

PH 369578

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 8 1977
DATE ENTERED	OCT 20 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Old Red Mill

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Vermont Route 12

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

South Northfield

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Vermont

STATE

Vermont

VICINITY OF

CODE  
50

COUNTY

Washington

CODE

023

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Brian Wrigley

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Williamstown

VICINITY OF

STATE

Vermont

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Town Clerk of Northfield

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Northfield

STATE

Vermont

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Vermont State Register of Historic Places

DATE

1977

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

Montpelier

STATE

Vermont

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

The Old Red Mill occupies a site on the Dog River's Sunny Brook branch at the northern end of South Northfield village. The clap-boarded structure consists of a one-and-a-half story balloon frame building, resting upon slate foundations and a heavy post and beam subframe which forms a basement story. The structure is topped with a gabled roof, sheathed with metal, broken by a cupola-like structure at the south end of the gable peak which accommodates milling machinery. A shed-roofed porch extends across a portion of the east elevation. The structure measures approximately 35 feet (on the river side) by 30 feet. Window openings are irregularly placed.

The power train and associated milling machinery, although not operable at the present time, appears to be entirely intact. It consists of a vertical concrete penstock at the southwest corner of the structure which feeds a horizontal, metal turbine which, in turn, powers two main drive shafts. Power is transferred, by leather and rubberized canvas belts, to a series of grain cleaning machines, metal roller mills, and accompanying conveyor belts. A flour scale, tools, and other commercial appointments are also intact.

The building also contains a cider mill, installed in the 1930's, which continues in operation, although its source of power has been converted from water to electricity.

A long wood-frame wing extending to the east, which housed feed and grain storage facilities, as well as smaller wings and out-buildings on the north elevation of the mill, have since been demolished.

At the present time, the mill's wooden subframe, as well as its concrete penstock and dam, are in serious need of repair.

# 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 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    1897-98

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Red Mill is an almost undisturbed metal turbine-powered, steel roller gristmill dating from 1898. The practically complete survival of the structure and its machinery provides an unusual exhibition of late nineteenth century state of the art grain milling technology. The mill also represents the last remaining component of a once thriving center of water-powered industry which flourished in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in the village of South Northfield. Indeed, the gristmill is but one of a series of small manufactures which has occupied the northernmost falls in the village; earlier operations at the site (dating from the early 1800s) consisted of a wood, then slate, saw and shingle mill, and a chair factory, which burned in 1896.

The structure was rebuilt as a gristmill and feed store by N. W. Partch in 1897-98. Operation of the establishment continued through the first portion of the twentieth century, and included the installation of a water-powered cider mill in the 1930s.

Changes in agricultural and transportation patterns led to the suspension of grist milling operations in the mid 1940s. The cider press has continued in operation up through the present time.

The mill's present owners project the restoration of the existing grist milling machinery and the reopening of the mill as a commercial concern.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Holden, W. W. "South Northfield History" N.D. (Mimeographed type-script).  
 Northfield Bicentennial Committee. Northfield in the Bicentennial Year 1976.  
 Northfield, Vermont: Northfield Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	18	68,7145,0	48,8715,00	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John R. Axtell

ORGANIZATION

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

DATE

January 31, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Pavilion Building

TELEPHONE

(802)-828-3226

CITY OR TOWN

Montpelier

STATE

Vermont

## 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*William B. Pinney* 5/2/1977

TITLE

William B. Pinney, State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

10/20/77

ATTEST:

*Robert B. Ketting*

DATE

10/12/77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER