

894

### 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 Bunn-Tillapaugh Feed Mill

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. Location

street & number 2 High Street [ ] not for publication

village Richmondville [ X ] vicinity

state New York code NY county Schoharie code 095 zip code 12149

#### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [ X ] 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 as set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [ X ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [ ] nationally [ ] statewide [ X ] locally. ([ ] see continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] Date 6/28/06  
Signature of certifying official/Title : Commissioner for Historic Preservation

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

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 [Signature] date of action 9-29-06



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Bunn-Tillapaugh Feed Mill  
Richmondville, Schoharie Co. NY**

**Section 7 Page 1**

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**Description**

**Mill**

The Bunn-Tillapaugh Feed Mill is a water-powered feed mill located on High Street in the village of Richmondville. The mill is sited on the eastern bank of Bear Gulch, a rocky defile cut by a rapidly flowing tributary of nearby Cobleskill Creek. The boundary of the nominated property encompasses the mill building, the parcel on which it stands and the adjacent historic impoundment/hydropower system (consisting of a stone mill dam, millpond and sluice). The mill property is located in a village context of residential and light industrial properties.

The main portion of the mill consists of a rectangular, four-story, heavy timber framed structure (60' by 40') sheathed in narrow clapboard siding. The mill rests on a stone basement story built into the steep bank. The building is oriented generally north-south with its principal axis parallel to the adjacent creek. The main block is covered by a shallow pitched gable roof. Several additions are appended to the mill. A two story, gable roofed, frame wing attached to the north end contains the mill office with covered porch above a concrete basement/furnace room. A one story storage/shipping wing with covered loading dock projects from the east side wall. A recent shed roofed wing extends parallel to the east side wall, terminating in a garage bay on the north end wall. Entrance to the mill is from single doors located in the office wing and on the north gable end wall; a sliding-track loading door is located at the loading dock of the shipping wing. Fenestration generally is regular and symmetrical, consisting of rectangular openings containing 6/6, double hung wood sash.

The interior of the Feed Mill consists of large open spaces on each floor to accommodate mill machines, conveyors and power transmission systems. The building retains its heavy timber framing elements, plank floors, open stairs between floors and freight elevator. The stone basement level contains the wheel pit hewn from solid bedrock. The steel overshot water wheel provided all mechanical power to the mill's operating systems. (The present water wheel was installed in 1916 as a replacement for the original, which had powered the mill since the 1880s.) A stone and concrete sluice delivered water to the penstock supplying the wheel. Through a series of reduction gears, power was transferred from a main driveshaft to horizontal shafts and pulleys; continuous leather and canvas belting conveyed the power to drive shafts that operated various machines on the upper mill floors. The Feed Mill retains its full complement of water powered grinders, fanning machines and continuous bucket conveyors as well as gravity bagging chutes, the original mill scale and the freight elevator serving all four floors. Many of the extant machines bear decorative stenciling and names of their manufacturers.

**Impoundment**

The historic dam and millpond adjacent to the feed mill remain intact. The dam is constructed of cut stone on timber cribbing with concrete reinforcement added early in the twentieth century. A sluice delivered water from the dam to a penstock supplying the overshot wheel in the basement of the mill. The mill pond is located on the south side of High Street separated from the mill by a steel pony truss carrying the street over the impoundment.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

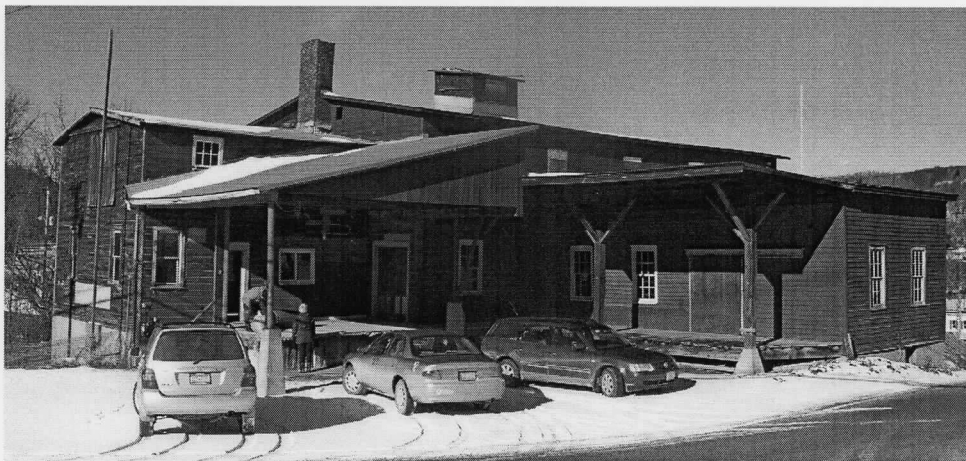
**Bunn-Tillapaugh Feed Mill  
Richmondville, Schoharie Co. NY**

