orm No. 10-306 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPART IT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR N SE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 3 1980
DATE ENTERED SEP 17 1981

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Round Lake Logging Dam

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

NE of Fifield

STREET & NUMBER Two miles north of State Highway 70 on USFS Road 144

Outlet of Round Lake on South Fork of Flambeau —NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Fifield vic.

—X VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Wisconsin	55	Price	021

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
—DISTRICT	X—PUBLIC	—OCCUPIED	—AGRICULTURE	—MUSEUM
—BUILDING(S)	—PRIVATE	X—UNOCCUPIED	—COMMERCIAL	—PARK
X—STRUCTURE	—BOTH	—WORK IN PROGRESS	—EDUCATIONAL	—PRIVATE RESIDENCE
—SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	—ENTERTAINMENT	—RELIGIOUS
—OBJECT	—IN PROCESS	—YES: RESTRICTED	X—GOVERNMENT	—SCIENTIFIC
	—BEING CONSIDERED	X—YES: UNRESTRICTED	—INDUSTRIAL	—TRANSPORTATION
		—NO	—MILITARY	—OTHER:

AGENCY

United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: *(If applicable)*

Chequamegon National Forest

STREET & NUMBER

157 North 5th Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Park Falls —— VICINITY OF

STATE

Wisconsin

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Price County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Phillips

STATE

Wisconsin

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Report of the archaeological survey of Round Lake and Flynn Lake Wilderness Study Areas

DATE

1977

X—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Great Lakes Archaeological Research Center, Inc.

CITY, TOWN

Waukesha

STATE

Wisconsin

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	X DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Round Lake dam is a structure with two distinct portions. The first portion, comprising the greater part of the dam's length, is an earthen embankment to the south. The second portion is comprised of the sluiceways and gates, which were constructed of timber and then anchored to the south embankment and a much shorter north embankment. The earthen embankments have weathered the past 100 years well. The timber portion, however, is in a rapidly deteriorating condition. Although both of these portions comprise the whole dam, the timber structure is significant because it not only controlled the release of logs, it also regulated the water level. This assured that the structure would not be topped and possibly destroyed.

The sections of the timber portion that show the greatest deterioration are the abutments to the north and south, immediately under the dam's decking. The south abutment has almost completely collapsed, thereby allowing the south side of the decking to sag and settle badly. The north abutment has faired better to date, in that, although it is also collapsing, it is presently being restrained by pilings placed against the river bottom to support the decking. These pilings have given out under the stress on the south side.

The upstream timber abutment on the north embankment is also deteriorating. This fact has no current bearing of the structural condition of the dam, however, because this portion of the abutment is not weight bearing. Instead, it simply protects that portion of the north embankment from erosion.

Deterioration of the upstream abutment, nevertheless, provides a clue to the method of anchoring the timber structure. A link chain with a spike was driven into the back of the timber, while the other end of the chain was then anchored to a log buried back in the embankment. This method of anchoring the abutment was confirmed with Mr. Alfred Herbst, a Doering caretaker for over 40 years. Mr. Herbst helped rebuild the dam in the 1930s, and he remembered anchoring the abutment in that fashion. Mr. Herbst also added that Mr. Doering, the owner of the dam, liked to rebuild items just as they had been built before. Therefore, we may conclude that the anchoring system we found is representative of the system used back in the 1880s.

Having been rehabilitated in the 1930s, the only original timber that is apparent today is in the remaining floodgate and the two vertical pilings on either side of it. These original pilings, two of the five protruding above the deck on the downstream side, began to rot out at water level, consequently, new pilings were placed behind them in order to reinforce the structure. There may be other original timber in the structure hidden behind some of the plank facing.

Form No. 10-300a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 3 1980
DATE ENTERED SEP 17 1981

The dam contained three sluiceways. Although the timber sides of these sluiceways remain in fair shape, the plank bottom remains on only the two southern most sluiceways. The bottom of the north sluiceway is now the natural river bottom.

The log collection pond, immediately downstream from the dam, also had a timber abutment around its perimeter. Despite the fact that this abutment was completely replaced in the 1930s, constant exposure to the water has rotted much of it out.

