

1663

SEP 15 1989

NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Minneopa State Park WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources
other names/site number Minneopa State Park

2. Location

street & number off U.S. Highway 169 not for publication N/A
city, town South Bend Township Mankato vicinity
state Minnesota code MN county Blue Earth code 013 zip code 56001

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district		<u> </u> sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Minnesota State Park CCC/WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Nina M. Archabal 9/15/89
Signature of certifying official Nina M. Archabal Date
State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau Minnesota Historical Society

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain:)
Beth Roland 10/25/89
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Recreation/Outdoor Recreation

Landscape/State Park

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Recreation/Outdoor Recreation

Landscape/State Park

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: NPS Rustic Architecture

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Stone/Wood

roof Asphalt

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See Continuation Sheets

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

DESCRIPTION

Minneopa State Park WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources consist of an historic district including the concentrated use area of the park and a portion of the service yard. Five buildings, one structure, and one object are included as well as two non-contributing buildings and two non-contributing structures. The park is located adjacent to Minneopa Creek which tumbles over two water falls into a deep-cut rock gorge.

Minneopa State Park Historic District

- | | | |
|----|---|----------------------------|
| 1. | Building: <u>Kitchen & Concession</u>
Architect: O. Newstrom | Builder: WPA
Date: 1939 |
|----|---|----------------------------|

The principal portion of this T-shaped building is 30' x 18' section which contains a concession and kitchen shelter. A 12' x 14' projection to the rear contains a storage area. The walls are constructed with sandstone with the exception of the gables areas, which are infilled with vertical siding, and the rear storage area which features stone walls which rise 4'5" high with rough vertical siding above. The building is covered with an intersecting gable roof.

The east elevation contains two 8' wide openings which are covered by bracketed canopies. One opening serves as a window area for the kitchen shelter while the other is a counter for the concession. The north facade also contains a 5' counter area for the concession. These openings may be closed with grooved shiplap shutters. The kitchen shelter contains four wood cook stoves, however, this area is now used for storage.

- | | | |
|----|--|----------------------------|
| 2. | Building: <u>Latrine</u>
Architect: H. Petersen | Builder: WPA
Date: 1939 |
|----|--|----------------------------|

The Latrine is a 32' x 18' structure which features an earth berm against the rear facade. The building is constructed with sandstone carried 4"

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below the finished grade and is covered with a gable roof. Each entry features unusual bell-shaped stone entrance screens covered with a finely detailed gable roof. The projecting gable roof is supported by bracketed posts which rise from the stone screens. Box beams, 8" x 12", are placed above the casement windows on the east and west facades and the gable areas above this point contain board and batten siding. 6" x 6" lookouts project from the gables.

Skylights were added in a 1958 remodeling and additional interior alterations were made in 1984. The gable roof was originally covered with 24" x 1/2" cedar shingles staggered and with every fifth row doubled, however, the shingles have been replaced with asphalt.

3. Building: Pump House Builder: WPA
Architect: O. Newstrom Date: 1939

The Pump House is a 9' x 9' one story building constructed with native stone with raked joints and features a hip roof which was originally covered with cedar shingles. The entrance door is constructed with 2 ply V-joint boards with strap hinges. The opposite wall contains a small louver opening while the remaining walls once contained nine light casement windows. The window openings have been infilled.

4. Object: Drinking Fountain Builder: WPA
Architect: N. Averill Date: 1939

The Drinking Fountain rests on a 10'3" square stone base with cement joints over sand fill. The sandstone fountain is 3' high with a 6" step on one side. The structure is 2'5" square at the base and tapers to 2' at the top.

5. Building: Picnic Shelter Builder: Unknown
Architect: Unknown Date: c1915

The original dimensions of this rectangular Picnic Shelter were 76' x 24'6"; however, two identical 32' x 22' wings were added at a later date which resulted in a cruciform configuration. The shelter features a steeply pitched hip roof with wide overhanging eaves with brackets resting on reinforced concrete piers. In 1967 the wooden shingles were

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replaced with asphalt and the grade was raised by two feet through the installation of a new concrete slab over the existing one. The Craftsman Style shelter is non-contributing although it may be potentially significant under a separate context.

