

United States Department of the Interior
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SITE NO. 5

NAME Norway Mill

LOCATION FM 182, 8 miles southwest of Clifton, Bosque
County, Texas, on the A.W. Moore survey

OWNER Ms. O'Belle Harris
802 Canadian Circle
Grand Prairie, Texas 75050

PRESENT USE Agriculture

CATEGORY Building

STATUS Unoccupied

QUADRANGLE NAME Hurst Springs, Texas

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCE 14/627310/3507030

ACREAGE less than 1 acre

PHOTO REFERENCE NO. 14

DESCRIPTION

Norway Mill is a massive, two-story stone structure that remains in fair condition. It stands near a small stream that provided the water to operate the mill's steam-powered engines. Its plan is rectangular in shape. The front facade is believed to have been on the south elevation, which has a broad, central opening in the ground level. The building is of limestone construction, which was once covered with a scored plaster coating. The only other examples of this type of scoring occur on the Linberg (no. 3) and the Reeder-Omenson (no. 6) houses. Flat arches span all the openings, but the original doors and window sashes have been removed. The ruins of the old engine room extend from the west side of the building, between it and the creek. The building has not been used as a mill since the late 19th century, and it retains none of its original machinery. One of its mill stones, however, has been moved to the grounds of the nearby Reeder-Omenson house, and another is on display at the Bosque County Museum in Clifton. Both the ground- and the second-level floors remain undivided by partitions. The first floor is used to store hay. The walls inside retain their plaster covering, and massive oak piers with chamfered corners support the second floor. A temporary metal roof presently covers the structure.

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OTHER AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE

Industry

SIGNIFICANCE

Norway Mill was erected about 1870 by Alvin Reeder, Ole Canuteson, and Andrew Canuteson with the help of Charlie Olson and Martin Shefstad. It was powered by steam and operated until about 1890. The first mill to serve the Norwegian community, Norway Mill represents the only industrial site in this nomination. Between c. 1870 and c. 1890, the small community of Norway Mills grew up around this site, but nothing of this town now remains.

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AREA TO BE NOMINATED

