

MAY 14 2009

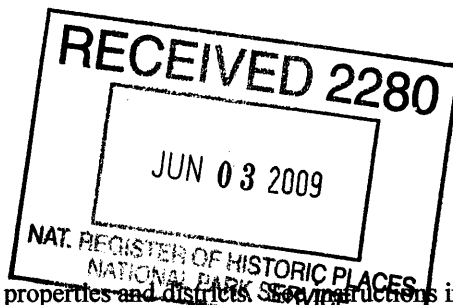
NPS Form 10-900  
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

516



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Big Stone Mills

other names/site number Turkey River Valley Roller Mills, Spillville Feed Mill

2. Location

street & number 113 N. Main Street

not for publication N/A

city or town Spillville

vicinity N/A

state Iowa

code 191

county Winneshek

code 191

zip code 52168

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Bauwaa Mitchell DSHPO  
Signature of certifying official

May 27 2009  
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  
See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the  
National Register

See continuation sheet.  
determined not eligible for the  
National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain):

*Edson H. Beall*

*For*

Signature of Keeper

7-15-09  
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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

1

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2

3

Noncontributing

\_\_\_\_\_ buildings

\_\_\_\_\_ sites

\_\_\_\_\_ structures

\_\_\_\_\_ objects

\_\_\_\_\_ Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

Four Milling and Related Buildings and Structures in Iowa, 1840-1940

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: \_\_\_\_\_ Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
Industry/Processing/Extraction \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Manufacturing Facility

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Work in progress Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Mid 19th century

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation Stone/Limestone

Roof Metal/Tin

Walls Stone/Limestone

Wood

other \_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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## 8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.  
 B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.  
 C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.  
 D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.  
 B removed from its original location.  
 C a birthplace or a grave.  
 D a cemetery.  
 E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.  
 F a commemorative property.  
 G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Industry

Architecture

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1866 to 1952

\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1866

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Unknown

\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Statement of significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation of file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	15	583216	4784384	3	—	—	—
2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title Cyril M. Klimesh/ and Michael F. Klimesh, and Steven A. Klimesh

organization Owner, Cyril M. Klimesh

date 5 May 2009

street & number 1900 Allen Creek Road/ 105 N. Main St., 105 Pleasant View Drive

city or town Grants Pass, OR/ Spillville, IA 52168; Spillville, IA 52168

state OR

zip code 97527

telephone number 541 956-9917

e-mail address cyklim@klimesh.com, michaelk@acegroup.cc

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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**Property Owner**

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name/title Cyril M. Klimesh

street & number 1900 Allen Creek Road

city or town Grants Pass

state OR

zip code 97527

telephone number 541 956-9917

e-mail address cyklim@klimesh.com

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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. 470 et seq.). Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 Big Stone Mills, Winneshiek County, Iowa

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### Description

Facing southerly, the Big Stone Mills is located at water's edge on the south shore of the Turkey River in Spillville, Winneshiek County, Iowa. It is on the north end of Spillville just west of the bridge across the Turkey River. It is on a flat piece of ground just east of the steep hillside that runs to it for about a quarter mile from the west directly along the river. Constructed in 1866, the original 30 feet x 40 feet two-story, front-gabled building was a typical Iowa small country mill of the 1840 to 1872 period. The foundation sits on the bedrock from which the stone for the mill was quarried. The basement has less than six feet of headroom due to silt. The flume, sand filled by floodwaters, is an integral part of the structure and is integral to its water milling purpose and it runs along the north foundation inside the mill building, except for the exterior segment as it comes off the south end of the dam, at the northwest corner of the main part of the mill building. Its walls are about three feet below the floor framework. Above the sand, a gear atop one of the two buried turbines is visible. The turbines are contributing resources to the mill as a whole. The flume extends about 30 feet from the west foundation. The millpond is no more. Replacing the pond behind the remainder of the dam is a grove of box elder trees. The floor frame has mortise and tenon joints. The beams are joined with alligator splices above square posts. Rotted posts and beams under the west addition had caused the floor to collapse. A separate concrete-floored room under the east addition is partially filled with dirt.

A concrete loading dock (built ca 1950's) now extends along the south stone facade of the mill. The west addition (built before 1874) is a side-gabled addition placed perpendicular to the original mill to form an "L". Its front, south, wall is stone. The west and north walls of the west addition are board-and-batten. On the west side of the west addition was a shed-roofed board-and-batten addition (from before 1880). On the north side of the west addition and attached to the west side of the main stone structure is a small addition (built after ca 1880). On the east side is a shed-roofed stone addition (built in 1880 after a flood washed away an earlier wood structure) with a board-and-batten extension on its north. A front-facing dormer sits on the tin-covered roof of the west addition and there are two east-facing dormers over the mill proper. Low on the north wall is a stone arch above the location where water exits the flume which is under the mill.