6. Structure: Bridge Builder: Unknown
Architect: Unknown Date: 1945

This reinforced concrete bridge located over Minneopa Falls is supported by a single arch. The bridge is non-contributing.

7. Structure: Steps and Retaining Walls Builder: WPA
Architect: Unknown Date: 1937

Stone Steps and Retaining Walls are constructed on either side of Minneopa Creek and lead to the base of the falls. Typical of the labor intensive activities of the CCC/WPA, these structures cut through nearly perpendicular bluffs flanking the creek.

8. Structure: Bridge Builder: Unknown
Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1980s

This wooden Bridge is supported by steel beams resting on concrete abutments. It spans Minneopa Creek near the base of the falls. The bridge apparently replaced an earlier rustic style foot bridge constructed in 1939 which was built with logs resting on stone abutments. The structure is non-contributing.

9. Building: Picnic Shelter Builder: Unknown
Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1966

This rectangular, partially enclosed, picnic shelter rests on a concrete slab and is covered with a gable roof. It is built with timberwall construction and is considered non-contributing. The shelter is located in a newer section of the park away from the concentrated area of the historic district.

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Service Yard

10. Building: Custodian's Cabin Builder: WPA
Architect: Taylor Date: 1939

The Custodian's Cabin is a rectangular T-shaped wood frame building with overall dimensions of 40'4" x 31'. The building sheathed with clapboard siding and is covered with an intersecting gable roof. All window openings are double hung sash. The residence contains a living room, kitchen, two bedrooms and bath. The living room features a massive sandstone fireplace with a segmentally arched opening and a wooden mantel. This building is not constructed in the rustic style.

11. Building: Garage/Office/Tool Room Builder: WPA
Architect: H. Petersen Date: 1940

This 36' x 21'6" wood frame building contains two vehicle garage stalls as well as an office and tool room. The building is sheathed with clapboard siding and is covered with a gable roof. Window openings are six over six light double hung sash. Original plans called for the building to rest on a low stone base; however, the stonework was never executed and the building was not constructed in the rustic style.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Minneopa State Park WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources are historically significant for their association with the social, political, and economic impact of the Great Depression and the subsequent development of the various Federal Relief Programs such as the Works Progress Administration which was responsible for their construction. These resources are also significant for their association with the development of the Minnesota state park system. The park is representative of a number of the early state parks which were located adjacent to small towns and cities. However, these parks generally served only a local community and many were eventually transferred from the state park system to city or county agencies. Minneopa is one of the few remaining examples of this particular type of park.

Minneopa State Park WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources are architecturally significant as outstanding examples of rustic style construction featuring native sandstone. The Sanitation Building in particular is an unusually finely crafted example of stone and timber construction. These buildings as well as the non-rustic style service buildings are characterized by nonintrusive and environmentally sensitive designs based on National Park Service design philosophy and master planning. (Refer to the Statement of Exceptional Significance on page F34 of the Multiple Property Documentation Form.)

Minneopa is one of the oldest state parks established in Minnesota with land acquired in 1905 to protect the area around Minneopa Falls for public use. The park was considered a local park which provided recreational facilities to the nearby city of Mankato.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Recreation

Government

Period of Significance

1937-40

Significant Dates

1937

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

National Park Service

State of Minnesota

Works Progress Administration

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See Continuation Sheets

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Department of Natural Resources. Working Drawings and Specifications for the Buildings and Structures at Minneopa State Park. Bureau of Engineering. St. Paul, Minnesota.
State of Minnesota. Minnesota State Park, Parkway, and Recreational Area Study. 1938.

