

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Hollands Grist Mill

and/or common Old Grist Mill

2. Location

U.S. 12

street & number	Highway 12	not for publication
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city, town	Milbank	vicinity of	congressional district	First
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state	South Dakota	code	46	county	Grant	code	051
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3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
XX structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted interior	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: none

4. Owner of Property

name City of Milbank

street & number City Hall

city, town	Milbank	vicinity of	state	South Dakota
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5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Grant County Courthouse, Register of Deeds

street & number

city, town	Milbank	state	South Dakota
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6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title	has this property been determined eligible?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no
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date	federal	state	county	local
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depository for survey records

city, town	state
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7. Description

Condition	<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	Check one	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	Check one	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
XX good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	XX moved	<input type="checkbox"/> date	1928; 1978		
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed						

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Hollands Grist Mill is a hexagonal wood structure, forty-four feet high, with four, seven-by-thirty foot blades. At the base, the diameter is twenty-four feet which narrows to twelve feet at the top. Heavy timbers form the frame which is strengthened with cross braces, filled in with two-by-four studs and clad with clapboards. Two doors face each other across the structure and the interior is lit by four windows placed on two opposite walls, two at the work level and two midway up the wall. Due to the tapering of the walls, the doors and windows which are flush with the walls at their lower sills, project beyond the wall plane. A large gear, supported by brackets and covered by an apron of vertical boards, encircles the top of the walls under the housing of the wind shaft and brake wheel. The domed roof, surrounding catwalks and blades originally pivoted to allow the blades to face the wind. New blades were installed in 1978 and were carefully reproduced from the originals. The small blades on the far side from the main blades are not original, and date from a 1954 restoration. This mechanism originally was mounted on a complex frame which could be used to lift these blades above the roof, and it functioned as a rudder to keep the main blades facing the prevailing winds. The grindstones, drive shafts, and wood drive wheels are all in place.

The mill has been moved twice, both times in connection with its preservation. In 1928 the mill was first moved from its original site which had become a heavily congested industrial area and placed in a small city park where it stood for fifty years. Following damage by a windstorm in 1977, the city council asked the Milbank Mutual Insurance Company to assist in the restoration and continued maintenance of the structure, and as a result, the mill was moved in 1978 to the grounds of the insurance company.

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/				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation				
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)				

Specific dates	Builder/Architect	Henry Hollands
1884		

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Hollands Grist Mill is significant in the areas of engineering, settlement, and industry. Built in 1884, it is one of the oldest structures associated with industry in the Dakotas from the settlement period. The mill is of English design and was built by Henry Hollands who was born in England in 1841 and immigrated in 1870. An original estimation for the windpower generated was twenty horsepower, and this enabled a capacity of forty-fifty bushels of wheat to be ground in an hour. Corn and wheat were ground, and the power was also harnessed for sawing wood. Ownership was retained by Henry Hollands until 1901 with partial ownership by his brother, William Hollands, until 1889 and by W. S. Crowl after 1896. Crowl sold his interest in 1900 to P. E. Beardsley, who sold it in turn to H. F. Bohn in 1902. In 1901 Bohn had acquired the half interest maintained by Henry Hollands and he operated the mill and an associated fuel and feed business until 1904 when it was purchased by J. C. Rawson. Rawson was the last owner-operator of the mill. Tradition maintains that by 1910 the wind velocity was diminished enough by the rapid growth of shelter belts on nearby farms and so the mill was abandoned. In 1912 local civic groups joined efforts to purchase the mill from Rawson and it was given to the city.

The Hollands Grist Mill is an unusual industrial remain from the early settlement period of the Dakota prairie. It was built in an effort to harness the strong winds, which, with a lack of significant water and other traditional power sources, was one of the most accessible power sources available in Dakota. Only one other windmill, shown in a historic photograph of Yankton, is known to have been built in Dakota. The Hollands Mill is the only remaining example and is in an excellent state of preservation.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Milbank Newsletter. September 19, 1884.
Justice, Phyllis Dolan. "History of the Old Mill," pamphlet.
Milbank: Grant County Review, 1964.
Milbank Herald Advance. June 8, 1978.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Milbank East

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	1 4	6 8 6 9 7 5	5 0 1 0 2 0 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C			
E			
G			

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D			
F			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

The site is bounded by the edges of the landscaped area surrounding the mill. This landscaping extends approximately five feet from the walls of the mill in every direction.

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	John Burrows	(technical editing: Carolyn Torma)
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organization	Historical Preservation Center	date	10 Nov 80
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street & number	USD 216 East Clark	telephone	605/677-5314
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city or town	Vermillion	state	South Dakota
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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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature James O. Felt

title	Director, Office of Cultural Preservation	date	12/19/80 (SEE PHONE REPORT)
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For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

James O. Felt

date 2/29/81

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration