

Structure/Site Information Form

IDENTIFICATION 1

Street Address: 915 East 200 North

UTM: 12/358075/4237600

Name of Structure:

T. R. S.

Present Owner: Harold L. Scott

LESS THAN ONE ACRE - BUILDING ONLY

Owner Address: 141 N. 5th St. Brawley, Calif. 92227

Year Built (Tax Record): 1894

Effective Age:

Tax #: B-420

Legal Description

Kind of Building: Flour Mill

All of Lots 1, 2, 3, & 4, Block 11, Plat D, Beaver City Sur.

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: Louis W. Harris

Flour Mill (Beaver City, U.S.A.)

Construction Date: c. 1896

Demolition Date:

Original Use: Flour Mill

Present Use: Vacant

Building Condition:

Integrity:

Preliminary Evaluation:

Final Register Status:

- Excellent
- Good
- Deteriorated
- Site
- Ruins
- Unaltered
- Minor Alterations
- Major Alterations
- Significant
- Contributory
- Not Contributory
- Not of the Historic Period
- National Landmark
- National Register
- State Register
- District
- Multi-Resource
- Thematic

DOCUMENTATION 3

Photography:

Date of Slides:

Slide No.:

Date of Photographs:

Photo No.:

Views:  Front  Side  Rear  Other

Views:  Front  Side  Rear  Other

Research Sources:

- Abstract of Title
- Plat Records/Map
- Tax Card & Photo
- Building Permit
- Sewer Permit
- Sanborn Maps
- City Directories
- Biographical Encyclopedias
- Obituary Index
- County & City Histories
- Newspapers
- Utah State Historical Society
- Personal Interviews
- LDS Church Archives
- LDS Genealogical Society
- U of U Library
- BYU Library
- USU Library
- SLC Library
- Other Fieldwork

Bibliographical References (books, articles, records, interviews, old photographs and maps, etc.):

Mr. Clyde Messinger, interviewed in August 1976 by L. L. Bonar in Beaver.  
 Mr. Harris, interviewed in Sept. 1979 in Beaver by L. L. Bonar.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Alton Swindlehurst, interviewed 8/8/80 in Beaver by L. L. Bonar.

Architect/Builder: Louis W. Harris

Building Materials: Pink rock (tuff) and black rock (basalt)

Building Type/Style:

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:

(Include additions, alterations, ancillary structures, and landscaping if applicable)

This pink rock building is two very tall stories high and it has a full basement. The front facade faces the street and is one of the broad sides of the building. On the 1st floor, there are 2 windows and a central door while on this front facade on the 2nd floor there are 2 windows. All the piercings are located with bilateral symmetry. The pink rock building rests upon a 3-foot tall rubble rock foundation and the landing for the front door consists of a large, brown granite slab. The original roof on the building was flat and the old timbers are now silhouetted against the sky. The same large timbers are used as floor joists on the ground floor.

The stonework on the building is mostly functional, though of good quality. Some notable exceptions are the stone relieving arches above the windows and door on the ground floor. These arches are complete with voussoirs and key stones. The masonry on the front facade is flat, but the corners are not squared. The pink rock blocks are quite large, being approximately 1 1/2' x 2' and they were cut rapidly with long, broad gouges of the chisel. The mortar joints are wide and sometimes small pieces of pink rock have been pushed into them to help bond the blocks and to take up space.

There is a stone lean-to on the NW corner of the building and it has some squared pink rock as well as some black rubble rock in its walls. It is one-story tall and is a

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date:

later addition.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The building is significant because of its historic construction date, its stone building materials, its nearly unaltered architectural integrity and its history.

The mill was built c. 1896 by Louis W. Harris who was probably the proprietor as well. Considering that the mill is less than 100 years old, it is certainly steeped in mystery. Many townspeople, for example, believe that the mill originally served as a brothel for nearby Fort Cameron, but investigation shows that the Fort was abandoned before the mill was even built. For such a prominent structure, it has been difficult to obtain much accurate history. The limited amount of history gathered is as follows:

Mr. Harris probably began construction of the mill in 1896 for at that time he and his wife twice mortgaged the property, first to Great Western Manufacturing Co. and later to William P. Smith, a well known money lender in Beaver. Two years later, a permit was granted by the city council to use water from the city canal for the purpose of operating the mill. The mill was mortgaged twice more in 1899 and sold in 1905 to John M. Murdock and Charles Wolfenden.

Louis W. Harris was a well-respected man in Beaver and served as the mayor at one time. Under his administration, the city Teluride plants were constructed. Mr. Harris was himself a stonemason and was responsible for the construction of at least two of the 3 city power plants, all of which are built of pink rock (see structure/site form #BV-04-196 for further information on Louis Harris' construction techniques).

About 1905, Mr. Harris reportedly suffered severe financial reverses, and his sale of the mill as ~~well~~ as his retirement home (see structure/site form BV-04-316) would seem to substantiate this report.

The mill was later owned and operated by several different owners, including Clyde Messinger who also served as one of Beaver's mayors. It was last operated by the Greenwoods who used it as a flour and animal feed mill before it was vacated.

Several Beaver citizens remember the mill while it was still operational. The grain was emptied into the basement in big piles. It was then taken upstairs to a grinding machine (not a stone) by a belt with scoops on it that ran vertically. From there, the grain was ground into flour and poured into sacks.

During most of the time that the flour mill was operational, each family in Beaver grew a stand of wheat in their vegetable garden. After the grain was harvested, it was taken to the flour mill to be ground, and the miller retained a portion of the flour as his payment.

Plat D, Blk 11, Lot 2

<u>Date of Inst.</u>	<u>Date of Rec.</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Kind of Inst.</u>
Feb. 26, 1896	Mar. 25, 1896	Louis W. Harris*	to Great Western Mfg. Co.	Mortgage
Sept. 22, 1896	Sept. 23, 1896	" " "	& wife to W.P. Smith	Mtg.
Apr 10, 1896	Jam. 26, 1898	" " "	to Mayor & Council	Petition
			(to use waters of city canal for mill)	
Mar. 4, 1899	Mar. 24, 1899	Louis W. Harris & wf	to W. P. Smith	Mtg.
Sept. 15, 1899	Sept. 25, 1899	" " "	to James Fennemore	Mtg.
July 31, 1905	Aug. 1, 1905	" " "	etux to Chas. Wolfenden,**	WD
May 26, 1910	July 28, 1910	John M. Murdock, etux, etal,	to Wilford Robinson	WD

\*Original owner

\*\*also, John M. Murdock and Wilford Robinson