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National Register of Historic I Registration Form	Places	MAY 2 1995		
ational Register of Historic Places Registration Form y entering the information requested. If an item does rchitectural classification, materials, and areas of sig	(National Register Bulletin 16A). s not apply to the property being gnificance, enter only categories a	and districts Several and districts of the complete MATIONAL PARKS DIVISIONED the complete MATIONAL PARKS DIVICE appropriate box or documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional iter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.		
. Name of Property				
istoric name <u>Holliday</u> Hydroelectri	ic Powerhouse and Da	m		
ther names/site number <u>Holliday Sta</u>	ation, 057-541-30001			
. Location				
treet & number <u>Riverwood Avenue</u> a	<u>at 211th Street, acr</u>	oss White River MJAnot for publication		
ity or town Noblesville		🖾 vicinity		
	N county Hamilton	code <u>057</u> zip code <u>46060</u>		
Inscription index and meets the procedular and pro	ster criteria. I recommend that the continuation sheet for additional <u> 4-24-95</u> Date			
In my opinion, the property meets does comments.)	not meet the National Register of	criteria. (
Signature of certifying official/Title	Date			
State or Federal agency and bureau				
. National Park Service Certification hereby certify that the property is:	Signature of the	Keeper 11 Enterned in the Date of Action		
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 determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet. 				
determined not eligible for the National Register.				
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🗌 other, (explain:)				

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5. Classification				
(Check as many boxes as apply) (C	ategory of Property heck only one box)	Number of Re (Do not include pro	sources within Proper eviously listed resources in the	t y ne count.)
🕱 private	☐ diştrict ☐ site	Contributing	Noncontributing	
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6. Function or Use	·····			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Function (Enter categories from		
INDUSTRY: energy facility		WORK IN PROG	•	
7. Description				
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories from	n instructions)	
OTHER: Chateauesque		foundation	CRETE	
		walls STO	NE: limestone	
		CON	CRETE	
		roof ASP	HALT	
		other <u>MET</u>	AL: copper	
		MET	AL: steel	

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- X A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- □ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- **B** removed from its original location.
- **C** a birthplace or grave.
- **D** a cemetery.
- **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- □ **F** a commemorative property.
- □ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibilography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- x preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested (approved-10668IN)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- □ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- # _ □ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Hamilton County, Indiana County and State

Areas of (Enter cate	Significance gories from instructions)	
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Architect	/Builder	
Hollid	ay, Alex	·
Mott.	Samuel	

Primary location of additional data:

- □ State Historic Preservation Office
- □ Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- X Other

Name of repository:

Noblesville Public Library

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 1 6	5 8 7 8 1 0	4 4 3 8 6 4 0
Zone	Easting	Northing
2 1 6	5 8 7 9 9 0	4 4 3 8 6 1 0

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

3 116	5 8 7 9 9 0	4438540
Zone	Easting	Northing
4 1 6	5 8 7 8 1 0	4 4 3 8 5 6 0

11. Form Prepared By		
name/title David_Brown Kinloch		
organization Holliday Historic Restoration Assoc.	date 17 October 1994	
street & number _414 South Wenzel Street	telephone (502) 589-0975	
city or townLouisville	_ stateKY zip code 40204	
Additional Documentation		
Submit the following items with the completed form:		

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner			
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)			
name PSI Energy, 1	inc.		
street & number <u>1000</u>	Main Street	telephone (317) {	338-1236
city or townPlair	field	stateIN zip o	xode <u>46168</u>

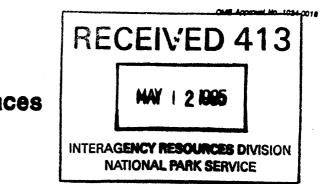
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Hamilton County, Indiana County and State

See continuation sheet

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Holliday Hydroelectric Powerhouse and Dam, Hamilton Co., Indiana

Description of Property

The Holliday Hydroelectric Powerhouse and Dam is located about 4 miles northeast of Noblesville, Indiana on the White River just south of the unincorporated town of Riverwood. Both structures, which together form an impoundment of water in the White River ten feet high, were constructed in 1922. At the time of its construction, only a few houses were in the area in the unincorporated town of Clare. The dam's impoundment of the river led to the summer resort of Riverwood just upstream. Today, Riverwood still exists, but residents now reside year-round. In addition, Noblesville is presently growing very rapidly, and the farmland near the Holliday site is now becoming suburbs. Also, in 1948, Public Service Indiana began building a large coal-fired powerplant next to the Holliday plant, using the impoundment for cooling water. The new plant changed the landscape of the picturesque Riverwood resort area permanently.

