

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Mexico	
COUNTY: Mora	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
St. Vrain's Mill

AND/OR HISTORIC:
El Molino de Piedra

AUG 28 1973
JUN 18 '73
STATE PLANNING OFFICE

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Located facing State Road 38, approximately 1500 feet north of

CITY OR TOWN:
the junction of State Roads 3 & 38 in Mora.

STATE New Mexico	CODE 35	COUNTY: Mora	CODE 033
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Storage</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Jose Trambley

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Mora

STATE:
New Mexico

CODE:
35

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Mora County Clerk's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Mora

STATE:
New Mexico

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
New Mexico Register of Cultural Properties

DATE OF SURVEY: 1/9/1970

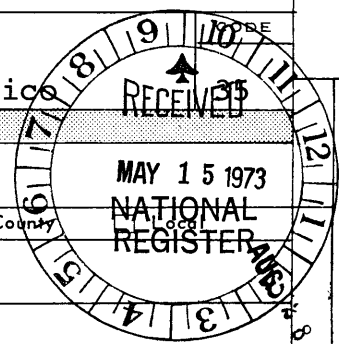
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
State Planning Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
200 W. DeVargas

CITY OR TOWN:
Santa Fe

STATE:
New Mexico

CODE:
35



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

12-27-73

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)
 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)
 Altered Unaltered

(Check One)
 Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Probably built in 1864, Ceran St. Vrain's stone mill was constructed to resist fire which had destroyed another of his mills in Taos in the same year. The rectangular mill was crudely built of rough-hewn, random-sized stone blocks laid unevenly with thick and untrimmed mortar. The walls were crowned with wood siding located on the front and rear walls of the attic and a gambrel roof which is presently corrugated metal. The water wheel was probably constructed by a local millwright. Today, the iron water wheel is no longer mounted on its bearings and the exterior of the mill is somewhat deteriorated due to the cracks in the walls. At present, the windows are boarded up since some of them have been broken. The structure is, however, sound and the mill equipment is virtually intact.



JUN 18 1973
 STATE PLANNING OFFICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

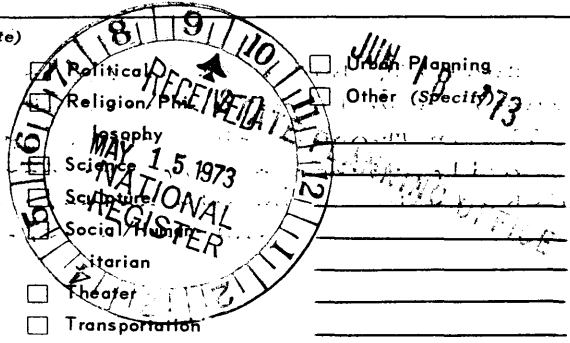
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1864

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature		
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Born May 5, 1802 near St. Louis, Missouri of French parentage, Ceran St. Vrain (Ceran de Hault de Lassers de St. Vrain) came to New Mexico in March of 1825. In partnership with Charles and William Bent, he helped establish Bent's Fort on the Arkansas River in 1834. In 1837, the firm also built the St. Vrain trading post on the St. Vrain Fork of the south Platte River. He was an important trader in the Santa Fe Trail trade. From 1834 to 1838, St. Vrain seems to have served on occasion as U. S. commercial agent at Santa Fe. In 1844 together with Cornelio Vigil, he claimed to have received a 4,000,000 acre Las Animas land grant in southeastern Colorado, the legality of which was highly suspect. After the assassination of friend and partner civil Governor Charles Bent in the Taos Revolt of January, 1847, St. Vrain led a company of militia volunteers composed largely of mountain men which formed an effective part of the forces of Colonel Sterling W. Price in defeating the rebels. In 1855, St. Vrain was appointed lieutenant colonel of Mounted Volunteers and was charged with recruiting troops to subdue marauding bands of Utes and Apaches. Some months after the start of the Civil War, St. Vrain was commissioned colonel of the First New Mexico Cavalry. He retired soon thereafter and the position went to Lieut. Colonel Christopher Carson. Politically active, St. Vrain was one of the three representatives from Taos County to the New Mexico Territorial Convention which met in Santa Fe during the fall of 1849. Although St. Vrain favored a territorial status for New Mexico, he was a candidate for lieutenant governor against Manuel Alvarez on a statehood ticket. Alvarez, who headed the pro-state faction, won by a vote of 4,586 to 3,465 and ended St. Vrain's formal participation in politics.

In addition to his involvement in political and military affairs, St. Vrain continued to be one of the most important merchants in New Mexico. In the summer of 1848, St. Vrain dissolved his partnership with William Bent and went to St. Louis to pay the company's creditors. He returned in the fall of that year and in January, 1849, formed a partnership with
(See Continuation Sheet)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dunham, Harold H. "Ceran St. Vrain," The Mountain Men and the Fur Trade of the Far West, Vol. V, Glendale: The Arthur H. Clark Company, 1968.

