

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0676420

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**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  
Moriarty Eclipse Windmill

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER Located two miles west of Moriarty,  
off State Highway 222

CITY, TOWN  
Moriarty

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE  
New Mexico

CODE  
035

COUNTY  
Torrance

CODE  
057

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Mr. and Mrs. George Stewart

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN  
Moriarty

VICINITY OF

STATE  
New Mexico

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Torrance County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN  
Estancia

STATE  
New Mexico

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
New Mexico State Register of Cultural Properties

DATE  
December 9, 1978

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS Historic Preservation Section, New Mexico State Planning Office

CITY, TOWN  
Santa Fe

STATE  
New Mexico

## 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		

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

The Moriarty Eclipse Windmill is a twenty-foot high Standard Eclipse Windmill produced by Fairbanks, Morse and Company of Chicago, Illinois.

The wind wheel has a diameter of twelve feet with strokes of 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 inches, and a weight of seven hundred pounds. Upon order, the windmill could be fitted for a single post mast, two-post mast or Fairbanks-Morse steel towers.

The Eclipse Windmill was equipped with narrow strips of wood set at a steep angle. The mill, running at a slow speed, operated the pump directly from the crank and, thus, was referred to as a Direct Stroke Windmill. The elimination of gears on the Eclipse reduced friction. This windmill had the fewest wearing parts of any windmill built.

The Eclipse was designed so that wind struck the sails directly in front. To insure this action the vane was hinged on the center pivot pipe directly behind the wheel. A long, flexible rudder vane was situated on the windmill farther back than on similar mills. This made the Eclipse sensitive to the slightest breeze and kept the wheel facing the wind. The vane was supported by a tubular steel bar reinforced by steel truss rods, producing a combination of lightness and strength.

The Eclipse Windmill at Moriarty pumped water into two cypress tanks used for stock watering. Around 1920 the windmill was equipped with a motor produced by the American Busch Magnet Corporation. This engine was a 1½ horsepower, 500 r.p.m. gasoline motor patented in 1916.

Today the windmill is in fair condition. Though the vane is mostly intact, about half of the wheel slats are missing. This structure requires renovation to preserve the badly deteriorated wind wheel.

# 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 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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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		

SPECIFIC DATES 1890

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Moriarty Eclipse Windmill is one of the best preserved historic windmills in New Mexico.

The mill was erected on the homestead of M.T. Moriarty, one of the pioneer cattlemen of Torrance County. In the late 1880's Moriarty established a ranching operation and shortly thereafter installed a Fairbanks-Morse Eclipse Windmill. The mill operated by wind power until the early 1920's when a small engine was placed at the base of the structure.

Following the Civil War, the Eclipse Windmill became exceedingly popular among ranchers, farmers, and industrialists. Aside from producing mills for use in agriculture, many railroads purchased the Eclipse Windmill during the 1870's and 1880's. The railroad companies served at this time included the Chicago and Northwestern, Illinois Central, Union Pacific, Central Pacific, Southern Pacific, and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe. The Eclipse Windmill won the gold medal at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition in 1876 and first prize at the Paris Exposition of 1878.

One of the most effective sales agents for the Eclipse Windmill was the firm of Fairbanks, Morse and Company of Chicago. When the Eclipse Wind Engine Company reorganized in 1880, Mr. Morse became the general sales agent for all production at the factory. Moreover, he obtained a stock interest in the company for Fairbanks, Morse and Company. Thus, the latter organization began the transition from a sales agency to a full-fledged industrial concern. The Eclipse Windmill at Moriarty is representative of the models turned out shortly after the fusion of the two firms.

Even though parts of the mill are badly deteriorated, the Moriarty Eclipse Windmill is one of the best preserved structures of its kind in the state of New Mexico.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fairbanks-Morse and Eclipse Windmills Tanks and Towers - Catalogue 65-J.  
 Chicago: n.p., n.d. (Available at Library, National Museum of  
 History and Technology, Smithsonian Institution)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,3	4,0,12,5,0	3,8,7,3,0,0,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary is a 40-foot by 40-foot square, the center of which is the windmill.

## 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

William L. Cumiford, Project Manager and T. Lindsay Baker, Research Associate

ORGANIZATION

History of Engineering Program

DATE

March 1, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Box 4089 Texas Tech University

TELEPHONE

(806) 742-3591

CITY OR TOWN

Lubbock

STATE

Texas

# 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

*Thomas W. [Signature]*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

3-29-79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*Bill [Signature]*

DATE

6/4/79

DIRECTOR OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST

*Carol [Signature]*

DATE

6/4/79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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General Supplies - Windmill Department Fairbanks-Morse and Company - Catalogue No. 50 B. Chicago: n.p., n.d. (Available at Library, Chicago Historical Society, Chicago, Illinois)

Hill, James W. "The Wind-Mill of To-Day and its Uses." Journal of the Association for Engineering Societies, Vol. III, No. 8 (June, 1884), 160-67. (Available at Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.)

Pioneers in Industry: The Story of Fairbanks, Morse & Co. 1830-1945. Chicago: Fairbanks, Morse & Co., 1945, pp. 41-45. (Available at Library, Chicago Historical Society)

Interview with Mrs. George Stewart, property owner, July 30, 1977.  
(Interview notes on file at History of Engineering Program, Texas Tech University)