**Section 7 Page 2**

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**West (L.) and South elevations from Bear Gulch, view North**



**East elevation, view Northwest**

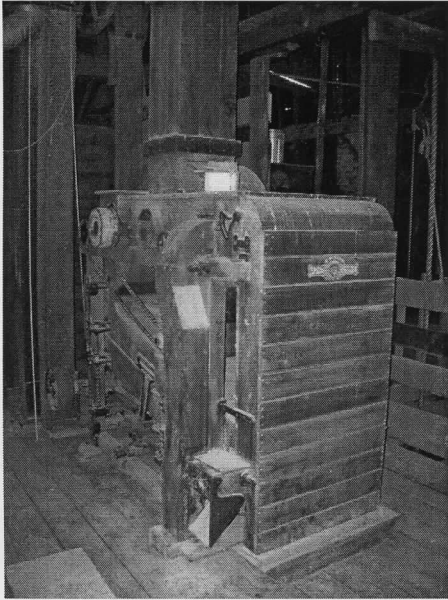
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

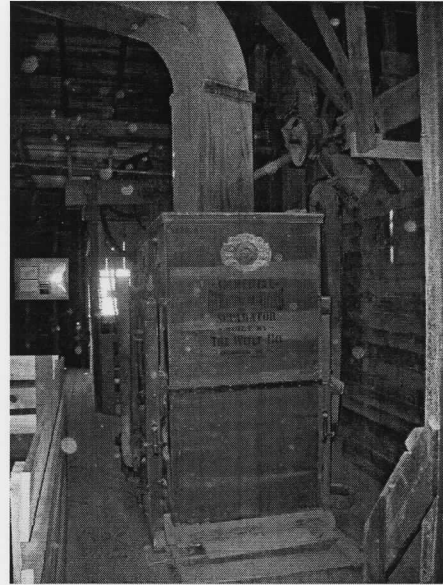
Bunn-Tillapaugh Feed Mill  
Richmondville, Schoharie Co. NY

Section 7 Page 3

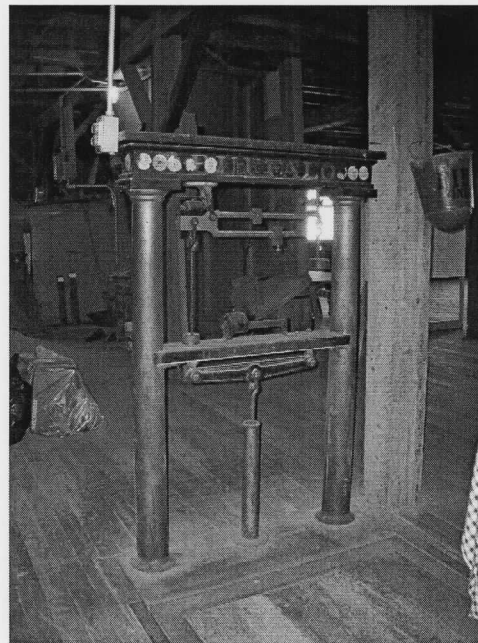
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Fanning mill, Second Floor



Wolf Separating Machine, Second Floor



Buffalo Platform Scale, First Floor

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

- A** Property 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 boxes that apply.)

- 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

**Narrative Statement of Significance:** See continuation sheets

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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Roscoe, William E. *History of Schoharie County, New York*. Syracuse, NY, 1883.

**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 Building Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

**Areas of Significance:**

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY

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ARCHITECTURE

---

**Period of Significance:**

circa 1885-1950

---

**Significant Dates:**

1885, 1916

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**Significant Person:**

NA

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**Cultural Affiliation:**

NA

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**Architect/Builder:**

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**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  
  - Other State agency
  - Federal Agency
  - Local Government
  - University
  - Other repository: \_\_\_\_\_
-

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Bunn-Tillapaugh Feed Mill  
Richmondville, Schoharie Co. NY**

**Section 8 Page 1**

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**SIGNIFICANCE**

The Bunn-Tillapaugh Feed Mill is significant under Criteria A and B as a highly intact, representative example of late nineteenth century, water powered industry in the village of Richmondville. Sited to take advantage of the water power provided by the swiftly flowing Bear Gulch Creek, the heavy timber framed feed mill was erected in the mid-1880s. The four-story mill building retains its steel overshot water wheel (installed 1916), along with a full array of late nineteenth century machinery devoted to grinding and processing feed grains for the surrounding agricultural region. Operated until 1984, the Bunn-Tillapaugh Feed Mill is a highly intact example of the rural vernacular hydraulic engineering typical of grain milling technology as it evolved during the late nineteenth-early twentieth centuries.

The town of Richmondville was established in 1845. The hilly terrain and plunging Bear Gulch Creek made Richmondville a center of water-powered industry by the middle of the nineteenth century, boasting several mills, three churches and 370 inhabitants by the eve of the Civil War. Proximity to the Oneonta branch of the Delaware & Hudson Railway further stimulated the fortunes of Richmondville into the early twentieth century.

At one time, at least five water-powered mills lined Bear Gulch. A wood turning factory that produced grain cradles was the first structure to occupy the site of the nominated feed mill. After this factory was destroyed by fire (1883), the water power site on Bear Gulch was re-developed for a feed grinding mill. Erected circa 1885 by H. Dingman, the feed mill incorporated a heavy stone foundation above bedrock surmounted by a three-story superstructure of heavy timber framing. This massive masonry and framing was designed to resist torque and vibration generated throughout the mill by the power system of water wheel, shafts and pulleys. The Bunn and Tillapaugh Feed Mill is a highly intact, representative example of pre-industrial mill construction of the period in rural New York during the period of significance.

From the outset, the mill specialized in the processing of feed grains to supply the extensive farming region surrounding Richmondville. Grain shipments arriving at the mill were brought to the upper story by means of hoists, endless bucket conveyors or elevator. From there, grains were directed into gravity chutes for processing and blending on the lower floors of the mill. An elaborate system of drive shafts conveyed motive power to belt-driven pulleys operating the mill's individual machines. The nominated mill is significant for its intact complement of individual machines and mechanisms that collectively illustrate the mill's historical operation during the late nineteenth early twentieth centuries. The feed mill retains its historic impoundment, mill race and overshot water wheel (1916), as well as various fanning mills, grinders, separators, bolters, baggers, conveyors and the original platform scale, most of which remain in operable condition in their original location. Many of the machines bear stencil-painted names of various manufacturers prominent during the period of significance.

Processed feed was bagged, stored and shipped from the first floor. Throughout its history, the mill was an important gathering place for area farmers. In the cash-poor agrarian economy of the region, farmers maintained accounts at the feed mill. Business was transacted in a wing housing the mill office. A storage wing and a covered loading dock provided access to wagons and trucks of mill customers. In 1906, Dingman sold the feed mill to C. R. Bunn, who continued the operation until 1950. From that date until the mill ceased production in 1984, it was owned by Maynard Tillapaugh.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Bunn-Tillapaugh Feed Mill  
Richmondville, Schoharie Co. NY**

**Section 8 Page 2**

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The Bunn sand Tillapaugh Feed Mill is significant as the last extant example of Richmondville's once-numerous water powered mills. Retaining its picturesque and historic setting of millpond and dam on Bear Gulch, the nominated property continues to reflect the significance of local water powered industry in the historical development of Richmondville during the late nineteenth-early twentieth centuries. Acquired by the Richmondville Historical Society in 2002, the feed mill will be preserved as a museum reflecting the history of the mill and the village of Richmondville.

