

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PHO 140708 DATA SHEET

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RECEIVED MAR 28 1975
DATE ENTERED MAY 8 0 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Boshell's Mill

AND/OR COMMON

Boshell's Mill

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Cedrom Community Alabama Highway 124

CITY, TOWN

Townley

VICINITY OF

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

IV

STATE

Alabama

CODE

01

COUNTY

Walker

CODE

127

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Boshell Estate

STREET & NUMBER

Route 1, Box 118A (Fred C. Boshell)

CITY, TOWN

Jasper

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Alabama

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of Judge of Probate, Walker County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

19th Street

CITY, TOWN

Jasper

STATE

Alabama

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__ FEDERAL __ STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The complex is located to the northeast of the Cedron Community and consists of a small dam and two buildings located on opposite sides of Lost Creek.

The gristmill, located on the eastern side of the creek, is a two story structure, rectangular in shape and measuring 28' x 30'. The exterior walls are board and batten and the structure rests on large piers of stone quarried from the creek bed. The second floor projects several inches and the gabled roof is covered with tin and topped with a small wooden cupola. A four foot wide ramp leads to the first floor entryway.

Interior divisions consisted of one room per floor; however, the second floor has been recently divided into several rooms. The milling apparatus, a De Loach product, is located on the first floor and is largely intact, as is the turbine.

The dam is constructed of native sandstone taken from the bed of the creek and is approximately 20 feet high, thirty feet long and four to six feet thick.

The sawmill is board and batten, and consists of a two story section with a long one story wing. Both sections are supported by stone piers and have tin gabled roofs with small cupolas. The one story wing housed the sawmill while the two story portion housed a cotton gin and corn feed crusher.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1890's BUILDER/ARCHITECT W. R. Boshell

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Boshell's Mill is a small scale rural milling complex which dates from the late 19th century and consists of a sawmill, a gristmill and a mill dam. It is the only known saw and grist mill combination in northern Alabama.

The original sawmill was brought to the present site in 1885 by W. R. Boshell and was operated by steam until 1901 when it was converted into a water driven mill. During the early years the mill was used primarily for cutting railroad trestles for the Frisco Railroad, then being constructed.

During the 1890's the mill burned but was immediately rebuilt and at that time a cotton gin was added to the complex but its use was discontinued after the production of the first bale because of insufficient power.

In 1903 a grist mill was added to provide work for the sawmill workers during the slack periods of business. The first miller, George W. Boshell, a son of W. R. Boshell, operated the mill until his death in 1938. Work continued under the direction of Cecil K. Boshell. The mill closed in 1963 upon the retirement of the last miller, R. C. Jones.

The sawmill was operated by descendants of W. R. Boshell until 1961 when it ceased operating.

Both structures have been vacant since the 1960's and although structurally sound, are in a state of disrepair. There is considerable local interest in the restoration of the mills.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Family Papers in possession of Fred C. Boshell, Jasper, Alabama.

Interviews with: Mrs. Katie Bell, Townley, Alabama; Mr. Marion L. O'Rear, Carbon Hill, Alabama.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4 acres

UTM REFERENCES Longitude: 87° 26' 51" Latitude: 33° 51' 17"

A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	B	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director

ORGANIZATION

Alabama Historical Commission

DATE

March 19, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

725 Monroe Street

TELEPHONE

832-6621 or 832-6622

CITY OR TOWN

Montgomery,

STATE

Alabama

12 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.

SIGNATURE

Thilo B. Howard Jr.

TITLE

SHPO

DATE

March 21, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

5/30/75

ATTEST:

Charles A. [Signature]

DATE

5.26.75

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

cting