In 1959 a metal-clad frame building, since dismantled, was erected in front of and connected to Big Stone Mills by a gable roof over the dock. All milling activities were moved into this building. Space in the lower level of the old building was utilized for an office and warehouse. The upper level, littered by numerous remnants of milling equipment, was occupied by generation after generation of raccoons. Slowly deteriorating from neglect and finally vacated, the once proud Big Stone Mills is now in need of much tender, loving care. Over time a portion of the north stone wall had settled and caused the floors to sag. Rotted sills under the west and north walls of the west addition have caused the walls to drop about a foot. That and the failure of a supporting post caused the floor to collapse and make the room unusable. A small addition above the millrace has collapsed. The dam, in disrepair, is no longer part of the property. All windows need replacing. The badly rusted tin roof is over 24 years old and is beginning to leak in places. Grading is needed to divert rainwater from under the mill. The Big Stone Mills has been vacant and has severely deteriorated. The present owner acquired the mill in 2005 with

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# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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preservation in mind. The goal is to stabilize the structure and eventually return it to its appearance during its heyday as the Turkey River Valley Roller Mills. Repairs have begun and will proceed as finances permit.

The Big Stone Mills maintains a high degree of all seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The integrity of the immediate and original setting of the mill, illustrated by the geography and geology, contributes to the mill's ability to maintain integrity of feeling and association. Under Criterion C design, materials and workmanship are especially important. The over-all mill form and floor plan are original from its beginning in the 1860's. Original major architecture is intact except for the west wing floor and deteriorated (some missing) windows and doors. The flume and two turbines remain. Much equipment has been removed, although some equipment remains. Building materials are primarily native limestone and timber. Workmanship is original although the actual builders are not known and no known plans survive. The dam, under other ownership, is seriously damaged at this time, but a repaired/replaced functional dam will be necessary for the mill to operate with water power as it did in the past.

The Big Stone Mills is an example of a mill of the subtype category "Small Country Mills serving the Home Trade, 1840-1872" (MPD - Soike, 1989, p. 14-17). It's size and type of construction is consistent with these types of mills as a type.

The intent is to preserve, protect, restore, maintain and exhibit the historic treasure of the 1866 Big Stone Mills, associated real estate, elements and environment, consistent with its use and relevant time periods. The standards of the Secretary of the Interior for Historic Preservation projects will provide the guidance for the work on the Big Stone Mills project.



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## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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### Summary Statement of Significance of Big Stone Mills

Big Stone Mills is significant under Criterion A at both the state and local levels. The property possesses statewide significance because it is one of only a few surviving buildings directly associated with the era from the early 1870's to early 1880's when Iowa led the nation in wheat and flour production. "...Iowa was, in 1873, the largest wheat producing state..." (Soike, 1989, p. 7). The Big Stone Mills is specifically identified, in Soike, page 16, as one of a few remaining examples of substantial stone mills that date from the early era of Iowa country watermills. Only two stone mills were specifically named in the State of Iowa. In the whole category of all small country mills serving the home trade Soike, on page 16, in 1989, identified only 14 extant examples in the whole state of Iowa. It is locally significant as well because of the services it provided to the local agricultural economy and community for well over 100 years; its successful conversion from wheat to feed production; and its lengthy association with the Bernatz family, one of northeast Iowa's leading milling families. Big Stone Mills is also locally significant under Criterion C as a well-preserved example of a Small Country Mill. The mill meets the registration requirements set forth in the "Flour Milling and Related Buildings and Structures in Iowa, 1840-1940" Multiple Property Documentation Form (Soike, 1989). The mill falls under Subtype A: Small Country Mills Serving the Home Trade, 1840-1872, although various mill owners exported their products beyond the local market as opportunities arose. The period of significance for the mill begins in 1866, when the mill was built, and ends in 1952, when the mill changed hands after being in the Bernatz family for several generations. While this period of significance extends beyond that of the MPD, it best represents the period Big Stone Mills operated under water power.

Further investigation may reveal archeological significance but this is not being claimed in this nomination.

This mill has in some cases been referred to as the ca 1850 Spielmann mill, even appearing as such in the MPD. However this is not the case. The Spielmann mill was located on Wander Creek on the south end of Spillville.

### Historic Background and Significance

When Big Stone Mills came into operation in 1866 it provided a much-needed service to the fledgling community's farmers. All of the county's land had been taken over by settlers and was slowly being placed under cultivation with wheat being the primary crop. In 1870 Winneshiek County was rated as the 4<sup>th</sup> leading wheat raising county in the nation. In 1876 climatic conditions, wheat rust and cinch bugs destroyed much of the wheat crop. More poor wheat harvest years followed. There was also a switch to hard winter wheat in these years, which moved the wheat center to Kansas. And Minneapolis became the milling city nucleus for spring wheat. In Iowa flour milling had been the principal industry. By 1880 that was no longer true. Impoverished, a large number of Winneshiek

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## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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County farmers left for a new start in the Dakotas, Montana, Oklahoma, and Washington. The farmers who stayed switched to raising corn, hogs, oats and rye. Wheat became a secondary crop.