See continuation sheet

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
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 58 Acres

UTM References

A

1	5
4	1
2	5
2	0

4	8	8	9	1	0	0

Zone Easting Northing

C

1	5
4	1
3	3
2	0

4	8	8	8	3	2	0

B

1	5
4	1
3	3
3	0

4	8	8	9	1	0	0

Zone Easting Northing

D

1	5
4	1
2	5
2	0

4	8	8	8	3	3	0

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for Minneopa State Park WPA/Rustic Style Resources is shown as the heavy line on the accompanying map entitled "Minneopa State Park." The boundary is defined by the park boundary to the east, Old U.S. Highway 169 to the north, the old original park boundary to the south, and the inside edge of the park road to the west. The boundary extends north of Highway 169 to include 2 buildings in the service yard. See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the buildings and structures that have been historically associated with the property and that maintain historic integrity. The boundary includes the area of the park developed by the Works Progress Administration.

See continuation sheet

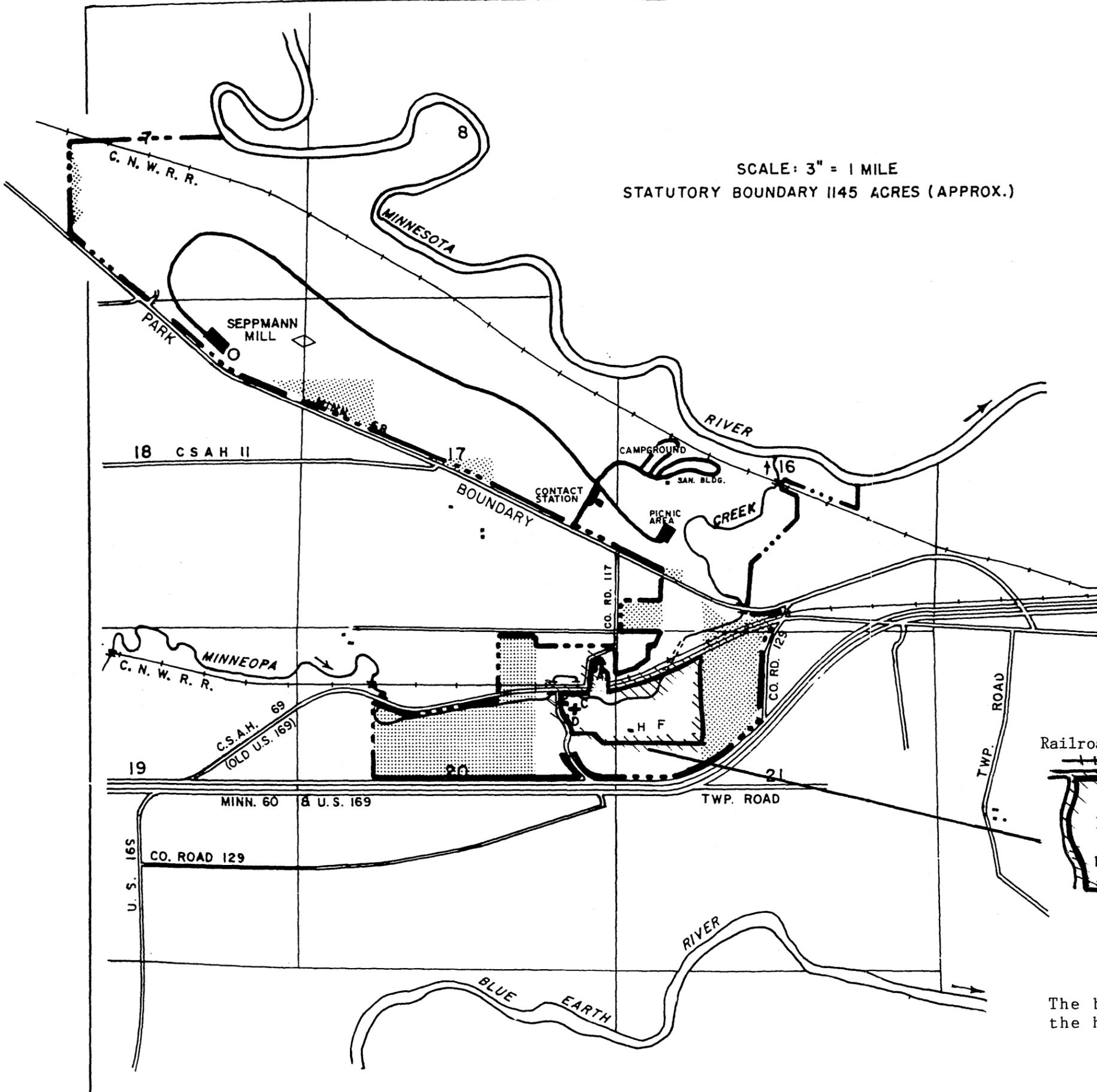
11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rolf T. Anderson

