Ingersoll Estate	St. Louis C	ounty, Minnesota
NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 01/2009) OMB No. 1024-0018	DEGENIER	
United States Department of the Interior	RECEIVED 2	2280
National Park Service		36
National Projector of Historic Places	MAY - 6 2	011
National Register of Historic Places	NAT DECISTED OF UISTO	DID DI LORD
Registration Form	NAT. REGISTER OF HISTO NATIONAL PARK SE	RIG PLACES BVICE
This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of sign instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on	not apply to the proper nificance, enter only ca	ty being documented, enter "N/ tegories and subcategories from
1. Name of Property		
Historic name Ingersoll, William Estate		
Other names/site number William Ingersoll Cabin, Wilson Cabin		
2. Location		
street & number Ingersoll's Island		not for publication
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city or town Crane Lake, Unorganized Territory, Voyageurs Nationa	I Park	Vicinity
State Minnesota code MN county St. Louis	code 137	zip code 56725
3. State/Federal Agency Certification		
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act,	Contract In	
I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National F be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:	meets the procedur	al and professional
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Name of Property

St. Louis, Minnesota

County and State

5. Classification					
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Reso (Do not include previo	ously listed resource	es in the count.)	
	A STATE OF A	Contributing	Noncontribut	ing	
private	building(s)	5	1	buildings	
public - Local	X district	1	0	sites	
public - State	site	0	2	structures	
X public - Federal	structure			Objects	
private	building(s)				
	object	6	3	Total	
Name of related multiple pro Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a	pperty listing a multiple property listing)	Number of control listed in the National Street National Street In the National Street			
Tourism and Recreational P Voyageurs National Park (V		N/A			
6. Function or Use					
Historic Functions		Current Functio	The second se		
(Enter categories from instructions)	Enter categories from instructions)		(Enter categories from instructions)		
Domestic		Landscape			
Camp		Park, garden, natural feature			
			se		
7. Description					
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories fror	n instructions)		
		Gr	anite		
Late 19 th and Early 20 th Cent	tury American		ncrete		
Movements		walls: Weather	board		
ther: Prefabricated Housing		Log			
		Weather roof: Asphalt	board		
		other:			

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The Ingersoll Estate is located within Voyageurs National Park in St. Louis County Minnesota. The 7.58 acre property qualifies as a *Seasonal Estate* according to the registration requirements set forth in the Multiple Property Nomination form for *Tourism and Recreational Properties in Voyageurs National Park*. The property includes the main cabin and boathouse, as well as a guest cabin (the Chiperfield Cabin), workshop/sauna/icehouse, generator shed, remnants of a garden, garden elements, stone steps, stone paths, rock outcrops, other circulation routes, remnants of lights, and views. Non-historic resources include a privy, building ruin, and dock constructed by the National Park Service.

Narrative Description See Continuation Sheets.

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The Ingersoll Estate is located on Ingersoll's Island, a 7.58 acre island made up of a large rock outcrop situated in Sand Point Lake, Minnesota. It is located approximately six miles north-northeast of the community of Crane Lake, Minnesota, and less than one-eighth of a mile west of the Canadian border just northwest of Harrison Narrows.¹ The main access to the island is via boat. The island terrain slopes steeply along the north, east, and west sides of the island and includes wooded areas and large rock outcrops. The main cabin is located in the north-central portion of the island, perched approximately forty-five feet above the lake atop a large rock outcrop near a steep rocky ridge commanding a dramatic view of the lake and landscape to the east and northeast. Another cliff overlook is located on the north end of the island. The Chiperfield cabin, privy, boathouse, workshop/sauna/icehouse, and other service-related outbuildings (with the exception of the generator shed) are located in the southern portion of the island where the ground gradually tapers to the elevation of the water. The main access route to the island, the waterway through Harrison Narrows, can be clearly viewed from the dock and boathouse.

Remnants of a garden are situated on a relatively level site near the eastern shore between the dock area and the main cabin. A stone path, stone edged beds, ornamental plants, and fruit trees are some of the extant features at the garden. Vegetation consists of native woodland species throughout the island and domestic plants near the buildings, in the garden, and in remnants of plant beds. The majority of the island is sheltered by the dense canopy created by woodland trees dominated by birch, red pine, and oak species. Domestic species present include apple trees, asparagus, daylilies, Asiatic lilies, iris, sedum, dianthus, daisies, columbine, peony, veronica, and lilac. The domestic plants are found in three main locations; near the main cabin, in the garden, and near the Chiperfield cabin and dock area. Flower beds near the main cabin are laid out in circular and curvilinear patterns defined by round rocks placed to create bed edges. Flowers identified within these beds include sedum, veronica, daylilies, dianthus, and columbine. The same types of beds are found near the northeast corner of the Chiperfield cabin and on the rock outcrops just north of the boat dock.

Remnants of circulation routes include stone paths, dirt paths, and stones marking the edges of circulation routes. Traces of a winding vehicular route that connected the boat dock to the main cabin are evident. This route is often referred to as the "jeep path." Ingersoll utilized a utility vehicle to carry luggage and visitors from the boat dock to the main cabin.² It is likely that the path was used for both foot and vehicular circulation. Other potential pedestrian routes may have included a steep path over rock outcrops from the northeastern corner of the garden to the main cabin. There are remnants of garden beds along this route. Another pedestrian route may have extended from the rock outcrop immediately south of the main cabin to the west toward the "jeep path." Circular flower beds are present along the rock outcrop in this area. Overall, the landscape of the island retains

¹ USGS Map, Voyageurs National Park, Minnesota, 1979.

² Betty Best, longtime seasonal resident of Crane-Sand Point Lake area, interviewed by telephone by John Hurley, 6/21/94.

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the character of a remote retreat highlighting natural features (in particular the terrain, rock outcrops, vegetation, and views) and accented by domestic additions (especially the flower beds, garden, and paths).

Buildings (5 contributing, 1 non-contributing)

Main Cabin (1 contributing)

The main cabin is a prefabricated one-story wood-framed structure manufactured by the E. F. Hodgson Company of Dover, Massachusetts and erected in 1928. The basic structure forms a rectangle 60'- 1.75" long (along an approximately north-south axis), by 21'-10.25" wide. It has a $8^{\circ}-2^{\circ}/4$ " deep screened porch on the south elevation which, at 18'-5 ½" is only slightly narrower than the main house wall. A 7' by 11'-10 1/4" open porch is located on the west wall.

The building is constructed on a mortared rustic ashlar stone foundation set into the slope of the exposed granite outcrop. The slope creates a cellar that tapers from about seven feet in depth at the north end to one to two feet on the south end. The cellar is reached through a door at the north end of the house. The cellar door is an oversized stile-and-rail door with two vertical wood strip recessed panels and strap hinges. It has an interior wood-framed screen door. The original exterior door has been replaced. Two wood three-light awning windows open into the cellar through the foundation on the north and west sides and there is a small rectangular vent opening under the west porch. The building structure rests on the outer foundation walls and on wood and cement piers in the cellar. The perimeter foundation walls are topped with 6x6 (nominal) mudsills and a wood skirt board.

The exterior walls consist of modular units in six foot wide sections, with the exception of the east elevation, which has two non-consecutive three foot sections to either side of the bathroom window. The exterior surface of the walls is covered with wood clapboards with wood battens covering the section joints and vertical wood trim at the corners. The walls are painted white with green skirt boards and mudsills. Ghosting marks the location of the planter boxes that hung under the first and second windows on the east elevation.

Like the walls, the hipped roof is constructed of modular units in six foot wide sections. The original construction of the roof was horizontal wood shiplap siding with wood vertical battens. The roof was later covered with asphalt shingles, and it was likely at this time that the battens were cut down flush to the roof plane. The roof was reconstructed in 1999 with ice and water shield underlayment and metal caps over new wider battens in an attempt to stop long-term leaking. The roof has a rectangular cupola centered along the ridge. This was not an original part of the construction and was likely added to provide extra ventilation. It has wood shiplap siding walls and asphalt roll roofing. The openings have netting or screens.

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There are two chimneys on the cabin. One is a shouldered stone chimney located on the south end of the west elevation. This chimney serves the fireplace in the living room. It is constructed of flat stone at the base and rounded stones above and has a clay liner. The second chimney is a brick straight stove chimney located within the cabin just to the north and east of the stone chimney. It is constructed of a rustic red striated brick with a protruding belt course three courses down from the top. It has a clay liner.

The main windows on the first floor are wood double-hung six-over-six units. The bathroom, kitchen, and living room closet have wood casement windows with three horizontal panes. The windows are trimmed on the exterior with simple squared wood casings and sills. Each window has or had green wood shutters with crescent cut-outs at the top. The shutters formerly had scrolled metal "shutter dogs." The park had shutter dogs reproduced in 2000 based on an original shutter dog which had been removed from the building to prevent it from being stolen. The reproduction shutter dogs will be installed when the building is rehabilitated.

There are two entries on the main floor. The main entry is centered on the south elevation. The entry on the west elevation provides access to the kitchen, Both entries have plain wood casings and trim painted white. The doors at both entries are missing. The historic doors were likely wood units with three vertical panels in the lower two-thirds and four-over-four glass panes in the upper third. This style was a standard door seen in the Hodgson catalog and is very similar to the front door of the Chiperfield cabin (which may have been salvaged from the main cabin).

The cabin has two porches. The south porch is the main porch and stretches nearly across the entire length of the south elevation, with an approximately eight foot depth. It sits on a mortared rustic ashlar stone foundation with stone piers providing support for the floor. The porch floor is tongue and groove wood boards. A white painted fascia is carried on Doric-style white painted wood columns on the south elevation. Channels on the floor and house walls anchor the green painted wood porch screen frames and exterior screen door. The low-sloped standing seam tin shed roof has been shored with 4x 4(nominal) vertical wood supports. There are decorative rafter tail ends on all three elevations; these are true ends on the south elevation and applied false ends on the east and west elevations. The stone steps are deteriorated.

The west porch, roughly seven feet by twelve feet, is elevated and leads to the kitchen. It sits on round green painted wood columns set on rock foundations. The wood tongue and groove floor rests on a green painted wood sill beam. The porch walls are wood clapboard, painted white, with wood corner boards and trim and a green painted skirt board. The interior walls have plywood sheathing between the exposed studs painted alternately in white, blue, and red. Large window openings span the exterior walls of the porch and a door opening is offset from the center of the west wall. Although there are holes in the door frame that likely held a door of some sort, it was not clear if the openings of the porch were ever screened. The original drawings from

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the Hodgson Company indicated that this was to be a "screened porch" but there are no historic photographs or remaining hardware to show if this actually happened. The roof is similar to the south porch roof: a standing seam tin shed roof with a low slope and exposed rafter tail ends. Outside the exterior door of the porch is a landing and set of six steps leading to the ground level. The frame and steps are wood and are painted green, as is the tongue-and-groove landing floor and the simple wood railing on the south and west sides of the landing.

The interior has one floor plus the cellar and an attic space. The cellar is largely unfinished. It has stone/dirt floors, stone walls, and an exposed ceiling. Round or square wood piers provide support for the floor above. Remnants of wood shelving and equipment are scattered throughout the cellar. The attic area is exposed due to the removal of all the ceiling panels. It is not known if this area was ever used for storage. There are no finished spaces in the attic.

The main floor is divided into eight rooms, including a living room, dining room, kitchen, bathroom, and four bedrooms, of which one is believed to have been at least partially devoted to Mr. Ingersoll's radio equipment.

The finishes throughout the main floor are relatively uniform. The floors are tongue and groove wood plank with transparent finishes. Where the modular floor units meet, there is a thin perpendicular wood strip. The walls are seven foot tall wood framed panelized units covered with fiberboard and trimmed with vertical wood strips and battens between the panels. The ceilings were also fiberboard panels, measuring 2'-6" by 5'-6" with wood frames/trim, but they have all been removed throughout the house with the exception of a few closets (some of the panels are stored within the house). Window, door, and wall trim is simple, consisting of plain square molding and a small quarter-round base molding. The window sash have simple brass hardware, and a variety of curtain rod and shade roller hardware remains or is indicated by ghosting on the paint. Most of the interior doors are missing.

The living room is roughly twenty-two feet by fifteen feet and spans the width of the house. It has a stone fireplace with a metal firebox and a brick hearth centered on the west wall. The wood mantel and surround of the fireplace are missing. The walls in this room are painted white. The front door is missing, as are what appeared to be French doors to the dining room. A small closet is located at the northwest corner of the room. This closet has unpainted walls and a casement window. At the east end of the closet is the interior portion of the stove chimney. This is constructed of buff brick and only reaches halfway down the height of the closet. This chimney vented stoves in the kitchen and dining room. There are wood storage shelves beneath the chimney and strips of hooks along the north wall.

The dining room is on the east side of the cabin and measures roughly twelve feet by thirteen feet. The walls of this room are painted blue and the ceiling was also probably painted blue as there is one ceiling panel batten still

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remaining that is painted blue. The window and door trim and base moldings are painted white. Across from the dining room to the west is the kitchen. It measures approximately nine feet by eighteen feet, extending farther north than the dining room. The kitchen is painted white and has two sets of casement windows and the door opening to the west porch. The porcelain sink remains along the west wall. Historic photos show this room with linoleum tiles, probably installed over the prefabricated wood floors. The original floor in this room was replaced by National Park Service staff, probably due to previous water damage.

From the dining room to the back bedrooms there is a central hall containing the doorways to the bedrooms and bathroom. The hall makes a short 90 degree turn to the east at the north end. The walls are painted white except for the north wall, and the east wall from the bathroom to the north wall. There are two closets at the north end of the hall, one to the west and one to the east. Both have unpainted walls and trim with transparent finishes.

The room to the north of the dining room on the east side is a nine by twelve foot room that could have been a bedroom or Mr. Ingersoll's radio room, or perhaps both. The walls are unpainted in this room, with transparent finishes on the trim. A sink remains on the north wall, although the pipes are missing, and a metal cabinet with an inset mirror on the door hangs above the sink. This room, unlike the other bedrooms, has multiple electrical outlets on the floor around the perimeter of the room, and there are a number of small holes in the floor, some with porcelain insulting liners remaining in them, possibly related to the radio equipment. There is a metal rheostat switch on the east wall next to the window labeled "Howard Radio Company" on the back. Consultation with ham radio hobbyists suggests that this was something Mr. Ingersoll cobbled together, possibly from salvaged radio equipment, but its function is not known. Given Mr. Ingersoll's demonstrated interest in ham radio and the evidence remaining in this room, it seems likely to conclude that it housed his radio equipment. It is not clear if it also served as Mr. Ingersoll's bedroom.

To the north of the radio room is a six foot by nine foot bathroom. Reportedly this room once contained the first flush toilet and claw-footed bathtub on Sand Point Lake. The walls are unpainted with transparent finish trim. This room retains a metal steam radiator on the south wall. Opposite this is a porcelain sink, but the medicine cabinet above is missing. Beside and to the east of the sink was formerly the toilet; all that remains are the plumbing holes and ghosting of the tank on the wall. The tub was formerly at the east end of the room, but all that remains are the water supply pipes and the drain hole.

The remaining three rooms are bedrooms: a nine foot by twelve foot room across the hall from the bathroom and two twelve foot by eleven foot rooms at the north end of the building. The northeast bedroom has unpainted walls while the other two rooms are painted white. All three rooms have small closets and originally had sinks and medicine cabinets, although they only remain in the northeast bedroom.

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The building has been unoccupied since 1977. It is in fair condition, although continued water infiltration has damaged some of the wall material and floors. The main cabin maintains a high level of historical integrity. This building and its fixtures date in their entirety to the period of significance, and the basic structural components are almost completely intact. The building stands in its original location, where the setting is little changed from the period of significance. It retains many small details of its construction, including small tags that indicate how the building was assembled.

Character-defining features of the Main Cabin include:

Exterior

- · Placement at Island summit and north/south orientation
- Random ashlar foundation set into slope of bedrock
- Panelized exterior wall system, including skirtboards, bolt connectors, wood clapboards, battens, and trim, and Hodgson green and white color scheme
- · Panelized roof system, including horizontal boards and battens
- Stone and brick chimneys
- · Wood double-hung and casement windows and shutters
- · South and west porches, including columns at south porch and decorative rafter tail ends

Interior

- Floor plan
- Tongue-and-groove panelized wood floors
- · Panelized interior wall system, including fiberboard panels, wood battens and trim, and connector bolts
- · Panelized interior ceiling system, including fiberboard panels and square ceiling blocks
- · Hodgson interior color scheme of unfinished fiberboard and dark stained wood battens and trim
- · Remnant Hodgson identifying tags
- Two-paneled wood doors
- Stone fireplace and Heatilator unit in living room
- Kitchen, bedroom and bathroom sinks
- · Remnant radio equipment and fixtures in radio room (dial and floor conduit)
- Radiator in bathroom
- · Remnant electrical switches and plumbing pipes

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Generator Shed (1 contributing)

The generator shed is located to the west of the main cabin. It is in good condition. The building is made of large, vertical logs, 5'-6" high, with shiplap siding on a wood frame rising from the tops of the logs to the peak of the roof, which is roughly nine feet from the ground. The shed rests on a foundation of four cement piers and has a wood-framed roof with asphalt roll roofing. The interior is unfinished It contains a large cement block where Ingersoll's large Witte diesel generator, variously remembered as 3,000 or 5,000 watts, once stood.³ The underground diesel tank is apparently intact. Although Ingersoll had a generator on the island from the time of the construction of the cabin, it is believed that this shed was built in 1952 when Ingersoll purchased the diesel generator.⁴

Chiperfield Cabin (1 contributing)

Like the Ingersoll cabin, the Chiperfield cabin is a prefabricated panelized structure. It is located on the south side of the island. It has a rectangular footprint measuring approximately forty-nine feet by twenty feet. The building is one story with a crawlspace, an attic, and a porch.

The cabin sits on a poured concrete foundation with wood sill beams. The foundation is set into the slope of the rock, so it is several feet above grade on the south side tapering almost to grade level on the north side. On the west and south elevation, the foundation is covered with plywood skirting. The east porch sits on concrete masonry unit (CMU) piers. The foundation appears to be a relatively recent reconstruction. There is a very deep hole beneath the south half of the east porch, possibly a summer cooler or root cellar.

The walls consist of panelized units in five foot wide sections. The exterior surface of the walls is covered with wood shiplap siding with wood battens covering the section joins and vertical wood trim at the corners. The walls are painted green with white window trim.

There is no evidence that the gabled roof was constructed in paneled units like the Ingersoll cabin, but this may not be the original roof. It is currently covered with green asphalt roll roofing.

There are two chimneys on the cabin. The first is a brick straight stove chimney centered along the roof ridge. It is constructed of plain red brick and has a clay liner. The second chimney is a new metal wood stove flue over the wood stove in the living room flashed with metal and asphalt.

³ Bill Congdon, whose parents sold Ingersoll the generator, remembered it as a 5,000 watt generator, while Robert Alcorn remembered it as a 3,000 watt.

⁴ Congdon interview.

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The north and south elevation windows are single 9-paned wood sash with exterior single-pane storms or screens. These are not original, but appear to have been retro-fitted from the original windows, perhaps using the sash from the originals but in a different configuration. The main floor of the west elevation has two side-by-side sliding wood windows with exterior wood fixed screens. The main floor of the east elevation has two pairs of double-hung wood windows with double-hung aluminum exterior storms. None of these windows are original; above each window a piece of scabbed-in shiplap siding is visible. At the attic level on the east and west elevations are paired six-paned wood sash which appear to tilt in hopper style. These have exterior wood framed screens. The attic windows may be original. There are also two small screened basement vent openings each on the south and west elevations. The window openings all have plain square wood trim.

There are two doors on the main floor and one at the crawlspace. The crawlspace door is a piece of plywood with a plain brass bolt and handle. It was added at the same time as the foundation was rebuilt. The main entry is centered on the east elevation. The door is wood with three vertical panels in the lower two-thirds and four-over-four glass panes in the upper third. It resembles stock doors from the Hodgson catalog and was likely salvaged from the main cabin. The back door opens into the northwest bedroom. It is a wood stile-and-rail door with five horizontal panels in a standard door design from the period, although it does resemble doors featured in the Hodgson catalogs so this may be another salvage from the Ingersoll cabin. There is an exterior wood-framed screen door. This door has a wood landing with two steps on the exterior. Both entries have plain wood casings and trim that are painted white on the exterior and are transparent on the interior.

The cabin has a screened porch extending across the east elevation. This is not the original porch; a historic photo shows a smaller porch and ghosting from the original porch still appears on the east wall of the cabin. The porch sits on concrete masonry unit piers and wood sills. A canvas covering hangs over the foundation on the east elevation. The porch floor is tongue and groove wood boards, painted grey. The west wall of the porch is the cabin wall. The north, east, and south walls are wood framed storm/screen structures with clapboard siding on the exterior and exposed studs on the interior. The storm/screens are aluminum one-over-one units. The porch door is located on the south side of the east elevation and is also aluminum. There is a narrow sidelight to the north of the door. The low sloped shed roof is covered with asphalt roll roofing. Stone steps with a pipe railing lead to the porch.

The interior of the Chiperfield cabin has six rooms including a living room, kitchen, bathroom, and three bedrooms. The interior has been considerably altered over the years and little of the original layout and finishes remain. It appears from the few places where the original finishes are exposed (i.e. closets) that the finishes were similar to the Ingersoll cabin – wood floors and fiberboard walls and ceilings. The attic space was not accessible.

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The living room is roughly fifteen feet by nineteen feet and spans the width of the building. It has carpeted floors over linoleum over the original tongue and groove. The walls consist of pine paneling with faux brick panels behind the woodstove. The ceiling is acoustic tile. In the northwest corner of the room is a raised brick hearth with a woodstove. In the southwest corner is a closet with a linoleum floor, pine paneling on the exterior wall and fiberboard on the interior walls, wood shelving and a metal hanger rod.

The kitchen measures approximately fifteen feet by nine feet. It has a linoleum floor and unfinished base moldings. The walls are pine paneling and the ceiling is acoustic tile. The opening to the living room has no door, but the openings to the south and northwest bedrooms have newer two panel wood doors. The door to the northwest bedroom has a blue and green plastic sidelight framed into the opening. Kitchen fixtures and equipment include pine base and wall cabinets, linoleum countertops, a double sink, exhaust hood, and a vintage Amana RadarRange. On the south wall the green-painted brick chimney has been exposed, and the stovepipe openings have decorative tin covers.

The west end of the house is divided into two bedrooms, each roughly nine feet by ten feet. They have linoleum floors over the original wood tongue-and-groove planks. The walls are pine paneling with transparent finish base and cove moldings and door and window trim. The ceiling is covered with acoustic tile. The door between the kitchen and northwest bedroom is a newer two-paneled wood door. The exterior door to the back steps is on the north wall of the northwest bedroom. There is no door in the opening between the bedrooms. The northwest bedroom has a built-in cabinet covered in pine paneling on the north wall. The southwest bedroom has wood shelving on metal hangers on the north wall.

To the south of the kitchen is another bedroom measuring approximately ten feet by ten feet. The floor is covered with carpet over linoleum. The walls are pine paneling with transparent finish base and cove moldings and door and window trim. The ceiling is acoustic tile. The doors to the kitchen and the bathroom are newer two-paneled wood doors. There is a closet in the southeast corner of the room. It has a linoleum floor, pine paneling on the exterior wall and fiberboard on the interior walls, and two metal hanging rods. There is a quarter-round shelf in the southwest corner and a wire strung north to south across the room, possibly a curtain hanger to provide separation from the bathroom.

The bathroom measures approximately five feet by seven feet and is a later modification. It has a carpeted floor over linoleum over the original tongue-and-groove floor. The walls are a mixture of linoleum and glass tiles and the ceiling is acoustic tile. There is no base molding, but the thin cove molding and door trim have transparent finishes. On the north wall is a plastic tub and shower insert with plastic doors. On the east side of the room are

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a wood/linoleum sink and vanity and a toilet. The water heater, covered in wallpaper, is located in the southwest corner.

Character-defining features of the Chiperfield Cabin include:

Exterior

- · Placement at south end of Island and east-west orientation
- Panelized exterior wall system, including shiplap siding, battens, trim, and bolt connectors
- Underlying panelized roof system (but not existing roof covering)
- Brick chimney
- · Wood attic windows and nine paned wood sash windows

Interior

- Remnant fiberboard walls and ceilings
- Hardwood floors

Boathouse (1 contributing)

The boathouse is located at the southeast corner of the island and is cantilevered over the water. It measures approximately eighteen feet by thirty-two feet with the lean-to measuring eight feet by twenty feet. It is roughly rectangular in shape but with differing roof heights consisting of a higher central section and two lower sections to the east and west. The building has a stone foundation (open on the east side) and wood board siding. The gabled roofs are covered with asphalt roll roofing and have exposed rafter tail ends. A rough lean-to supported by wood posts with a corrugated metal roof provided shelter for another boat on the north side. The boathouse is open on the east side to provide access for a boat. A board siding entry door is located on the west elevation. There are side-by-side four-light windows on the north and south elevations and a rough opening on the north elevation to provide entry to the boathouse from the lean-to. The interior is unfinished and is largely open to the water, with the exception of walkways around the north, south, and west perimeter. The boathouse dates to the period of significance, and appears to be largely intact.

Workshop/Sauna/Icehouse (1 contributing)

This structure encompasses four functions – a workshop/storage shed and icehouse with a sauna addition and a fish cleaning shed. It is located on the south side of the island between the boathouse and the Chiperfield cabin. The main portion is an ell-shaped structure with a cross gabled roof. The sauna is a shed-roofed addition within

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the ell at the southwest corner. The fish cleaning station is a shed-roofed porch attached to the east elevation. The overall dimensions of the building with the sauna addition is 26'-6 ½" by 20'-3". The fish cleaning station is 4'-1" by 8'-1 ¾". The building sits on a variety of wood and CMU piers. The main walls are shiplap wood siding and the roofs have asphalt roll roofing with exposed rafter tail ends. The fish cleaning addition has board siding with horizontal weatherboard roofing. A single door on the north elevation and the two doors on the south elevation are five paneled wood doors. A shiplap-siding door is located on the west elevations have 9-light wood windows. The fish cleaning station has screened openings in the south and east elevations. There is a brick chimney located on the west side of the structure. This building dates to the period of significance.

Privy (1 non-contributing)

A simple privy is located to the west of the Chiperfield and Kalous cabins. It does not appear to sit on any foundation. The walls are shiplap siding and the shed roof is covered in asphalt roll roofing. The vertical board door is located on the east elevation. The interior has a linoleum covered floor, unfinished walls and ceiling, and a toilet platform with two openings; one of which has a toilet seat and the other which has been boarded over. The construction date is unknown.

Cultural Landscape (1 contributing site)

The cultural landscape at the Ingersoll Estate includes character defining features that help to convey the historic atmosphere of the site. The careful placement of the buildings, garden, and other landscape features to emphasize views of the lake as well as the privacy afforded by the remote location contribute to the historic character of the property. Landscape character defining features include:

Garden

Remnants of a garden are situated on a relatively level site near the eastern shore between the service-related/ dock area and the main cabin. The garden is encompassed in a roughly oblong area measuring approximately forty feet across and approximately one hundred and fifteen feet long (north to south). The overall space is identifiable as a level opening in the woods, with short herbaceous species making up the ground cover. For the most part, woody plants are limited to the edges, although some small volunteer woody plants (mostly pine) are present in the open area. If not removed on a regular basis, these successional species will eventually overtake the opening and greatly change the character of the garden area. Flower species present include daylily, Asiatic

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lily, iris, dianthus, daisy, columbine, and peony. Two apple trees are located at the northwest corner of the garden near a large clump of lilac shrubs.

Stone Path at Garden

A stone path extends from the approximate middle of the garden to the south one-hundred and twentynine feet. The path is constructed of two adjacent rows of irregularly shaped flat stone that are laid on the ground creating a walkway. The path defines the lower portion of the western edge of the garden. Large portions of the path are covered with earth, leaves and pine needles.

Rectangular Stone Edged Garden Beds

Vertically laid flagstones define the edges of plant beds on the western and northern sides of the garden.

Martin House A wood Martin house is located at the top of a post at the very northern end of the garden.

Garden Fence Remnants

Remnants of a fence are apparent in the form of wood posts. Some of the posts have knobs and wire attached. These are mainly located at the northeastern corner of the garden. Images of the garden that were taken in 2002 clearly illustrate portions of a fence that were present at that time.

Furrows

Two parallel linear shallow trenches are located near the southwest corner of the garden. They are roughly twelve inches deep and their origin has not been determined.

Small Scale Features

Round Stone Edged Flower Beds

Flower beds defined by stone edges situated on rock outcrops are located in several areas of the island including: northwest of the boat dock (one five foot by eight foot oval), north of the Chiperfield cabin (one large oval), around the entrance of the main cabin (two five foot circular, one seven foot half-circle, one five by eight foot and one six by seven foot oval, and one large irregular shape) and along the rock outcrop located to the southwest of the front of the main cabin (two five foot circular beds). The stone edges are created by roughly round shaped rocks that are approximately eight to twelve inches in diameter. The rocks are laid side by side around the flower beds. Most of the beds are round or oblong in shape however one near the southeast corner of the main cabin wraps around a low point in a rock

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outcrop forming an uneven upside-down "G" shape. Although weeds have overtaken the flowers, domestic species are still present and include sedum, dianthus, daylillies, veronica and columbine.

Concrete Pedestal

A small cast concrete pedestal is located roughly twenty-five feet southeast of the front porch of the main cabin. The pedestal is twenty-eight inches high and seven and one-half inches by five inches wide at the base. It may have supported a bird bath, gazing globe, or other garden feature.

Light at path near dock

An eighteen-inch high, homemade light fixture is located on the south side of the stone path near the boat dock. The light is constructed of metal, wood, and glass. The construction date is not known, but it is not believed to be related to the activities during the period of significance.

Light between Workshop/Sauna/Icehouse and Chiperfield Cabin

An eighteen-inch high, homemade light fixture is located on the south side of the stone path between the Workshop/Sauna/Icehouse and the Chiperfield cabin. The light is on a metal conduit post. It is constructed of wood with a plastic cover. The light was installed after the period of significance.

Transformers near boathouse

Four metal transformers are located on the west side of the boathouse. They are roughly four-foot cubes with green metal siding that is rusting. Since Ingersoll used a generator during his tenure at the island, these transformers do not represent a use that occurred during the period of significance.

Sign

A brown and white metal interpretive sign titled "Life on the Lake" is located on the north side of the stone path that leads from the dock to the Chiperfield cabin. The sign was erected by the National Park Service after the property was acquired.

Metal poles

Two metal poles are embedded in the rock outcrop approximately forty-five feet east of the main cabin. One is eight inches high and the other is four feet high. Their purpose is unknown, however it is likely that they were placed during Ingersoll's tenure at the island.

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Pole for Birdhouse

The remnant of a pole that was used to support a birdhouse is located on the rock outcrop approximately forty-five feet from the southeast corner of the main cabin. Two base posts stand four feet high and support the bottom half of the wood pole. The remainder of the pole is lying on the ground. The post was standing with a birdhouse attached as late as 2000. The birdhouse is in the park's museum collection.

Circulation Routes

Stone Path from dock to Chiperfield Cabin

A stone path leads from the dock to the Chiperfield cabin with a short branch that goes to the north door of the Workshop/Sauna/Icehouse. It is constructed of one row of irregularly shaped flat stones that are laid on the ground creating a walkway.

Dirt path between the Chiperfield Cabin and the Garden

A worn path provides a clearly identifiable circulation route between the Chiperfield cabin and the Garden. The path starts about twenty-eight feet due east of the Chiperfield cabin and extends rougly due north fifty-seven feet then bends approximately fifteen degrees northeast and extends another eighty-four feet before meeting the stone path to the garden. The path is roughly eight feet wide.

"Jeep Path" from the Garden to the Generator Shed

Traces of a vehicular route that wound from the boat dock to the main cabin are evident. This route is often referred to as the "jeep path." Ingersoll utilized a utility vehicle to carry luggage and visitors from the boat dock to the main cabin. It is likely that the path was used for both foot and vehicular circulation. The path width varies, but it is roughly eight feet wide in most places. An approximation of the route is indicated on the site plan, however it is difficult to discern the exact location in several places, especially where the course traverses over rock outcrops. Large round rocks edge the path in some locations. It is unclear if these were placed to help define the path or if they were removed from the path to make it more smooth.

Topography and Rock Outcrops and Views

The island was chosen for its remote location, dramatic topography, rock outcrops and views. While some views may have changed due to vegetation growing on the island, these features are all intact. The placement of the main cabin atop the highest rock outcrop ensured dramatic views of the lake as well as the island landscape. The land areas within view of the island remain undeveloped and breathtaking as they were during Ingersoll's tenure at the island.