In May 1865 a partnership of three Winneshiek County businessmen -- Hanna Morse, S. H. Salls and Christopher Collier -- purchased portions of the acreage owned by Ignatz Benda and Joseph Linhart. Both men had pre-empted their parcels on 29 April 1854. Situated on the north edge of the village, the purchase included the river and "whatever land on both banks may be overflowed by raising the water by a dam." The county newspaper announced that "S. H. Salls and Phillip Morse are erecting a grist mill in Calmar Township, 2 1/2 miles from the railroad junction (Conover), on the Turkey River. They have good power and propose to have two or three run of stones in the mill, size 30 feet x 40 feet. They build of stone."

This was welcome news to Spillville area farmers. During those early years transportation was by horse or ox drawn wagon. With roads no more than ruts in the landscape a local mill was the sole convenient grain market for Spillville area farmers. It was also the prime source of flour for the housewives. Some time earlier in 1865 Spielman's mill, a crude pioneer saw and gristmill was destroyed, probably by the extraordinary flood that had swept through the county that spring and damaged many of the county's mills and bridges. In the late 1850s Spillville's founder, Joseph Spielman, had added a gristmill to the sawmill he had erected shortly after his arrival. Conventional wisdom gives the construction date as 1849. Since Spielman did not pre-empt the property until November 1850 that is most unlikely. The structure was located at the south edge of Spillville just west of the bridge across the creek bearing his name. Sans a local mill, the residents had to haul their grain to a neighboring mill to sell it or have it processed into meal or flour. By ox team the trip took three days at best.

The trio had good reason to use stone as their building material. At the location they had chosen the riverbed was exposed bedrock. Geologically the stratum is known today as the Spillville Formation of the Devonian period. About 160 feet thick, the Spillville Formation is about 405 million years old and extends across most of northern Iowa and southern Minnesota.

It took about a year and a half to complete construction and place the mill in operation. Two years later, when one of the partners offered to sell his share of the enterprise, the structure was described as having two mill stones and a "20 foot double reel bolt, run by a 48 inch Leffel wheel." The ad went on to say that a "spar dam, laid on rock" insured an "ample supply of water." It further claimed that the mill was "doing first class business" and was a "tip-top opportunity for a practical miller." Following repairs to the mill in the spring of 1869, the paper reported that "a new smutter and separator have been put in, and new spouting throughout. Besides this, new arrangements have been made for bolting flour, which so far is experimental but is working admirably in the production of an A#1 article of flour."

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Unlike the conventional paddle or bucket wheel, which usually was designed and fabricated locally, the Leffel American Double Turbine Water Wheel installed in the mill was the product of a foundry in Springfield, Ohio. Only recently patented by its inventor, James Leffel, the new turbine was the most efficient to be found on the market. Durable and dependable, the Leffel turbine needed little maintenance and could function when the water level was low. These qualities had been quite rare in many, if not most, of the frontier mills. Installed in the floor of the flume built against the north foundation of the mill, the completely submerged turbine was capable of supplying thirty horsepower of energy. The box-like flume of heavy timbers and 4-inch thick planks provided a convenient fishing platform for village youngsters and oldsters alike.

The dam held back a seven-foot "head" of water and created a millpond that extended to the turn in the river a half-mile upstream. Built somewhat like the walls of a log cabin, the dam was a continuous crib-work with a vertical face and a back sloping to the riverbed. The hewed logs were fitted close together, with the lower timbers attached to the bedrock by means of iron drift pins. These were driven into a ledge apparently carved out of the riverbed. Over three feet high, the ledge extends from bank to bank.

One of the mill's two "run of stones" was adjusted to grind wheat, the other for barley, buckwheat, or corn. The action of one millstone turning above a stationary stone ground the wheat and similar grain into bran, middlings and flour and corn into meal. Adjustment of the space between the two millstones was critical. Too close a setting would cause unnecessary wear of the stones and would heat the grain. Too loose an adjustment would cause the grist to be too coarse. The flour was separated from the coarser particles by running it into a bolt, a revolving screening device that separated the flour from the middlings and bran, which were carried on into separate bins.

With its advanced Leffel Turbine, two mill stones, substantial dam and other equipment the Big Stone Mills was ahead of its time in the 1860s.

Big Stone Mills had a capacity of 300 bushels of grain a day. Of the 56,900 bushels that were milled during the fiscal year ending June 1, 1870, 31,100 bushels were the property of the millers. Valued at \$25,350.00, this grain produced 6,000 barrels of flour and 225 tons of feed. Described as an "A#1 product" and trademarked "Big Stone", the flour was shipped to Chicago where it compared favorably to the best brands of spring wheat flour on the market. A barrel of flour sold for \$4.00.

