Old Dutch Mill (preferred name)
Schonhoff Mill

Wamego City Park
Wamego
Kansas 66547

City of Wamego
Post Office Box 86
Wamego
Kansas 66547

Register of Deeds
Pottawatomie County Courthouse
Westmoreland
Kansas 66549

Federal Writers' Project of the Work Projects Administration
1939
Records destroyed. A guide book, Kansas, was published in 1939.
7. DESCRIPTION

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CONDITION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Excellent</td>
<td>☑ Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Fair</td>
<td>□ Deteriorated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Ruins</td>
<td>□ Unexposed</td>
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(Altered) □ Unaltered (Moved) □ Original Site

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Old Dutch Mill, which has been relocated in the city park at Wamego, is a circular structure measuring approximately 20 feet in diameter at the base and reaching a height of 40 feet. The walls are constructed of native limestone laid in a random ashlar pattern and taper in toward the top. The stones are irregularly coursed and are rough hewn giving a rustic, massive appearance to the mill. The roof is a truncated conical form with a penthouse-like structure on top. The top structure has a gable roof, and both roofs have wood shingles. A simple curved wooden facia denotes the line of the roof above the wall.

A four bladed windmill is attached to the roof on the west side. Window and door openings are simple rectangles with stone sills and lintels.

The mill is a fine example of Vernacular architecture as applied to an unusual function and is the only known stone windmill remaining in the state of this particular design.
The Old Dutch Mill, now relocated in Wamego, was built in 1879 by a Dutch immigrant, John B. Schonhoff, on his farm twelve miles north of Wamego. It is said to be patterned after the hundreds of mills located along the Zuider Zee where Schonhoff learned milling techniques. All of the original machinery except the main shaft was constructed by Schonhoff at the site with a crude home-made forge. The main shaft was hauled from Leavenworth by wagon. Jim Chadwick, a Wamego stone mason, erected the 40-foot stone tower from soft, red sandstone quarried on the property. White limestone was used for trim and for the sculptured bust of Ceres, the goddess of grain, which was placed above the window of the mill.

The windmill did custom grinding of feed and flour for a short time, but the business was not successful enough to endure, and sometime in the late 1880's or early 1890's the Schonhoffs ceased operating the mill. In 1898 Ed N. Regnier purchased the farm, which became known as "The Stone Tower Farm." The mill sat idle until 1925 when members of the Wamego city park board suggested the Regniers donate the structure to the city. This was done and the mill was carefully moved, stone by stone, to a 25-foot mound built for the structure in the city park. The area people declared the moving day a holiday and closed shops to help transport the mill. A former Wamego citizen later donated $1,000 for the restoration of the wooden top and vanes.

Only a very few mills of this type were constructed in Kansas, and the Old Dutch Mill at Wamego is one of only two remaining in the state, both of which have been relocated in city parks. (The other one, however, is of frame construction.) In addition to being an unusual structure architecturally for Kansas, the Old Dutch Mill represents an effort of Kansas immigrants to incorporate their former life styles into a new mode of living. Because of the concern of local citizens, the mill will continue to show future generations the way of the past.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

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LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

<table>
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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Charles L. Hall, Architectural Consultant
Richard Pankratz, Planner

ORGANIZATION: Kansas State Historical Society

DATE: May 15, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth street
CITY OR TOWN: Topeka
STATE: Kansas 66612

12. STATE LIABILITY OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National [x] State [ ] Local [ ]

Date June 19, 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register