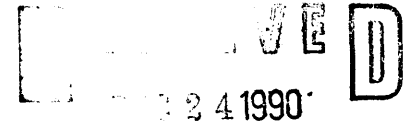


2200

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Point Douglas to Superior Military Road: Deer Creek Section
other names/site number Point Douglas to St. Louis River Road

2. Location

street & number off Co. Hwy. 16 not for publication N/A
city, town St. Croix Wild River State Park - Amador Twp vicinity Taylors Falls
state Minnesota code MN county Chisago code 025 zip code N/A

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	_____	_____ buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	1	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		1	0 Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Minnesota Military Roads
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official Ian R. Stewart Date 12/11/90
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau Minnesota Historical Society

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet. Entered in the National Register 2/7/91
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Transportation/road-related

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Transportation/pedestrian-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

other: earth road

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____

walls _____

roof _____

other earth

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

A 1.2 mile fragment of the Point Douglas-Superior Military Road runs along the west bank of the St. Croix River in Wild River State Park, Chisago County. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) maintains the fragment as an access road and hiking/ski trail. The earthen roadway is approximately 18 feet wide, and in some areas has a grassy crown.

The fragment begins in Section 22 of Amador Township (T35N R19W), at a junction with Chisago County Road 16. The fragment is used as a maintenance road by the park, and the DNR has installed a metal gate to limit access from the county road. The fragment then runs northwest, passing through dense woods and staying within approximately 500 feet of the St. Croix River. Due to the dense cover, it is not possible to see the river from the road fragment. After approximately 2500 feet, the military road fragment is intersected by a hiking trail coming from the west. North of this point, the road is used as a hiking trail, although it does not change in appearance.

In Section 21, approximately 4500 feet beyond the junction with County Road 16, the military fragment enters a replanted stand of pine and reaches a fork. The fragment follows the right (east) fork, and runs on a line within 20 feet of the river bank. The eligible section of road ends at a clearing located just south of Deer Creek and approximately 2000 feet beyond the fork.

The road fragment was still visible, although abandoned, when the DNR formed Wild River State Park in the early 1970s [1]. The DNR regraded and cleared sections of the fragment for use as an access road and hiking trail. Oral tradition associated the fragment with the Point Douglas-Superior Military road, and an 1857 survey of the road suggests that the fragment does conform to the original route [2]. An 1888 county atlas also clearly shows the road fragment running along the river bank [3]. The current appearance of the fragment is not inconsistent with the military road's original construction. However, when first built, the trees were probably cleared back at least 16.5 feet from either side of the center line, and ditching, corduroying and grading were probably evident [4].

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Continuation Sheet

Point Douglas to Superior Road:
Deer Creek Section

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NOTES

1. Douglas C. George, "Preliminary Evaluation of Archaeological and Historical Sites in the Sunrise Area of the St. Croix," unpublished report, 1972; copy on file at the Archaeology Department, Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul.
2. W.R. Kingsley, "Map of the US Military Road from Point Douglas to the Mouth of the St. Louis River," 1857; copy in Manuscript Division, Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul.
3. C.M. Foote and E.C. Hood, Plat book of Chisago County, Minnesota, (Minneapolis, 1888).
4. James Hervey Simpson, "Annual Report of Operations on the General Government Roads in the Territory of Minnesota," 20 September 1855, contained in Senate Executive Document 1, Part 2, 34 Congress, 1 Session (Serial 811), Pp. 468-500.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Transportation

Period of Significance
1853-1875

Significant Dates
1853

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Engineer: Simpson, James Hervey
Builder: Rollins, John

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet

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Point Douglas to Superior Road:
Deer Creek Section

Section number 8 Page 1

SIGNIFICANCE: Point Douglas to Superior Military Road: Deer Creek Section

The fragment is part of the Point Douglas-Superior Military Road, and is significant in the context of Minnesota Military Roads from 1850 to 1875. The road fragment meets the following registration criteria: it closely conforms to the route of the military road; it is in good physical condition, being unpaved, passable, and between 18 and 33 feet in width; the fragment is long enough to evoke a sense of function or "destination"; and the current setting is undeveloped and recalls that of the original roadway.

Captain James Hervey Simpson of the Corps of Topographical Engineers made a reconnaissance and survey of the Point Douglas-Superior Military road in 1851. At that time, the area which is now part of Wild River State Park was extremely rugged and difficult to travel. Simpson reported that "from Otis [three miles north of Marine Mills] to the St. Louis River [below Duluth], it is dense timber, the greater portion of which is traversed by extensive marshes and tamarack swamps." Due to the rough conditions, Simpson estimated that road construction would cost at least \$400 per mile [1].

The actual cost of the road through current-day Wild River State Park far exceeded Simpson's original estimate. On 3 May, 1853, Simpson awarded John Rollins the contract to build a twelve-mile section of road, which included the road fragment through what is now the state park. Rollins completed his work by September, and received \$7,370, or nearly \$600/mile [2]. There are no other reports of work on this section of road.