Over the years many of the changes made to the mill were due to periodic high water. In February 1871, an unusually early freshet swept away the dam, but the mill escaped injury. In 1872, during a June flood, turbulent water caused considerable damage around the mill but the dam held. On 17 June 1880 the Decorah Republican reported that following a heavy rain in May the proprietors of the mill were less fortunate: Water undermined the walls of the attached warehouse and the structure was carried away. The danger had been anticipated, however and the wheat and flour stored within had been removed before the building collapsed. A portion of the flume was also torn away. Before reconstruction could be completed a new storm not only washed out all the repairs but enlarged the

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break as well. The damage was estimated to be "in excess of \$1,000." It may be at this time (1880) that the flume was moved to a location under the mill. Initially the flume under the mill may have been a wooden crib that was replaced with concrete, possibly in 1924 when the wooden dam was over-laid with concrete.

During the mill's first 20 years, title to the property changed hands several times, including some juggling of ownership within the Morse family, Phillip and his sons Henry (Hannah), Lyman, and Orison. In January 1870, the Decorah Republican noted the transfer by Lyman D. Morse of 4/12ths of the mill to H. T. Morse and Thomas Johns for \$3,866.40 and 1/12th to Orison Morse for \$996.60. This partnership lasted only a short time. In a dissolution notice dated June 25, 1870, the partners stated that "the firm of Johns, Morse and Company, proprietors of the Big Stone Mills at Spillville, Iowa, is this day dissolved by mutual consent. Johns, Miller and Company succeed the late firm in all its rights and interests and will settle accounts". The new partnership consisted of Thomas Johns, Norris Miller, and J. J. Haug. Johns and Miller each had \$4,000.00 in the venture while Haug paid \$6,000.00 for his share. In 1886, after having bought out his partners, J. J. Haug sold the mill to brothers, John and Michael Bernatz, members of a family that owned mills in Decorah and Fort Atkinson. In 1894 Michael sold his share to John whose family would retain the Big Stone Mills for over half a century.

Under John Bernatz newly invented steel roller mills replaced the millstones and the name of the business was changed to The Turkey River Valley Roller Mills. In 1903 Bernatz installed a 19 inch Leffel wheel and in 1914 a 23 inch. In 1924 the log dam was overlaid with concrete. This could also be the time when the concrete flume under the mill was constructed. During the later 1920s or early 1930s, Bernatz improved the appearance of his mill and provided comfort to his workers by adding a shed roof over the open loading dock.

Ownership of the mill changed in 1952 following deaths in the Bernatz family. During the following year after a flood severely damaged the dam, it was not repaired. A diesel-fueled engine, formerly used as auxiliary power, now became the exclusive source. In 1959 the owner added a metal covered wood framed drive-through structure to the front of the mill. At the same time he switched to electric power. In 1986 the Spillville Feed Mill, as the business was then known, changed hands again. After 1993 the owner moved his operations to a new location with contemporary equipment, much larger storage facilities and access for semi tractors and trailers.

Big Stone Mills provided a market for grain and milling services to the area farmers for well over a century. It is one of 14 surviving flour and grain mills in Iowa. It is also one of only three surviving Winneshiek County mills, out of 34 that once operated in the county.

Today, equipment in the mill includes: two Leffel turbines in sand and silt in the flume under the mill, several pieces of old milling equipment and various parts in the upper level of the west section, and several old built-in bins and miscellaneous shafts and pulleys.

