

MINNESOTA HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

HISTORIC NAME: Schwyzer Farmstead

COUNTY: 80002114 Pine Sandstone vic.

CURRENT NAME: "Northwoods" Audubon Center

CITY/TWP.: Dell Grove

LEGAL DESC.: T42N, R21W, Section 16
Gov't. Lot 4 & southerly 1/3 of Gov't Lot 5ADDRESS: East shore of Grindstone
Lake off of County Road
17

CLASSIFICATION:	CONDITION:	SIGNIFICANCE:	THEME/S:
Building <u>X</u>	Excellent <u>X</u>	Local <u>X</u>	Primary <u>Recreation</u>
Structure _____	Good _____	State _____	Secondary <u>Agriculture</u>
Object _____	Fair _____	National _____	Others _____
District _____	Deteriorated _____		

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Yes X No _____ Restricted X
 VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD: Yes X No _____
 OCCUPIED: Yes X No _____

PRESENT USE:
Wildlife Sanctuary

DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1901+

ORIGINAL USE: Summer retreat

ORIGINAL OWNER: Arnold Schwyzer

ARCHITECT/BUILDER:

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

National Audubon Society
950 3rd Ave.
New York, New York 10022Boat House owned by:
Harold Bradford
3531 Ridgewood Road
St. Paul, MN 55112ACREAGE: Less than one acre
approx. 55LOCAL CONTACT/ORG.: Pine County Historical Society
Askov, MN 55704

UTM REFERENCE:

Sandstone Quad. 15
A. 15 / 500250 / 5107460
B. 15 / 500250 / 5106950
Kroschel Quad. 7.5
C. 15 / 499690 / 5106950
D. 15 / 499690 / 5107460

FORM PREPARED BY: Mark Haidet

DATE: March 1980

DESCRIPTION:

The Schwyzer farmstead occupies a spacious wooded property on the east shore of Grindstone Lake in central Pine County. The majority of structures are located on the wooded shoreline; most agricultural structures are in a clearing northeast of the house. Descriptions of each of the structures follow and are keyed to the attached map.

1. Residence (1902, 1912, +). The sprawling irregular shaped two story frame dwelling is at the north end of the complex. It is sheathed in clapboard painted green. The original section faces Grindstone Lake and rests on a fieldstone foundation; the north half was constructed in 1902 and the southern half in 1912. The structure's primary decorative features are its six gable-roofed wall dormers on the principal facade, a screened porch with a dentilated design on the cornice, and a fieldstone fireplace on the rear of the structure. Fenestration consists primarily of single light double hung windows. Two major additions have been added to the rear of the house in recent years and the summer kitchen (1902) has been connected to the house.

2. Log House (ca.1919). Constructed of horizontal round logs with saddle-notched corners covered by a low pitched gable roof with overhanging eaves and exposed ribs. The structure sits on a fieldstone foundation and has a screened front porch.

3. Boat House (ca.1924). Frame construction with hipped roof and projecting screened porch on the lakeside.

4. Garage (ca.1923). Frame construction, fieldstone foundation, and hipped roof.

5. Horse Barn (ca.1902). Small gable-roofed frame structure.

6. Ice House Foundation (ca.1910). Rectangular fieldstone foundation on lakeshore.

7. Tenant's Residence (Intrusion) (1947). A square plan frame house on a concrete block foundation covered by a gable roof with boxed cornice and gable returns. A recently completed room addition is located on the west side. Fenestration consists of four-over-four double hung windows. This tenant house was constructed in 1947 to replace an earlier tenant's residence.

8. Servants' Quarters (1901). A square one story frame structure resting on a fieldstone

(see continuation sheet)

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foundation and covered by a pyramidal roof. Fenestration consists of three closely spaced two-over-two double hung windows on each side except on the east side where a single leaf door occupies the central opening. The building, often called the "Pavilion", is located on a point overlooking the lake.

9. Shed (ca.1908). A small frame shed with poured concrete foundation.
10. Root Cellar (1927). A two room fieldstone root cellar measuring 102' in length and placed in the side of a hill.
11. Dairy barn (1914), granary (1921), and silo (1927) foundation. A large dairy barn measuring 148' by 38' with attached granary and two attached silos once stood at the western end of the clearing. The building was destroyed by fire in 1963 and only the foundation remains.
12. Barn (1923). A small bellcast gambrel-roofed barn. Fenestration consists of diamond shaped windows flanking the haymow door, ten evenly spaced small four-light windows on the east and west stable walls, and four-over-four double hung windows on either side of the south entrance.
13. Pump House (1901). A small rectangular frame structure adorned with simple end posts and covered by a gable roof pierced by a brick chimney. Presumably, this building was the original cabin on the property.
14. Metal Machine Shed (Intrusion) (1952). Gable-roofed rectangular structure measuring seventy-five feet by twenty-four feet.

