

FINAL

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Stockdale Mill  
other names/site number Roann Roller Mill 169-543-10007

2. Location

street & number CR 700 East N/A  not for publication  
city or town Stockdale N/A  vicinity  
state Indiana code IN county Wabash code 169 zip code 46992

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title [Signature] Date 1-28-04  
Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

Stockdale Mill  
Name of Property

Wabash IN  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building
- district
- site
- structure
- object
- landscape

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
3	0	structures
0	0	objects
4	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

Grain Mills in Indiana

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUST/PROC/EXTR: Manufacturing Facility

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

WORK IN PROGRESS

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

MID-19th c.:

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls WOOD: Weatherboard

roof WOOD: Shingle

other METAL

STONE

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY \_\_\_\_\_

AGRICULTURE \_\_\_\_\_

COMMERCE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1855-1964 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1955-57 \_\_\_\_\_

1964 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A \_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Baker & Ranck \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Stockdale Mill  
Name of Property

Wabash IN  
County and State

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.5 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

16	588970	4529580
Zone	Easting	Northing

3 

Zone	Easting	Northing

2 

Zone	Easting	Northing

4 

Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sue Becher Gilliam  
organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 09-03-2003  
street & number 10166 Lakewood Drive telephone 317/ 873-3758  
city or town Zionsville state IN zip code 46077

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

#### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

### Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Stockdale Mill Foundation, Inc; c/o Dwight Fouts  
street & number 310 W 550 N telephone 765/ 457-9507  
city or town Kokomo state IN zip code 46901

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

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STOCKDALE MILL  
WABASH COUNTY, INDIANA

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**Narrative Description**

At a quiet crossroads in rural Paw Paw Township, Wabash County, a dam stretches across the Eel River which, for 107 years, provided the necessary velocity of water power to run the machinery in the Stockdale Mill (Photograph 1). The grain mill is one of a few remnants of the once busy community of Stockdale, which straddles the line between Wabash and Miami counties. Paw Paw Township and neighboring Perry Township in Miami County are in a region of Indiana with very fertile soil that continues to support agricultural activities. The Stockdale Mill sits on the north bank of the Eel River west of the mouth of Squirrel Creek at the northeast corner of the intersection of SR 16 and Wabash CR 800 West on 2.5 acres. Adjacent to the mill are two contributing resources, a storage building just to the north and to the east, a corn crib. Also contributing to the significance of the mill is the 202 ft. dam that runs across the width of Eel River. The vernacular, post-and-beam mill exhibits simple architectural details consistent with its date of construction, 1855-57. Minimal alterations have occurred to the three-and-a-half story building; however, they do not detract from its significant level of architectural integrity. Based on the requirements for minimum registration detailed in the Multiple Property Listing entitled "Grain Mills of Indiana," the Stockdale Mill clearly exceeds that benchmark.

Two men named Baker and Ranck completed the construction of the mill in 1857 that was operated by Thomas Goudy. Goudy, who had platted the town, selected a promising location along the north bank of the Eel River. One hundred and forty six years later, the old mill has shown its age and is undergoing stabilization and restoration efforts by the Stockdale Mill Foundation, Inc. When the foundation acquired the building in 2002, it was listing and sagging. However, for the most part, the building was solid because of its fine craftsmanship. The Stockdale Mill is of post-and-beam construction—a board-and-batten vernacular building that is three-and-a-half stories tall (Photograph 2).

The rectangular building is covered by a gabled roof with new replacement wood shingles, a necessity due to tornado damage in 2002. The eaves are enclosed with a simple frieze board below. The flush openings located in the frieze on both the west and east sides of the mill are covered in screen to provide ventilation to the upper half story. In the gables, there are three closely grouped two-over-two window units. At the peak of the north gable, a small rectangular-shaped four-paned window set askew accentuates the vernacular influence of the architecture (Photograph 3). The south gable peak has no window but batten strips mimic the same shape. Six-over-six and two-over-two double hung wood windows punctuate the west, south and east sides at regular intervals (Photograph 4).