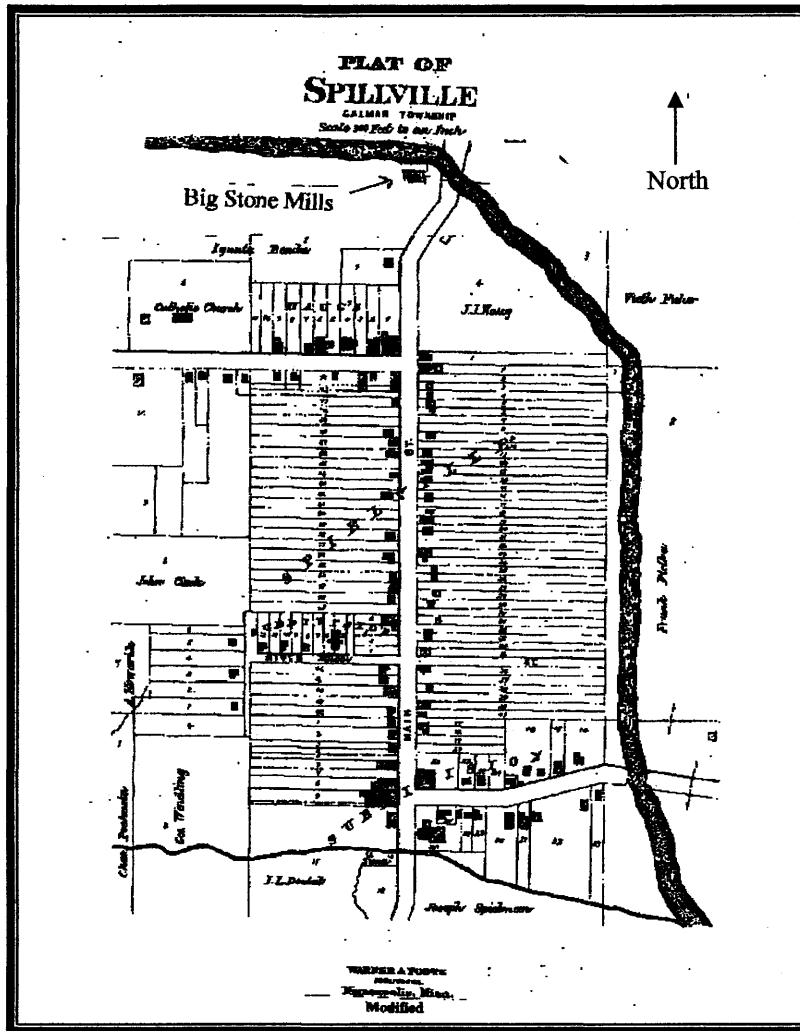
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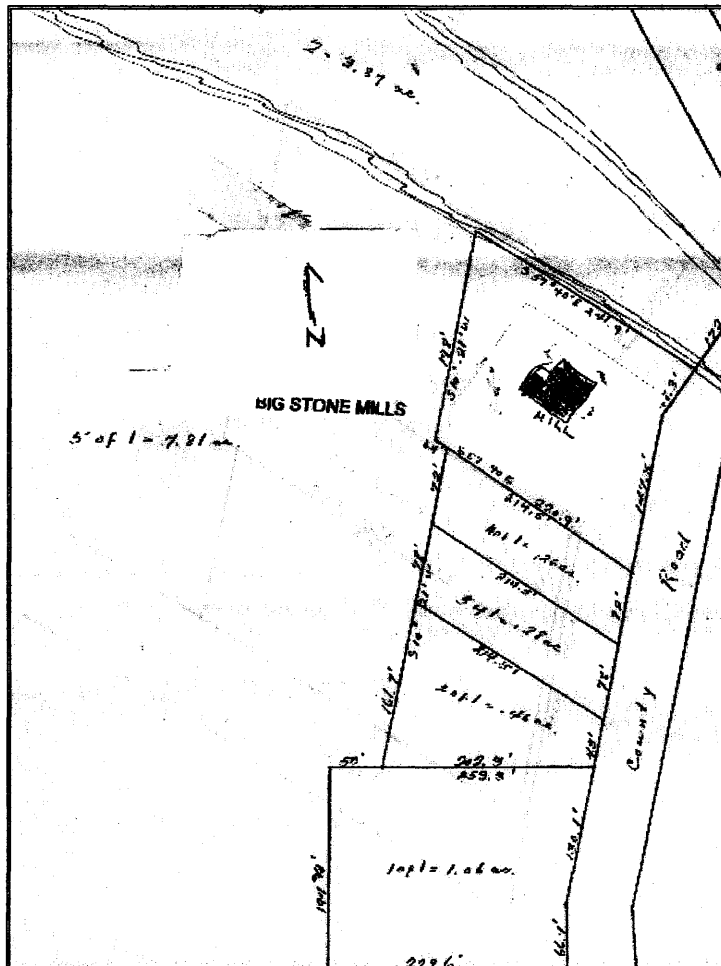


Map of Spillville from 1886 Atlas of Winneshiek County, Iowa  
Published by Warner and Foote, Minneapolis, Minnesota

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Location of mill superimposed on 1889 plat of the subdivision  
from Abstract of Title possessed by Cyril M. Klimesh.

