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|--|---|---|
| Historic Name: Roscoe Butter and Cheese Factory | | County: Goodhue <i>Pine Island vic.</i> |
| Common Name: the old cheese factory | | Community: Roscoe Township |
| Owner's Name and Address: Wesley Lehman Pine Island, MN 55963 | | Address/Legal Desc.: County Road 11, Roscoe |
| Classification: | | Acreage: |
| Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure _____ Object _____ District _____ | | Less than one acre |
| Condition: | | Verbal Boundary Desc.: A parcel of land located 561 ft. east of the north-west corner of Section 29, Roscoe township, measuring 185 east and west along County Rd. 11 by 132 ft. north and south. |
| Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated _____ | | |
| Open to the Public: | Visible from the road: | |
| Yes _____ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No _____ | |
| Occupied: | Present Use: | |
| Yes _____ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | storage | |
| History: | | UTM Reference: |
| Date Constructed: 1898 | Original Owner: Roscoe Butter and Cheese Factory | 15/518460/4896680 |
| Architect/Builder: Unknown | Original Use: butter and cheese factory | Concord Quadrangle |
| Description: | | Level of Significance: |
| The Roscoe Butter and Cheese Factory is located on the south side of Goodhue County Highway 11, just east of Township Road 27, in the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 19 of Roscoe Township. | | Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| The Roscoe Butter and Cheese Factory is an unadorned, utilitarian structure, rectangular in shape and built of orange-red brick. One and a half stories tall, it has a gambrel roof with the gable end facing the street and two gabled dormers projecting from each side. Its facade is three bays wide, with a central doorway flanked by two tall, narrow, flat-topped windows. Two square openings are cut in the gable end, which is wood planks covered with tar paper. A brick chimney rises from the southeast corner of the building. | | State _____ |
| Although all of the openings in the Roscoe Butter and Cheese Factory are boarded up, the building is in relatively good condition, with a new roof. | | Nation _____ |
| Significance: | | Status: |
| The Roscoe Butter and Cheese Factory is significant both as an example of the type of small, rural factories that emerged to process the products of dairy farms, and for its association with the Cooperative Movement. | | Survey _____ Date _____ |
| As dairying replaced wheat-growing as the principal form of agriculture in southeastern Minnesota by the end of the 19th century, such industries as butter and cheese-making emerged to process the output of the farms. Typically, these operations were at first performed close to the source of supply, in small manufacturing facilities scattered throughout the dairy region. In Goodhue County alone, for example, there were 19 creameries and 17 cheese factories distributed throughout 17 of its townships by the 1930's. Many of these local processing plants were built and operated by farmers' cooperatives. As such, they were part of the larger "Cooperative Movement," the major effort by farmers to band together to solve | | Local _____ |
| | | State _____ |
| | | Nat'l. Reg. _____ |
| | | Nat'l. Land. _____ |
| | | HABS/HAER _____ |
| | | Theme/s: |
| | | Primary <u>Industry</u> |
| | | Secondary <u>Agriculture</u> |
| | | Other _____ |
| | | Local Contact/Org.: |
| | | Goodhue House Historical Society, Red Wing |
| | | Prepared by and date: |
| | | B. Michael Zuckerman August 1978 |

(continued)

Description:

Significance:

their economic problems that was one of the most significant developments in the history of rural Minnesota.

The Roscoe Butter and Cheese Factory exemplifies these various trends. It was built in 1898 by a cooperative of Roscoe Township farmers to replace earlier buildings on the site dating back to 1890. The farmers' cooperative, and its successor, the Roscoe Dairy Association, continued to operate the factory until its demise in 1949. The small-scale nature of this early, locally-oriented phase of the dairy industry is well reflected in the humble proportions of the building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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**Note: These changes apply to
Roscoe Butter and Cheese Factory in
Goodhue County, Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 80002054

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Goodhue

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):

CITY:

VICINITY OF: Pine Island

ADDRESS: Co. Hwy. 11

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

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

JUN 17 1988

Date