both</em></td>
<td><em>Work in Progress</em></td>
<td><em>Educational</em></td>
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<td><em>Site</em></td>
<td><em>Public Acquisition</em></td>
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<td><em>Object</em></td>
<td><em>In Process</em></td>
<td><em>Government</em></td>
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<td><em>Accessible</em></td>
<td><em>Transportation</em></td>
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**Owner of Property**

**Name**

Potomac Edison Company

**Street & Number**

P.O. Box 1458

**City, Town**

Hagerstown, Md. 21740

**State**

**Location of Legal Description**

Courthouse, Berkeley County Registry of Deeds, etc.

**City, Town**

Martinsburg, WV 25401

**State**

**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

X EXCELLENT  DETERIORATED
GOOD
FAIR

CHECK ONE

X UNALTERED  ALTERED
ORIGINAL SITE
MOVED
DATE

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 aned 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. Allhave 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 stairwalls lead to the basement areas where two water driven generators, sheve wheels are each located in a separate stone shaft. A row of small iron casement doors allow for ventilation 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.
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.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY

QUADRANGLE NAME

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

A 1 8 3 5 9 8 0 1 4 3 7 5 5 2 1 0

QUADRANGLE SCALE

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

100 feet around each side and end of the dam and power house

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

CITY OR TOWN Martinsburg, W. Va. 25401

STATE

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

TITLE

DATE

OR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

GPO 921-003