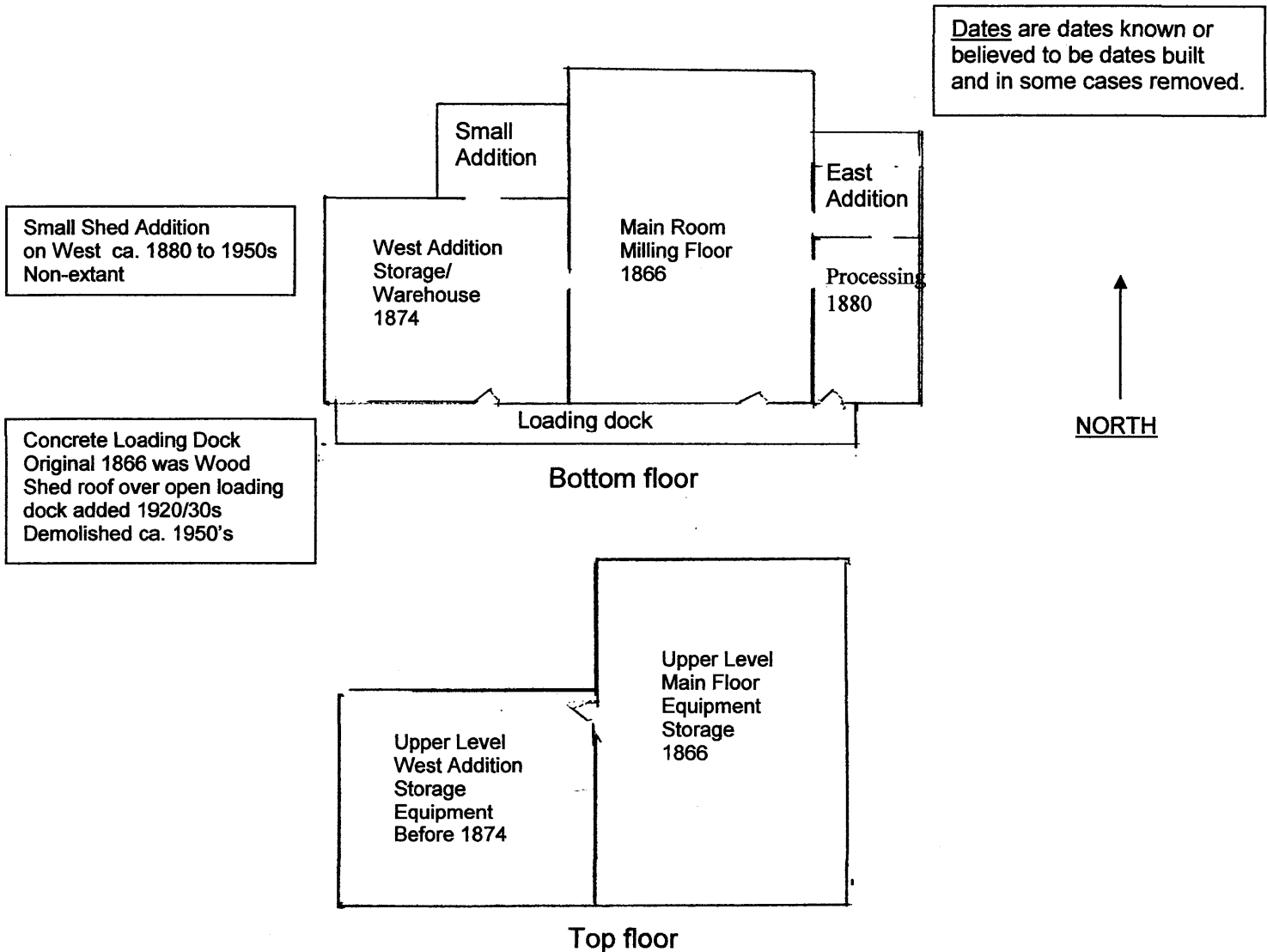
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Big Stone Mills, Winneshiek County, Iowa



Floor plan ca. 1912 to present.  
Sketch by Cyril M. Klimesh 2005

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Big Stone Mills, Winneshiek County, Iowa

OFFICE OF		Also	
Turkey River Valley Roller Mills		Manufacturer	
CAPACITY		Pure	
100 Barrels Wheat Flour. 25 Barrels Rye Flour		Bakeries	
JOHN BERNATZ, Prop.		Rye and Buckwheat Flour	

Spillville, Ia. *Dec 15 1917*

*R. Klimesh*

April 12	3 1/2 Flour	810
June 9	2 " "	720
"	25 <sup>th</sup> Rye	150
July 20	2 1/2 Flour	670
July 4	2 1/2 Rye Flour	275
Sept 5	2 1/2 Flour	600
Oct 3	2 1/2 Rye Flour	840
Nov 21	1 1/2 Rye & 2 1/2 Flour	530
		<u>\$409</u>
		6890
		4095
		<u>2795</u>

Year-end statement from 1917 shows that the Robert A. Klimesh family purchased 12 sacks of flour and 50 pounds of rye at a cost of \$40.95. During that period Mrs. Klimesh baked Monday through Friday for a family of ten. On Saturday she baked kolaches (Czech pastries), and cinnamon and crescent rolls.



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BIG STONE MILLS SPILLVILLE IOWA

Illustration from Andreas, A. J., Historical Atlas of the State of Iowa, 1875

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General works

Klimesh, Cyril M., THEY CAME TO THIS PLACE, Sebastopol, CA, 1988. Methodius Press

Articles

Decorah Republican, Vol. 6, 29 June 1865

Decorah Republican, Vol. 10, 1 January 1869

Decorah Republican, Vol. 10, 11 June 1869

Decorah Republican, Vol. 10, 10 December 1869

Decorah Republican, Vol. 11, 8 July 1870

Decorah Republican, Vol. 12, 3 March 1871

Decorah Republican, Vol. 27, 17 June 1880

Decorah Republican, Vol. 33, 17 December 1886

Federal Document

U.S. Industrial census report, 1870, for Calmar Township, Winneshiek County, Iowa

County Documents

Winneshiek County Land records, Book A, page 161

Winneshiek County Land records, Book V, pages 378 and 392

Winneshiek County Land records, Book 31, page 215

Owner's Document

Abstract of Title for property at 113 N Main Street, Spillville, Iowa

State Historical Society of Iowa – Multiple Property Documentation Form

Flour Milling and Related Buildings and Structures in Iowa, 1840-1940

Lowell J. Soike, Ph.D., Historian, 2/16/1989

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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### **Boundary Description**

Lot 1 of 5 and the North 10 feet of the East 160 feet of Lot 2 of 5 and the North 6 feet of the West 6p.9 feet of Lot 2 of 5 of the Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 19, Township 97 North, Range 9 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M. in the Town of Spillville, Winneshiek County, Iowa.