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Structures (2 non-contributing)

Kalous Caretaker Cabin, Ruin (I non-contributing)

The Kalous cabin was made of large, square-notched, horizontally-laid logs. The walls and roof have largely collapsed, with only a portion of the west wall still standing. An attached shed of similar construction has also collapsed. The main cabin measured 26' by 22'-7". A large quantity of debris inside the cabin includes some of the Kalouses' property; a piece of a trunk bears Glenn Kalous' name and address. This cabin was built directly south of a large rock outcropping that would have provided a great deal of shelter for the occupants. Wires which once provided electricity from Ingersoll's generator can be seen in the trees near the ruins of the Kalous cabin. The Kalous cabin is in ruins and was significantly modified before it collapsed.

Dock (1 non-contributing)

A dock is located on the southeastern shore of the island, just north of the boathouse. The dock was constructed by the National Park Service after the end of the period of significance. Name of Property

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property

for National Register listing)

A	1.1
1.57	х

 Property is 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.

xC

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.

Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Criterion A: Entertainment/Recreation

St. Louis, Minnesota

County and State

Criterion C: Architecture

Period of Significance

1928-1962

Significant Dates

Ingersoll Cabin constructed 1928

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

D

	A	owed by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
-		hadhonood

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

E. F. Hodgson Company

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with the 1928 construction of the Ingersoll cabin, the first documented feature of W. P. Ingersoll's occupation. It ends in 1962 when Mr. Ingersoll sold the island.Mr. Ingersoll continued to make additions and alterations that were significant to the to the property until he sold it.

Criteria Consideratons (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria)

Ingersoll Estate Name of Property

The William Ingersoll Estate qualifies as a Seasonal Estate under the registration requirements of the "Tourism and Recreational Properties in Voyageurs National Park, 1880-1950" Multiple Property Documentation Form. It meets the registration requirements under Criterion A (Area of Significance: Recreation/Entertainment), as a well-preserved example of a seasonal recreational estate typical of the 1920s era in the Voyageurs area. The Ingersoll main cabin meets the registration requirements for Criterion C (Area of Significance: Architecture) as an example with high integrity of an E. F. Hodgson Company prefabricated home. It is significant at the local level.

The Ingersoll estate meets the following registration requirements: It retains the main summer home in its original location; it was constructed between 1880 and 1950 and conforms to the historic characteristics of the property; and associated outbuildings and landscape features are present from the period of significance and relate to the historic use of the property. The Ingersoll estate retains integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, location, and setting.

Narrative Statement of Significance (provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance)

See Continuation Sheets.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

See Continuation Sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

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 Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency X Federal agency Local government University Other Name of repository: Voyageurs National Park

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 7.58 acres

(do not include previously listed resource acreage)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	Center of Island	539026E	5355845N	2			
	Zone 15	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
							_

Verbal Boundary Description

Ingersoll Estate

Name of Property

The propoerty is includes the entire area of Ingersoll's Island, located in Harrison Narrows on Sand Point Lake in Voyageurs National Park. Government Lot 1, Section 24, Township 68 North, Range 17 West, 4th Principal Meridian.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire property (i.e. the island) owned and utilized by William P. Ingersoll during the period of significance, identified as tract 03-135.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Brenda W. Williams, Historical Landscape Architect and Ruth E. Mills, Architectural Historian (A draft was prepared by John Hurley, Seasonal Historian, Voyageurs National Park, in 1994. The draft was used as a basis for the documentation herein. In addition, a site visit was made by Mary Graves, Al O'Bright, Bill Harlow, Marla McEnaney, and Brenda Williams in July 2008 and by Ruth Mills in September 2008, and additional research was conducted as necessary by Mary Graves, Brenda Williams and Ruth Mills.)

organization	Quinn Evans Architects	date February 2010
street & num	ber 1037 Sherman Avenue	telephone 734-926-0419
city or town	Madison	state WI zip code 53703
e-mail	bwilliams@quinnevans.com	

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Maps:

- o Map 1: Location of Ingersoll Estate within Voyageurs National Park.
- o Map 2: Vicinity of the Ingersoll Estate
- Map 3: Historic Site Boundary on Aerial, Ingersoll Estate
- o Map 4: Historic Site Boundary on USGS segment, Ingersoll Estate
- o Map 5: Site Plan, Ingersoll Estate
- Map 6: Views, Ingersoll Estate
- Map 7: Photograph locations, Ingersoll Estate
- Map 8: Historic Site Boundary on Original USGS Map

Continuation Sheets

- o Section 7
- o Section 8
- o Section 9
- Additional items:
 - List of Photographs

Photographs:

Photographs: 22 prints

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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The William Ingersoll Estate qualifies as a Seasonal Estate under the registration requirements of the "Tourism and Recreational Properties in Voyageurs National Park, 1880-1950" Multiple Property Documentation Form. It meets the registration requirements under Criterion A (Area of Significance: Recreation/Entertainment), as a well-preserved example of a seasonal recreational estate typical of the 1920s era in the Voyageurs area. The Ingersoll main cabin meets the registration requirements for Criterion C (Area of Significance: Architecture) as an example with high integrity of an E. F. Hodgson Company prefabricated home. It is significant at the local level.

The Ingersoll estate meets the following registration requirements: It retains the main summer home in its original location; it was constructed between 1880 and 1950 and conforms to the historic characteristics of the property; and associated outbuildings and landscape features are present from the period of significance and relate to the historic use of the property. The Ingersoll estate retains integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, location, and setting.

William Parlin Ingersoll, a wealthy philanthropist from Canton, Illinois, constructed the estate from 1928 to 1962 on a remote island in Sand Point Lake, on the northern border of Minnesota. Ingersoll's purchase of his Sand Point Lake Island came towards the end of the early tourism period in northern Minnesota, when wealthy Midwesterners traveled to the area to visit luxury resorts or construct their own summer homes in order to take advantage of the area's hunting, fishing, and other recreational opportunities. Travel to the scenic and natural spaces of northern Minnesota for recreational purposes began to be popular in the later decades of the nineteenth century, but was usually limited to those with wealth and leisure, in large part due to difficulty in accessing the area. With no convenient rail lines or major roads, travel in the area was generally by water, limiting tourism to the summer months and the most accessible destinations.

By the early 1900s a number of summer cottages, from showplace homes to more rustic lodges, dotted the lakes of the future Voyageurs National Park. Rainy Lake, the most accessible from International Falls, saw the earliest development, with homes built by the group later known as the "Rainy Lake Aristocracy" including timber baron E. W. Backus, Backus' former employee Bror Dahlberg, founder of the Celotex business, and a number of other industrialists and professionals. Similar estates were built on Lake Kabetogama and the smaller area lakes throughout the early to middle 1900s by manufacturers, bankers, and doctors. By the late 1920s, access to the Voyageurs area was eased by the increasing availability of the automobile and the gradual improvement of roads into the region.

Like their larger cousins, Crane and Sand Point Lakes were popular recreation destinations in the 1920s. During this period the significant industries of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, namely logging and commercial fishing, were still present in the area, as well as the illegal liquor trade. Recreation was the only one

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of these industries to survive on a large scale at the end of the period of historic significance, and remains today the leading economic activity in the local area.

Despite its popularity, Sand Point Lake remained a remote location in 1927. The small village of Orr, 30 miles to the southwest, could be reached from Duluth by rail or by a 100 mile drive on a highway which was graded and graveled, but impassable during snowmelt and after heavy rains and snow. A corduroy road led from Orr to the hamlet of Crane Lake, on the lake of the same name a few miles upstream of Sand Point Lake.¹ The closest large city, Minneapolis-St. Paul, is 250 miles away. The main attractions of this isolated area for visitors were rugged scenery, solitude and the abundant fish and wildlife stocks.