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A small metal pipe protrudes from the mill's north wall. This pipe emitted dust collected from processing the grain. Larger dust exhaust chutes are on the west and east sides. On the west side, the chute located just below the frieze exhausts dust from the wheat scourer and the curved, sheet metal chute within the third story window frame is connected to the oats huller. Also on the west and east sides are two exterior doors at the 1<sup>st</sup> floor—a door made of wood boards on the east while on the west wall, which faces the road and the drive, has a multi-paned glass door. The north end of the mill's 1<sup>st</sup> floor is built into the slope of the river bank.

It is on this side of the building that a weigh shed was added. This drive-through lean-to was constructed in 1909 to house the scale mechanisms used to weigh the wagons loaded with grain. The weigh shed has a new metal roof replicating the original standing-seam metal roof and is sided in horizontal siding with board and batten in the half gables. The original doors at the east opening have been rebuilt while the west portal is open.

In the interior of the weigh shed, a platform runs the length of the mill wall (Photograph 5). This wall retains the original board-and-batten siding. Secured to the platform by a wooden framework is the scale mechanism (Photograph 6). A large wood sliding door and a service door to the mill are accessible from the platform as well as a door to the rear mill office addition.

The mill office was added to the northeast corner of the building at the same time as the weigh shed in 1909 (Photographs 2 and 4). The small one-story room sits on a concrete foundation and has a shed roof. The clapboard-sided addition has one exterior door and three windows. There are two interior doors in the office, one that accesses the platform in the weigh shed, and a door that leads to the mill's 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

The original portion of the mill building is supported by a stone and concrete foundation. The foundation comprises two basement levels. New concrete on the south wall was required to strengthen the foundation. The other foundation walls appear to have been scabbed with concrete over the years. The original stone foundation is still visible on a portion of the north wall. The upper basement level has a large room on the south that has had an opening penetrated through the east foundation wall to allow water from the mill race to enter. The water rushes to the three vertical turbines situated in the center of the room propelling their blades. The turbines are two Leffel 35" Samson Turbines and one Leffel 30" Samson Turbine installed in 1909-1910 (Photograph 7). The three turbines have a combined power of about 75 horsepower. The water exits the turbines down into the lowest portion of the basement, an excavated channel below the floor that leads from under the turbines out the south wall

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STOCKDALE MILL  
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into the river. Two steel I-beams inserted lengthwise below the 1<sup>st</sup> floor were installed at the same time as the turbines.

The mill's foundation supports the weight of the post-and-beam framework that consists of four hewn-timbers of 50 feet length running north and south and five hewn-timbers 40 feet in length running east and west on each floor. When constructing a mill, a millwright would base the size of a mill on the number of run of buhrstones installed. This mill had four. The Stockdale Mill has large chamfered hewn posts connected to the timber beams with joints of mortise and tenon secured with hand-drawn pegs. On each of the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> floors, the space is open with no interior walls. This was desirable because an open floor plan in a rectangular shape with many windows would efficiently illuminate the interior. Also on those levels, the flooring is mostly of oak planks, many with holes and weak spots as a result of age and hard use. The flooring in the 4<sup>th</sup> floor in the half-story had to be completely replaced this year because of rot. Built like a barn, the inside of the exterior walls of the mill reveal the exposed post-and-beam framework and the back side of the board-and-batten sheathing. A wooden stair with landing at the building's southwest corner reaches from the 1<sup>st</sup> floor to all upper floors. This set of stairs does not lead to the basement levels; however, access to the basement is obtained through a wooden hatch to a second flight of stairs. The building was also constructed with a hoist which reaches from the basement to the top. The 30x30 inch wood platform is lifted by a weighted-pulley system with foot brake (Photograph 8).

Each floor of the mill had a part to play in the grinding process. But before the milling could begin, power had to be transferred from the turbines in the basement to the machines on the upper stories. Three vertical shafts, one each from the turbines extend up through holes in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor above to horizontal shafts with gears. Most of the wooden bevel gears are the originals from 1856; however, the cogs of one had to be replaced in 1934. The gears would turn belts to transfer power to the machinery (Photograph 9). The main line shaft has additional line shafts branching from it (Photograph 10).

