

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

For HCRS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received *OCT 10 1979*date entered *DEC 10 1979*See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic ASHLAND GRIST MILL AND DAMand/or common ASHLAND GRIST MILL AND DAM

2. Location

street & number Main Street not for publicationcity, town Ashland vicinity of Second congressional districtstate New Hampshire code 009 county Grafton code

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: not used,

4. Owner of Property

name Tom Samyn, Suzanne Samyn, and S. Erik Skougstreet & number P0 Box 85city, town Ashland vicinity of 03217 state New Hampshire

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Grafton County Registry of Deedsstreet & number P0 Box 208city, town Woodsville vicinity of 03875 state New Hampshire

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title none has this property been determined eligible? yes nodate federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town vicinity of state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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

Building: The gristmill was built around the turn of the century, in 1903, shortly after a previous gristmill on the same location was destroyed by fire. It is rectangular in plan, 54 feet long and 33 feet wide. The building mass is divided into three segments, one being an extremely sturdy central tower, with two flanking portions of balloon frame construction, about two-thirds the height of the tower when viewed from the street. The exterior walls are of painted clapboards and the roof is asphalt shingle (originally wood shingle). The architectural details are typical of the time and locale, with corner boards and wide board moldings at the rake and eave of the roof. There was a cupola, originally, topping off the tower. The building rests on stone foundations and is of heavy timber post and beam construction, with two very large trusses built into the tower portion which help support nine (9) separate hoppers above the main floor level. There is a lower level or basement where the power source, a water-powered turbine with governor, clutch, flywheel, shafts, etc., remains in non-functional condition. Above the main floor in the wings adjacent to the tower there is storage space for machine parts, flour, etc.

Power Source: The turbine is a low head type, with a 5' diameter penstock. The head race is 13' wide, 14' deep, and about 50' long, with a cofferdam diverting water away from the headrace and over the spillway. The headrace is currently dry. The mill dam is a concrete structure, 180' long, 14' high, with a 50' spillway resting on ledge. The pond level is controlled by a gatehouse with a 6' by 6' vertical gate with a rack and pinion type hoist.

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 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 type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) building technology
<input type="checkbox"/> invention				

Specific dates 1903 **Builder/Architect**

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The building represents the matured use of wood-frame technology at the turn of the twentieth century, combining heavy braced timber framing in the central tower with lighter balloon-framed wings. The heavy timber trusses and wall framing in the central portion of the building were required by the weight, stresses and vibration of machinery and continue traditional millwrights' practices of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The balloon framing of the wings, on the other hand, reflects the type of simplified wood construction which had become universal for domestic and light commercial wooden buildings in New England by 1900. Thus, the Ashland Mill reflects two types of timber-framing technology developed at different periods and adapted to different purposes.

The dam, which was originally wood, has long been associated with the mill. It is a still-viable example of the role of water-power technology in New Hampshire's industrial heritage.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Tatham, Doris, "Early History of Site at Grist Mill," 1977. Handwritten sketch for Ashland Historical Society.

The Ashland Item, Friday, September 25, 1903.

10. Geographical Data

ITEM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Holderness

Quadrangle scale 15'

UMT References

A

1	9	2	8	8	0	0	0	4	8	4	1	2	2	5
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Tax Assessor's Map No. 16, Section 9, Lot 14.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tom Samyn

organization

date May 6, 1978

street & number PO Box 85

telephone 968-7614

city or town Ashland

state New Hampshire 03217

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

Commissioner, Department of Resources & Economic Development
title NH State Historic Preservation Officer

date July 21, 1978

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

Carol O'Shual
Keeper of the National Register

date 12-10-79

Attest:

Chief of Registration

date 12/10/79