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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreage of Property** less than 1 acre

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Richmondville quad.

**UTM References: Zone 18**

	Easting	Northing
1:	535753	4719932

**Verbal Boundary Description:** The boundary of the nominated property coincides with the legal lot lines as delineated on the enclosed tax map

**Boundary Justification:** The boundary of the nominated parcel is drawn to encompass the historic impoundment and mill building.

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**11. Form Prepared By:**

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name/title Raymond W. Smith, Program Analyst

organization Division for Historic Preservation

date June, 2006

street & number Peebles Island, Box 189

telephone (518) 237-8643

city or town Waterford

state NY zip code 12188

**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.

**Property Owner** (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Photographs**

**Bunn-Tillapaugh Feed Mill**  
**Name of Property**  
**Richmondville, Schoharie Co., NY**  
**County and State**

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All Photographs:

Bunn-Tillapaugh Feed Mill  
Richmondville, Schoharie Co., NY  
R. Smith, 2006  
Negatives @ NYSHPO, Waterford, NY

1. West (L.) and south elevations from mill dam, view North;
2. Office (L.) and Shipping wings, view Northwest;
3. North elevation, view Southwest.

70 Richmond  
90.07-1-35

7

7

Douglas + Eleanor Peck  
425-6, 553-56

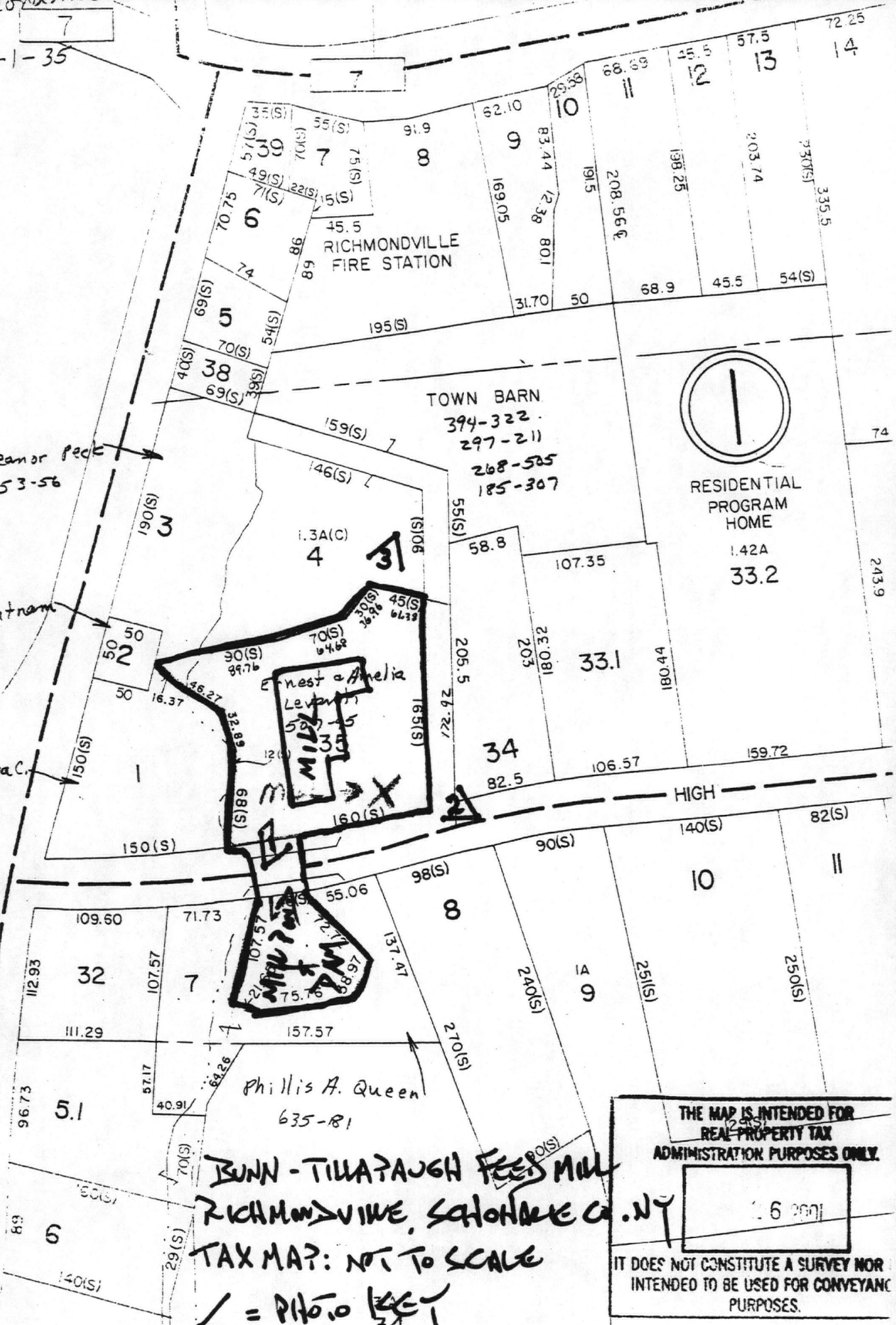
Harold A. Putnam  
378-648

Leonard + Thera C.  
Stevens  
408-240

22

BUNN-TILLAGAUGH FEES MILL  
RICHMONDVILLE, SCHENECTADY CO. NY  
TAX MAP: NOT TO SCALE  
◁ = PHOTO KEY

TREET



THE MAP IS INTENDED FOR  
REAL PROPERTY TAX  
ADMINISTRATION PURPOSES ONLY.

1.6 2001

IT DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A SURVEY NOR  
INTENDED TO BE USED FOR CONVEYANCE  
PURPOSES.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

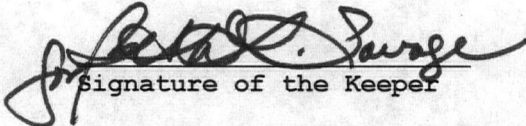
