

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only  
received FEB 17 1982  
date entered APR 1 1982

**1. Name**

*Pope County Multiple Resource Area*

historic *Historic Resources of Pope County (Partial Inventory)*

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number *The county limits of Pope County, Minnesota* N/A not for publication

city, town N/A vicinity of congressional district *7th*

state *Minnesota* code *22* county *Pope* code *121*

**3. Classification**

*Multiple Resource*

Category	N/A	Ownership	N/A	Status	N/A	Present Use	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> district		<input type="checkbox"/> public		<input type="checkbox"/> occupied		<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)		<input type="checkbox"/> private		<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied		<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure		<input type="checkbox"/> both		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<b>Public Acquisition</b>		<b>Accessible</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> in process		<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
<i>mr</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> being considered		<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted		<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		N/A		<input type="checkbox"/> no N/A		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name *Multiple Ownership - see inventory forms*

street & number *N/A*

city, town N/A vicinity of state

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. *Recorders Office - Pope County Courthouse*

street & number

city, town *Glenwood* state *Minnesota*

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title *Statewide Survey of Historic Resources*

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date *1979* ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records *Minnesota Historical Society -- 240 Summit Avenue--Hill House*

city, town *St. Paul* state *Minnesota*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 17 1982

DATE ENTERED APR 1 1982

Historic Resources of Pope County, Minnesota

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

This Multiple Resource Area Nomination is based on a survey of standing structures conducted in Pope County by the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office as part of a long-range statewide survey of historic resources. The properties included in the nomination represent those which illustrate significant aspects of the history of the county and which have been deemed eligible for nomination to the National Register at the conclusion of the survey. Additional information and new perspectives for evaluation of specific types of historic properties are continually being gained as the statewide survey progresses, and it is quite possible that additional Pope County properties will be nominated in the future. These may be presented individually or as parts of thematic groups when the entire survey is completed. For this reason, this Multiple Resource Area Nomination should not be construed as representing all properties in Pope County eligible for nomination.

(The above disclaimer is based on an agreement between Charles Herrington, HCRS, and Russell Fridley, Minnesota SHPO, August 31, 1979)

## Standing Structures

The basis of the survey for this nomination is an inventory of structures which are indicative of various aspects of the county's history. Structures were identified and inventoried during a county-wide survey conducted during the summers of 1979 and 1980.

Selection of structures for the inventory included both field reconnaissance of pre-identified sites and isolation of sites on a purely visual basis. Pre-identification of sites was limited to a small number of the most significant locations (those unique on a county wide scale, or significantly linked with some aspect of county history.) County histories, individual community histories, and photographs from both the state society and private collections were researched for site-specific information. General references to common buildings were not noted.

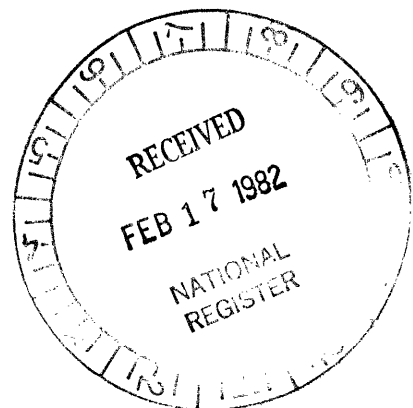
Township and city maps from the 1910 Pope County Atlas were copied for field use. Plat maps on file in the county recorder's office were researched for original plat information (proprietors, survey and filing dates) and for addition dates. The filing dates for the various platted areas were noted on current highway department city maps. This collection of maps was useful in gaining a localized sense of development for areas of the county.

All city streets were walked or driven. All rural non-farm structures, pre-identified sites, and locally suggested buildings were visited. The roads connecting these dispersed sites provided a strong sampling of the rural landscape. Pre-identified sites were inventoried regardless of integrity. Other buildings with unusual integrity or unique features were also inventoried. In general, structures built before 1940 were considered for an inventory.

Follow-up information (both localized specific and generalized contextual) on some sites was gathered to help establish significance.

In each region of the county, at least one and in most cases several local contacts were made through the county historical society and by random inquiry. These were most often helpful in locating information on selected properties, but also in pointing out additional locations for inventory.