The Holliday powerhouse was designed to resemble a small building in the French Chateau country, according to the builders (photos 1 through 4). It is a single story building about 26 feet wide by 40 feet long. The architecture, which was intended to enhance the local landscape, featured high gables, small windows and a slate roof. The walls are about 14 inches thick and are made of St. Paul limestone. The roof has been changed since 1922, with the slate being replaced by asphalt shingles (photo 5). In addition, a large vent was added to the top of the roof, which did not appear in a picture taken at the structure's dedication (photo 6). The vent was probably added due to the large amount of heat created by the excitation system (photo 7) that may not have been anticipated by the builders. The roof included copper gutters and downspouts (photo 8), though probably mainly for appearance, since the plant is located in a river, and water running off the roof simply drops into the river.

There are five windows, two each on the north and south sides, and one on the east side of the structure. The windows are small with steel frames, all glass is presently missing due

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Holliday Hydroelectric Powerhouse and Dam, Hamilton Co., Indiana

to vandalism (photos 9 and 10). There is a single entry door located on the west side. The door is a steel door with nine glass panes in the top section (photo 11). The glass is missing due to vandalism, and a piece of sheet metal presently covers their openings. Above the door is the place where a bronze plaque for the plant was originally located (photo 12). The plaque is now located in the entranceway of the adjacent coal-fired power plant (photo 13).

To the east of the powerhouse is the concrete dam necessary to impound water for electric generation (photo 14). There are three sections of the dam. The main section of the dam, which is the spillway, is made of concrete. It is 10 feet high and 345 feet long. Water going over this section of the dam forms a sheet that was considered very beautiful and formed an attraction for tourists in the dam's early days. To the east of the spillway are two tainter gates that were built to help reduce flooding (photo 14). These tainter gates appear nowhere in any of the descriptions of the original project and were probably added sometime later. These two gates are now badly rusted and welded shut. The lights that were originally on top of the gates have been badly vandalized in recent years. On the west side of the spillway, located between the spillway and the powerhouse, is a three foot wide fishladder. This fishladder was also an attraction for tourists. Today only the fishladder chamber remains as the steel steps in it have washed away (photo 15).

The interior of the building is only about 24 feet by 38 feet. Most of the floor space is taken up by the two generators which are each 11 feet in diameter (photo 16). The generators are 4800 Volt General Electric synchronous "alternators", each with a nameplate rating of 225 Kilovolt-Amperes. The generators turn at 100 revolutions per minute. The rotors have 72 salient poles, with damper windings to help in following quick load changes. The rotors are rated at 125 Volts DC. The two generator rotors were excited by a single motor-generator set furnished by General Electric (photo 7). In the center of the generator is a large thrust bearing which carries both the weight of the rotor and the turbine runner, which were directly linked.

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Holliday Hydroelectric Powerhouse and Dam, Hamilton Co., Indiana

The turbines are size "45" Leffel "Z" open flume Francis turbines that are in the pit below the floor under the generators.

Next to each of the generators on the north side of the buildings are Woodward governors (photo 17). The governors opened and closed the turbine gates. Two belts run between the generator shaft and the governor. The first belt is used to monitor the speed using a set of metal balls that move outward the faster they turn. The second belt powers a low-pressure hydraulic power system that pushes the turbine gate shaft.

