

## DESCRIPTION:

The Pipestone Water Tower is a near twin of the Brainerd Water Tower previously listed on the Register. It was constructed at about the same time and designed by the same person, L.P. Wolff, consulting engineer of St. Paul. The reinforced concrete structure had a 150,000 gallon capacity. A 500,000 gallon underground reservoir was constructed at the same time at the base of the tower. The tower has been described as having an inverted milk bottle shape, the tank being supported by a narrower shaft. The tank is 40 feet in diameter; the supporting column is 28 feet in diameter. The column interior is open and is punctuated by a spiraled series of windows. The poured concrete has a broad ribbed pattern. There is a narrow walkway around the base of the tank.

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Pipestone Water Tower is significant for its innovative use of poured concrete for water tower construction. It shares this engineering significance with the similar Brainerd Tower. The 140 foot high tower is an important skyline feature of the town of Pipestone. Rather than church spires of the courthouse clock, in Pipestone the water tower towers above the city.

The tower has developed a few cracks. Extensive repairs in 1965 allowed the tower to be used until 1973. It is now empty. The City of Pipestone is active in efforts to preserve the tower.

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE 

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION
PROPERTY Pipestone Water Tower
NAME:
MULTIPLE Pipestone County MRA
NAME:
STATE \& COUNTY: MINNESOTA, Pipestone
DATE RECEIVED: 8/18/04 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY:
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:
REFERENCE NUMBER: 80002123
NOMINATOR: STATE
REASONS FOR REVIEW:
APPEAL: $N$ DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N REQUEST: $N$ SAMPLE: $N$ SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N COMMENT WAIVER: N
_ ACCEPT $\qquad$ RETURN $\qquad$ REJECT $\qquad$ DATE ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:
additional Docurnentation Acceptor


TELEPHONE


DOCUMENTATION see attached comments $Y / \mathrm{N}$ see attached SLR $Y / \mathrm{N}$ If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Pipestone Water Tower
Name of property
Pipestone Co., MN
County and State

Section $7 \quad$ Page 2
RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): Pipestone Water Tower
REFERENCE NUMBER: 80002123
ADDRESS:
CITY/TOWNSHIP: Pipestone
STATE: Minnesota
SIGNIFICANT DATE: 1920

## ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Wolff, L.P.

COMMENTS: The water tower was designed by L.P. Wolff of St. Paul, MN. It supplied the city with water from 1921 to 1973. The tower was restored in 1990.

Dimensions of the water tower:
The water tower stands $132^{\prime}$ above the ground. The supporting column is $25^{\prime}$ in diameter, and the tank is $32^{\prime}$ in diameter. Pipestone County Star, 26 October 1921


