

The Crown Mill is another of Socorro's landmark buildings, standing as a monument to days gone by.

John Henry Greenwald and family arrived in the United States from Odessa, Russia in 1849. A year later, John operated a flour mill in Ohio along with his son, **John Greenwald, Jr.** Diagnosed with tuberculosis, **John Jr.** and wife, **Racine**, moved west where he worked as a miller at a grain mill in Pueblo, CO in 1880 and by 1886 for the Huning flour mill in Los Lunas.



A wagon delivering grain at the newly built Crown Mill.

In 1892, John Jr. moved to Socorro to build his own mill. Unlike the water powered Zimmerly mill, Greenwald decided his mill stones would be powered by steam. He built his mill on south California Street next to the Santa Fe Railroad spur line to Magdalena to easily get his grains to markets by the railroad.



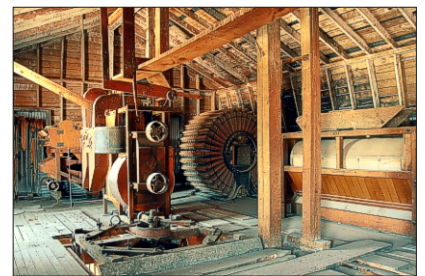
Early photo with the distinctive smoke stack – now gone.

The Crown Mill was completed in 1893. The steam powered mill quickly became a tactical advantage by allowing a much higher daily yield over the water powered mills. Operating around the clock, the Crown Mill was unable to keep up with demand. Greenwald decided to expand his mill. In 1898, the old single story mill was completely gutted and construction began on the



John Greenwald, Joe Greenwald, Carlos Salas, and Pedro Torres with the "Wolf" milling machines.

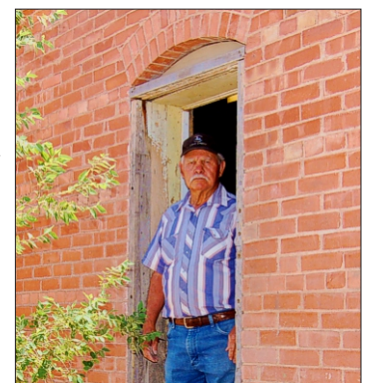
new 3-story mill – the mill that proudly stands on the south side of Socorro today. At great expense, Greenwald purchased the best motor-driven milling machinery available at the time. Raw grain was carried to the top floor where machinery removed the chaff and washed the meal. Grain fell to the 2nd floor by gravity where the new motorized grinders and bolters separated the grains into cereals, whole grains and flours, then to the bottom floor for drying, sacking and delivery. The gravity fed mill proved to be highly efficient, allowing 10,000 pounds of flour to be produced each day. In 1900, 160 rail-road carloads of fine flour were shipped to markets.



Some of the machinery that still resides in the old Crown Mill.

John retired in 1902. Two more generations of Greenwalds would operate the Crown Mill. In the 1920s, a lumber and coal business was added to the family enterprise. The business closed in 1965 upon the death of **John Osmond Greenwald**, bringing a 73 year era to an end.

The mill is now owned by local contractor Edward Savedra, who has invested plenty of funds and elbow grease to preserve the old mill for all to enjoy. He and his wife, Martha, want everyone to enjoy the old mill as they do.



Edward Savedra at the Golden Crown Mill.