A grain elevator system of eight pairs of vertical shafts is situated in the center of the mill penetrating each floor from the 1<sup>st</sup> floor to the 4<sup>th</sup>. It was typical for space in the center of a mill to be dedicated to the elevator and gravity legs because that location received the least amount of light saving the outer, more lighted portions of the mill for the operation of the machinery. This system of wooden shafts transported grain by spaced cups attached to belts in each shaft which would lift the grain to the upper floors (Photograph 11). Gravity legs jut from floor to floor at odd angles (Photograph 12). They fed the grain to the next machine as it was routed through the milling process from the top floor to the lower floors. Holding bins on the north end of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor were also constructed as permanent fixtures

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in the building. The bins are located below grade of the floor of the weigh shed. A wagon would pull into the weigh shed and the front of the wagon would be hooked up to a pulley with two rings suspended from the rafters above. Grain from the wagon would flow through the gravity dump into the holding bins. The elevator would take the grain from the holding bins to the receiving separator and the scourer on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Also on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor is a corn sheller that is suspended from the ceiling.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, which is the floor that the weigh shed platform and the mill office are on, the following can be found: a feed mixer, an Ajax Oats Huller, platform scale, a grain flow regulator that feeds grain to the hammer mill, a hopper or bin scale which weighs wheat as it comes from the bin on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, a flour packer, and a bran packer called the Monitor Bran Packer which could compress 100 lbs. into a 50 lb. large bran bag. Next to the bran packer is a bran chute that was also used. The actual milling process began at the four breaks, which replaced the original buhrstones. Each break machine used two sets of rollers to crush wheat into flour. Located near the south wall are three horizontal wheels mounted to shafts that extend down to twelve gates at the turbines that can be opened and closed to regulate the turbines' speed.

A tempering bin, a flour bin--which could hold 50 barrels or 1000 10lb. bags of flour--and a large walk-in bran bin built into the southeast corner are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. A purifier machine called the Unique Gyro-Sifter is also on this floor.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> floor is a scourer where wheat was tumbled and polished and was taken from this machine by an auger to the tempering bin on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Also on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor are a final sifter, self-balancing sifter, a bran and middling sifter, dust collector and the Eureka Dustless Receiving Separator (Photograph 13).

Outside the mill building but critical to its function are the mill race and dam. An ancillary structure to the mill, the mill race is a channel with concrete walls that allows the river to flow into the southeast corner of the basement (Photograph 2). The mill race was constructed when the turbines were installed between 1909 and 1910. Stretching 202 ft. across the width of the river is the dam (Photograph 14). The original timber dam still remains beneath concrete that was formed over it in 1915.

Northwest of the mill is an outbuilding, which was used to store salt and coal (Photograph 15). It is believed to have been constructed around 1915. The rectangular gable roof one-story building is sheathed in the 1927 horizontal siding recently removed from the mill. Just east of the mill office is a perforated metal "Buckeye" corn crib (Photograph 16). The small structure is rectangular with rounded



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ends. It has a standing-seam metal roof with three vents. These cribs were popular from 1910 until 1941, when all steel was necessary for the war effort. Etched into the concrete floor of the corn crib is the installation date of "10/13/28." This structure has not been altered.

With the purchase of the building by the Stockdale Mill Foundation, Inc., restoration began in January 2002 in earnest. The construction of a coffer dam allowed work to begin on stabilizing the building. Because the two south corners were sagging, the building was jacked up and supported while the rotten 12 inch timber sill plates were replaced. Also listing to the east, cables were installed on the upper stories to hold the building together. New concrete was used in the south foundation wall and across the wall of the mill race. Also, the mill race will have new steel gates. To recreate the original appearance of the board-and-batten siding, the existing horizontal clapboard siding, which had been installed in 1927, was removed and new battens reapplied over the original 1x12 inch poplar boards.

