

## MINNESOTA HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

HISTORIC NAME: Sioux City & St. Paul Railroad COUNTY: Nobles  
 CURRENT NAME: Section House CITY/TWP.: Dundee  
 LEGAL DESC.: Block 1, School Addition, ADDRESS: NE corner Spencer Street  
 NW corner of tract including the west 100 and First Street  
 feet of the north 100 feet of the block

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

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Yes \_\_\_ No X Restricted \_\_\_ PRESENT USE:  
 VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD: Yes X No \_\_\_ Residence  
 OCCUPIED: Yes X No \_\_\_

DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1879 ORIGINAL USE: section foreman's house  
 ORIGINAL OWNER: Sioux City & St. Paul Railroad ARCHITECT/BUILDER:

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Ida Peddycoart ACREAGE: Less than one acre X  
 Dundee, MN 56126

LOCAL CONTACT/ORG.:

UTM REFERENCE:

15 / 301770 / 4857480

FORM PREPARED BY: Thomas Harvey

DATE: March 1979

Dundee, Minn.; 1:24,000

## DESCRIPTION:

The section house is a two story unadorned cottage with a rectangular plan. The main entrance is in the long side centered under a projecting center gable with window. The house is of clapboard construction. It was built in three sections, the two-story portion first, then an ell added to the rear, and later an enclosed lean-to porch off the ell. The ell is 1½-story and the porch is 1-story. Metal awnings have been placed over the front door and windows.

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Sioux City and St. Paul section house is significant as the first house built in Dundee, as an unusually unaltered early residence, and as a representation of rail importance in Nobles County. The SC & SP branch line was built through Dundee in the summer of 1879 and built a depot and section house in September. The local paper noted that "the railroad company has just completed a better depot and cottage at this point than there is on the main line between St. Paul and Sioux City." The depot has since been dismantled.

Dundee was slow to grow. A store built in 1880 made the town a trading point but little other progress was made. The town was not platted until 1891. By 1898 the town had incorporated.

The section house housed the depot agent, the section foreman, and another railroad employee.

The alignment of the house is unusual. Dundee is platted on a cardinal direction oriented grid, and every building in town, except the section house, face a cardinal direction. The section house is aligned with the railroad and faced the depot.

