

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

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

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

For HCPS use only
received JUL 15 1980
date entered AUG 26 1980

1. Name

historic Virginia-Rainy Lake Office

and/or common St. Louis County School Office Building

2. Location

street & number 8th Ave. W. and 3rd St. So. not for publication

city, town Virginia vicinity of congressional district 8th District

state Minnesota code 22 county St. Louis code 137

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name St. Louis County Schools, Independent School District #710

street & number 731 3rd St. South

city, town Virginia vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Louis County Court House

street & number

city, town Duluth state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Rainy Lake Lumber Company Office is situated at the corner of Eighth Avenue West and Third Street South in Virginia. It is a two story frame structure which is rectangular in plan. The entire building is covered by a low-pitched hipped roof. The exterior is divided into two sections defined by finishing boards; these boards also enframe the windows and corners.

The main facade is located on the narrow end of the rectangle which faces onto Third Street. It is four bays in width and has a single dormer centrally placed on the roof. A full front porch provides for a recessed central entrance flanked by two enclosed rooms.

A one story garage addition has been made on the Eighth Avenue facade of the building.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates ca 1907

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Virginia-Rainy Lake Lumber Company was the largest processor of pine lumber in the Northwest until the late 1920s. Its productive capacity was one million board feet per day. Despite its large scale and impressive production, the industry had slight impact on the population growth or economic diversity of the iron mining regions. The significance of the facility is that it was a major non-mining economic activity on the range, but was dwarfed in all respects by iron mining and eventually petered out. The office housed the managerial and administrative elements of the company and also served as a direct communications link to the lumber products market outlets throughout the Upper Midwest. The office in fact was significant in that it served to translate the productive activities of the foresting operations and the sawmill into profitable selling activity in the market.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Marvin Lamppa, A Report to the Department of Natural Resources on the Historical Aspects of the Vermilion, Cuyuna, and Mesabi Iron Ranges of Northeast Minnesota (Eveleth: 1977).

10. Geographical Data **ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

Acreage of nominated property Less than 1

Quadrangle name Virginia

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A

1	5	5	3	4	3	6	0	5	2	6	2	9	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

The building is located on Lots 17 through 22, Block 40, Original Addition, Virginia, Minnesota

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charles Skrief, Director, State Historic Preservation Office

organization Minnesota Historical Society

date September 10, 1979

street & number 240 Summit Avenue

telephone 612-296-9070

city or town St. Paul

state Minnesota

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 6/28/80

For HCRS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

W. Ray Luce
Keeper of the National Register

date 8/26/80

Attest: Kristin O'Connell

date 8/26/80