Just as the restoration was getting underway, a tornado in March, 2002, did significant damage to the roof. New rafters and nailers of yellow poplar from local trees were installed and covered by wood shingles. The weigh shed and office have received Galvalume roofing material. Any floor joists that required replacement were done so with salvaged timbers from deteriorated or demolished old buildings in the area. Needed repairs have also occurred to the windows and the electrical has been updated. Time had taken its toll on the stairs which needed new treads while keeping the original boards for the risers. Other restoration tasks have included the cleaning of the machinery, rebuilding the doors and headers in the weigh shed and the replacement of the flooring in the office as well as the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. The remaining wood-plank floors will have boards replaced on a board-by-board basis. Covered in mud for years, the turbines were removed from the building, refurbished and recently reinstalled in the basement. Also in the process of being completed, a handicap ramp is being added to the west side of the building with an entrance through an existing door on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

The dam was in need of attention as well. It has been reinforced with concrete slabs and new cement walls were poured inside the parapet at its north end. Soon the coffer dam will be removed and the river will flow through the Stockdale Mill again.

Constructed with a waterwheel and buhrstones but updated with technological advancements in the milling process in the form of turbines and rollers, the Stockdale Mill is an outstanding, intact representation of a mid-1800s grain mill. Its design, shape, and materials were heavily influenced by the construction techniques used to build agricultural buildings and it maintains that integrity. All of the

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integral parts of the milling process, the building, machinery, mill race and dam, remain, attesting to the high degree of significance of the Stockdale Mill.

### Statement of Significance

Over time, the grain milling industry emerged from an individual's labor intensive task of hand-grinding grain. Buildings housing machinery sprung up along waterways that would mill for an entire community, typically an early business to be established. Relieved of this task, mills greatly improved one's quality of life and provided a crucial service. Milling quickly became a key industry, one of the first in this northern Indiana agricultural region. The Stockdale Mill meets Criterion A because it embodies the significance of the milling industry as an important activity in the day-to-day events of the past, which contributes to the overall historic patterns of our lives. The period of significance begins at the date of construction, 1855, and ends fifty years ago at 1953, even though flour milling operations did not cease until 1964. As of 1860, there were seventeen grain mills established in Wabash County, while others may have been constructed after this date, today the Stockdale Mill is the only remaining mill.<sup>1</sup> As a mid-nineteenth century mill, the Stockdale Mill is an exemplary example of the evolution of grain milling in Indiana illustrating the significance of the service that this local industry provided to the community.

The Eel River flows through six counties in the northern third of Indiana and numerous Native American communities were located along its path. The Potowatomis had a village on the north side, while the Miamis settled on the south. Thomas Goudy was an early settler searching for a home for his family. He located on land which was adjacent to a Potowatomi village called Squirrel Town (also called Squirrel Village). He built a saw mill in 1838 and a grist mill in 1839 and platted the town of Stockdale on October 26, 1839, which was the first in Paw Paw Township. The usual establishments were soon found there; a store, blacksmith, the mills, wagon shop, public school, church, post office and lodge. The early Stockdale settlement was typical of the communities springing up in this area--it was dependent on an agricultural economy of grains and livestock.

For years Stockdale was the primary commercial center in the area being the hub for a substantial amount of trade. Its importance was ensured when a plank road was completed in 1850 between the town and the county seat, Wabash. Stockdale thrived and, at first, the new settlement of Roann in 1853

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<sup>1</sup> George Davis King, *The Industrialization of Indiana, 1860-1920*.

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just one mile east did not diminish Stockdale's viability. However, when a new train route, the Detroit, Eel River and Illinois Railroad, was surveyed and completed in 1871 through neighboring Roann, it marked the beginning of the end of Stockdale.

When Thomas Goudy's first grist mill was washed out, he replaced it with the current mill constructed by Baker & Rancke between the years 1855-1857. An undershot waterwheel was the first mechanism to transfer lateral power of the river's flow to rotary power for a gear shaft. When constructed, the mill had four run of buhrstones. During the Civil War, the mill was under contract to Holt & Son to produce flour for the Union Army. Between 1885 and 1890, the buhrstones were removed from the mill and replaced with rollers. For a time it became known as the Roann Roller Mill. This time frame coincides with the period when other mills in the state were converting to rollers. In 1909-1910, the vertical water wheel was retired and three turbines were installed. The mill owners may have been slow to embrace this technological advancement because many other Indiana millers had switched from waterwheels to turbines in the previous century.<sup>2</sup> Three vertical Leffel turbines, with a total of approximately 75-85 horsepower at 5 feet of head, were purchased from James Leffel of Ohio, who was the preeminent manufacturer of turbines in the country.

