Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### PHO 684414 FOR NPS USE ONLY RECEIVED SEP 191978

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

**DATE ENTERED** DEC R SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS NAME HISTORIC Cassidy Mill AND/OR COMMON Cleveland Flour Mill SE of Cleveland off NM 3 LOCATION STREET & NUMBER State Road 3 NOT FOR PUBLICATION CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Cleveland X VICINITY OF COUNTY STATE CODE CODE New Mexico Mora 013 **CLASSIFICATION CATEGORY** OWNERSHIP **STATUS PRESENT USE** \_\_DISTRICT PUBLIC OCCUPIED \_\_AGRICULTURE \_\_MUSEUM X PRIVATE XBUILDING(S) XUNOCCUPIED \_\_PARK \_\_COMMERCIAL \_\_STRUCTURE ROTH **\_\_WORK IN PROGRESS** EDUCATIONAL \_\_PRIVATE RESIDENCE \_\_SITE **PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE** \_\_ENTERTAINMENT \_\_RELIGIOUS \_\_OBJECT XYES: RESTRICTED \_\_SCIENTIFIC \_IN PROCESS \_\_GOVERNMENT \_\_BEING CONSIDERED \_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED \_INDUSTRIAL \_\_TRANSPORTATION X OTHER: Idle \_\_NO \_\_MILITARY OWNER OF PROPERTY NAME Daniel Joseph Cassidy IV STREET & NUMBER P.O. Box 287 CITY, TOWN STATE New Mexico Cleveland LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Mora County Courthouse STREET & NUMBER CITY, TOWN STATE New Mexico Mora REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS New Mexico State Register of Cultural Properties DATE \_\_FEDERAL XSTATE \_\_COUNTY \_\_LOCAL December 9, 1977 DEPOSITORY FOR **SURVEY RECORDS** New Mexico Historic Preservation Program CITY, TOWN STATE New Mexico Santa Fe



#### CONDITION

**CHECK ONE** 

CHECK ONE

\_\_EXCELLENT

\_\_FAIR

ADETERIORATED \_\_RUINS

\_\_UNEXPOSED

\_XUNALTERED

X\_ORIGINAL SITE
\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Cassidy Mill is a three-story adobe structure built in 1877 with stone foundations and basement walls. The roof consists of corrugated metal with wooden gables and framing. Measurements for the basic plan are 87'4" x 32'8" plus a 16' x 30' room extending from the northeast corner of the main floor. There was once a lean-to storage area along the northeast side of the building, but only a few rafters extending from an adobe wall 7 feet in height are remaining. A covered porch, 22 feet in length, is situated along the central portion of the southwest wall. All of the adobe and stone walls are 2'6" thick.

The mill is divided into two sections of approximately the same length. The west end of the building, called the grainery, has only one floor, while the east end contains the three-level milling operation. The grainery section is more deteriorated than the eastern part and has a leaky roof and a large crack down the center of the west wall. The roof over the main mill section is in better condition, providing protection for the milling machinery which stands in good condition.

There are windows in the gables and in the east and south walls of the mill section. Most of the lights have been broken, and the lower windows have been boarded up for security reasons.

Most of the milling equipment was purchased from the J.B. Ehrsam & Sons Manufacturing Company in Enterprise, Kansas, and the Wolf Company of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. The operation includes a steel roller mill designed to produce fine flour and a set of French buhrstones which ground coarser products. Power for the mill was produced by a metal overshot waterwheel situated at the east end of the building measuring 18'6" in diameter. The wheel was ordered from the Hanover Water Works in Hanover, Pennsylvania and assembled on the site.

Water flows to the mill in a ditch from a diversion on the Mora River approximately one-half mile west of the mill. The present ditch was dug around 1910 after the original water source, the Rio de la Casa, changed course. The ditch follows the contour of the mountain immediately north of the mill.

Although the mill building is in need of structural repairs, the waterwheel, gears, and milling machinery are essentially intact. Most of the drive belts were removed and placed in storage, but little else of importance is missing.

