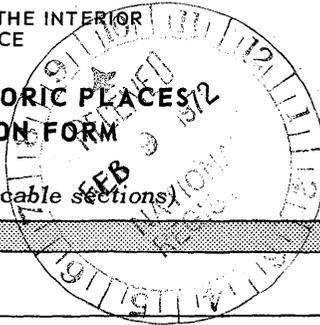


STATE: Minnesota	
COUNTY: Pine	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER AUG 7 1972	DATE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
Connor's Fur Post

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **within govt. lot 4 and the SW¹/₄ of SE¹/₄, and govt. lot 3 on the SE side of the Snake R. including all riparian**

CITY OR TOWN: **rights, of Sec. 31, T39N, R21W Pine City**

STATE Minnesota	CODE 22	COUNTY: Pine	CODE 115
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	under reconstruction
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
Minnesota Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
690 Cedar Street

CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul	STATE: Minnesota	CODE 22
----------------------------------	----------------------------	-------------------

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Pine County Courthouse, Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Pine City	STATE: Minnesota	CODE 22
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **43 acres**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Minnesota Register of Historic Sites

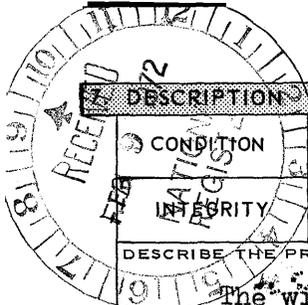
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Minnesota Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
690 Cedar Street

CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul	STATE: Minnesota	CODE 22
----------------------------------	----------------------------	-------------------

STATE: Minnesota
COUNTY: Pine
ENTRY NUMBER AUG 7 1972
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY



DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

INTEGRITY

(Check One)

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The winter quarters building surrounded by a stockade is located on a high sand ridge above the Snake River. Both the "range" and the stockade are typical of the structures built during the French and British Canadian periods as wintering posts of fur traders. The house structure is a modified "post on sill" building, the upright posts being implanted deeply in the earth rather than mounted on sill logs. The technique of slotting the upright posts and inserting the tapered ends of the horizontal logs between them is employed. The plate log beneath the roof eave ties all elements of the outer wall together throughout the building length by mortises and tenons and in places by two inch wooden dowels. The two long outer walls are stabilized by horizontal cross-ties along the partition lines and reinforced by diagonal struts. All are secured to the seven ridge pole uprights to give added strength to the walls and roof.

The roof is raftered with poles extending from the ridge pole to the plate logs and rough sheeting boards cover the whole. Secondary support is given by horizontal poles extending the length of the building with upright support poles at each of the five partitions. Long split cedar shakes constitute the roofing. The roof as presently constructed is a major deviation from what existed at one time. Based on earlier accounts such roofs were probably constructed of split poles set close together from the ridge pole to the plate logs and covered with overlapped birch bark, cedar bark, elm bark, or even ash or oak or sometimes grass thatch. Since the amount needed of such barks are unavailable in the region, the roof required another type than the probable original one. Furthermore, the factor of durability had to be considered since a bark roof would be subject to decay and severe weather conditions.

Doors have been placed on the southeast face of the building in accordance with the evidence found for their positions. The frames are of hewn logs with the upright logs locked into place in the lower and top logs by mortise and tenon joints. The doors are of rough planking with Z type cleating. Each is hung by two handwrought strap and pintel hinges. Pintels were found during the excavation.

The windows are of simulated old-type blown glass set in four-pane sashes on the front side of the building. Some are next to the door, others are more central in position. On the northwest side or rear of the building they have been located to the right of the fireplaces.

The inside structure consists mostly of partitions transverse to the main axis of the building. They are five in number thus dividing the building into six major compartments. These partition lines are constructed of upright poles set close together and chinked with clay probably to give privacy and to control heat. The partitions conform to the larger uprights along the front and back of the building. Fireplaces are four in number. All show a common method of upright poles set close together and extending upward through the roof. These rows of poles formed the outer border of the structure which is plastered inside and out with clay. The lower insides have been lined with split rock. One fireplace was located across the corner of the second room from the southeast end of the building, the first room

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Minnesota	
COUNTY Pine	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
AUG 7 1972	

(Number all entries)

7. Description: Connor's Fur Post (cont.)

having none. These rooms have been interpreted as the living and bedrooms for the trader and his wife.