At its height, the mill had a manufacturing capacity of 50 barrels of flour a day. Not only did people come to the mill for flour, but it was also shipped out to larger markets in Wabash and Peru, the county seat of neighboring Miami County. Around the turn of the century, a new process was developed that actually extended the viability of many small mills. The hammer mill was installed into many milling operations to produce feed for livestock. The process was added to the Stockdale Mill in space on the west portion of the building and one of the three turbines supplied the power to the feed milling equipment.

Over the years, various people held interest in the Stockdale Mill. In 1881, James Madison Deck arrived in Stockdale from Berks County, Pennsylvania. It appears that he first worked for the owners and later approached them with an offer to purchase the mill in 1886—a transaction that was not complete until around 1900. James Deck called his flour White Loaf Brand. The flour sacks had a picture of a loaf of Vienna-style bread, based on a drawing by his wife. He operated the mill until 1916 supervising the construction of the new sloped concrete dam over the timber. His son, James Hurst Deck, took over operation of the mill for the next 35 years, then passing ownership to his daughter and

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<sup>2</sup> Jane Nolan and Linda Weintraut, *Grain Mills in Indiana*, p. 9.

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son-in-law. Norma Deck Krom and her husband, Addison, ran the same equipment milling flour until 1964 when they shut the business down.

Asked to recall her experiences at the family's mill for a commemorative bicentennial publication, Mrs. Krom relates the following of the milling process, "Starting in the first brake, the wheat was rolled a little finer in each subsequent operation through a series of eight brakes. The flour was constantly sifted through pure silk which was made on hand looms in Switzerland. This sifting is called bolting. All in all, the flour went through 64 silks before being bagged from the finishing sifter."<sup>3</sup> The technology involved in the milling process provided a smooth, constant power which resulted in an evenly ground flour. But the effort to maintain the aging mill and its machinery became too much for the owners necessitating the closure of the grain milling business in 1964.

The mill sat idle, equipment still inside, for 37 years. Dwight and Susanne Fouts, a husband and wife who had grown up near the mill and are past customers, had been watching the building slowly deteriorate becoming increasingly concerned. They decided it was time to approach the Krom's and ask if they could purchase it. The Krom's agreed and the couple, with the help of other community members interested in the fate of the mill, came together to form the Stockdale Mill Foundation in December, 2001, as a not-for-profit whose mission is to restore and preserve the mill. So intact is the mill that the foundation plans to use it as a working museum. Area schools intend to tour the mill as part of the Indiana History curriculum of state's fourth grade students.

This small, rural mill was able to maintain continuous operations for 107 years, while scores of others closed due to competition, new technology, health and safety issues and the centralization of mills in larger markets. Yet the Stockdale Mill continued to contribute to the local economy and historic fabric of this area. Modifications have been few to the mill complex but they occurred as technological advances in the milling process warranted. The Stockdale Mill still retains its integrity of location and setting and its level of design is outstanding. All components of the mill, the building, mill race, dam and machinery, are intact. That, combined with the significance of the mill's place in grain milling history in the state, contributes to the Stockdale Mill exceeding the Registration Requirements stipulated in the Multiple Property Listing titled "Grain Mills in Indiana."

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<sup>3</sup> Linda Robertson, ed., *Wabash County History Bicentennial Edition 1976, Wabash, Indiana.*

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Weesner. Clarkson, ed. *History of Wabash County, Indiana.* Chicago and New York: The Lewis Publishing Co., 1914.

### Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary that includes the Stockdale Mill is an approximately 2.5 acre area made up of two parcels, an 1.21 acre parcel on the north side of the Eel River and an 1.33 acre parcel on the south, connected by the nearly 202 ft. concrete dam, which is indicated on the accompanying plat map.

**Parcel 1 (1.21 acre) Description:** Part of the Southwest Quarter of Section 35, Township 29 North, Range 5 East in Paw Paw Township, Wabash County, Indiana.