### 8 SIGNIFICANCE

SPECIFIC DATES 1877 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Joseph Fuss					
		INVENTION			
.X1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)	
.X.1800-1899	_XCOMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION	
1700-1799	ART	XENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER	
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1500-1599	_XAGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE	
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION	
PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW		

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Cassidy Mill played a major role in the agricultural economy of northern New Mexico for a period of eighty years. The mill was built in 1877 by Joseph Fuss and equipped with one set of French buhrstones. The steel roller mill was installed in 1892, and the two grinding systems processed approximately fifty barrels of grains per day until the mill closed in the 1950's.

In 1914, Fuss sold the mill for \$13,000 to Daniel Cassidy, Sr., a rancher and general store proprietor who had moved from Ireland to the vicinity of Cleveland, New Mexico in 1880. He sold the mill to his son, Daniel Cassidy, Jr., in 1919.

The younger Cassidy was born in 1877 before the family immigrated to America. After completing his education at St. Michael's College in Santa Fe, he returned to Cleveland to work at his father's ranch and store. He acquired interests in both enterprises, but soon sold his part of the ranch. After buying the mill, Cassidy sold his interest in the general store and moved his family to a house he built near the mill in 1921.

Cassidy employed a number of workers over the years, including two millwrights, Sam Barela and Manuel Romo. Cassidy's sons, Albert, Daniel III, Phillip, and Walter, also worked in the mill. Daniel Cassidy IV, who was not old enough to work there before operations ceased, hopes to make the mill operational again.

During the peak years of operation, the mill ran year around. From December to July the work day consisted of about eight hours. However, the mill often ran twenty-four hours a day from August to November.

In winter months, the water sometimes froze in the millrace, and a steam engine located outside the south wall of the mill provided auxiliary power. This engine exploded in 1921 resulting in the death of one employee. The engine and its building were destroyed.

Much of the business transacted by Fuss and Cassidy involved the trade of goods rather than cash. Farmers traded livestock, wood, hides, and other items for flour. The most common arrangement involved the farmer keeping a certain percentage of the flour produced from the grain brought to the mill.

Grain was brought to Cleveland from as far away as Penasco and Truchas in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. The Cassidys often made overnight accommodations for customers, especially during the winter months. Guests slept in the mill and sometimes in the Cassidy home. (See continuation sheet.)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPH	HICAL REFE	RENCES		
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Bunting, Bainbridge, ed. <u>Measured Drawings.</u> Library), n.d., Vol	Albuquerque: l	Jniversity of N	ings: <u>A Collec</u> New Mexico (Fi	tion of ne Arts
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DAT	'A			
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
11 FORM PREPARED BY				
Wendell Bell, Assistant I	Project Manager		DATE	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
ORGANIZATION History of Engineering Pi	rogram		August 16, 19	78
STREET & NUMBER P.O. Box 4089, Texas Tecl			TELEPHONE	
CITY OR TOWN	1 Ulliversity		(806) 742-359 STATE	1
Lubbock			Texas	
12 STATE HISTORIC PRE	ESERVATION	OFFICER C	ERTIFICAT	'ION
	SIGNIFICANCE OF 1	THIS PROPERTY WIT		
NATIONAL	STATE	<u> </u>	LOCAL	-
As the designated State Historic Preserve hereby nominate this property for inclus criteria and procedures set forth by the N	sion in the National Re lational Park Service			
TITLE Stale Hutre F	brewet	Ofhier	DATE	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	/ · pr	-,,		
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	4			
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Historic American Engineering Record Inventory May, 1978 Historic American Engineering Record Department of the Interior Washington, D.C. 20240 Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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Cassidy's mill was one of six mills in the area, but only two of the others, St. Vrain's mill at Mora and Romero's mill at La Cueva, were equipped to produce fine flour. The other three mills, no longer standing, could only perform rough separations.

Milling activity in the area peaked in the 1920's with good business continuing into the 1930's. Economic decline affected all the mills, and the Cassidy and Romero mills were the only ones operating in the 1940's. A decline in the area's agricultural production eventually caused the mills to close. Efforts to keep the mill operating included buying wheat from as far away as Kansas. However, the expense proved to be prohibitive. The Cassidy operation could not compete with the large milling centers whose finished products were less expensive to the consumer.

The Cassidys decided to close the mill in 1950, but intermittent operations continued until 1957. It was the last mill to operate in the Mora Valley.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Bibliography

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