The road through the state park-area remained in use throughout the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. An 1888 county atlas shows that a schoolhouse stood on the west side of the road, midway across Section 21 and on the high ground between the marsh at the south end of Deer Creek and the river. The atlas also shows a structure standing on the west side of the road in the clearing where the eligible fragment ends [3]. A 1914 county atlas also depicts the road fragment, but does not indicate either the schoolhouse or the other structure [4]. The road fragment was eventually abandoned, and a 1950 atlas does not depict the road [5].

In 1972, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conducted an archaeological survey of the area in the process of acquiring the land for a state park. The abandoned road fragment was discovered, and interviews with local residents identified it as part of the Point Douglas-Superior Military Road [6]. The DNR cleared and regraded sections

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Continuation Sheet

Point Douglas to Superior Road:
Deer Creek Section

Section number 8 Page 2

of the road, and it is now maintained as a hiking/ski trail and access road for the park.

NOTES

1. James Hervey Simpson to John J. Abert, 15 September 1851, in House Executive Document 2, Part 1, 32 Congress, 1 Session (Serial 634), P. 440.
2. James Hervey Simpson to John J. Abert, 15 September 1854, in Senate Executive Document 1, Part 2, 33 Congress, 2 Session (Serial 747), P. 344; "Statement of Contracts Made During the Year 1853, for Works Under the Charge of the Bureau of Topographical Engineers," in Senate Executive Document 37, 33 Congress, 1 Session, P. 8.
3. C.M. Foote and E.C. Hood, Plat book of Chisago County, Minnesota, (Minneapolis, 1888).
4. Webb Publishing Company, Atlas and Farmers' Directory of Chisago County, Minnesota, (Minneapolis: Webb Publishing Company, 1914).
5. The Atlas Company, Official Plat Book of Chisago County, Minnesota, 1950, (St. Paul: The Atlas Company, 1950).
6. Douglas C. George, "Preliminary Evaluation of Archaeological and Historical Sites in the Sunrise Area of the St. Croix," unpublished report, 1972; copy on file at the Archaeology Department, Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 2.2 acres

UTM References

A 1, 5 | 5, 2, 1 | 3, 8, 0 | 5, 0 | 3, 9 | 6, 6, 0
Zone Easting Northing

C 1, 5 | 5, 2, 2 | 0, 8, 0 | 5, 0 | 3, 8 | 8, 8, 0

B 1, 5 | 5, 2, 1 | 7, 6, 0 | 5, 0 | 3, 9 | 3, 4, 0
Zone Easting Northing

D 1, 5 | 5, 2, 2 | 2, 8, 0 | 5, 0 | 3, 8 | 6, 6, 0

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Demian Hess, historical consultant
organization Jeffrey A. Hess, Historical Consultants date July 1989
street & number 710 Grain Exchange Building telephone 612-338-1987
city or town Minneapolis state Minnesota zip code 55415

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Continuation Sheet

Point Douglas to Superior Road:
Deer Creek Section

Section number 9 Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Point Douglas to Superior Military Road: Deer Creek Section

The Atlas Company. Official Plat Book of Chisago County, Minnesota, 1950.
St. Paul: The Atlas Company, 1950.

Foote, C.M. and E.C. Hood. Plat Book of Chisago County, Minnesota.
Minneapolis: 1888.

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Historical Sites in the Sunrise Area of the St. Croix." Unpublished,
1972; on file at the Archaeology Department, Minnesota Historical
Society.

Kingsley, W.R. "Map of the US Military Road from Point Douglas to the
Mouth of the St. Louis River," 1857. Copy in Manuscript Division,
Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul.

Simpson, James Hervey. "Annual Report of Operations on the General
Government Roads in the Territory of Minnesota," 20 Septemeber 1855,
in Senate Executive Document 1, Part 2, 34 Congress, 1 Session (Serial
811), Pp. 469-500.

Simpson, James Hervey to John J. Abert, 15 September 1851, in House
Executive Document 2, Part 1, 32 Congress, 1 Session (Serial 634), Pp.
438-443.

Simpson, James Hervey to John J. Abert, 15 September 1854, in Senate
Executive Document 1, Part 2, 33 Congress, 2 Session (Serial 747), P.
344-349.

"Statement of Contracts Made During the Year 1853, for Works Under the
Charge of the Bureau of Topographical Engineers," in Senate Executive
Document 37, 33 Congress, 1 Session.

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Point Douglas to Superior Road:
Deer Creek Section

Section number 10 Page 1

UTM REFERENCES CON'T: Point Douglas to Superior Military Road: Deer Creek
Section

E) 15:522570:5038190

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Point Douglas to Superior Military Road:
Deer Creek Section

The property consists of a 15-foot wide strip of land centered on the line delineated on the accompanying maps (USGS, 7.5 Minute Series, Cushing and St. Croix Dalles Quadrangles). The line connects the following UTM reference points: A 15 521380 5039660, B 15 521760 5039340, C 15 522080 5038880, D 15 522280 5038660, E 15 522570 5038190.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION: Point Douglas to Superior Military Road: Deer
Creek Section

The property boundaries encompass the visible roadway as determined through field survey by Demian Hess, 7 June 1989.