From the inventory of approximately 216 sites, 9 properties were selected for nomination to the National Register, mostly on the basis of their significance within the county. Information and photographs on all sites are recorded on inventory forms for a permanent record.



## POPE COUNTY

Pope County, located in west central Minnesota, is a nearly perfect rectangle composed of 20 congressional townships. The gently rolling topography is interspersed with several small lakes; the largest, Lake Minnewaska, is nearly at the county's center. The east and main branches of the Chippewa River run meandering courses through the county.

The county's 718 square miles are in the following land use categories:

68%	cropland
10%	pasture
6%	urban
5%	woodland
11%	other

The platted urban areas of the county are concentrated in the northern half, where the major rail lines were constructed. With one exception (New Prairie), the communities which were established on the rail lines have remained as incorporated communities. They are (with 1970 populations):

Cyrus	289
Farwell	102
Lowry	257
Sedan	55
Starbuck	1138
Villard	221
Westport	65

The other incorporated communities, both on Lake Minnewaska, are Glenwood (population 2584), established before rail construction, and Long Beach (population 219), a lakeshore community incorporated in the late 1930s.

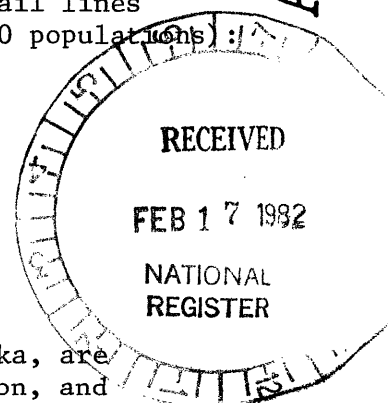
The only "urban" area in the southern portions of the county is the hamlet of Terrace in Chippewa Falls Township. Centered around the Terrace Mill and its millpond, this community has never incorporated.

Outside these platted communities, there are several "crossroads" areas which have retained place names (Nora in the northwest, Gilchrist in the south central, and Grove Lake in the east central). The other major centers for the rural areas are the numerous rural churches, schools-turned-town-halls, and the county's 1270 farmsteads.

The territory comprising Pope County was acquired by the U.S. through the treaty at Traverse des Sioux in 1851. Two segments of the Middle (Plains) Red River Trail, passing through the extreme northwest corner of the county and through the county on a route roughly following present highway 55, carried some St. Cloud-Red River traffic through the county during the 1840s and 1850s. General John Pope, for whom the county was named, was in the area in 1844 on an exploring expedition.

The congressional townships in the eastern three-fifths of the county were surveyed between 1856 and 1859, and county histories document scattered areas of settlement before 1862. One of the largest of these was comprised of four families who located southwest of Lake Johanna in the county's southeastern corner. As was the case in much of western

Area Description



and southern Minnesota, the area was evacuated during the Dakota Indian War of 1862. None of the actual events of the Uprising took place within Pope County, but two post-uprising frontier outposts were ordered established in the county, near Lake Johanna and near Lake Amelia.

Families returned and new settlers arrived during the years following the War; by 1870, the population of the county was 2,691, and tended towards a concentration in the northern and eastern townships. The 1860s also saw the establishment of the Wadsworth Trail through the center of the county, running from Sauk Centre around both sides of Lake Minnewaska to Fort Wadsworth in Dakota Territory. By 1880, the population had spread more evenly over the entire county and totalled 5,874; this nearly doubled to 10,032 by 1890. The rush of agricultural settlement during these decades comprised the county's major growth period; the population today (1970 census) is only slightly higher at 11,107. County narrative histories point to a predominance of Norwegians and Swedes in this population, with other representation of Scotch, Bohemian, American, and English.

The county lines had been delineated in 1862, but formal organization did not take place until 1866. The county seat was first designated as the settlement of Stockholm (since disappeared), but it was moved to the newly-platted community of Glenwood in 1867.

Records exist of one attempt at urban development during the "townsite mania" that was most common in the eastern portions of Minnesota during the 1850s. The townsite of Winthrop was laid out on the north shore of Lake Minnewaska, but apparently never developed. There is also an undocumented mention of a townsite on Westport Lake, in the county's northwestern corner on the Middle Trail, in 1866. This plat is known to have only supported a few buildings.