The next two rooms each have a fireplace with backs to the northwest outer wall and placed off center. These are almost square in base plan with the upper structures likewise built of upright poles plastered with clay and the inside bottom walls lined with rock. A cache pit is located under the fireplace floor in one of the two rooms. The first of the two rooms has been designated the trader's workshop and has a door leading to the living quarters. The second room was probably his store, the entrance of which is almost opposite the gate on the southeast stockade sine.

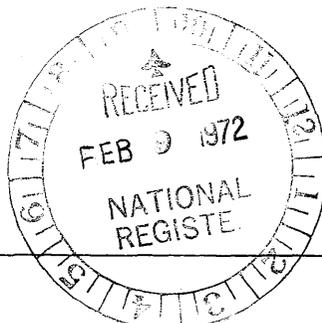
A fifth room has no fireplace and has only a single inside door leading off the store. It has been interpreted as the storeroom for furs and supplies. A single cache pit in one corner was lined with birch bark.

The sixth room lies just north of the fifth room with one of its sides probably acting as a partial partition thus dividing the room into two areas. Underneath the fireplace is a cribbed cache pit. The fireplace is square-based and the techniques of construction conform to those described above. The area has been designated as the living quarters for the crew. The total length of the building is 77 feet, the width 18 feet and the back lies parallel to the northwest side of the stockade and approximately 8 feet from it.

The stockade forms a rectangle about 100 feet in length and approximately 55 feet wide conforming to the main axis of the sand ridge. It is made of upright logs set about 36 inches in the earth. The height is irregular and varies from 10 to 11 feet. On diagonal corners are two bastions of upright poles extending beyond the outer walls of the stockade. Two gates form the entrances, one on the northwest stockade line near the west corner facing the river, and a second one located on the southeast side of the stockade about midway along its fence. Both gates are made of poles with Z cleating and hung from strap and pintle hinges.

Small enclosed winter porches conform to the location of outside doors of the building and are built of upright poles with shed roofs.

The total reconstruction is based on evidence obtained from the site excavations, Connor's diary, and information found in various historical references regarding the building of the period.



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric	Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Phi-		Other (Specify)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Historic	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	losophy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Architecture</u>	
Agriculture	Invention	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Art	Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Commerce	Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Human-		_____	
Communications	Literature	<input type="checkbox"/>	itarian	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Conservation	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Theater	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
	Music	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

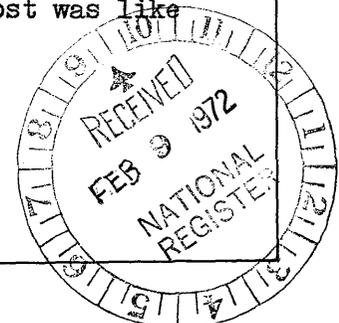
Based on knowledge gained from the 1804-1805 diary of a fur trader, Thomas Connor of the Northwest Company, archaeological excavations, and references in the documents relating to the construction of early fur posts, the Minnesota Historical Society has considered the information gained sufficient to warrant the reconstruction of Connor's wintering post on the Snake River in Pine County, Minnesota. It is the first effort to reconstruct such a post in Minnesota and perhaps the Northwest on the site and placing the basic features of the building and stockade in their original situations.

The form of the building is typical of structures of the early and later trade during the British Canadian Regime and probably extends much farther back into the French period.

Wintering posts differed considerably from the headquarters of the fur companies such as those at Grand Portage and Fond du Lac primarily due to the short seasonal occupation and the consequent hurried and probably rude construction and utility of materials close at hand. In addition, the post was much smaller in size due to the small number of individuals housed. Also, the services performed under the circumstances were less in number. Such buildings of the "wintering" men were usually abandoned at the end of the trapping season when they returned to their headquarters with the load of furs traded to them by the Indian trappers.

Knowledge of such posts is usually found in scattered references and is fragmentary if it exists at all. However, Connor relates the incidents of daily life of himself and his crew, his relationships to the Indians and the Indians living among them around the post. He notes many items concerning the situation of his post and creates an overall image of life in an isolated, rough and often hostile environment. Thus, while his situation cannot be wholly reproduced, it has been considered that the reconstruction of the post will help, regardless of the limitations, in recreation some of the atmosphere and add to the knowledge of what a wintering post was like during the early fur trade era.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached continuation sheet.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		
NW	45°	49'	13"	93°	01'	05"		
NE	45°	49'	29"	93°	00'	35"		
SE	45°	49'	13"	93°	00'	35"		
SW	45°	49'	29"	93°	01'	05"		

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Donn Coddington, Historic Sites Supervisor

ORGANIZATION: **Minnesota Historical Society** DATE: **December 28, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY OR TOWN: **St. Paul** STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **27**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name *Russell W. Fridley*

Title Director, Minn. Historical Society

Date February 5, 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

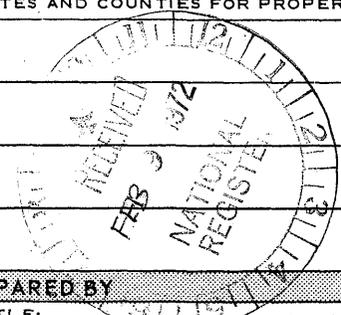
Robert M. Italy
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 8/2/72

ATTEST:

William H. Huntley
Keeper of The National Register

Date _____



15/497150/5078105
 1-28-72
 SEE INSTRUCTIONS
 15/496750/5078800

15/497150/5078105

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Minnesota	
COUNTY Pine	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	AUG 7 1972

(Number all entries)

9. Bibliography

Birk, Douglas A. 1970. Preliminary Notes Concerning The North West Company Post On Whitefish Lake, Crow Wing County, Minnesota. Unpublished manuscript in archaeological record files on the Minnesota Historical Society.

Campbell, Marjorie Wilkins, The North West Company, St. Martin's Press, New York, 1957.

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Jackson, Donald. 1966. Journals of Zebulon Montgomery Pike. University of Oklahoma Press. Norman, Oklahoma.

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Phillips, Paul C., The Fur Trade, Vol. I & II, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Oklahoma, 1961.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Minnesota	
COUNTY Pine	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
AUG 7 1972	

(Number all entries)

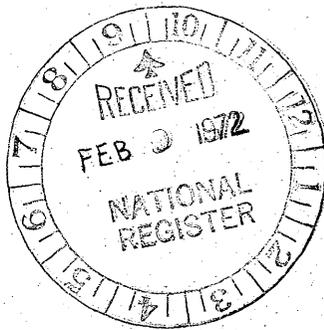
9. Bibliography (continued)

Ramere, Anthony (ed.), "The Pine Island Fort", Saskatchewan Archaeological Newsletter, No. 15, pp. 8-9. Regina, 1966.

Wallace, William Stewart, Documents Relating to the North West Company, The Champlain Society, Toronto. 1934.

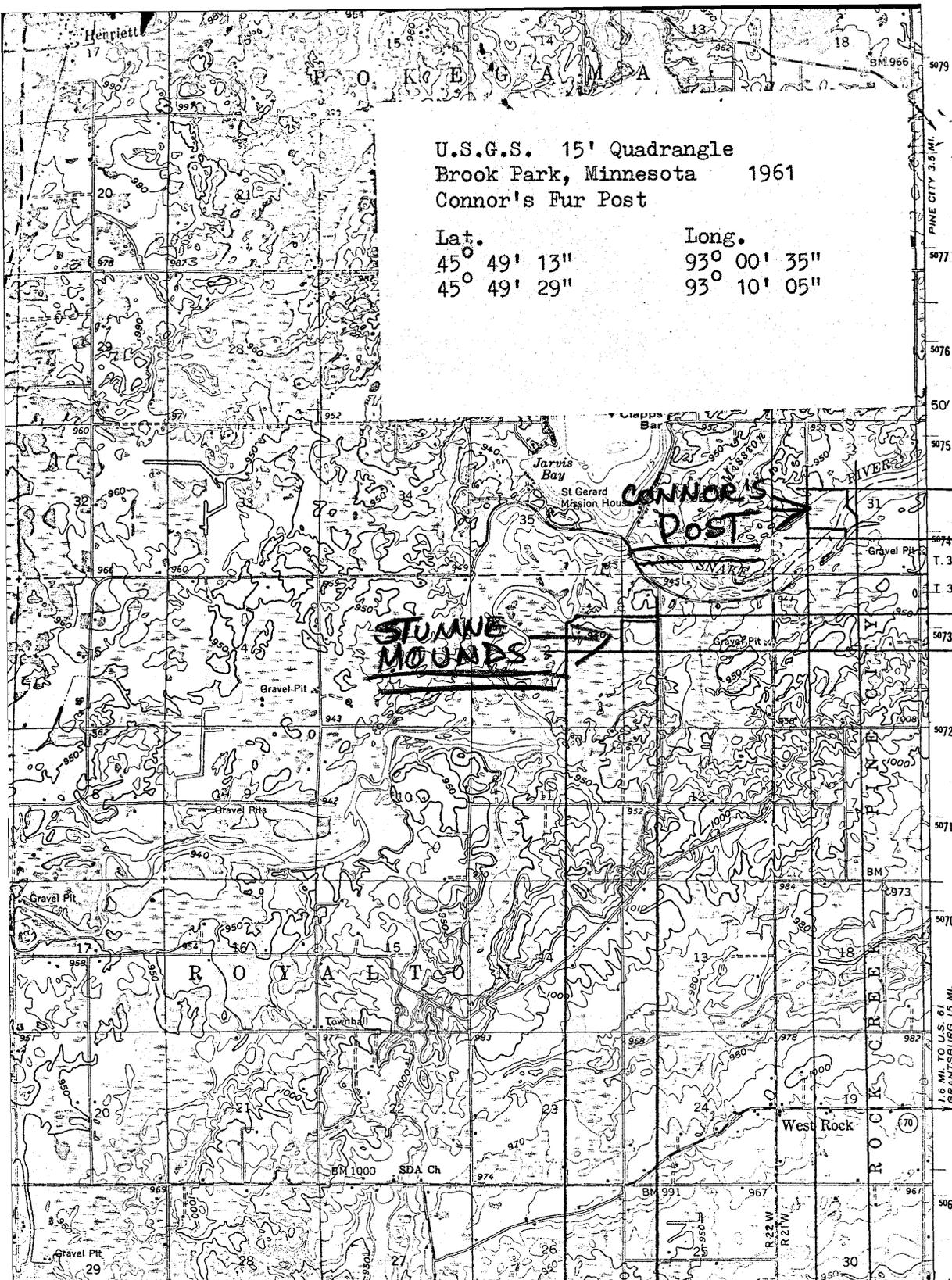
Woolworth, Alan R., Archaeological Excavations at the Northwest Company's Fur Trade Post, Grand Portage, Minnesota, in 1936-1937, unpublished manuscript, copies in possession of Archaeology Department MHS and NPS.

Woolworth, Alan R. and W. Raymond Wood. 1960. "The Archaeology of a Small Trading Post (Kipp's Post, 32MN1) in the Garrison Reservoir, North Dakota," in Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 176, River Basin Survey Papers No. 20, Washington, D.C.

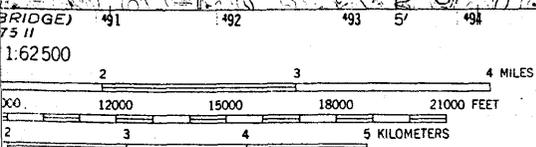


U.S.G.S. 15' Quadrangle
 Brook Park, Minnesota 1961
 Connor's Fur Post

Lat. Long.
 45° 49' 13" 93° 00' 35"
 45° 49' 29" 93° 10' 05"



45° 49' 29"
 45° 49' 13"
 45° 48' 59"
 45° 48' 47"



VERTICAL SCALE 10 FEET
 ABOVE SEA LEVEL



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
 Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
 Medium-duty - - - - - Unimproved dirt - - - - -
 ○ State Route

BROOK PARK, MINN.
 N4545-W9300/15

1961

AMS. 7375 I-SERIES V772

NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 AVAILABLE FROM THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR
 INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.
 A LIST OF MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

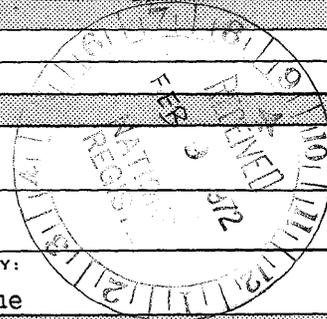
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

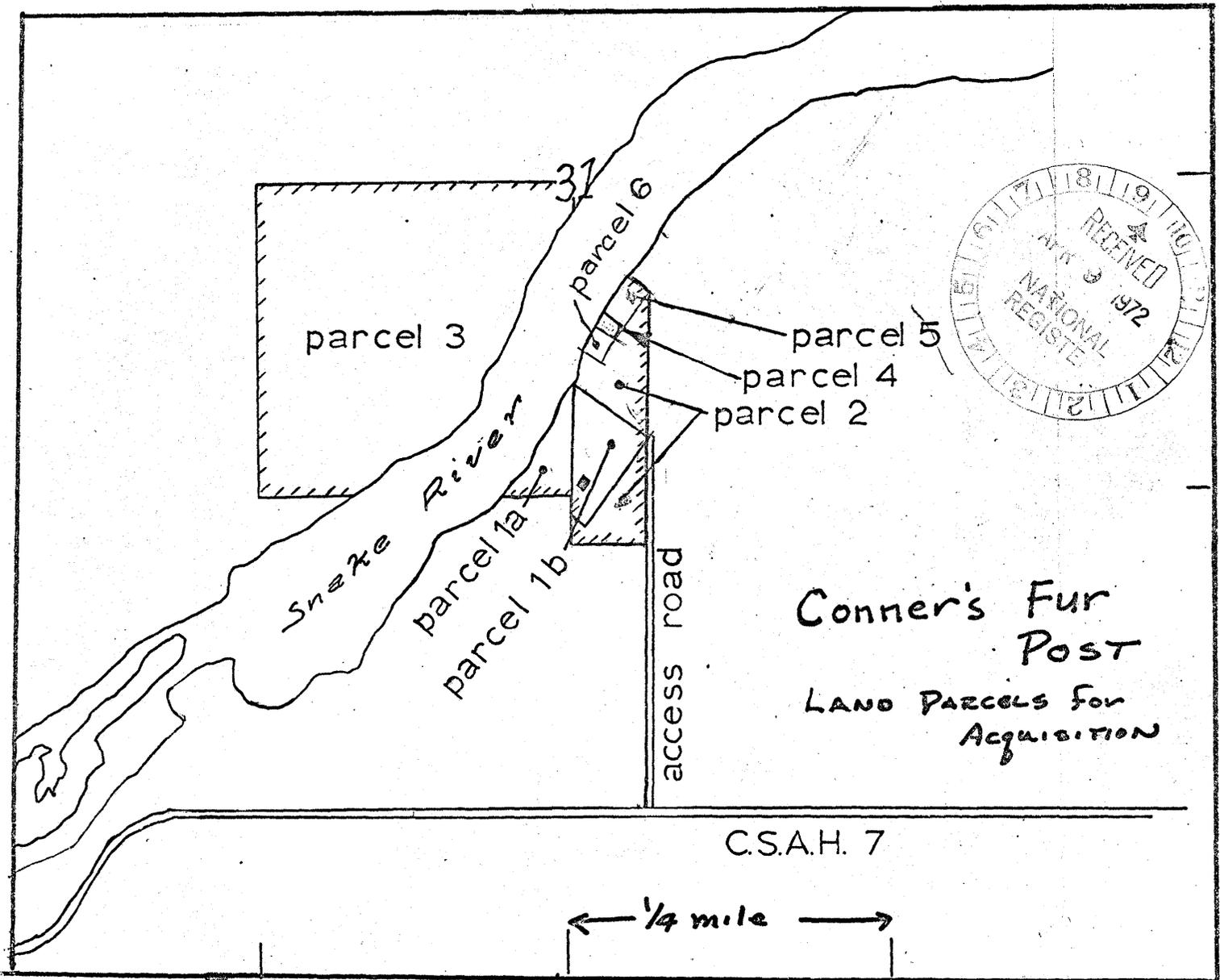
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Minnesota	
COUNTY Pine	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER AUG 7 1972	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Connor's Fur Post			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Pine City			
STATE: Minnesota	CODE 27	COUNTY: Pine	CODE 115
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 15' Quadrangle Brook Park, Minnesota			
SCALE:			
DATE: 1961			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			





parcel 3

SNAKE RIVER

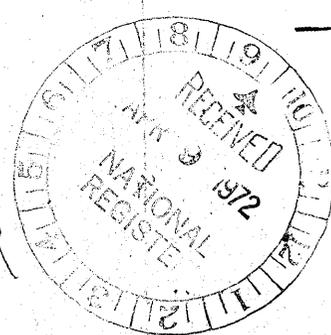
parcel 1a
parcel 1b

37
parcel 6

parcel 5
parcel 4
parcel 2

access road

Conner's Fur
Post
LAND PARCELS FOR
ACQUISITION



C.S.A.H. 7

← 1/4 mile →

Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Minnesota	
COUNTY Pine	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER AUG 7, 1972	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Connor's Fur Post			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Pine City			
STATE: Minnesota	CODE 27	COUNTY: Pine	CODE 115
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: Sketch map Minnesota Historical Society			
SCALE: $\frac{1}{4}$ mile = 2"			
DATE: 1969			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