More specifically: Beginning at the northerly meander monument of the Eel River on the west line of said Southwest Quarter, marked by a 3 inch diameter Miami County aluminum corner monument;

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thence North 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East (basis of bearings) along the west line of said Southwest Quarter, 212.36 feet to a 5/8 inch diameter rebar stake with an ID cap; thence North 80 degrees 39 minutes 23 seconds East, 316.52 feet to a 5/8 inch diameter rebar stake with an ID cap; thence South 05 degrees 18 minutes 40 seconds East, 162.17 feet to the northerly top of bank of the Eel River; thence North 74 degrees 58 minutes 50 seconds West along said northerly top of bank, 20.14 feet to the southerly side of an 18 inch wide concrete retaining wall; thence South 76 degrees 20 minutes 10 seconds West, 76.91 feet to the southwest corner of an 18 inch wide concrete retaining wall; thence North 10 degrees 28 minutes 37 seconds West, 20.94 feet; thence South 79 degrees 20 minutes 10 seconds West, 50.88 feet to the southwest corner of an 18 inch wide concrete retaining wall; thence meandering North 68 degrees 11 minutes 58 seconds West along the northerly top of bank of said Eel River, 21.27 feet; thence meandering South 63 degrees 01 minute 10 seconds West along said northerly top of bank, 59.91 feet; thence meandering South 31 degrees 52 minutes 09 seconds West along said northerly top of bank, 28.61 feet; thence meandering South 46 degrees 22 minutes 07 seconds West along said northerly top of bank, 55.08 feet; thence meandering South 47 degrees 20 minutes 02 seconds West along said northerly top of bank, 69.68 feet to the west line of said Southwest Quarter; thence North 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East along said west line 28.38 feet to the point of beginning. Containing therein 1.21 acres more or less.

Also riparian rights to Eel River and to include all rights for the dam (201.72 feet) across said Eel River and the water power for the mill on the northerly side of said river.

**Parcel 2 (1.33 acre) Description:** Part of the Southwest Quarter of Section 35, Township 29 North, Range 5 East and part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 28 North in Paw Paw Township, Wabash County, Indiana.

More specifically: Commencing at the southerly meandering monument of the Eel River on the west line of Said Northwest Quarter, marked by a 3 inch diameter Miami County aluminum corner monument; thence South 00 degrees 01 minute 48 seconds East (basis of bearings) along the west line of said Northwest Quarter, 68.50 feet to a masonry nail; thence North 72 degrees 21 minutes 28 seconds East along the southerly line of an one acre and 29 square rods parcel of and conveyed to Stockdale Mill Inc. As recorded on page 425 in deed record 296 at the Recorder's Office of Wabash County, Indiana, 231.00 feet (14 rods) to the POINT OF BEGINNING: thence North 36 degrees 44 minutes 07 seconds West, 168.08 feet to the southerly top of bank of the Eel River; thence meandering northeasterly and easterly along the top of bank the following 11 courses;

- 1) thence North 70 degrees 28 minutes 51 seconds East, 38.52 feet;
- 2) thence North 78 degrees 52 minutes 40 seconds East, 91.99 feet;
- 3) thence South 60 degrees 50 minutes 22 seconds East, 36.52 feet;
- 4) thence South 86 degrees 10 minutes 27 seconds East, 50.34 feet;
- 5) thence South 71 degrees 02 minutes 54 seconds East, 67.87 feet;
- 6) thence North 05 degrees 47 minutes 34 seconds West, 39.42 feet;
- 7) thence North 40 degrees 21 minutes 37 seconds West, 55.36 feet;
- 8) thence North 78 degrees 22 minutes 09 seconds East, 14.72 feet;

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9) thence South 87 degrees 43 minutes 59 seconds East, 94.63 feet;

10) thence North 89 degrees 54 minutes 14 seconds East, 125.94 feet;

11) thence South 89 degrees 19 minutes 14 seconds East, 73.26 feet to the westerly line of a parcel of land conveyed to the Indiana Department of Conservation, Division of Fish and Game as recorded on page 101 in deed record 184 at the Recorder's Office of Wabash County; thence South 00 degrees 47 minutes 22 seconds West along said westerly line, 62.20 feet to a concrete monument; thence South 72 degrees 21 minutes 28 seconds West along said southerly line of an one acre and 29 square rods parcel, 461.50 feet to the point of beginning. Containing therein 1.33 acres more or less.

Also riparian rights to Eel River and to include all rights for the dam (201.72 feet) across said Eel River and the water power for the mill on the northerly side of said river.