Lecompte, Janet. "Ceran St. Vrain's Stone Mill at Mora," Ms., Cultural Properties Review Committee, State Planning Office, Santa Fe, New Mexico, pp. 1-4.

Frazer, Robert W. "Purveyors of Flour to the Army," Department of New Mexico, 1849-1861," New Mexico Historical Review, Vol. XLVII, (July, 1972), pp. 213-232.

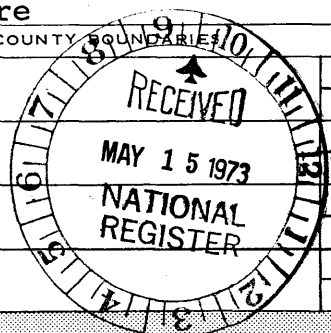
Beck, Lois. "The Old Mills," New Mexico Magazine, Vol. 46,

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (March, 1968), p. 24. (See Continuation Sheet)

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N 35 ° 58 ' 32 "	W 105 ° 19 ' 43 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **One half acre**

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



13/47036
3981100
CD

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
James H. Purdy, Archivist I

ORGANIZATION: **State Records Center and Archives** DATE: **11/13/72**

STREET AND NUMBER:
404 Montezuma

CITY OR TOWN: **Santa Fe** STATE: **New Mexico** CODE: **35**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name David W. King
David W. King

Title State Historic Pres. Officer

Date May 10, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert W. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 5/28/73

ATTEST:

Janet L. Jones
Keeper of The National Register

Date 8/22/73



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE New Mexico	
COUNTY Mora	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	AUG 28 1973

(Number of entries)

No. 8. SIGNIFICANCE continued:

Isaac McCarty to deliver the U. S. Mail between Santa Fe and Fort Leavenworth. Eventually, he and McCarty opened two stores in the Santa Fe area. In 1850, the two men received a contract to supply the army posts in New Mexico with flour. St. Vrain travelled to Westport (Kansas City) where he purchased five sets of French buhr mills and hired five millers. To house this machinery, he had already constructed wooden structures at Mora, Taos, Santa Fe and Peralta. The fifth French buhr mill he sold. In October, 1850, McCarty died and St. Vrain moved to Taos to operate his mill in that region.

During the 1850's St. Vrain held the sutlerships of Fort Massachusetts, Fort Union and Fort Garland. After the discovery of gold in 1858, along Cherry Creek in Colorado, he also sent wagons to Colorado gold camps and established stores in Denver, Pueblo and Tarryall (Fairplay). He entered into a partnership with H. E. Easterday to operate a flour mill on Culebra Creek at San Luis, Colorado in addition to operating his other mills in New Mexico.

In 1864, St. Vrain obtained a government contract to provide flour to feed the 6,000 Navajos being held prisoner on the Bosque Redondo reservation near Fort Sumner. Through the summer of 1864, his mills provided the government with \$41,000 worth of flour and wheat meal. On July 29, 1864, his mill near Taos was completely destroyed by fire. The loss of the mill which was valued at \$5,000 placed a great strain on the other St. Vrain mills. It was probably at this time that the fireproof stone mill was built in Mora. Its crude stone construction suggests that it was created in a hurry to meet the great demand for flour.

In 1863, St. Vrain and his partner Easterday sold their share of the San Luis Mill. Shortly thereafter, Ceran moved to Mora where he resided with his oldest son, Vicente, until his death on October 28, 1870. In his will dated April 2, 1866, he bequeathed portions of his property to his illegitimate children, Vicente, Felix and his young daughter Felicitas for whom Vicente and his wife, Amelia, were guardians. By 1877, Vicente was dead and his wife had traded her property in Mora, which included a stone grist mill, to her brother, William Rohman, for some land in Texas. Frank Trambley, a miller and millwright, operated the stone mill from 1912 to his death in 1925. Today the mill is used by its present owner, a descendant of Trambley, as a storage area.

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE New Mexico	
COUNTY Mora	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	AUG 28 1973

(Number all entries)

No. 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES continued:

Costilla County Deed Record #1, San Luis, Colorado.
 Laumbach, Verna. "Las Vegas Before 1850," New Mexico Historical Review, Vol. VIII, (October, 1933), p. 259.
 Bloom, Lansing B. (ed.). "Historical Society Minutes, 1859-1863," New Mexico Historical Review, Vol. XVIII, (July, 1943), p. 299.
 Lounsbury, Ralph G. "Materials in the National Archives for the History of New Mexico Before 1848," New Mexico Historical Review, Vol. XXI, (July, 1946), p. 251.



STATE PLANNING OFFICE
 JUN 18 1973

157

3983000m. N.