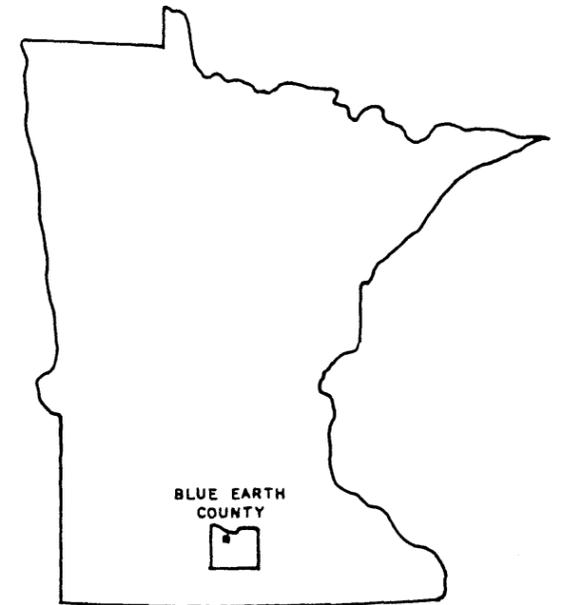
organization N/A date September 6, 1988

street & number 3632 Park Avenue South telephone 612-824-7807

city or town Minneapolis state Minnesota zip code 55407

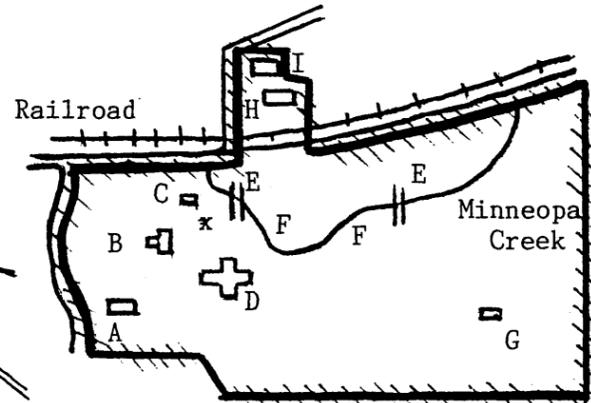


SCALE: 3" = 1 MILE
 STATUTORY BOUNDARY 1145 ACRES (APPROX.)



- A. Latrine - 2*
- B. Concession - 1
- C. Pump House - 3
- #D. Shelter (1915) - 5
- #E. Bridge - 6, 8
- F. Steps (2) - 7
- #G. Shelter (1970s) - 9
- H. Residence - 10
- I. Office Garage - 11
- x Drinking Fountain - 4

- #non-contributing
- *Keyed to nomination
- STATE LAND
- PRIVATE LAND
- LIFE ESTATE
- EXISTING DEVELOPMENT



- A. HEADQUARTERS & RESIDENCE AREA
- B. PARKING AREA
- C. SHELTER
- D. TOILET BLDG.
- F. PICNIC AREA
- H. PICNIC SHELTER

The boundary is defined by the heavy line with crosshatches

MINNESOTA
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION
 STATE PARK SITE
MINNEOPA STATE PARK
 BLUE EARTH CO. - NEAR MANKATO

DRAWN DAD 3-5-65	BUREAU OF ENGINEERING	T. 108 N. R. 27 W. 5TH P. M.
CHECKED DAJ 3-26-65		SURVEY
REVISED SVE 7-20-78	<i>[Signature]</i> 3-20165 CHIEF ENGR.	DATUM

OWNERSHIP REV. REQ. RES 6/20/78	64-190	SHEET 15	FILE P.032.00.0
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