**Boundary Justification**

The Stockdale Mill boundary was determined to be the size of the current legal description of the property. Situated in the northeast quadrant of the intersection of SR 16 and CR 800 West on the north side of the Eel River, it is believed that the mill, dam and outbuildings require the entire 2.5 acreage to maintain the integrity of the environment of its location.

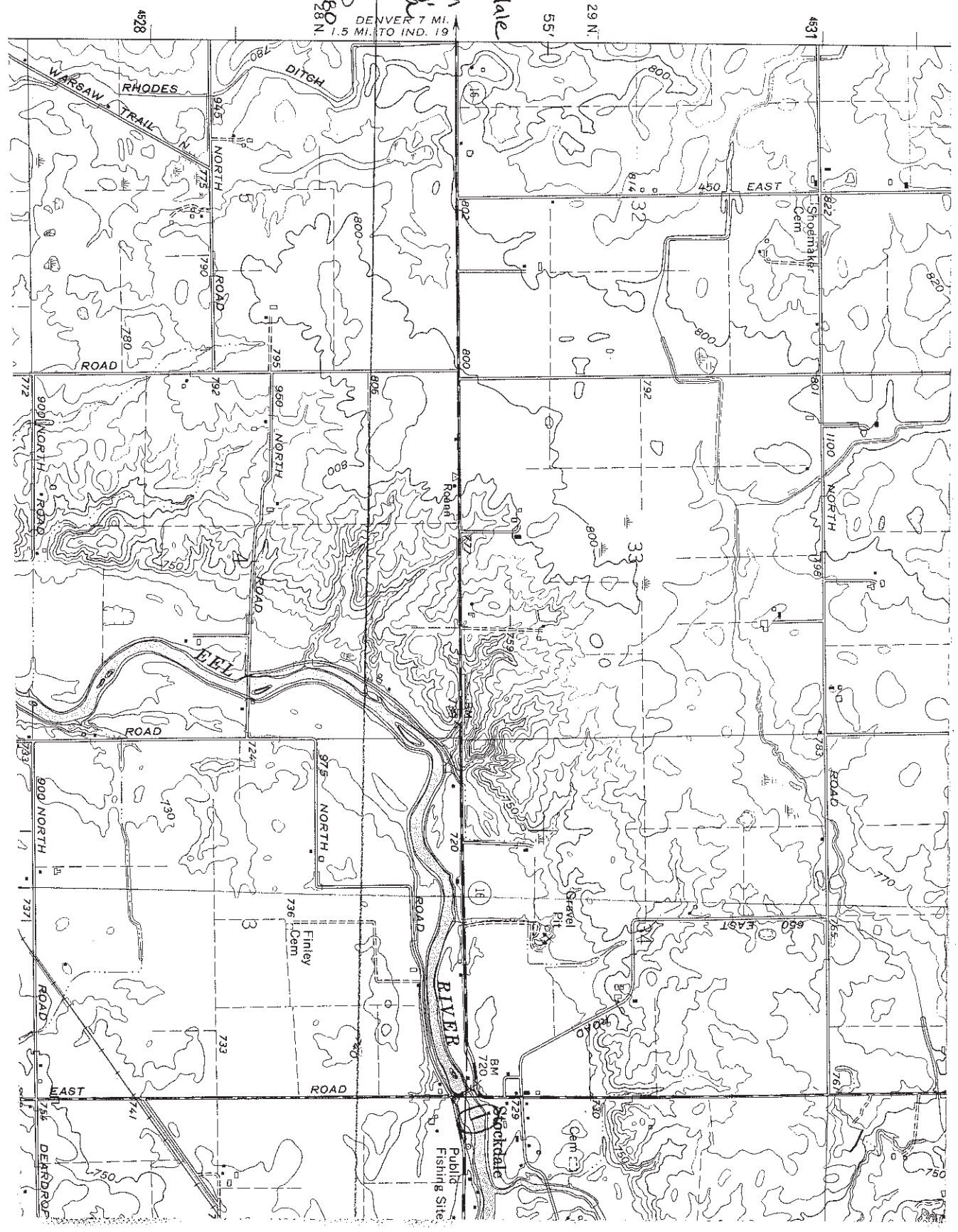
Stockdale  
Mill  
Utahash  
County,  
Indiana

16  
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T. 28 N.