Two other townsites platted before 1880 have survived. Glenwood was laid out on the northeast shore of Lake Minnewaska by settlers Kirk J. Kinney and Alfred W. Lathrop in 1866. In 1870, George Wheeler, a settler from eastern Canada, platted the village of Chippewa Falls around the flour mill on the Chippewa River which he constructed with John Wheeler and William Moses.

These settlements were the sole "formal" platted urban areas of the county before 1882. Other crossroads communities centered around stores, post offices, or the numerous rural churches established during the period. The business of settling and developing the county's agricultural base continued through the period, the number of farmsteads rising to 1,023 by 1880.

In 1882, the first major rail connection reached the county when the Little Falls and Dakota Railroad Company (Northern Pacific) was constructed from the Northern Pacific line at Little Falls to Morris, on the St. Paul and Pacific (Great Northern). (A small portion of the St. Paul and Pacific had cut through the extreme southwestern corner of the county in 1867-71.) This provided connections to Glenwood, and provided the impetus for the establishment of four new communities within Pope County. Westport (Belcher), Villard, Starbuck, and Cyrus (Scandiaville) were all platted in 1882. Most of these plats bear the names of local landowners as proprietors, although the Westport plat is signed by Crawford Livingston, a St. Paulite with railroad affiliation.

In 1886, the Minneapolis and Pacific (later the Soo Line) was constructed on a diagonal through the northeastern portions of the county, following roughly the old Middle Trail and bisecting the Northern Pacific at Glenwood. Sedan, Lowry, and Farwell were platted the same year; each plat is signed by William D. Washburn, president of the M.&P., and by a local landowner or landowners, in the pattern characteristic of new townsites on the Soo Line. Lowry (named after Thomas Lowry, Vice President of the M.&P.) was, at first, designated as a division point, and a round house was constructed there; this was later transferred to Glenwood. The Soo Line branch to Winnipeg, constructed in 1903-04, left the main line at Glenwood, but no new townsites were platted within Pope County. In 1912, the townsite of New Prairie was platted on the Northern Pacific line between Starbuck and Cyrus by a local landowner, but except for a deteriorated store structure, all traces of this plat have disappeared.

Other than New Prairie, the rail townsites remained small agricultural service centers, providing, at first, shipping points for the vast wheat fields of the area and later for the varied products of the county's diversified farms. In typical fashion, they have continued to provide for commercial, educational, social, and medical needs. Local government and religious needs continue to be met both in the small townsites and, especially in the southern portions of the county, in isolated rural locations.

The value of Lake Minnewaska as a recreational resource began to be widely recognized by the turn of the century, and several lakeshore subdivisions (Camp Dakota, Sunnybeach, Stay-A-While Park, Woodland Park, Sunset Beach) appeared during the first decade of the century. This trend has continued both on Minnewaska and on the smaller lakes of the county. The area of shoreline immediately west of the city of Glenwood was sufficiently developed in incorporate as a separate city, Long Beach, in the late 1930s.

The architecture of the county is modest and functional in design, reflecting the popular designs available for various types of both urban and rural buildings. A few early log buildings remain from the initial decades of settlement. The bulk of the building stock reflects the typical characteristics of simple frame domestic structures, early frame and later masonry commercial buildings, and varied agricultural buildings of the diversified farmstead. These buildings are, in turn, located in the characteristic grids of railroad townsites or in the family farm situated in a section of the rectilinear government survey system. The bluffs and Lake Minnewaska provide some variation in setting for Glenwood and Starbuck. The location, lack of extensive strip development, and relatively limited functional changes have resulted in a high retention of the small town ambiance in Glenwood.

## POPE COUNTY

The major historic significance of the area of Pope County lies in its position as a component part of the large agricultural producing region of western Minnesota through the development of its farms and small town shipping and service centers. Other significant themes in the county are settlement by immigrant groups (particularly Scandinavian) and the development of one of the smaller but active centers of Minnesota's resort industry.