On the north wall between the governors is the plant control panel (photo 18). This panel supplied by General Electric was innovative in its day since it allowed for automatic operation of the plant. The plant had a system of floats along the south wall (photo 19), that supplied necessary water level data to the control panel. To the left side of the control panel is the switchgear (photo 20), which was used to actually connect the generators with the utility networks when the control panel automatically started them up.

Both the powerhouse and the dam are counted as contributing structures. All wingwalls or supporting elements are considered to be part of these two basic structures.

A preliminary determination of eligibility was approved July 22, 1992 (10668IN) and the long term lessee (Holliday Historic Restoration Association) plans to rehabilitate the power plant as a functioning utility which would sell power to PSI Energy.

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Holliday Hydroelectric Powerhouse and Dam, Hamilton Co., Indiana

Statement of Significance

The Holliday Hydroelectric Powerhouse and Dam is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for two reasons. First, this structure is an outstanding example of the state-of-the-art in engineering for the electric power industry at the time it was built in the 1920's. It is the only known example of this type of generating facility still in existence in central Indiana. Second, the Holliday plant played an important role in the electrification of rural Indiana. It also stands as a milestone in the history of the evolution of the electric power industry, from a patchwork of unconnected small locally controlled companies to a nation-wide network of interconnected mega-companies.

The powerhouse and dam were designed and constructed by Alex Holliday and Sam Mott of the Noblesville Heat, Light and Power Co. The project's speed was remarkable by today's or any standards. The project was announced on June 17, 1922, bids were accepted in the next three weeks, and the dam and plant were built and running by November 29, 1922. In just a little over 5 months, all permits were received and the complete design and construction of the project, including a 345 foot long dam, took place. This period even included dealing with another company that tried to stop the project at the Indiana Public Utility Commission. It is remarkable that such a high quality project could be completed in such a short time, and at a total cost of \$100,000.

While Mr. Holliday was president of the company and Mr. Mott was the utility's superintendent, both men were engineers. They were responsible for the design and construction of the project, while they apparently also relied on other engineers at the equipment suppliers. Mr. Mott in a speech to the Noblesville Kiwanis Club stated that "the dam that is being constructed by the Noblesville Heat, Light and Power Company (is) of the highest (efficiency) known to the engineering world now." He went on to say that "the turbines that are being installed by the Light

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Holliday Hydroelectric Powerhouse and Dam, Hamilton Co., Indiana

Company are of the highest and most efficient type that can be obtained today. These turbines have a generating efficiency of 91%, and they will be coupled directly to generators without belting or gearing of any kind, which means a very efficient and reliable piece of generating apparatus." An article in the <u>Indianapolis Star</u> and reprinted in the <u>Noblesville Ledger</u> was titled "Waterpower Plant To Be Among Best".

In fact, Mr. Mott and the newspapers were correct. The Holliday plant contains two Leffel "Z" type turbines, which were the first modern Francis type turbines. Before the "Z", turbine efficiencies were in the the 80% range. The "Z" refined the Francis design and was able to achieve a 90% efficiency. All modern Francis turbine designs are based on, and look similar to, this "Z" design. The Holliday plant was at the cutting edge of technology by using this new "Z" turbine, while less efficient older designed turbines were more commonly used at this time, usually at a lower cost.

While the size 45 Leffel "Z" turbines used at the Holliday plant were extremely efficient, because of their size, they turned at a very slow speed, 100 revolutions per minute (rpm). A typical solution was to use belts to increase the speed to that of a standard off-the-shelf generator. This common low cost approach had the drawback of the inefficiencies and maintenance problems associated with belts. Instead, the Holliday plant used 100 rpm General Electric synchronous generators. These monsters are 11 feet in diameter, with 72 salient poles, though they only have a rated output of 225 Kilovolt-Amperes. Though obviously very expensive, this state-of-the-art generator was highly efficient and could be directly coupled to the efficient Together, this turbine-generator set was the most turbines. efficient available in its day, and is not far from the efficiency of modern equipment now used. This Leffel "Z" turbine and General Electric generator combination directly coupled is an early example of a modern efficient and reliable hydroelectric plant commonly used today. This major equipment was built relatively near Noblesville, with the turbines being built in

