

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Minnewawa Lodge

and/or common

2. Location

off MN 13

street & number Off State Aid Highway 13 not for publication

city, town Nisswa vicinity of congressional district 7th

state Minnesota code 22 county Crow Wing code 035

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: resort

4. Owner of Property

name John and Carol Ronlund

street & number Box 145

city, town Nisswa vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Crow Wing County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Brainerd state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Resources has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society -- 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Minnewawa Lodge is located on the pine tree-lined southeast shore of Clark Lake within the municipality of Nisswa, not far from the Burlington Northern Inc. (originally Minnesota and International Railway) line and State Trunk Highway 371. The nominated property includes the main lodge building, Pinewood Lodge (also called the "Annex"), and Basswoods or cottage #1 (originally the Benjamin Heald residence).

The main lodge is a building of irregular plan and wood frame construction, consisting of a basic two story rectangle, with a one story kitchen extension to the rear and a one story dining room extension filling in the "L" created by the first two units. Each wing has a simple gable roof and the entire structure is sheathed in white lap siding. Centered on the front (lakeshore) facade is a large but unornamented portico including eight smooth Norway Pine log columns with unadorned capitals. The deteriorated column bases have been removed and replaced with unsympathetic concrete pilings and the portico structure is somewhat deteriorated. Fenestration consists of 1/1 and 6/6 double-hung sash. The interior has been altered.

Pinewood Lodge (the Annex) is a simple, large rectangular wood frame structure with simple gable roof and white lap siding. A one story screened porch extends across the front (lakeshore) facade. In the 1920s, sympathetic extensions with white lap siding and low sloping shed roofs were added to both ends to house bathrooms and new indoor plumbing. Fenestration consists of 2/2 double-hung sash.

Basswoods cottage consists of a simple one story wood frame rectangle with small additions including a room, enclosed porch, and screened porch, all with simple gable roofs and white lap siding. Fenestration consists of six-light, vertical-slide pocket windows, arranged singly and in twos and threes.

Other buildings within the overall property boundaries of Minnewawa Lodge are excluded from nomination because they do not meet the criteria for age and integrity.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) recreation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1890s, 1920s

Builder/Architect

Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Minnewawa Lodge properties included within the nomination boundary are significant as being among the earliest extant resort lodge structures in the Cass-Crow Wing county resort area. The lodge property was first purchased and settled about 1894 by Freeman Thorp, an Ohio portrait painter. The present Minnewawa buildings were constructed by Benjamin Heald Sr., brother of Thorp's son-in-law. Heald was a actor from New York City and reportedly used the complex as a resort lodge as well as an actors' retreat. Basswoods cottage was constructed as Heald's residence around the turn-of-the-century. Pinewood Lodge (the "Annex") was constructed in 1915, with 1920s end extensions. The main lodge was constructed circa 1920 with the portico added in the 1940s. It has numerous additions of varying age. The design and construction of the Minnewawa Lodge buildings predate the rustic log architecture which became popular for the resort region during the 1920s. In contrast, the Minnewawa style more closely resembles modest wood frame domestic construction of the 1890-1918 period. Predating World War I, Minnewawa Lodge is a rare survivor of the earliest period of resort and recreational lodge construction and operation in north central Minnesota.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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RECEIVED MAY 13 1980

AUG 11 1980

DATE ENTERED

Minnewawa Lodge

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Bibliography:

Heald, Sarah Thorp. "History and development of the summer resorts of the region."
Unpublished typescript in Division of Archives & Manuscripts, Minnesota Historical
Society. No date.

"Homes for Settlers in Northern Minnesota." The Northwest Magazine, February, 1895,
Pages 34-35.

Brainerd Minnesota 1871-1971. "Reproduced from the Centennial Edition of the
Brainerd Daily Dispatch." Brainerd(?): Bang Printing, 1971(?). Page 133.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 13 1980
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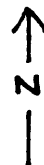
Minnewawa Lodge -- Verbal Boundary Description

CONTINUATION SHEET

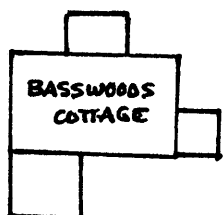
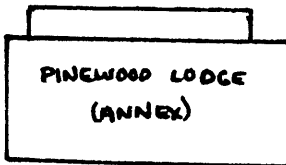
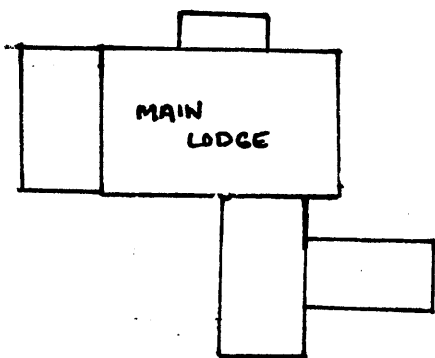
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Commencing at a point on Clark Lake, within the Minnewawa Lodge complex, in line with the east wall of Cottage #4 and continuing eastwardly along the lake shore approximately 120 yards to the Minnewawa Lodge property line; thence continuing southwardly in a direction perpendicular to the lake shore 100 yards to the approximate north edge of the dirt entrance road; thence continuing westwardly along approximate edge of said road 120 yards to a point in line with the east wall of Cottage #4; thence continuing northwardly 100 yards to the point of beginning.

CLARK LAKE



AUG 11 1980



REMAINDER OF RESORT
PROPERTY (NOT NOMINATED)
←

MINNEWAWA LODGE
CLARK LAKE
NISSWA, MINNESOTA

SKETCH MAP OF NOMINATED PROPERTIES
(NOT TO SCALE; BUILDING OUTLINES
ARE APPROXIMATE)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

**Note: These changes apply to
Minnewawa Lodge in Crow Wing
County, Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 80002035

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Crow Wing

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):

CITY:

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS: Co.Hwy. 13

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

**Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer**

JUN 17 1988

Date