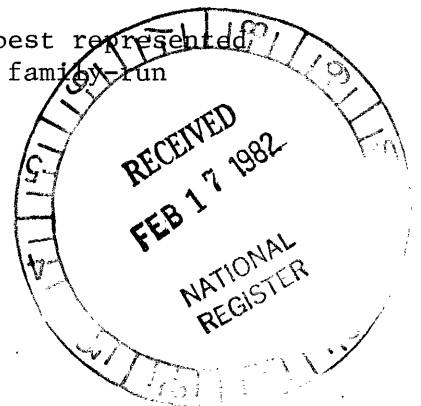
Two structures in the county are particularly good representatives of the first decades of rural settlement. The Urjans Iverson Cabin\* (1866, Gilchrist Township) is located in the Lake Johanna area, which hosted one of the more concentrated settlements of the early 1860s; four Norwegian families established residence in the vicinity in 1862. The Iverson Cabin acted first as a residence and subsequently as a school and a church. The Daniel Pennie House (c. 1880, Leven Township) was constructed by a locally prominent Scotch settler who homesteaded near a portion of the Middle Red River Trail in northwestern Pope County in 1865.

The Terrace Historic District (1870+, Chippewa Falls Township) has retained significant features of the communities platted during this period. Centered around a milling operation begun in 1870 by settlers from eastern Canada, the community is a marked contrast to the vast majority of flat trackside towns of western Minnesota. Its flour mill, which ground wheat locally, reflects a kind of rural commerce which changed considerably when the elevators of the later railroad communities spouted wheat into rail cars for processing and marketing elsewhere.

The improved transportation brought about by the rail construction of the 1880s both stimulated agricultural production and spawned a new system of townsites to act as shipping and service centers. Aspects of the commercial and service activities of these communities are illustrated by several buildings. One of the most central components of commerce was the Fremad Association, a co-operative store established by a Norwegian family in White Bear Township and in Glenwood, which operated an important mercantile business in Glenwood from 1874 to 1949. It also provided the impetus for the establishment of the Pope County State Bank. The second building of the Fremad Association (1893, 1919, Glenwood) and the first building of the Pope County State Bank (1908, Glenwood) occupy side-by-side positions today. Four well-preserved buildings illustrate facets of community service functions. These are the Lowry Public School (1902, Lowry), the Glenwood Public Library (1908, Glenwood), the Minnewaska Hospital (1900, Starbuck), and the Pope County Courthouse (1930, Glenwood).

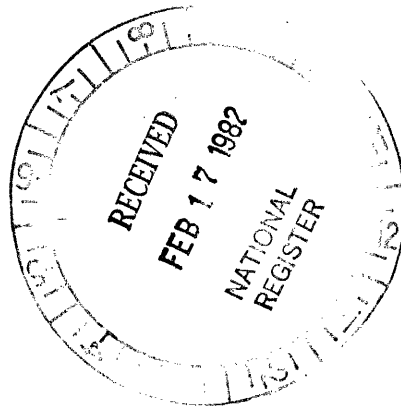
The development of the county's seasonal population is best represented by Sunset Beach\*(1915+, Glenwood Township), a well-preserved family-run resort on the southeastern shore of Lake Minnewaska.

\*submitted as individual nominations, December 1981



Pope County - continued

Architecture, traditionally speaking, is not a theme of primary significance in the county, but a few structures do stand out as locally distinctive. The Glenwood Public Library (1908, Glenwood) and the Pope County Courthouse (1930, Glenwood), both modest examples of their respective styles, are two of the most imposing structures in the county. The Daniel Pennie House (c. 1880, Leven Township) is notable as a rare example of grout construction technique in this part of the state. And the simple builders Craftsman style of the three buildings at Sunset Beach (1915, 1927, 1930, Glenwood Township) is significant as a surviving example of the style as applied to a growing resort industry in Minnesota during the first decades of the century.