**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

NRIS Reference Number: 06000~~892~~ Date Listed: 09/29/06

Bunn-Tillapaugh Feed Mill                      Schoharie                      NY  
Property Name                                      County                                      State

N/A  
Multiple Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
Signature of the Keeper

9-29-06  
Date of Action

**Amended Items in Nomination:**

**6. Function or Use: Historic & Current Functions**

To clarify the historic and current functions of the district, the following applicable subfunctions have been added:

Historic function--Industry: processing  
Current function--Recreation & culture: museum

This information has been conveyed to the NYSHPO by telephone.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Bunn--Tillapaugh Feed Mill  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Schoharie

DATE RECEIVED: 8/17/06 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/05/06  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/20/06 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/30/06  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 06000894

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

     ACCEPT      RETURN      REJECT                      DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Bare surviving example of one  
prolific water-powered mill that retains  
a high degree of integrity of historic  
materials, design and setting as well as with  
millpond, dam and a full array of late 19<sup>th</sup>-century  
machinery.*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept AXE

REVIEWER Sarge

DISCIPLINE Architectural History

TELEPHONE                     

DATE 9-29-06

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR (Y)/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



BUNN-TILVAPADGH FEED MILL  
RICHTMAN & SONS, SCHODAKE CO. NY

PHOTO (



BUNN. TILCAPADGA FEED M.W.

RICHMOND, N.Y., SCHOLAR CO. NY

PHOTO 2



FLOUR

FEED

SEED

SALT

GRAIN

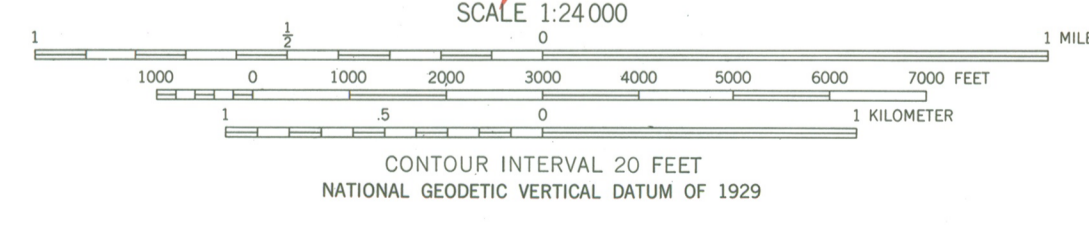
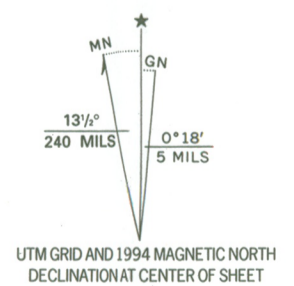
C.A. BUNN.