Ingersoll Island was purchased by William P. Ingersoll in September of 1927. Ingersoll (born 1885) was a native of Canton, Illinois, whose family had created the plow manufacturing firm Parlin & Orendorff. Parlin & Orendorff eventually became one of the largest plow manufacturers in the country and dominated the economy of Canton. When Parlin & Orendorff was sold to International Harvester in 1919, Ingersoll and his family became independently wealthy.² Ingersoll used his fortune to pursue his personal interests (including flying and ham radio) and to continue the family's tradition of philanthropy. He supported the Canton library (serving on the library board for 56 years and presiding over the construction of a new library building in 1958),³ local hospitals and churches, the Boy Scouts, and he donated the land for the local airport. Ingersoll, who never married and had no children, bequeathed his fortune upon his death to various non-profit organizations, including the William P. Ingersoll trust which funds local Canton organizations. The wife of Ingersoll's longtime friend, Robert Chiperfield, commented that Ingersoll "got his money from Canton" and felt obliged to return it to the town, and his philanthropy continues to be felt in the city.⁴

In the following year, 1928, Ingersoll ordered a 1320 square foot prefabricated house from the E. F. Hodgson Company in Dover, Massachusetts. The Hodgson Company was one of a number of mail-order building companies that capitalized on improved transportation and a market for ready-made houses in the early twentieth century. E. F. Hodgson had founded his mail order building company in the early 1890s, specializing in prefabricated poultry brooders. Within ten years, the company had expanded its scope to seasonal cottages and year round houses, as well as a variety of outbuildings. By the late 1920s, Hodgson's business was well

¹ Miller, Frances Gilman (Aspnes), interviewed by John Hurley by telephone, 6/8/94 and in person, 6/15/94.

² http://www.parliningersoll.org/LocalHistory/; downloaded December 11, 2008.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Daily Ledger obituary. Also Chiperfield, Mrs. Robert, interviewed by John Hurley by telephone, 7/18/94.

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established and his prefabricated buildings had been shipped and erected all over the United States and the world.⁵

To date there has been no comprehensive research published on the numbers of Hodgson houses that were constructed and that still exist. Interest in these houses is growing, however. Paul H. and James B. Tedesco recently (2007) published an unabridged reprint of the 1935 and 1939 Hodgson Catalogs with a brief history of the company, photographs, and sample advertisements. A website (<u>www.hodgsonhouses.com</u>) created by the Tedescos provides general information and images as well as a list of the Hodgson Houses they have discovered. Most of the company's records were destroyed in a flood, but incomplete collections of Hodgson House catalogs are located at the Dover (Massachusetts) Historical Society and in the N. W. Ayers Advertising Archive at the National Museum of American History. Hodgson catalogues and advertisements are regularly available on the online auction site eBay.

Hodgson houses were slightly different from the standard "kit" home marketed by the better known manufacturers such as Sears Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, and Aladdin. Hodgson houses were manufactured in sections that were customizable to any floor plan and size. While the catalogs did provide example floor plans, customers often worked with the Hodgson Company to design their own floor plan. The company provided detailed floor plans and instructions on assembling the house, and would even send out a representative to help with construction, although they boasted that any mechanically inclined person could easily assemble the house.⁶

The Hodgson house plan was based on a six-foot wide module, available in 12, 18, or 24 foot depths. End units were available in both hipped and gable styles, and corner "valley roof" units could be used for 90 degree turns in the floor plan. Hodgson's catalog boasted that "with this combination, it is possible to make almost any plan you desire." Internal walls were sold by the linear foot, and options such as dormers, ceilings, porches and "Arctic lined" roof and walls were available.⁷ Ingersoll opted for a simple rectangular plan with back to back twelve foot depth modules, hipped units at each end, and two porches. While the Hodgson Company did not provide foundations, the instructions that came with Ingersoll's house had a customized foundation plan and directions.⁸

⁵ Tedesco, Paul H. and James B. Portable and Prefabricated Houses of the Thirties: The E. F. Hodgson Company 1935 and 1937 Catalogs, An Unabridged Reprint, Dover, Massachusetts: JBT Publishing, 2007.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Hodgson 1937 catalog.

⁸ E. F. Hodgson Company, Blueprints and Foundation Plan for Ingersoll cabin, May 19, 1928 and Directions for Erecting Hodgson Portable Houses, 1928.

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The Hodgson catalog offered only minimal options on its stock construction. Floors were constructed of spruce joists with Oregon pine floor boards; upgrades included double boards, Arctic (Celotex) lining, or heavy waterproof fiber. The walls could be either single or double walled construction, with frames of red cedar and Oregon pine, waterproof fiber sheathing, and rabbetted red cedar clapboard. Door and window openings were installed at the factory, so the wall module came complete. The standard exterior colors were white with green roof and trim. The green color was either paint or stain identified as "Cabot's 'Moss Green' Stain," The standard interior finish was exposed brown Arctic board and walnut stained woodwork. Although Ingersoll only spent summers on the island, he opted for the double-walled "Arctic (Celotex)" lined construction, advertised as ideal for cold weather conditions. The stock roof was also constructed in six-foot modular sections and consisted of an Oregon pine frame, lined with fiber and covered with red cedar rabbetted boarding, like the walls. The roof could also be covered in optional red cedar or asphalt shingles or galvanized iron.

On the interior, the ceilings were formed by beams that created three foot by six foot openings to hold Arctic board panels. The partition walls were of similar materials to the exterior walls – Oregon pine frames and Arctic board sheathing. Customers had the choice of several window and door types, with all the necessary brass hardware. Hodgson houses were pre-stained with Cabot's "Moss Green" stain. The Hodgson Company also provided a range of furnishings, including shades, bathroom fixtures, sinks and stoves, and heaters. It appears that Ingersoll purchased the toilet, bathtub, sinks, and stove from the Hodgson catalog.

It is not known for certain why Ingersoll chose a Hodgson prefabricated house. He was known to be a "forward thinker" among his Minnesota acquaintances, someone who liked to have the newest things, so the idea of building the first prefabricated house in the area might have had some appeal.⁹ Although the purchase and assembling of the house would have been a simple thing for the wealthy and clever Mr. Ingersoll, getting it to the island was no small feat. Hodgson houses were shipped in sections by railroad from the factory in Dover, Massachusetts, in this case ending up at Orr. From there, it would have traveled by truck over the corduroy road that at the time provided the only route to Handberg's marina on Crane Lake, the nearest point on the mainland. Its final journey would be by barge to the island.¹⁰ Ingersoll was clearly proud of his cabin, and even contributed a testimonial for the Hodgson catalog, complete with a picture of his cabin perched upon the island. He noted that he lived in his cabin four months of every year, and regretted that business considerations prevented him from living there year round.¹¹

In addition to its novelty value, Ingersoll's vacation home was known in the local area for its modern amenities and features. According to local memory, it was the first building on the lake to have running water. Informants

⁹ Best interview and Chiperfield interview.

¹⁰ Handberg, Edna, and Shirley Sanborn, operators of marina used by Ingersoll at Crane Lake. Interviewed in person 1/24/90.

¹¹ E.F. Hodgson Company, Hodgson Prefabricated Houses. Advertising brochure, Boston, 1937, n.p.

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remember the "marvelous" bathroom with a highly prized flush toilet and claw-legged tub, and the "wonderful" screened-in porch, as well as the impressive cooking stove. ¹² The building was unique for cabins in the area in having a continuous stone foundation over a basement. Ingersoll had an electric generator on the site from the earliest times he used the island, although it is believed that the present generator shed was built for the large generator he bought in the early 1950s.¹³

Not much is known about Ingersoll's life on the island. Accounts by acquaintances suggested that Ingersoll was an intensely private man who had no close friends in the area. During the period when Ingersoll came to the border lakes, the Sand Point-Crane Lake area attracted mostly middle class visitors, most of whom built their own rustic cabins on leased state land.¹⁴ This contrasted with the nearby Rainy Lake area, with its highly visible circle of wealthy socialites.¹⁵ Although there is nothing to suggest that Ingersoll deliberately avoided the company of other wealthy summer visitors, his choice of a location for his summer home was remote, even by area standards.

Many people still living permanently or seasonally in the Sand Point area remember Ingersoll, but no one who could be located claimed to have known him well. In the words of one informant, "he traveled in a different bracket" from the other vacationers at the lake, not to mention the few rugged people who lived there year-round.¹⁶ The only local person interviewed with whom Ingersoll deliberately met was a teenager who was a fellow ham radio enthusiast when Ingersoll was elderly. Ingersoll went to considerable effort and some expense to help this young man buy the best ham equipment available, but the informant noted that he was never invited into the house, and did not meet Ingersoll's female companion until the informant happened to pass through Canton after Ingersoll's death. The same informant said that Ingersoll was "almost like Howard Hughes...he really went out of his way" to protect his privacy.¹⁷

While Ingersoll did not socialize with the other people on the lake, he often brought guests with him. Although he never married, he frequently brought a woman identified as his long-time companion and friend to the island with him; she later inherited his house in Canton.¹⁸ Ingersoll also entertained various friends from Canton. One

¹² Best, Miller interviews; Congdon, Bill, friend of Ingersoll's at Crane Lake and fellow ham radio hobbyist, interviewed by telephone, 6/22/94. John "Junior" Neil, interviewed by telephone by John Hurley, 8 June 1994.