## 9. Major Bibliographical References

UTM NOT VERIFIED

See attached sheets

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property N/A

Quadrangle name N/A

Quadrangle scale N/A

UMT References see individual inventory forms

A 

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 Zone Easting Northing

B 

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 Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

N/A See individual inventory forms

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

N/A

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dennis Gimmestad, Supervisor, Standing Structures Survey

organization Minnesota Historical Society

date October, 1980

street & number 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House

telephone 612-296-9545

city or town St. Paul

state Minnesota

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

N/A ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local see individual inventory forms

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date

2/2/82

For HCRS use only

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

See continuation sheet for listing

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Armstrong, Hart R., ed. "A Hundred Years of Greatness": Pope County, Minnesota Centennial Memorial Book, 1866-1966. (Glenwood?): Pope County Historical Society, 1966.

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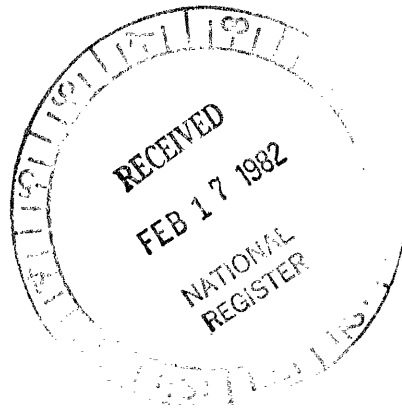
Hughes, Daisy E. Builders of Pope County. (Glenwood?): Privately published, 1930.

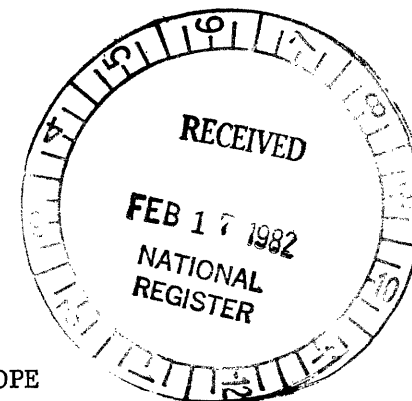
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Ogle, George A. and Company. Standard Atlas of Pope County, Minnesota, including a plat book of the villages, cities, and townships of the county. Chicago: George A. Ogle and Company, 1910.

Pope County Tribune Courthouse Edition. June 12, 1930.

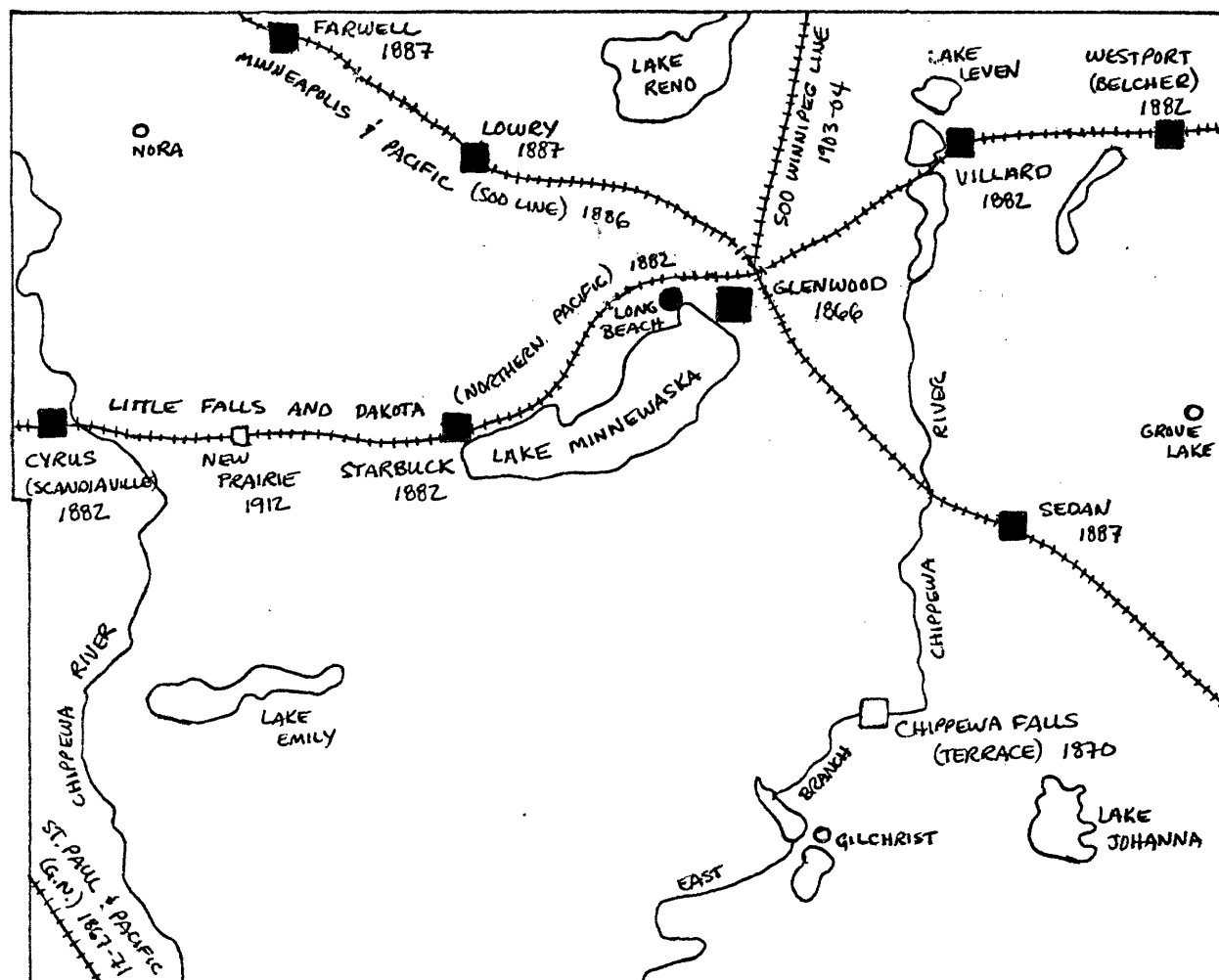
Starbuck Study Club. Starbuck 1882-1971: 89 Years of History from the Buggy to the Space Age. (Starbuck?): Privately published, c.1971.