All frame structures in the wooded area are painted green with the exception of the boathouse which is painted brown. The barn and pumphouse are painted red with white trim. The buildings and grounds are in an extremely well preserved condition.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Schwyzzer Farmstead on Grindstone Lake is significant primarily for its association with the recreational opportunities centered on Pine County's numerous lakes. At the turn of the century, entertainment-oriented resort inns on Cross and Pokegama Lakes near Pine City hosted a large clientele of tourists. Later, small rustic fishing-oriented resorts flourished on many county lakes, and, most recently, the trend has been towards privately owned lakeside cottages. The Schwyzzer farmstead stands as an early example of the private seasonal residences, and the desire of many early prominent urbanites to seek a recreational haven outside of the city. Dr. Arnold Schwyzzer, a prominent St. Paul surgeon and close associate of the renowned doctors Mayo, acquired a substantial portion of the shoreline on Grindstone Lake beginning in 1902 for use as a family summer retreat. The family spent summers on the farm until 1944. Schwyzzer developed a large dairying operation on the property about 1915.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Castle, Henry A. History of St. Paul and Vicinity. 3 vols. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1912. pp. 676-77.

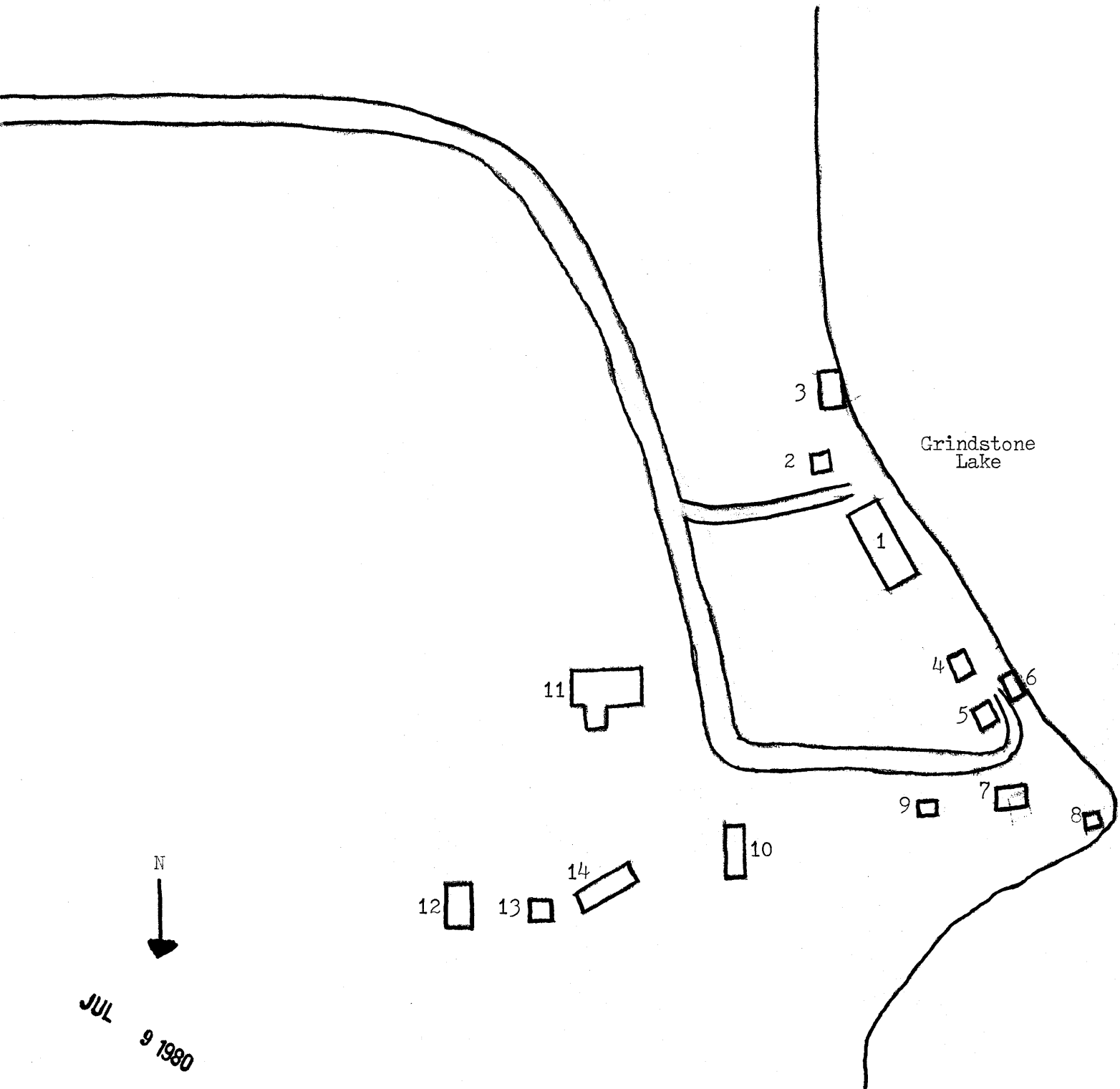
Schwyzzer (Arnold) Papers. Division of Archives and Manuscripts. Minnesota Historical Society.

Schwyzzer, Hanns C. Letter to Mark Haidet of January 16, 1980. (In Minnesota SHPO files.)

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SCHWYZER FARMSTEAD

- Map showing approximate locations of buildings;
not drawn to scale



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Note: These changes apply to
Schwyzer Farmstead in Pine County,
Minnesota.

REFERENCE NUMBER: 80002114

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Pine

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): Schwyzer, Arnold, Summer House and
Farmstead

CITY:

VICINITY OF: Sandstone

ADDRESS: Co. Rd. 17

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal
Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988
Date