¹³ Congdon pointed out that, since Ingersoll used his ham equipment on the island from his early visits, he must have had a generator at that time.

¹⁴ Slakey, Anne; Minnesota's Lakeshore Leasing Program or Forestry Redefined. Unpublished: Voyageurs National Park, 1993.

¹⁵ See Drache, Hiram, *Taming the Wilderness*, Interstate Publishers: Danville, IL, 1992, p. 263-271 for a discussion of the "Rainy Lake Aristocracy,"

¹⁶ Miller interview.

¹⁷ Congdon interview.

¹⁸ Ibid.

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long-time visitor to the area said that Ingersoll's cabin was "known around the lake as a party place" but this is not confirmed by other sources.¹⁹ Ingersoll's best known and most frequent guest was his friend Robert Chiperfield of Canton, who was a United States Congressman for 24 years.

According to one informant, Chiperfield had his own cabin on Ingersoll's island.²⁰ This is believed to be the extant cabin near the dock on the south end of the island. Although the origin of this cabin has not been confirmed, it may be a remnant prefabricated building form the Civilian Conservation Corps camp formerly located on King Williams Narrows just south of Sand Point Lake. The cabin bears a resemblance to other surviving CCC buildings at nearby camps, although it is not known if the building was of local manufacture or was supplied by a prefabricated housing company. It would likely have been moved to the island sometime during World War II or just prior, when the CCC companies were disbanded and transferred to war work.

In addition to visits by family and friends, Mr. Ingersoll also had employees and caretakers. Some accounts indicate that his servants from Canton accompanied him to the island and occupied a bedroom in the main cabin. Ingersoll also employed a series of year round caretakers who lived in a log cabin, now ruined, just north of the Chiperfield cabin (figures 23-24). Walter Scott worked in this capacity in the 1930s. John Neil, Sr., whose two sons still live nearby, worked for Ingersoll from about 1938 until shortly before Neil's death in 1945. Not long after, Ingersoll hired Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Kalous, former farmers from Wisconsin who were notably popular in the area. Mrs. Kalous died in 1959, and Mr. Kalous returned to Wisconsin shortly afterward. The Kalouses grew most of their own food on the island, in a garden which had reportedly been supplied with Illinois soil by Ingersoll.²¹ These caretakers were seemingly quite hardy, as the log cabin was not weatherproofed for year round occupation – one informant who had been there frequently commented that "I don't know how they lived there" in the winter.²²

Mr. Ingersoll brought his interest in several hobbies to the island. The most significant of these was his love of ham radio. Ingersoll was part of a circle of friends who spoke daily by radio, and he continued this practice on the island. Second-hand reports say Ingersoll brought his ham equipment with him starting from the earliest times he used the island. A ham enthusiast who knew Ingersoll many years later described Ingersoll as always having the most modern equipment, including some which Ingersoll made himself; the informant is still using some equipment made by Ingersoll. Historic photographs show two large wooden poles on the east elevation of the main cabin, and there is also a pole on the west elevation of the Chiperfield cabin. These probably held wires

¹⁹ Miller interview.

²⁰ Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley, acquaintances of Ingersoll's at Crane Lake. Interviewed in person, 7/21/89. Although Chiperfield's widow was interviewed, she did not know Chiperfield during the early period of Ingersoll's use of the island.

²¹ Best, Congdon, Neil, Handberg interviews.

²² Best interview.

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related to the ham radio transmission equipment. The large bedroom on the east side of the main cabin also shows evidence that it was used as Mr. Ingersoll's radio room; there are numerous electrical outlets and holes in the floor with insulating pipes. There is also a rheostat dial on the east wall (labeled on the back "Howard Radio Company") that amateur ham operators have suggested was one of Mr. Ingersoll's "cobbled together" pieces of equipment. Ingersoll also put his skills to use at the island by designing such devices as one that delayed the shut-down of his generator at night so that he could turn it off and then walk from the generator shed to his bedroom before the lights went out.²³

In addition to the two existing cabins and the ruin of the caretakers' cabin, there are several other extant buildings and ruins. The boathouse adjacent to the dock on the south end of the island is 450 square feet and held Mr. Ingersoll's boat, which locals remembered as "huge" (it protruded from the boathouse) and was seaworthy enough to later travel on the Great Lakes. Ingersoll used the boat for fishing and for transportation on blueberry-picking trips.²⁴ Between the dock and the Chiperfield cabin is a combination store/work room, sauna, and fish cleaning station, built in several stages. Northwest of the Chiperfield cabin is a privy. The ruins of another cabin are located on the trail between the Chiperfield cabin and the main cabin; a historic photograph of this suggests that it was also prefabricated and very similar to the Chiperfield cabin. Just to the west of the main cabin is Mr. Ingersoll's generator shed. There were also two birdhouses; these may have been Hodgson structures as that company advertised birdhouses in its catalogs.

In addition to his boat, Ingersoll also kept a Jeep and an airplane at the island, although acquaintances remember that he made the 800 mile trip to Crane Lake by car.²⁵ The Jeep was used to haul supplies up to the main cabin from the dock. It was also used by the caretakers for hauling wood, plowing snow, and other work on the island.

It does not appear that Mr. Ingersoll made many modifications to the main cabin during his tenure. The Chiperfield cabin was likely modified to a single family summer residence shortly after it was moved to the island; this likely included some reconfiguration of the interior and the installation of the east porch. The modification to the windows is not as clear; interior photographs from the 1950s or earlier show the current window configuration, at least on the north and south elevations.

William Ingersoll sold the island in 1962 to Maurice and Margaret Wilson, for the sum of \$20,000.²⁶ Although he lived over ten years more, until 1973, he was 77 years old in 1962, and found it too physically challenging to make the yearly trip to Sand Point Lake and live his relatively rustic summer life.²⁷

²³ Congdon, Best interviews.

²⁴ Best, Congdon interviews.

²⁵Best, Congdon, Miller interviews.

²⁶ Register of Deeds files. The purchase price is calculated from the amount of deed tax paid.

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It was probably during the Wilsons' occupation, based on historic photographs, that the cupola was installed on the main cabin and the roof was covered with asphalt shingles. In order to provide a level surface for the shingles, the battens on the original roof were hacked down roughly level with the boards. The Wilsons may also have been the ones who painted the front rooms of the main cabin. They also weatherized the caretaker's cabin and may have renovated the sauna.²⁸

The Wilsons moved off the island in 1972 for health reasons and never returned. In 1977, they sold the island to the National Park Service for \$41,575,²⁹ but retained a twenty-five year use and occupancy lease. The property then became part of the newly designated Voyageurs National Park. The Wilsons sold the remaining time on their use and occupancy lease to Robert and Molly Alcorn, who lived in the Chiperfield cabin. The Alcorns sold the remaining time on the remaining time on the lease to Lynn and Tina Boram in 2001, and the lease expired in 2002.

For many years, the fate of the buildings on Ingersoll Island was uncertain. Park management policies in the early decades focused on the conservation and development of the park's natural resources, and the earliest plans called for removal of the structures on the Island. As a result, maintenance of the buildings was not a priority. Interest in the park's cultural resources later grew, and Ingersoll Island was recognized as an important part of the park's cultural heritage. The buildings began to see regular maintenance. The most significant project involved repairs to the roof. In 1999 the park removed the asphalt shingles and repaired the original roof. In 2000, park staff tried to repair the leaking roof by removing the metal battens and re-caulking all the joints. In 2002, a contractor removed original cedar boards from the roof panels, installed an underlayment sheet and an ice and water shield, and reinstalled the roof boards. Unfortunately, the roof has continued to leak, due mostly to deficiencies in the original Hodgson roof design. It is these same deficiencies that have resulted in the removal of the roof on most surviving Hodgson buildings, making this one even more significant.

Other projects carried out by the park service include the repair of the roof at the Chiperfield cabin after a tree fell on it in 2006, and the replacement of the floor boards in the kitchen of the main cabin. The generator shed and boathouse were also repaired the same year.

Voyageurs National Park has designated the Ingersoll Estate as one of its 14 visitor destinations, with the goal of providing visitors with the opportunity to learn about the history of recreation in the area and about the history of the Ingersoll estate in particular.

²⁷ Ledger obituary.

²⁸ Best interview.

²⁹ Register of Deeds files, Park Service Tract Files.