The machinery used for raising and lowering the floodgates on the dam is no longer on the site. It had been removed and placed at a Forest Service storage site to protect it from vandals. The drive method used to control the gates was very simple. There were two gears on the same plane, one large and one small, for each of the three gate controls. The gears laid on a structure horizontally, with a vertical shaft running down to the decking. The gates were chain driven. Consequently, when a crank handle was placed on the portion of the shaft protruding above the small gear and turned, the chain, which was attached to the shaft of the large wheel, would either pull in or give out, thereby controlling the level of the gate.

The wooden structures which held the drive gears are in fair condition, as are most of the drive gears themselves. The one exception is one of the large gears where the center has been broken out.

It is likely that much of the wooden structure will have to be dismantled and reconstructed if the dam is to be restored.

GPO 892 455

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	__ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	X ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	X INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Between 1878 and 1886 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Round Lake Logging Dam was built on the South Fork of the Flambeau River between 1878, when its construction was authorized by the Wisconsin State Legislature, and 1886, when it was specifically mentioned in a title transfer deed.[1] It impounded water to move locally cut timber to downstream mills along the Mississippi and Chippewa Rivers, as well as local mills in Fifield. The dam served Wisconsin loggers until 1909, when the South Fork saw its last log drive. The dam was subsequently purchased by O.C. Doering,[2] a vice president of Sears, Roebuck and Company, in 1915. Under Mr. Doering's care the dam was maintained and later rebuilt. Doering family caretakers then proceeded to maintain the dam until shortly before the site became Government property in 1968.

The significance of the Round Lake Logging Dam can be discussed in five different categories: its role in understanding the developmental phases of Wisconsin logging practices, its place in the corporate lumber history of the Chippewa flowage, its relationship to the founding of Cornell University, its representative function as an object of folk technology and as an artifact in the history of historic preservation in the State of Wisconsin.

The logging industry in Wisconsin went through three stages of development. The initial stage was usually the establishment of an individual lumber mill. Nearby timber was cut, sawed and sold locally. The early lumber mills served a limited regional market, which they soon exhausted. The height of this stage occured in the 1830s and 1840s. The second stage began when the millowners had to look upriver for timber and downriver for new markets. Securing new sources of trees necessitated building flooding dams and driving cut logs downriver to sawmills located close to transportation facilities. The second stage began in the 1850s and actually continued until the forests were depleted.

In the final stage, which ran parallel with the log driving stage on the Chippewa River, companies purchased large tracts of forestland and organized huge river drives to booming areas where logs were stored, sorted and then rafted to corporate sawmills on the Mississippi River.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet Item No. 9, Page 1

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.7

UTM REFERENCES

UTM NOT VERIFIED

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	15	726470	5089730
B			
C			
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet Item No. 10, Page 1

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John N. Vogel, Principal Investigator

ORGANIZATION — DATE

USDA Forest Service Contract No. R9-02-80-6 — September 29, 1980

STREET & NUMBER — TELEPHONE

301 North 73rd Street — (414) 258-6598

CITY OR TOWN — STATE

Milwaukee — Wisconsin

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES X NO ____ NONE ____

Richard Keuper

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is ____National ____State ✓Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE BARRY R. FLAMM Director, Office of Environmental Quality — Janet Friedman for Barry Flamm — DATE July 24, 1981

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION — DATE 9/17/81

ATTEST: Beverly McClelland — DATE 9-17-81

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

GPO 892-303

Form No. 10-300a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 3 1980
DATE ENTERED SEP 17 1981

The Round Lake Dam was constructed during the third stage of Wisconsin's lumbering history. It is a good representation of both a sluicing and a flushing dam in the third or booming stage of logging development. It is also a unique structure in that it was used by local sawmills after the large corporate industries pulled out of the area. Consequently, it also represents a second stage logging dam serving a local sawmill with a regional market.

The Round Lake dam was built in the Chippewa Valley, the largest pine producing watershed in the State, and was located on the South Fork of the Flambeau River, the largest drainage system in the upper Chippewa Valley. Through this dam flowed millions of feet of logs, down to the mills along the Chippewa and Mississippi Rivers. This white pine became a key ingredient in the building of many new immigrant homes, and other nineteenth century structures.