BUNN. TILLAPANGH FEED MILL  
SCHOHARLE, SCHOHARLE CO. NY

Photo 3



Mapped by the Army Map Service  
Revised by the U.S. Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and TVA  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1942-43. Field checked 1944  
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: New York coordinate  
system, east zone (transverse Mercator)  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue  
1927 North American Datum (NAD 27)  
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks  
The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute  
intersections are given in USGS Bulletin 1875



**ROAD CLASSIFICATION**

- Primary highway, hard surface
- Secondary highway, hard surface
- Unimproved road
- Interstate Route
- U. S. Route
- State Route
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Unimproved road



**RICHMONDVILLE, N.Y.**  
42074-F5-TF-024

1944  
REVISED 1994  
DMA 6069 II NE-SERIES V821

COMPLIES WITH U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY STANDARDS FOR SPATIAL ACCURACY - CLASS 2  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled by the  
U.S. Geological Survey from aerial photographs taken 1988  
and other sources. Field checked 1989. Map edited 1994  
Information shown in purple may not meet USGS content  
standards and may conflict with previous maps; mapped contours

EUN-TIMPAUGH FEED MILK  
RICHMONDVILLE, SCHOHARIE CO.  
NY  
RICHMONDVILLE QUAD.  
18/635763/4719932

# TOWN OF RICHMONDVILLE

RICHMONDVILLE, NY 12149

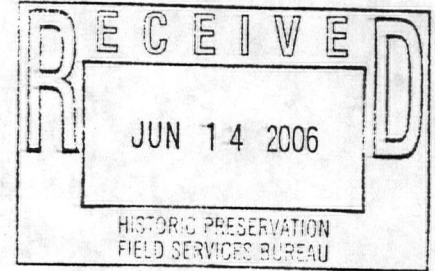
**BETSY BERNOCCO**

Town Supervisor  
PO BOX 555  
Richmondville, NY 12149  
518-294-7243

**MAGGIE SMITH**

Clerk/Collector  
P. O. Box 39, 340 Main  
Richmondville, NY 12149  
518-294-7150

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation  
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau Peebles Island  
Attention: Ruth L. Pierpont, Director  
PO Box 189  
Waterford, NY 12188-0189



June 12, 2006

Dear Ruth:

The Chairman of the Board of Supervisors from Schoharie County, passed this letter onto the Supervisor of the Town of Richmondville, who brought it to the town board's attention at the regular town board meeting on June 8, 2006.

The Bunn-Tillapaugh Feed Mill is within the village and town limits and the site of our Historical Society's Museum. It is still a working water grist mill and the town board feels it is important to support the Historical Society's endeavors to have this site qualified on the National and State Register of Historic Places.

For the last several years the Historical Society has been diligently raising funds, putting in kind services to the clean up and restoration of the Bunn-Tillapaugh Feed Mill. An extremely important reason to have the site approved as a Historic Place is to allow the Historical Society the ability to qualify for necessary grant monies to bring their vision to fruition by having a noteworthy museum for not only our resident but to add to the local tourism already established.

In advance, thank you for your time and consideration of this request. If you should have any question please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maggie Smith".

Maggie Smith, Town Clerk



STATEMENT OF OWNER SUPPORT

Before an individual nomination proposal will be reviewed or nominated, the owner(s) of record must sign and date the following statement:

I, Richmondville Historical Society, am the owner of the property at  
(print or type owner name)

P.O. Box 316, Richmondville, NY 12149 (SUNN-TILWAUGH FEED MILL)  
(street number and name, city, village or town, state of nominated property)

I support its consideration and inclusion in the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Harold J. Loder  
(signature and date)

608 Beards Hollow Rd.  
Richmondville, N.Y.  
12149  
(mailing address)