

1899



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Belton Yarn Mill  
other names/site number #37 Griggs International, Inc.

2. Location

street & number 805 East Fourth Street [NA] not for publication  
city/town Belton [NA] vicinity  
state Texas code TX County Bell code 027 zip code 76513

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Contributing	
Property			
Noncontributing			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>    </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Community Development in Belton, Texas, 1850-1945 Number of contributing resources previously listed in NR 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [XX] 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 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [XX] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register Criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official: Laurie Purnell Date: 29 Oct. 1990  
Texas Historical Commission  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this 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): \_\_\_\_\_

*Entered in the National Register*  
Alonzo Byrum 12/26/90  
Signature of Keeper Date of Action



6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

PROCESSING: manufacturing facility

Current Functions

PROCESSING: manufacturing facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

NO STYLE

Materials

foundation STONE: limestone

walls STONE: limestone

roof ASPHALT

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

[ ] See continuation sheet.

The Belton Yarn Mill is a 2-story, rectangular-plan limestone industrial building with a low-pitched side-gabled roof. On the north side is a small 1-story extension. The structure rests on a large, flat lot in an industrial area of Northeast Belton.

The Belton Yarn Mill is constructed of large rough-cut limestone blocks laid in an irregular ashlar coursing. All of the facades have a regular series of large windows with multiple-pane metal sash. The window openings have limestone lintels and sills. On each facade there are a few segmental-arched portals with wooden doors for moving materials in and out. The mill has a shallow sloped gabled roof with open rafter tails. The building is unadorned but is distinguished by its heavy limestone construction.



8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: [ ] nationally [ ] statewide [XX] locally

Applicable National Register Criteria [XX]A [ ]B [XX]C [ ]D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) [ ]A [ ]B [ ]C [ ]D [ ]E [ ]F [ ]G NA

Areas of Significance: Industry, Architecture; Period of Significance: 1900 - 1940; Significant Dates: 1900

Cultural Affiliation: NA

Significant Person(s): NA; Architect/Builder: unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. [ ] See continuation sheet.

The Belton Yarn Mill is a product of the cotton industry which developed in Belton during the late 19th century. Contextually it relates to Community and Regional Development, specifically to Belton's dependence on the cotton industry from the 1880s to the 1920s. The building is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A, significant in the area of Industry, for its association with cotton processing in Belton. It is also eligible under Criterion C, significant in the area of Architecture, as an intact turn-of-the-century industrial building of distinctive limestone construction.

The Belton Yarn Mill was built in 1900 by a coalition of Belton businessmen at a cost of \$65,000 to establish a manufacturing industry to complement the cotton trade and processing already going on in Belton. By the late 19th century Bell County was an important cotton-producing area and the Belton Yarn Mill became one of several cotton processing facilities operating in and around Belton at the turn of the century. The name of the builder of the project is unknown, but was most likely a local contractor. The mill began operating in 1901 and originally had 3,200 spindles and 100 looms. Soon thereafter, it was converted strictly to a yarn mill and the number of spindles was increased to 7000. After the financial panic of 1907 the mill closed and stood empty for nine years when it was reopened by a group from North Carolina led by a Colonel Johnson. The mill apparently continued to operate through the 1920s, but closed in the late 1920s or early 1930s when the cotton industry in the county collapsed. (See context statement for more information about the cotton industry)

The Belton Yarn Mill is one of the few surviving examples of the numerous cotton processing businesses which once formed a central part of Belton's economy. Such early industrial buildings are comparatively rare in Texas, particularly in Central Texas where the economy at the turn of the century was predominantly agricultural. Although the original spinning machinery has been removed, the building is largely intact and represents an excellent example of a late 19th century factory complex. Architecturally, the structure is notable for its heavy ashlar limestone construction, more typical of mid-19th century industrial construction.



9. Major Bibliographical References

[ ] See continuation sheet.

Please see bibliography accompanying context statement "Community Development in Belton, Texas, 1850-1945."

