UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

APR 2 8 1975

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DATE ENTERED

Jun 1 1 1975

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Saint Paul

SEE	NSTRUCTIONS IN HOW T TYPE ALL ENTRIES (	O COMPLETE NATION	IAL REGISTER FORMS	3
1 NAME				
HISTORIC				
	Geldner Sawmill			
AND/OR COMMON	0.11			
	Geldner Sawmill			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
LOCATION	1			
STREET & NUMBER	s of Cleveland	on		
	C.S.A.H. 13, German	n Lake	NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN	01 1 d Y		CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	ІСТ
STATE	Cleveland X	VICINITY OF CODE	COUNTY	CODE
SINIL	Minnesota	27	LeSueur	079
CLASSIFIC		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
	ZZZZOTA			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	XOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
BUILDING(S)	X_PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
X_STRUCTURE	вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	X_BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	XINDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
		XNO	•	
		ANO	presently n	OTHER: ot in operation
OWNER O	FPROPERTY			
NAME				
NAIVIE	Leo Geldner			
STREET & NUMBER	neo deraner			
	C C A II 12			
CITY, TOWN	C.S.A.H. 13		STATE	
CITT, TOWN	61 1 1	VICINITY OF	Minnesota	
Trocamos	Cleveland —	<del></del>		
LUCATION	OF LEGAL DESCR	IP HUN		
COURTHOUSE,				
REGISTRY OF DEEDS,	ETCRegistry of Deeds	- LeSueur County C	Courthouse	
STREET & NUMBER				
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
	LeCenter		Minnesota	
6 REPRESEN	TATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS		
TITLE				
	Statewide Historic	Sites Survey		
DATE	1973	FEDERAL X_	STATECOUNTYLOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR				·
SURVEY RECORDS	Minnesota Historica	al Society		
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
	Building 25, Fort S	Snelling	Minnesota	
	<del></del>	· <del></del>	<del></del>	

#### CONDITION

CHECK ONE

**CHECK ONE** 

\_\_EXCELLENT

X\_FAIR

\_\_DETERIORATED

\_\_UNEXPOSED

\_\_RUINS

X\_UNALTERED
\_\_ALTERED

\_ORIGINAL SITE

X<sub>MOVED</sub>

DATE Ca. 1876

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

The Geldner property is situated on a relatively narrow parcel of land which separates Lake Jefferson and German Lake. The Sawmill stands near the shore of German Lake and is immediately across County Highway #13 from the Geldner residence. In Ca 1860 the mill was constructed a short distance from the present site; it was moved to this site Ca 1876. The land to the rear of the structure is the product of seventy years of sawdust and wood shavings accumulation. During the early years of operation, the mill bordered on a marsh which served as a dumping area for waste products from the mill.

The Geldner Sawmill is a two level structure constructed of heavy timbers. The lower level contains a network of belts on wooden drive wheels which supply power to the various machines on the second level. The second level is actually on grade at the south elevation of the mill. This area is a long open room divided into areas for sawing, planning, joining and shaping boards. Essentially, all equipment and tools remain in the mill and are in operable condition.

Attached to the west end of the mill structure is a one-storey brick and stone shed. This shed is approached at the lower level. Inside is the power plant: a stationary steam engine which also supplied power to the original mill before it was moved. In later years a huge gasoline-powered tractor engine supplied additional power during peak operation.

The mill structure is in basically sound condition although the rough-sawn vertical siding has deteriorated. Machinery is in operable condition although some rusting is evident from disuse.

### 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
—PREHISTORIC —1400-1499 —1500-1599 —1600-1699 —1700-1799 —  X 1800-1899 —1900-	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC  AGRICULTURE  ARCHITECTURE  ART  COMMERCE  COMMUNICATIONS	COMMUNITY PLANNING CONSERVATION ECONOMICS EDUCATION ENGINEERING EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT NUMBER OF THE PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE LAW LITERATURE MILITARY MUSIC PHILOSOPHY POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	RELIGION SCIENCE SCULPTURE SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN THEATER TRANSPORTATION  OTHER (SPECIFY) Lumbering
SPECIFIC DAT	ES Ca. 1860, 1876	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT	

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The celdner Sawmill began service to the Cleveland area of LeSueur County Ca 1860, and has been on its present site since 1876. Records indicate that lumber used in the construction of many local buildings was processed at this mill. Although, no longer in operation, the mill remains essentially intact, and could be restored to operation with a minimum of effort.

