

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUN 2 1975
DATE ENTERED	JUN 18 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Hans Peter Nielson Gristmill

AND/OR COMMON

Bicknell Gristmill

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

about 3 miles ^{SE} east of Bicknell

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Bicknell

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

STATE

Utah

VICINITY OF

CODE

49

COUNTY

Wayne

CODE

055

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- OTHER: deserted

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mont Ellett

STREET & NUMBER

Box 11

CITY, TOWN

Bicknell

STATE

Utah

— VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Wayne County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Loa

STATE

Utah

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

State Register of Historic Sites

DATE

April 7, 1971

— FEDERAL STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Utah State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

603 E. South Temple, Salt Lake City

STATE

Utah

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hans Peter Nielson gristmill is a two-story rectangular frame box with a gabled roof. The tall sandstone foundation wall provides some usable area in the crawl space for operating the roller and bolting machinery. In some areas, the foundation wall has been pulled away to give access to the mechanical systems of the mill. A post and beam system supports the two-story superstructure above. The posts and beams are roughly hewn, but are fastened with mortise and tinon connections. It is significant that all of the original parts of the mill are still intact. These include the stone burrmills, slatted wooden flumes, water turbine and connecting gears and drive shafts, roller and bolting machinery and, in short, all of the original workings of the pioneer flour mill.

In appearance, the building is tall and imposing and beautifully situated in a meadow near a stream lined with poplar trees. The building is sided with wooden planks or clapboard. The cornice is boxed and has a slight return. The frieze ss plain. Windows are 6/6 double-hung sash and the doors feature diagonal siding. A wooden loading platform surrounds two sides of the mill. Two shed-roofed wings connect to the rear of the building. These are also wood sided and appear to have been added just after initial construction of the main mill. All roofs are covered with wood shingles. Plain boards situated vertically at the building's corners and framing the windows are the only trim elements. The only existing chimney is made of brick.

The very pristine character of the old mill is due to the fact that its wood and stone show no evidence of paint or other elements of finish and refinement. Though built strictly as a utilitarian structure, the Hans Peter Neilson flour mill is nevertheless a thing of unassuming beauty.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1890

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Niels Hansen

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bicknell Gristmill was constructed in 1890 for Hans Peter Nielson, a miller born in Denmark who came to Utah in 1863. The mill was constructed by Niels Hansen, also born in Denmark and a carpenter by trade. Mr. Nielson ran the mill until his death in 1909. From 1910 to 1921 the mill was operated by three brothers, Ernest, Jesse and Clinton Syrett. The mill was operated by several men until 1935 and since that time has remained idle.

Gristmills were constructed in almost every Mormon community and village and were an essential part of the agriculturally-based economy. Two gristmills, the Isaac Chase mill built in Salt Lake City in 1852 and the E. T. Benson built 1849-50 in Tooele Valley, have been listed on the National Register. The significance of the Bicknell gristmill is that it illustrates how after 40 years the gristmill was such an important element in the economy of the Mormon village and, when compared with the E. T. Benson mill, how little the construction and architectural style of the gristmill has changed in forty years. Also of significance is that the Bicknell mill is the only gristmill in Utah in which the original machinery and equipment is still intact.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Anne Snow, compiler, Rainbow Views: A History of Wayne County. Art City Publishing Company, Springville, Utah, 1953.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1

UTM REFERENCES

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 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

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 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Latitude 38° 18' 29"
 Longitude 111° 39' 38"

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Kent Powell/Preservation Historian and Allen D. Roberts/Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Utah State Historical Society

DATE

April 21, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

603 E. South Temple

TELEPHONE

801-323-5755

CITY OR TOWN

Salt Lake City

STATE

Utah

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 National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Melvin T. Smith

TITLE Melvin T. Smith, State Historic Preservation Officer DATE May 29, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

6/12/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE JUN 17 1975

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

W. M. [Signature]