Previous documentation on file (NPS): NA  
 [ ] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested  
 [ ] previously listed in 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:  
 [XX] State historic preservation office  
 [ ] Other State agency  
 [ ] Federal agency  
 [ ] Local government  
 [ ] University  
 [ ] Other  
 Specify repository:  
Texas Historical Commission

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than 1 acre

UTM References

A [14] [647500] [3436840]  
 Zone Easting Northing  
 C [ ] [ ] [ ]

B [ ] [ ] [ ]  
 Zone Easting Northing  
 D [ ] [ ] [ ]

Verbal Boundary Description

[ ] See continuation sheet

Block 6, Edney Addition.

Boundary Justification

[ ] See continuation sheet

The legal description consistent with current ownership and most closely associated with historic ownership of the property.

11. Form Prepared By

(based on research by Sally Victor, Victor & Victor Consultants)  
 Name/Title Chris Long, Historian (with Tory Laughlin Taylor, Architectural Historian)  
 Organization Texas Historical Commission, NR Programs date August 1990  
 Street & Number P.O. Box 12276 Capitol Station telephone 512-463-6094  
 City or Town Austin state TX zip 78711

11/14/90

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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

Belton MPS Bell County, TEXAS

DATE LISTED

COVER

Substantive Review

12/26/90

1. Austin, F. K. and Mary, House

12/26/90

2. Baggett, Ele, House

12/26/90

3. Baggett, Silas and Ellen, House

12/26/90

4. Baylor Female College Historic District

12/26/90

Substantive Review

5. Beamer, William, House

12/26/90

6. Belton Academy

12/26/90

7. Belton Commercial Historic District

12/26/90

8. Belton Farmers' Gin Coop

12/26/90

9. Belton Standpipe

12/26/90

10. Belton Yarn Mill

12/26/90

11. Birdwell, T. Hamp and Beulah, House

12/26/90

12. Burford, R. F. and Lena, House

12/26/90

13. Cornelison House

12/26/90

14. Elliott, Joel, House

12/26/90

~~15. Farr, Dr. R.S., House~~

Removed  
8.30.94

12/26/90

16. Ferguson, James A., House

12/26/90

17. Ferguson, James E. and Mirian, House

12/26/90

18. First Christian Church Parsonage

12/26/90

19. Frazier, Dr. Jacob Moore, House

12/26/90

20. Gray Rental Houses

Substantive Review

12/26/90

21. Hammersmith, John P., House

12/26/90

12/26/90



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Belton Yarn Mill

MULTIPLE NAME: Belton MPS

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Bell

DATE RECEIVED: 11/14/90      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/30/90  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/16/90      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/29/90  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90001899

NOMINATOR: STATE

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: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    12/26/90 DATE

Entered in the  
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_  
REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_  
DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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

---

CLASSIFICATION

\_\_\_count      \_\_\_resource type

---

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

---

FUNCTION

\_\_\_historic      \_\_\_current

---

DESCRIPTION

\_\_\_architectural classification  
\_\_\_materials  
\_\_\_descriptive text

---

SIGNIFICANCE

Period      Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates      Builder/Architect  
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

\_\_\_summary paragraph  
\_\_\_completeness  
\_\_\_clarity  
\_\_\_applicable criteria  
\_\_\_justification of areas checked  
\_\_\_relating significance to the resource  
\_\_\_context  
\_\_\_relationship of integrity to significance  
\_\_\_justification of exception  
\_\_\_other

---

BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

\_\_\_acreage      \_\_\_verbal boundary description  
\_\_\_UTMs      \_\_\_boundary justification

---

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

\_\_\_sketch maps      \_\_\_USGS maps      \_\_\_photographs      \_\_\_presentation

---

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





RECEIVING  
DEPARTMENT

ATLAS

HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES of BELTON, TEXAS  
BELTON YARN MILL  
805 E. 4<sup>TH</sup>  
BELTON, BELL CO., TEXAS  
CAMERA FACING NORTHEAST  
NEGATIVE WITH CONSULTANT

Site No. 28  
Address 805 E 4th  
View se oblique  
Belton, Texas  
Historic Sites Survey, 1985  
VICTOR AND VICTOR CONSULTANTS, INC.  
P.O. Box 26189  
AUSTIN, TEXAS

PHOTO 37 OF 38



Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500627