DENVER 7 MI.  
1.5 MI. TO IND. 19

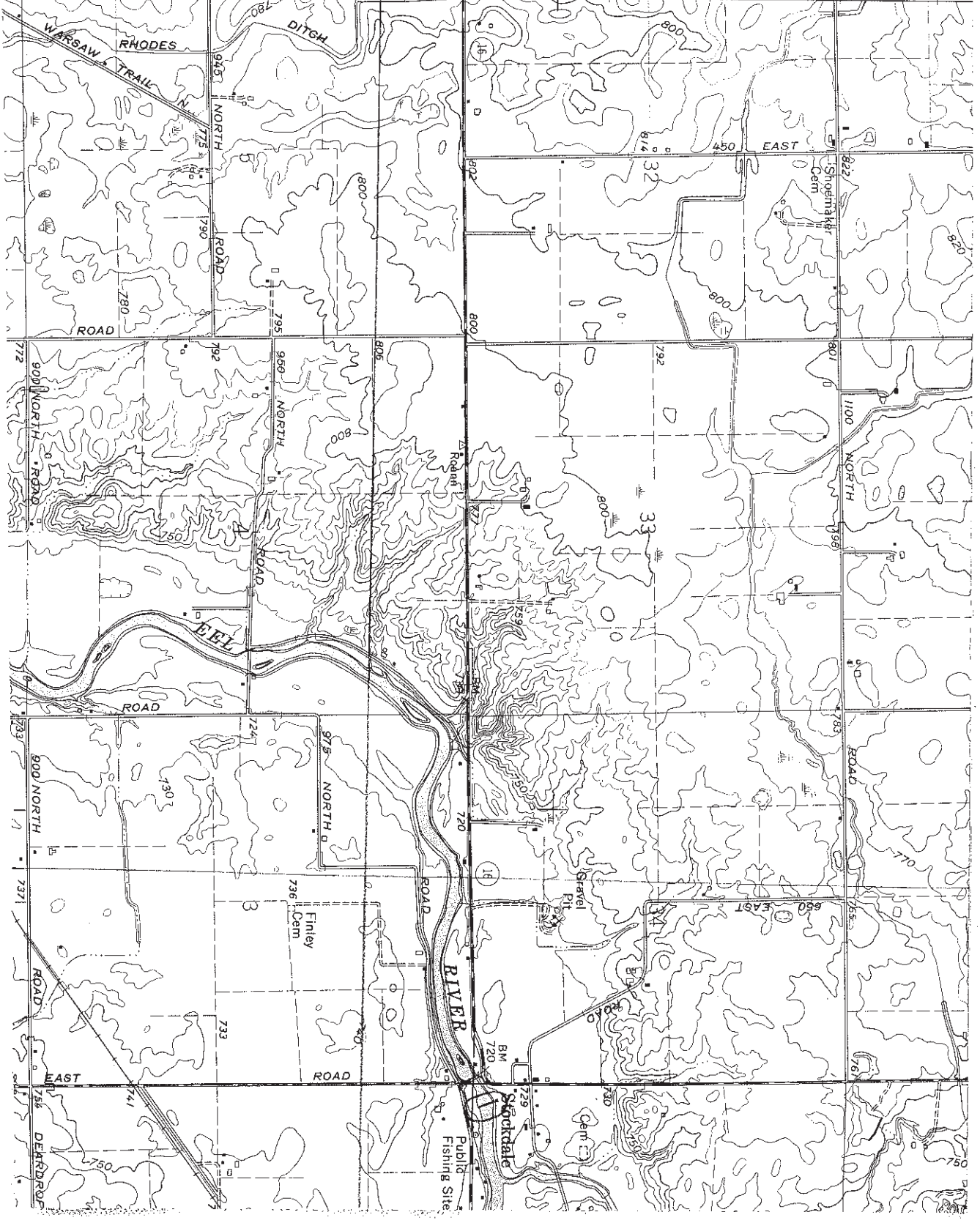
T. 29 N.

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4528

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4528

431