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Holliday Hydroelectric Powerhouse and Dam, Hamilton Co., Indiana

Springfield, Ohio and the generators were probably built in Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

The other equipment in the Holliday plant was also on the cutting edge of available technology. The operation of the plant was automatic, with no attendant necessary except to check the settings of the equipment every few days. Such a feat was innovative in 1922, long before computer chips, transistors, or even vacuum tubes. This was accomplished through the use of state-of-the-art equipment including a General Electric control panel coupled to level control floats, and Woodward Govenors. The plant was capable of starting and stopping itself automatically, as well as following the Noblesville system load and controlling the water level behind the dam for recreation.

All of this equipment together created a package that was very efficient and extremely reliable. The Holliday equipment was the best and most technically sophisticated available in 1922. This plant represents an excellent example of state-of-the -art electric generating equipment in the early part of the 20th century. At one time, our nation was dotted by thousands of local electric companies, each with small generating plants, like the Holliday plant, fueled by coal, water or oil. Most of those plants are now gone, many stripped of their iron and copper during World War II. The Holliday plant stands as the last remaining plant of its kind in central Indiana. The Holliday plant is also very important since all of its original 1920's state-of-the-art equipment is still in place, and much of it is in condition that can be rehabilitated.

The Holliday plant is also of architectural significance. Instead of the utilitarian industrial plants of most electric powerplants, Mr. Mott and Mr. Holliday took great pride that "The power house itself will form an attractive feature of the landscape. It will be built of St. Paul lime stone on the design of the small buildings in French Chateau country, with a slate roof, high gables and very small windows." Water backed-up behind the dam formed the basis for what was called "an attractive summer resort" with sand beaches, cottages and tennis

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Holliday Hydroelectric Powerhouse and Dam, Hamilton Co., Indiana

courts. This is quite a contrast to the typical industrial settings in which most powerplants are located today, which people try to avoid.

The Holliday plant also stands as an important milestone in the history of the evolution of the electric power industry, from a patchwork of unconnected small locally controlled companies to a nation-wide network of interconnected mega-companies. One of these small stand-alone local electric companies was the Noblesville Heat, Light and Power Company. This company, along with many others, were responsible for bringing electricity to many rural parts of Indiana, such as Noblesville and surrounding farms and smaller communities. The Noblesville company was incorporated in 1906 and followed a smaller electric company that had been operated in the area. In 1922, the company had 3400 customers, three-fourths being residential. Peak loads of 900 Kilowatts were experienced on Tuesdays, due to residential ironing. The company had grown since 1906 to not only serve Noblesville, but also the towns of Cicero, Arcadia, Westfield, Lapel, Fisher's Station and many farm homes in Hamilton County.

Until 1922, Noblesville Heat, Light and Power had only one powerplant which was fueled by coal and located in Noblesville. The reason for building a new plant appears to be based on both growth in the number of customers served and the addition of many new electric appliances in homes. What is significant is that the company chose to build a water-powered facility. One of the factors that must have played a major part of this decision is the problems the company had periodically getting coal to run their powerplant. There had been coal shortages during World War I that had made it difficult to meet electric demands. And during 1922, coal strikes had made it difficult to get enough coal. The possibility of building a water-powered plant on the White River had been under study by the Company since 1915, with four possible sites under consideration. It was probably the coal shortages during 1922 that prompted the Company to go ahead with the project. Water power would diversify the company's fuel sources by reducing their total dependence on coal. The Holliday

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Holliday Hydroelectric Powerhouse and Dam, Hamilton Co., Indiana

plant was projected to supply about one-third of the utility's energy needs, and Mr. Mott stated that, "I expect this plant to save from 5,000 to 6,000 tons of coal annually."

The White River is one of the most important rivers in Indiana, as it is the river that flows through Indianapolis. While there were many other dams with other uses on the White River, the Holliday Dam was the first built on the river for electric production. The company was proud of this achievement. Mr. Mott stated, "Yes, there will be other dams and power plants along the White river, but they will be developed some time in the future".