The Geldner Sawmill is the last surviving early sawmill in LeSueur County and is the only known stationary steam engine mill in southern Minnesota.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic Sites Files: LeSueur County Historical Society Interviews with Leo Geldner, 1973, 1975

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10 GEOGRAPHICAL I	DATA		
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPE	RTY 2		( , , ,
UTM REFERENCES			
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCR	RIPTION		
•			
	,		
LIST ALL STATES AND	COUNTIES FOR PROPERT	IES OVERLAPPING	STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
organization Minnesota Historica	1 Society		DATE 24 February 1975
STREET & NUMBER			TELEPHONE
Building 25, Fort S	nelling		612-726-1171
CITY OR TOWN			STATE
Saint Paul	<del></del>		Minnesota
<b>2 STATE HISTORIC</b>	<b>PRESERVATIO</b>	N OFFICER (	CERTIFICATION
THE EVAL	LUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF	THIS PROPERTY WI	THIN THE STATE IS:
NATIONAL	STAT	`E	LOCAL X
NATIONAL			200/N2
		· ·	ervation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I
			nat it has been evaluated according to the
criteria and procedures set forth b	y the National Park Service.		
FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNA	TURE TO A CONTROL OF THE STATE	1 7 - 11.	3/28/75
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	ic Preservation Of	ficer	DATE
OR NPS USE ONLY  I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS			ECIETED
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KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL RI	EVISTER	V .	- "7,0

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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1 NAME				
HISTORIC	Geldner Sawmill	•		
AND/OR COMMON	Geldner Sawmill		э .	
LOCATIO	N			
STREET & NUMBER	C.S.A.H. 13, German L	ake	NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN	Cleveland X	VICINITY OF	congressional disti 2nd	RICT
STATE		27 27	COUNTY LeSueur	CODE 079
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STREET & NUMBER			CTATE	
CITY, TOWN	LeCenter		STATE Minnesota	
TITLE	NTATION IN EXIST			
1973	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	FEDERAL X	STATECOUNTYLOCAL	-
SURVEY RECORDS	Minnesota Historical	Society		44.
CITY, TOWN	Building 25, Fort Sn	elling. St. Paul	STATE L. Minnesota	



#### CONDITION

\_\_EXCELLENT \_\_DETERIORATED
\_\_GOOD \_\_RUINS
X\_\_FAIR \_\_UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE
X
UNALTERED
ALTERED

**CHECK ONE** 

\_ORIGINAL SITE XMOVED DATE Ca. 1876

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SPECIFIC DAT	ES Ca. 1860, 1876	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT	
			11 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
		INVENTION		Lumbering
<u>X</u> 1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	X INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X OTHER (SPECIFY)
<u>X</u> 1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	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

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Interviews with Leo Geldner, 1973, 1975

10 GEOGRAPH		3.49			
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	ARY DESCRIPTION	<u> </u>			
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LIST ALL S	TATES AND COUNTIES	S FOR PROPER	TIES OVERLAPPI	NG STATE OR COUNTY BO	OUNDARIES
STATE		CODE	COUNTY		CODE
STATE		CODE	COUNTY		CODE
II FORM PRE	PARED BY	and Planni	Amended:	February 6, 1978 Henry M. Harren	
ORGANIZATION				DATE 24 February 1	0.75
STREET & NUMBER	istorical Societ	У		TELEPHONE	-
	, Fort Snelling	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		612/726-1171	
Saint Paul,				STATE Minnesota	
12 STATE HIS	TORIC PRESE	ERVATIO	N OFFICE	R CERTIFICATION	ON
	THE EVALUATED SIG			Y WITHIN THE STATE IS:	
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TITLE Russell State H	W. Fridley istoric Preserva	ation Offic	er	DATE 2	6-78
DR NPS USE ONLY	THAT THIS PROPERT				
DIRECTOR, OFFICE	OF ARCHEOLOGY AN	ID HISTORIC F	RESERVATION	DATE	
KEEPER OF THE NA	ATIONAL REGISTER				

SUBDINI SION S.09°40'E-10.00' GELONER'S COENER DIVISION 128.45 PI. OF 13=4.Z 14.05°16'W E ESTATE STATE POINT OF (0.56RC) POINT OF BEG. TRACT 2 N. 80° Zo. E. 128.00. T26.00° 2-SAWMILL M.C.#52 LINE ACRES- 2.80 TRACT S-J w 5° 16'E 51009h - Lake WEST LINE SEC (ASSUMED NORTH S.O RECEIVED. FEB 22 1978 NATIONAL REGISTER

Sketch of Survey in Section 5, T. 109N., R.24 W., Elysian Township, Le Sueur County, Minnesota.

For: Le Sueur County Park Department

Survey: Deegan & Bradshaw

Le Center & Mankato, Minn.

Scale: one inch = 60 feet
0 - denotes iron monuments

Aug. - 1975

Book 260

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Page	
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	Keeper Helour Jun

### **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service**

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

	Note: These changes apply to Geldner Sawmill in LeSueur County Minnesota.
REFERENCE NUMBER: 75000991	
STATE: MINNESOTA	
COUNTY: LeSueur	
RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):	
CITY:	
VICINITY OF:	
ADDRESS: Co. Hwy. 13	
CERTIFICATION DATE:	
REMOVED DATE:	
COMMENTS: LeSueur is one word	d.

State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 1 7 1988

Date