

MINNESOTA HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

HISTORIC NAME: Johnson, Charles, Flour Mill ("Upper Mill") COUNTY: Houston *Eitzen VIC*
 CURRENT NAME: Winnebago Mill CITY/TWP.: Winnebago Township
 LEGAL DESC.: See continuation sheet ADDRESS: CSAH 5 at CSAH 23
NE of Eitzen.

CLASSIFICATION:	CONDITION:	SIGNIFICANCE:	THEME/S:
Building <u>X</u>	Excellent _____	Local <u>X</u>	Primary <u>Industry</u>
Structure _____	Good _____	State _____	Secondary <u>Agriculture</u>
Object _____	Fair <u>X</u>	National _____	Others <u>Settlement</u>
District _____	Deteriorated _____		

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Yes ___ No X Restricted ___ PRESENT USE:
 VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD: Yes X No ___ Farm storage
 OCCUPIED: Yes X No ___

DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1877 ORIGINAL USE: Flour and grist mill
 ORIGINAL OWNER: Firm of Johnson, McMillan, ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Firm of Johnson, McMillan,
 & Clark & Clark

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Norris & M. Burrichter ACREAGE: Less than one acre X
 Eitzen, MN 55931

LOCAL CONTACT/CRG.: N/A UTM REFERENCE:
 Eitzen, Minn.-Iowa Quad.
 15 / 628295 / 4821650

FORM PREPARED BY: Robert M. Frame III, Ph.D.
 DATE: May 28, 1981

DESCRIPTION:
 The Charles Johnson, or Winnebago, Mill is located along the south bank of the Winnebago Creek in Winnebago Valley, at the intersection of roads from the nearby communities of Eitzen, Minnesota, and New Albin, Iowa. It is the only building remaining from the township's two milling crossroads service centers, located about a mile apart - the "Upper Mill" of Johnson, and the "Lower Mill" or Winnebago Valley Mill - each of which had an associated store, blacksmith shop, and other buildings. The mill building is a modest, two-story, wood-frame structure with simple gable roof and vertical wood siding, constructed on a stone foundation. Fenestration consists of now-deteriorated six-over-six double-hung sash in rectangular openings, with door openings in the south (front), west, and north facades, and in the exposed east foundation wall. The building is supported by heavy post-and-beam mill construction with curved bolsters, and in the basement is the original heavy timber husk frame which supported the two run of millstones on the floor above. The ten-horsepower turbine, turbine house, and all other equipment have been removed, although sections of the belt and shaft power-drive system remain.

SIGNIFICANCE:
 The Johnson (Winnebago) Mill is significant in the areas of settlement, agriculture, and industry. The Winnebago Valley's first mill, constructed in 1860-61, was razed in 1877 and was immediately replaced by the present building, which contained new and technologically up-to-date equipment. A waterpower mill of low horsepower and limited milling capacity, it was designed to serve area wheat-growers largely on a custom basis. With its neighbor, the "Lower Mill," it was centrally located between the communities of Eitzen, Minnesota, and New Albin, Iowa, both of which were serviced by the mills. It is not known when the mill ceased production but the structure survives today as one of some two-dozen remaining waterpowered flour mills in Minnesota.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:
History of Houston County. 1882. P. 499.
 Frame, Robert M. III. Millers to the World. Minnesota Historical Society, 1977. P. 143.

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Winnebago Township
Houston County

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Beginning in the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 22, Township 101, Range 5, at a point on the east right-of-way line of County State Aid Highway 5, directly opposite the south right-of-way line of County State Aid Highway 23; thence southeasterly 100 ft. along said CSAH 5 right-of-way line; thence northeasterly 100 ft.; thence northwesterly 100 ft.; thence southwesterly 100 ft. to point of beginning.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper Melvin Lynn
1/19/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Note: These changes apply to
Johnson, Charles, Flour Mill in
Houston County, Minnesota.

REFERENCE NUMBER: 82002966

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Houston

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): Johnson Mill

CITY:

VICINITY OF: Eitzen

ADDRESS: Co. Rds. 5 and 23

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988

Date