### **Boundary justification**

The nominated property includes the Big Stone Mills and does not include the dam and the mill pond, which are under separate ownership.

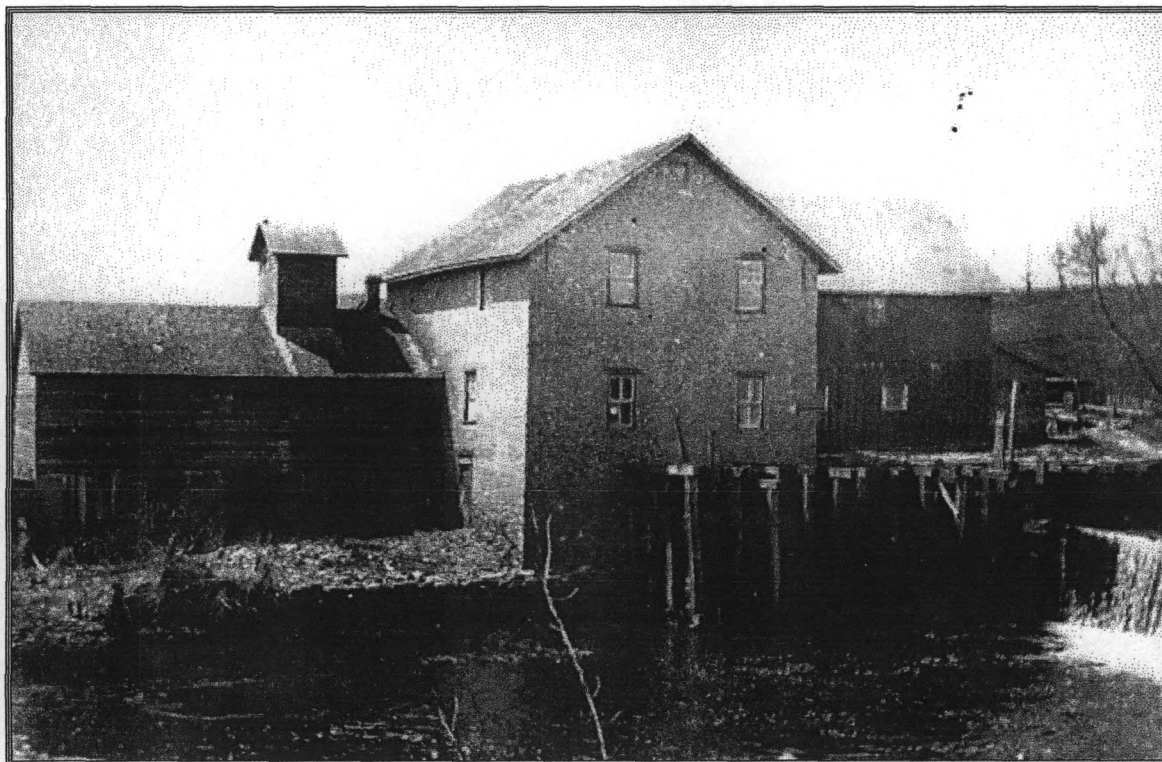
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Historical Photograph, Big Stone Mills



- Photographer: Unknown
- Date: 1880 or earlier. The warehouse on the left was washed out during a flood in 1880. Note the wooden flume against the north wall. Later the flume was replaced with one of concrete under the mill and extending to the right, west, to the dam.
- View: to the South
- The image is a scan of a photograph held by Cyril M. Klimesh, Grants Pass, Oregon