Mr. Mott's vision of the future was never to come to pass. The only other dam and water-powered powerhouse was built on the East Fork of the river near Bedford. Mr. Mott, Mr. Holliday, the Noblesville Heat, Light and Power Company and the Holliday plant itself, were quickly to be swept up in the fast evolving electric power industry. Just three weeks before the first electricity was produced by the Holliday plant, the Noblesville Heat, Light and Power Company was one of six local power companies that were purchased by Northern Indiana Power Company, a regional consolidation of utilities. This was part of a trend around the nation to consolidate local power companies in regional networks. Later, these regional companies would be consolidated into statewide companies. Northern Indiana Power thus became a part of Public Service Indiana. Today the trend continues as Public Service Indiana is merging with Cincinnati Gas and Electric to form a multi-state mega-utility.

The Holliday plant stands as a milestone in this trend from a patchwork of local utilities to large multi-state networks. The Holliday plant was the pride of the Noblesville Company and the community. Mr. Holliday stated that, "This proposed investment, it is thought, will not only be a milestone in the history of this company, which has made every effort to serve the public to the best possible advantage, but it will also be of great value to the community." The dam was intended to have the side effect of creating a summer resort that would bring commerce NPE Form 10-800-6 (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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into the community, as the new concrete road from Noblesville to Indianapolis would allow Indianapolis families to vacation in Noblesville. The French Chateau country design of the plant is a good example of how a local company would care about the community.

Because of the sale of the Noblesville Company, the Holliday plant was never even licensed by their local builders. Instead of becoming the flagship powerplant for the local utility, it became just another small unit in a regional network. In fact, the Holliday plant may well have been the last small power plant built by a local power company in central Indiana. Just about two weeks before the completion of the Holliday plant, a "Super Power Light Plant" was announced to be built in Terre Haute for the region. The \$7,000,000 plant would be 250 times the size of the Holliday plant. The Holliday plant went from a major plant in a local utility in 1922 to just another small plant supplying power to a regional utility. When it became part of the statewide Public Service Indiana network, the plant was still used to generate power, though its size was becoming more and more insignificant in a growing statewide utility. In 1948, Public Service Indiana began construction $^{\alpha}$ a new 100 Megawatt coal fired plant next to the Holliday plant and used water behind the dam for cooling water. The utility continued to use the Holliday plant until 1965, when the maintenance of this tiny plant in a very large utility system was judged not worth their trouble, and it was retired. The Holliday plant became a casuality of the growth trend in the electric power industry that it was an important part of creating.

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Holliday Hydroelectric Powerhouse and Dam, Hamilton Co., Indiana

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Holliday Hydroelectric Powerhouse and Dam, Hamilton Co., Indiana

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary includes the stone powerhouse, the concrete dam, tainter gates, fish ladder, and any wingwalls. Specifically, the boundary consists of the footprint made by the Holliday Hydroelectric Powerhouse and Dam on the White River riverbed. The powerhouse, including the intake structure on the north side and the fish ladder on the east side, is approximately 40 feet by 44 feet. Included in the boundary is the small area of land just to the west of the powerhouse bounded on the east by the powerhouse and the north and south by the dam's concrete wingwalls which connect to the powerhouse foundation. Extending the line made by these wingwalls to the east right of way of Riverwood Avenue makes up the rest of the north and south boundaries on the west bank of the river. The east right of way of Riverwood Avenue constitutes the west boundary. The footprint of the dam is about 10 feet wide and 345 feet long. On the east end of the dam is the tainter gate section which is approximately 60 feet long and 30 feet wide. On the east bank of the river there are wingwalls extending a short distance up and down stream. The boundary for the small parcel of land on the east bank of the White River is made up of the tainter gate and wingwalls on the west side, the west right of way of State Route 37 on the east side, and perpendicular lines from the ends of the wingwalls to the west right of way of State Route 37 on the north and south sides.

Boundary Justification

The boundary contains the dam, powerhouse, and all ancillary structures which were historically part of the powerhouse development. Small parcels of land on the east and west banks of the White River are defined to include supporting wingwalls and land approaches.