Designated A Landmark

This three-story frame grist mill on Stony Creek in Edinburg was recently added to the Virginia Landmarks Register which is the state’s official schedule of properties worthy of preservation. The Virginia Landmarks Commission describes the mill as a well-preserved example of the early agricultural industry of the Shenandoah Valley. Once part of a larger industrial complex, the mill is presently being adapted for use as a restaurant. Built ca. 1850 by the Grandstaff family and modernized at the turn of the century, the mill continued in use until July of last year when it was rescued from possible demolition by its acquisition for adaptive use. A dramatic moment in the history of the mill occurred during Sheridan’s destructive sweep of the Valley in February 1865. When the building was set afire, tradition has it that the women of the town persuaded Union officers to save the remaining flour. Confederate women and Union officers extinguished the flames, saving the mill and much of its contents.