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The William Ingersoll Estate is significant under the National Register of Historic Places Criterion A area of significance of Entertainment/Recreation. The estate was constructed by wealthy Illinois philanthropist William P. Ingersoll as an isolated yet comfortable private summer home, including the main residence, secondary residences, outbuildings, gardens, and other landscape features, all accessible only by water. The estate is also significant under Criterion C area of significance of Architecture. Ingersoll's main cabin was a prefabricated E. F. Hodgson kit house, which was easier to transport and erect on his remote property, and reflected his interest in new technologies. Hodgson kit houses are less well known than other more popular companies such as Sears or Aladdin, and consequently fewer examples still exist, and even fewer are as intact as the Ingersoll cabin.

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Section number 9 Page 1

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Chiperfield, Mrs. Robert, widow of close friend of Ingersoll's. Interviewed by telephone, 7/18/94.

Congdon, Bill, friend of Ingersoll's at Crane Lake and fellow ham radio hobbyist, interviewed by telephone, 6/22/94.

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Handberg, Edna, and Shirley Sanborn, operators of marina used by Ingersoll at Crane Lake. Interviewed in person 1/24/90.

Lennes, Gregory, corporate secretary, Navistar Corp (holding company of International Harvester). Interviewed by telephone, 6/7/94.

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Neil, John "Junior", son of caretaker of Ingersoll's Island. Interviewed by telephone, 6/8/94.

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Photo 06: Boathouse, view from the northeast.

Photo 07: Workshop/Sauna/Icehouse, view from the northeast

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Photo 09: Privy, view from the northeast.

Photo 10: Caretaker cabin, view from the southeast.

Photo 11: Light at path near dock and stone path from dock to Chiperfield Cabin, July 2008 (source: QE|A, DSC01231)

Photo 12: Light near Workshop/Sauna/Icehouse, July 2008 (source: QE|A,DSC01251)

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Photo 15: Stone Edged Flower Bed at Southeast corner of Main Cabin, July 2008 (source: QE|A, DSC01311)

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Photo 18: Stone path at Garden, 2008 (source: QE|A, DSC01375)

Photo 19: Dirt path between Chiperfield Cabin and Garden south of stone path facing south, July 2008 (source: QE|A, DSC01295)

Photo 20: View East from Main Cabin (note metal pole in center of image), July 2008 (source: QE|A, DSC01330)

Photo 21: Birdhouse pole facing east, 2007 (source: Marla McEnaney, ING091_9-07)

Photo 22: Concrete pedestal near Main Cabin, facing northwest, July 2008 (source: QE|A, DSC01303)





Vicinity of Ingersoll Estate (QEA, February 2010)


Source: Voyageurs National Park



Source: Voyageurs National Park



Site Plan Ingersoll Estate (QE|A, February 2010)



Views, Ingersoll Estate (QE|A, February 2010)



Photograph Locations Ingersoll Estate (QEA, February 2010)

Name of Property: City or Vicinity: County: State: Location of Original Digital Files:

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Photo #: Description: Name of Photographer: Date of Photograph:

Photo #: Description: Name of Photographer: Date of Photograph:

Photo #: Description: Name of Photographer: Date of Photograph:

Photo #: Description: Name of Photographer: Date of Photograph: Ingersoll Estate Crane Lake (Ash River, Kabetogama Narrows) St. Louis Minnesota Voyageurs National Park, International Falls, MN

01 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0001) Ingersoll Main Cabin, view from the southeast. Quinn Evans Architects 2008

02 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0002) Ingersoll Main Cabin, view from the northwest. Quinn Evans Architects 2008

03 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0003) Chiperfield Cabin, view from the southeast. Quinn Evans Architects 2008

04 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0004) Chiperfield Cabin, view from the northwest. Quinn Evans Architects 2008

05 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0005) Generator Shed, view from northeast Quinn Evans Architects 2008

06 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0006) Boathouse, view from the northeast. Quinn Evans Architects 2008

07 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0007) Workshop/Sauna/Icehouse, view from the northeast Quinn Evans Architects 2008 Photo #: Description: Name of Photographer: Date of Photograph:

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Photo #: Description: Name of Photographer: Date of Photograph: 08 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0008) Workshop/Sauna/Icehouse, view from the northeast. Quinn Evans Architects 2008

09 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0009) Privy, view from the northeast. Quinn Evans Architects 2008

10 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0010) Caretaker cabin, view from the southeast. Quinn Evans Architects 2008

11 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0011) Light at path near dock and stone path from dock to Chiperfield Cabin. Quinn Evans Architects 2008

12 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0012) Light near Workshop/Sauna/Icehouse. Quinn Evans Architects 2008

13 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0013) Transformers on West side of Boathouse Quinn Evans Architects 2008

14 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0014) Portion of the "Jeep Path" with boulders at edge, facing south on west side of island. Quinn Evans Architects 2008

15 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0015) Stone edged flower bed at southeast corner of main cabin. Quinn Evans Architects 2008 Photo #: Description: Name of Photographer: Date of Photograph:

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Photo #: Description: Name of Photographer: Date of Photograph:

Photo #: Description: Name of Photographer: Date of Photograph:

Photo #: Description: Name of Photographer: Date of Photograph: 16 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0016) Garden area (facing north) Cultural Landscapes Inventory, 02-10-CLI-6429 2002

17 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0017) Fence remnant, lilacs, and martin house at garden. Cultural Landscapes Inventory, 02-10-CLI-6437 2002

18 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0018) Stone path at garden, facing north Quinn Evans Architects 2008

19 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0019) Dirt path between Chiperfield cabin and garden south of stone path facing south. Quinn Evans Architects 2008

20 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0020) View east from Main Cabin (note metal pole in center of image) Quinn Evans Architects 2008

21 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0021) Birdhouse pole facing east. Marla McEnaney, ING091_0-07 2007

22 (MN_St Louis County_Ingersoll Estate_0022) Concrete pedestal near Main Cabin, facing northwest. Quinn Evans Architects 2008

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Ingersoll, William, Estate NAME:

MULTIPLE Tourism and Recreational Properties in Voyageurs National Pa NAME: rk 1880-1950 MPS

STATE & COUNTY: MINNESOTA, St. Louis

DATE RECEIVED: 5/06/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/27/11 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/13/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/21/11 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000360

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:NDATA PROBLEM:NLANDSCAPE:NLESS THAN 50 YEARS:NOTHER:NPDIL:NPERIOD:NPROGRAM UNAPPROVED:NREQUEST:NSAMPLE:NSLR DRAFT:NNATIONAL:N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN

6. (5. 1/DATE REJECT

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in The National Register of Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA		
REVIEWER	DISCIPLINE	
TELEPHONE	DATE	

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.



Ingersoll Estate St. Louis Co, MN Photo 1 of 22 10.00



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Ingersoll Estate St. Louis Co, MN photo 5 of 22




Ingersoll Estate St. Louis Co, MN Photo 6 of 22








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Ingersoll Estate St. Louis Co, MN Photo 8 of 22

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

H32

July 23, 2010

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Voyageurs National Park 3131 Highway 53 International Falls, Minnesota 56649-8904

	RECEIVED 2280
	MAY - 6 2011
NAT.	REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Steve Raukar, Chair Saint Louis County Board of Commissioners Hibbing Courthouse 1810 12th Avenue East Hibbing, Minnesota 55746

Dear Commissioner Raukar:

We are pleased to inform you that the properties listed below are being considered for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The Register is the nation's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation.

I.W. Stevens Lakeside Cottage, Namakan Lake, St. Louis County, Voyageurs National Park William Ingersoll Estate, Sand Point Lake, St. Louis County, Voyageurs National Park Adolph Levin Cottage, Kabetogama Lake, Voyageurs National Park Monson's Hoist Bay Resort, Namakan Lake, Voyageurs National Park

The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) for the National Register allows county officials 45 days in which to comment on nominations. If you wish to comment or request copies of the nominations, please contact Chief of Resources Mary Graves by calling 218-283-6674 or emailing mary_graves@nps.gov. If no responses are received within 45 days, the nominations will be forwarded to the Federal Preservation Officer and the Keeper of the National Register in Washington, D.C.

Sincerely,

(sgd)

Michael M. Ward Superintendent

cc:

Dr. Don Stevens, Senior Historian, National Park Service, Midwest Region, Omaha, NE

MLGraves:mlg:07/20/2010:ahc:07/23/2010:c:\Microsoft Word:Cultural Resources:National Register nominations (4)