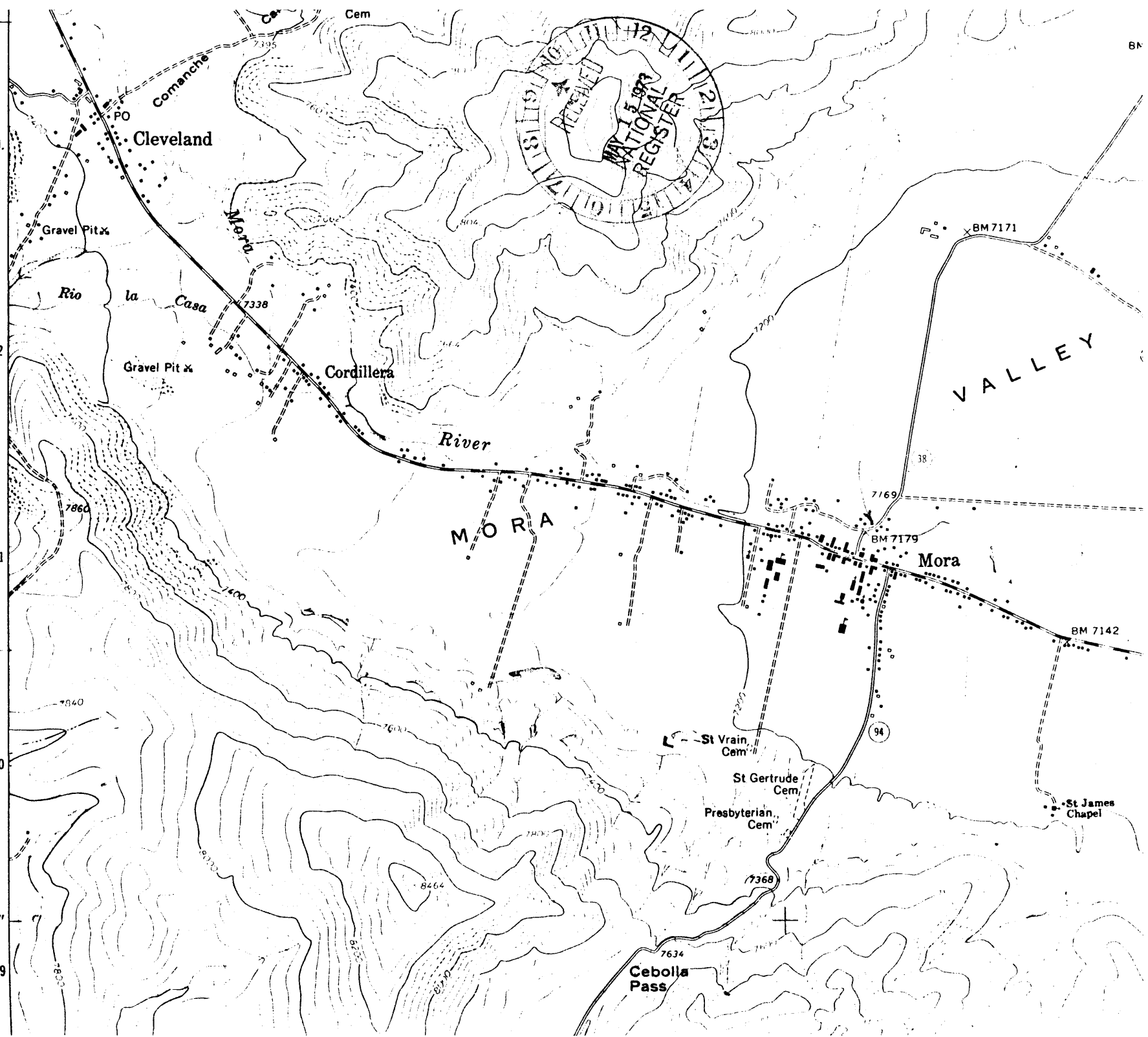
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3980

57'30"

3979



Cleveland

Comanche

Rio la Casa

Gravel Pit x

Cordillera

River

MORA

Mora

VALLEY

St Vrain Cem

St Gertrude Cem

Presbyterian Cem

St James Chapel

Cebolla Pass

RECEIVED
MAY 15 1993
NATIONAL REGISTER

BM

BM 7171

7169

BM 7179

BM 7142

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Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
New Mexico	
COUNTY	
Mora	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	AUG 28 1973

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: St. Vrain's Mill			
AND/OR HISTORIC: El Molino de Piedra			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Located facing State Road 38, approximately 1500 feet north			
CITY OR TOWN:			
of the Junction of State Roads 3 & 38 in Mora.			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
New Mexico	35	Mora	033
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
U.S. Geological Survey Quad Map of Mora, New Mexico			
SCALE: 1:24,000			
DATE: 1961			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