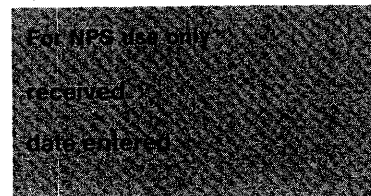
POPE  
COUNTY

- platted incorporated community (plat date)
- platted unincorporated community (plat date)
- incorporated lakeshore community
- unincorporated crossroads community



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area -  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Pope County Multiple Resource Area  
State MN

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- |  |                                     |                         |   |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Fremad Association Building (Pope County State Bank Building)     | Entered in the<br>National Register | for<br>Keeper<br>Attest | <u>Delores Byers 4/1/82</u>   |
| 2. Glenwood Public Library   | Entered in the<br>National Register | for<br>Keeper<br>Attest | <u>Delores Byers 4/1/82</u>   |
| 3. Pope County Courthouse  | Substantive Review                  | for<br>Keeper<br>Attest | <u>William H. Brachman 4.1.82</u><br><u>Linda M. Ueland 7/25/82</u> |
| 4. Terrace Historic District (expansion of Terrace Mill Hist. Dist.) | Entered in the<br>National Register | for<br>Keeper<br>Attest | <u>Delores Byers 4/1/82</u>   |
| 5. Lowry Public School   | Entered in the<br>National Register | for<br>Keeper<br>Attest | <u>Delores Byers 4/1/82</u>   |
| 6. Minnewaska Hospital   | Substantive Review                  | for<br>Keeper<br>Attest | <u>William H. Brachman 4.1.82</u>                                   |
| 7. Pennie, Daniel, House   | Entered in the<br>National Register | for<br>Keeper<br>Attest | <u>Delores Byers 4/1/82</u>   |
| 8. Sunset Beach Hotel (published as pending 1-26-82)                 |                                     | for<br>Keeper<br>Attest |   |
| 9. Urjans, Cabin (published as pending 1-26-82)                      |                                     | for<br>Keeper<br>Attest |   |
| 10. Terrace Mill Historic District (previously listed 7-17-79)       |                                     | for<br>Keeper<br>Attest |   |