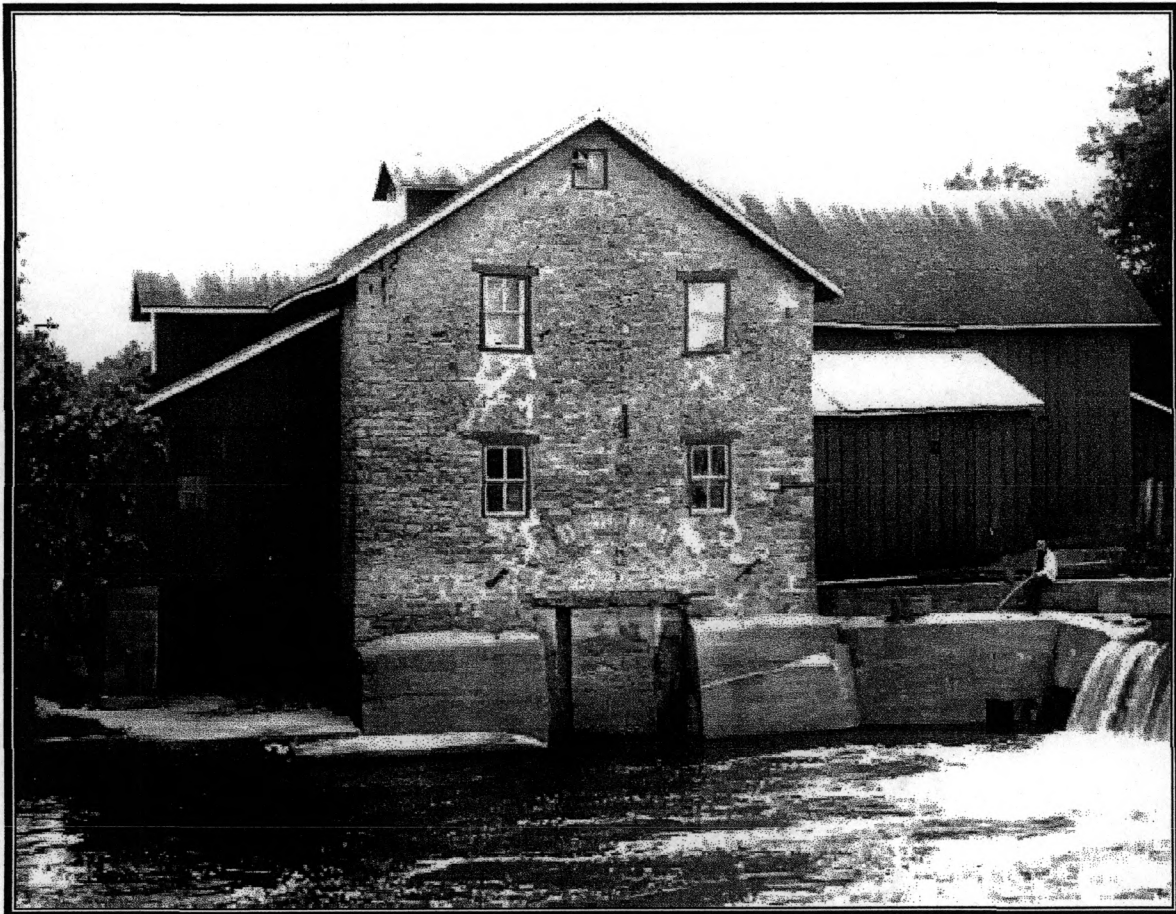
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Historical Photograph, Big Stone Mills



- **Photographer: Cyril M. Klimesh.**
- **Date: 1947**
- **View to the SSW. The abutments at the base of the mill were probably constructed when the flume was moved to beneath the mill.**
- **The image is a scan of a photograph held by Cyril M. Klimesh of Grants Pass, Oregon**



United States Department of the Interior  
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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Historical Photograph, Big Stone Mills



- Photographer: Cyril M. Klimesh
- Date c1952.
- View: to the NW. This was the last year of operation as Turkey River Valley Roller Mills.
- The image is a scan of a photograph held by Cyril M. Klimesh, Grants Pass, Oregon.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
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Following in an inventory of the photos submitted:

1. Photo Name: IA\_Winneshiek\_Spillville Mill 01 South Wall  
Photographer: Steven A. Klimesh  
Date of Photo: 09/21/2007  
View is to the north looking at the south facing wall
2. Photo Name: IA\_Winneshiek\_Spillville Mill 02 South and East Wall  
Photographer: Steven A. Klimesh  
Date of Photo: 09/18/2005  
View is to the northwest looking at the south and east facing wall
3. Photo Name: IA\_Winneshiek\_Spillville Mill 03 East Wall  
Photographer: Steven A. Klimesh  
Date of Photo: 09/21/07  
View is to the west looking at the east facing wall
4. Photo Name: IA\_Winneshiek\_Spillville Mill 04 North Wall  
Photographer: Steven A. Klimesh  
Date of Photo: 02/02/2006  
View is to the south looking at the north facing wall
5. Photo Name: IA\_Winneshiek\_Spillville Mill 05 West Wall  
Photographer: Steven A. Klimesh  
Date of Photo: 09/21/2007  
View is to the east looking at the west facing wall
6. Photo Name: IA\_Winneshiek\_Spillville Mill 06 Interior Water Run, Turbine Gears  
Photographer: Steven A. Klimesh  
Date of Photo: 04/10/2004  
View is to the north looking at Turbine Gears in sand in Water Run (Left, West, to Right, East)
7. Photo Name: IA\_Winneshiek\_Spillville Mill 07 Interior Lower Level Pulleys, to left of Water run wall  
Photographer: Steven A. Klimesh  
Date of Photo: 04/10/2004  
View is to the northwest under main room of mill looking at pulleys and water run to right of pulleys
8. Photo Name: IA\_Winneshiek\_Spillville Mill 08 Interior lower level west end looking east  
Photographer: Steven A. Klimesh  
Date of Photo: 02/08/2006

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# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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View is to the southeast

9. Photo Name: IA\_Winneshiek\_Spillville Mill 09 North west wall and water run  
Photographer: Steven A. Klimesh  
Date of Photo: 02/08/2006  
View is to the east looking at the water run