

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**DATA SHEET**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED DEC 30 1975

DATE ENTERED

MAY 13 1976

**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

Silver State Flour Mill

AND/OR COMMON

Adams' Mill, Martin Creek Mill

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Mill Ranch, seven miles east of Paradise Valley *off NV 88*

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Paradise Valley

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Nevada

 VICINITY OF

Nevada

CODE

32

COUNTY

Humboldt

CODE

013

**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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Robert A. and Georgene P. Cassinelli

STREET &amp; NUMBER

P.O. Box 35

CITY, TOWN

Paradise Valley

VICINITY OF

STATE

Nevada

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Assessor's Office, Humboldt County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

P.O. Box 407

CITY, TOWN

Winnemucca

STATE

Nevada

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Nevada Historic Sites

DATE

1968

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDSCenter for Western North American Studies, Desert Research Institute,  
Stead Campus, University of Nevada, Reno

CITY, TOWN

Reno

STATE

Nevada

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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

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

The Silver State Flour Mill consists of two structures, the mill building and the warehouse. The original size of the mill building was 60 feet by 30 feet, but a later addition was made and it is an "L" shape today, 80 feet on the west side. The warehouse building is 51 feet by 31 feet in size. The lower portion of the mill building is of sandstone block construction and the upper portion is rough timber covered with heavy black tar paper. The upstairs portion of the mill building houses the mill screens, rollers and the milling equipment. Downstairs, on the first floor of the mill building, there are three rooms. One large room was used to store in-coming grain and the other two were used for storing flour and other mill products, such as bran and shorts. The warehouse building is also of sandstone block construction and stands one story in height. The mill and equipment are still in operating condition, although the facility has not been used for its original purpose since the early 1930's. The ditch from Martin Creek is still in existence and there is still a small producing apple orchard at the mill site. Both the mill building and the warehouse are currently in use as ranch storage facilities and both buildings are in fairly good condition. The tarpaper on the top floor of the mill building is somewhat deteriorated and needs to be replaced, but otherwise it retains much of its original appearance and architectural integrity.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

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SPECIFIC DATES	1867-1932	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Charles Adams
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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Silver State Flour Mill is of local historical significance because it was the first such facility in Humboldt County and one of the earliest in the history of Nevada. It is also of significance because of the important part it played in the economy of the town of Paradise Valley and the surrounding area. Prior to the construction of the mill, very little wheat was raised in the area as there were no facilities by which it could be turned into flour. The main crop was thus barley which required only thrashing and could be sold for \$4.00 a bushel and up. Flour for the area was imported from California at a cost of \$16.00 to \$20.00 per 100 pounds.

The question of constructing a flour mill in Paradise Valley had been under consideration since the summer of 1866, but a decision to go ahead with construction was not made until a public meeting was held at Willow Point on September 23, 1867. The chairman and secretary of the meeting were J.F. Abel and S.J. Worden respectively. At the meeting, Charles Adams said he would build a first-class mill at a cost to himself of \$15,000 to \$20,000 if the farmers of the area would promise him their patronage for a period of three years. Pledges of 1,275 acres were made immediately and in October and November of 1867 lumber and other building materials began to arrive. By mid-December the building had been erected and the milling equipment was promised within six weeks. Heavy snows in the Sierras impeded the movement of freight from California however and it was not until late March of 1868 that the facility was ready to mill its first flour. The collapse of the building's upper floor due to the weight of the grain waiting to be milled held up operations for a time, but by the middle of April the mill was in full operation.

Water from Martin Creek, which operated the mill, drained away to irrigate an orchard of 1,000 fruit trees, gooseberry, current and blackberry bushes which were later planted by J.B. Merchant on the grounds.

Charles Adams sold the mill to Battiste Reconzone in the early 1880's and it later passed to his son, Lorenzo. The flour produced by the mill was marketed throughout northern Nevada and was much preferred by housewives where it was available. Lorenzo Reconzone sent several bags of his flour to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis, Missouri in 1904 and was awarded two gold medals.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fred L. Able, "Origins of Paradise are Related," Humboldt Star, December 1, 1947, p.2, c.6-8.  
Humboldt Register, December 21, 1868, p.2, c.3,6; April 18, 1868, p.3,c.1;  
Daily Silver State, October 3, 1904, p.1,c.5; October 4, 1904, p.1, c.3.  
 "Pioneer Days of Paradise Valley . . . .," Nevada State Journal, May 16, 1954, p.23.  
 Personal correspondence with Fred C. Buckingham.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.4

UTM REFERENCES

A	1   1	4   6   3   4   0   0	4   5   9   5   5   0   0	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

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Phillip I. Earl, Curator of Exhibits, Nevada Historical Society

ORGANIZATION

Nevada State Park System

DATE

May 30, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

201 South Fall Street

TELEPHONE

702-885-4370

CITY OR TOWN

Carson City

STATE

Nevada

# 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

*John T. Richards*

TITLE

*Alternate State Historic Preservation Officer*

DATE

*Dec 16-1975*

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*Acting*

*James L. [Signature]*

DATE

*5/13/76*

6.0 *Inc* DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

*Charles [Signature]*

DATE

*5.3.76*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER