

Historic Name: School District #8

Common Name: Rowena School

Owner's Name and Address: (see continuation sheet)

80002131
County: Redwood
Clements vic.
Community: New Avon Town-
ship
Address/Legal Desc.:
County Road 70

DEC 12 1978
TOWNSHIP
REGISTER

Classification:

Building Structure _____ Object _____ District _____

Acreage:
Approximately 4 acres

Condition:

Excellent _____ Good Fair _____ Deteriorated _____

Verbal Boundary Desc.:
See continuation sheet

Open to the Public:

Yes No _____
When in Use _____

Visible from the road:

Yes No _____

Occupied:

Yes No _____

Present Use:

Township Hall

History:

Date Constructed: 1908

Original Owner: School District

UTM Reference:
15/328660/4197210
Rowena Quad. 7.5

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Original Use: School

Description:

The School District #8 building is located on the northern edge of the platted area of Rowena in New Avon Township. The T-shaped building has the fieldstone foundation, white-painted clapboard siding, and cedar-shingled roof characteristic of area rural schools of the period. A series of large four-light windows are located on the west and north sides of the building, and a simple stick design is displayed in each of the three gables. The tower and bell are intact over a recessed entrance at the foot of the "T".

The interior of the building includes intact wainscoting and pressed tin ceiling. Two separate cloakrooms lead from the entrance to the main schoolroom. Between these areas are a small library-storeroom and a stairway to a full basement. The larger size of the building typifies the later-constructed rural schools of the county.
(see continuation sheet)

Level of Significance:

Local
State _____
Nation _____

Status:

Survey _____ Date _____
Local _____
State _____
Nat'l. Reg. _____
Nat'l. Land. _____
HABS/HAER _____

Significance:

Curtiss-Wedge's History of Redwood County (1916) describes the facilities of over 100 school districts, and terms #8 as "a very good school, having a well-equipped schoolroom and a good barn." As is typical in most locations, the few rural school buildings that have survived are most often in use as township halls. In Redwood County, the #8 building is unusual among the survivors in that it retains both its barn and outhouse.

Since the consolidation of the district, New Avon has continued to utilize the school for both governmental and social functions of the township. The frequent continued use of the building has helped to insure its preservation.

Apart from the farmsteads, rural schools once constituted the major variant features on the non-urban prairie landscape. District #8 is significant as a representative county example of the early dispersed system of education, and especially is noteworthy for the ensemble integrity of the school and outbuildings.

Theme/s:

Primary Education
Secondary Government
Other _____

Local Contact/Org.:

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Salfer
Wabasso, MN

Prepared by and date:

Dennis A. Gimmestad
September 1978

60362704001100

Description:

Located at the rear of the original school property is a one-story rectangular frame barn. This red-painted structure has a gable cedar-shingled roof and a central door on its broad side. Adjacent to the barn is a white frame outhouse.

Although the school is situated near a platted area, Rowena's growth never reached sizable proportions, and the farmlands bordering the school yard give the site a definite rural character.

Owner and Legal Description:

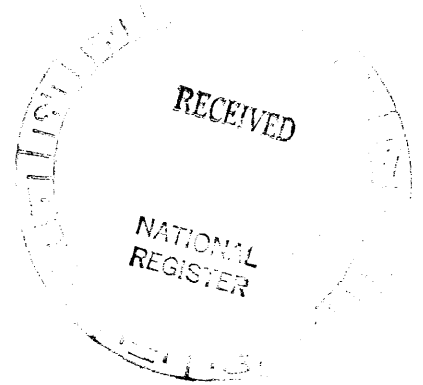
Owner: New Avon Township; Wabasso, MN 56293

All that part of N $\frac{1}{2}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 27 bound as follows: on N by LN // & dist 130' from N LN First St. Ext. E on E by LN // with & dist E 220' from E LN of Pine Street on S by S D Ext. N LN of First Street & on W by E LN of Pine Street.

Owner: Albert Hamptli; Wabasso, MN 56293

An adjoining tract extending 50' North and the full 220' East-West Width of the above described tract.

Significance:



AUG 11 1990

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper Melvin Lynn
11/19/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Note: These changes apply to
School District No. 8 in Redwood
County, Minnesota.

REFERENCE NUMBER: 80002131

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Redwood

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): District School No. 8

CITY:

VICINITY OF: Clements

ADDRESS: Co. Rd. 70

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988

Date