

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUN 6 1977  
DATE ENTERED APR 14 1978

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Fair Haven Flour Mill  
AND/OR COMMON Fair Haven Mill

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER off MN 55 on Clearwater River  
NE 1/2, SW 1/2, Sec. 4, T121N, R28W  
CITY, TOWN Fairhaven  
STATE Minnesota  
VICINITY OF  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6th  
COUNTY Wright  
CODE 171

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Wright County  
STREET & NUMBER  
CITY, TOWN Wright County Courthouse  
STATE Minnesota  
VICINITY OF Buffalo

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Stearns County Courthouse  
STREET & NUMBER Courthouse Square  
CITY, TOWN St. Cloud  
STATE Minnesota

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Minnesota Inventory of Historic and Prehistoric Places  
DATE 1975  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Minnesota Historical Society - Building 25, Fort Snelling  
CITY, TOWN St. Paul  
STATE Minnesota

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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

The Fair Haven Flour Mill is a simple, two-story, rectangular building (30 ft. x 40 ft.) with a full basement. The mill has a wood-shingled, gable roof. The exterior of the mill was originally of lap siding over a heavy timber frame. Cedar shakes have been added in later years to the west, south and east walls. Principal access to the mill was on the north side of the building. The mill race entered the building from the west side of the structure although it has now been filled with earth.

The mill utilized mill stones (two runs) for grinding flour as late as 1880, however, in later years it was converted to a roller mill.

The mill located on the north bank of the Clearwater River had about ten feet of head. A turbine runner was installed by 1880, to power the mill, replacing an earlier water wheel.

Capacity of the mill in 1892 was 75 barrels of flour per day.

The turbine runner and some of the milling equipment remain.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" 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      1867                                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Unknown

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Fair Haven Flour Mill is one of the few remaining water powered mills in Wright County and the third oldest extant mill building remaining in Minnesota.

Milling operations on the Clearwater River began at an early date. The first mill on this site was erected in 1859 by O.D. Webb of Fair Haven. The mill dam and a sawmill had been erected at this location in 1857 by Thomas C. Partridge, one of the founders of Fair Haven. The dam was first built on the site of an existing beaver dam.

However, on June 20, 1867, the dam and grist mill were swept away in a flood. Both were rebuilt by Jackson A. Linscott and William Vye with work completed on October 28, 1867. The present structure on the site is from this date.

In 1870 Linscott and Vye were operating a custom and merchant mill equipped with two runs of stones producing 2,000 barrels per year. Water power at the mill was rated at 65 h.p.

By 1880 Linscott and Vye had converted the mill to turbine operation replacing the earlier water wheel. An auxiliary steam engine had been added by 1890 to supplement the water power.

Hans N. Nelson acquired the mill in 1890 and increased production by 1892 to 75 barrels per day.

The Mill was acquired by Grant Graham in 1899 who operated the mill for the next 41 years. Graham learned his trade from his father who was a miller. Graham had operated mills at Big Bend and Milan in Chippewa County, Minnesota before acquiring the Fair Haven Mill. His "xxxx" brand of flour and a breakfast food he manufactured were popular in the area. Graham flour, cracked whole wheat and corn meal were also produced at the mill.

The mill was operated sporadically by various parties after Graham's death in 1941. It was acquired by Wright County in 1970.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

William B. Mitchell, History of Stearns County, Minnesota, Chicago, H.C. Cooper, Jr. & Co., 1915, p. 12, 996, 1267, 1269.

Merritt Bartlett, "A chronology of the Fairhaven Mill and dam," mimeograph copy, n.d.

List of Flour Mills in Minnesota and North and South Dakota, 1892, The Northwestern Miller, Minneapolis.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 13.2

UTM REFERENCES

A	15	40,40,8,5	5,01,80,6,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

see continuation sheet - page 1

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

Foster W. Dunwiddie

ORGANIZATION

Miller-Dunwiddie-Architects, Inc.

DATE

January 14, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

7913 Southtown Center

TELEPHONE

612-884-8421

CITY OR TOWN

Minneapolis

STATE

Minnesota

# 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

*Russell W. Fridley*

TITLE

Russell W. Fridley

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

6/1/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*Wm Dunwiddie*

DATE

2/14/78

ATTEST:

*Washburn Cole*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

4-12-78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Fair Haven Flour Mill

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

The following described lands in the Townsite of Fair Haven: Commencing on the West side of Fremont Street 40 rods South of the Northeast corner of Block 51 in said Townsite; thence South following the West line of Fremont Street to the South line of said Townsite; thence West on the South line of said Townsite to the Southwest corner thereof; thence North on said West line of said Townsite to a point where said line intersects the line of highwater mark on the North shore of Lake Marie; thence in a general Northeasterly direction and following said highwater mark on said Lake Marie and the Mill Pond to the East side of Conway Street; thence North on the East line of Conway Street to the Northwest corner of Block 57 of said Townsite; thence East on said North line of Block 57 to the Northeast corner thereof; thence Southeasterly to the place of beginning, and all streets and parts of streets included in the above described metes and bounds, except the right-of-way for street 2 rods wide across said Block 58 beginning on the South side of the line last above mentioned, and excepting the right-of-way for the public to cross Block 57; together with all rights, privileges, hereditaments and appurtenances, including the right of flowage and all water power rights thereunto belonging, and also Block 58 of said Townsite of Fair Haven; together with approximately 5 acre tract adjoining in Southside Township, Wright County, Minnesota.