The dam is also significant because it exists on land that once belonged to Ezra Cornell and Cornell University, one of the original land grant universities. As a result, the land in this area became involved in one of the most successful speculation schemes in American History. The dam is not significant so much because it merely sits on the land that once belonged to Cornell, but rather because the history of this dam will always have to remind others of this age of exploitation, individualism and corporate imperialism. The Round Lake dam's significance is further enhanced by its direct affiliation and use by Frederick Weyerhaeuser and his associates. Weyerhaeuser being one of the most powerful lumbermen in our nation's history.

The nineteenth century was a period of rapid technological change and the introduction of scientific ideas into industrial production. The technology of the lumberjack, however, did not experience the great changes that were occurring in the lumber industry, as well as in American Society. The lumberjack inspired a folk tradition. The lumberjack was also involved in a folk technology. Dams, such as the one built at Round Lake, were not the result of engineering science. A crucial part of the lumber industry comes out of the practical and effective "rule of thumb" experience of generations of lumbermen. The technology of this dam is part of an unwritten tradition and should be preserved as one of the last surviving representatives of the techniques of the woodlands.

Wooden structures deteriorate in a period of time, especially when exposed to wind, sun and water. The original Round Lake dam, though

Form No. 10-300a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 1 1980
DATE ENTERED SEP 17 1981

it had regular maintenance, deteriorated after fifty years. A concerned preservationist, Otto C. Doering, rehabilitated the structure in the 1930s and thus preserved the only known representative of a logging dam in northern Wisconsin. The efforts of Mr. Doering have now become a part of the history of historic preservation in the State. A history that is full of buildings and specific monuments but has very few examples of industrial technology.

GPO 892 455

Form No. 10-300a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 3 1981
DATE ENTERED SEP 17 1981

FOOTNOTES:

[1]Wisconsin, Laws of Wisconsin - 1878, Chapter 272; Deed by Joseph Viles to Frederick Weyerhaeuser, et. al., December 17, 1886, Deeds and Records of Price County, Phillips, Wisconsin.

[2]Deed by Menasha Wooden Ware Co. to Otto C. Doering, April 28, 1915, Deeds and Records of Price County, Phillips, Wisconsin.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Fries, Robert F. Empire in Pine. Madison: The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1951.

Gates, Paul W. The Wisconsin Pine Lands of Cornell University. Madison: The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1965.

Herbst, Alfred. Park Falls, Wisconsin. Interview. April 26, 1980.

Herbst, Alfred. Park Falls, Wisconsin. Interview. May 3, 1980.

Hidy, Ralph W.; Hill, Frank E.; Nevins, Allan. Timber and Men. New York: Macmillan Company, 1963.

Price County. Deeds and Records. Phillips, Wisconsin.

Twining, Charles E. Downriver. Madison: The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1975.

Wisconsin. Laws of Wisconsin - 1878. Madison: 1878.

Form No. 10-300a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 3 1980
DATE ENTERED SEP 17 1981

Commencing at the section corner common to Sections 22, 23, 26, and 27, T40N, R3E, thence east on the south section line of Section 23 approximately 1100 feet to an approximate meander corner on the shore of Round Lake; thence retracing west on the same section line approximately 350 feet to a point on the line, hereinafter called the point of beginning; thence due north a distance of 100 feet; thence due east paralleling the original section line approximately 320 feet to the shore of Round Lake; thence south and east along the shore of Round Lake to the approximate meander corner for the south section line of Section 23; thence west along the section line to the point of beginning; this parcel being identified as "Parcel A;" thence from the same point of beginning due south a distance of 200 feet; thence due east parallel to the south section of Section 23 a distance of approximately 420 feet; thence due north approximately 120 feet to the shore of Round Lake; thence west and north along the shore of Round Lake to the approximate meander corner of the south section line of Section 23; thence west along the selfsame section line to the point of beginning; this parcel being identified as "Parcel B."

GPO 892 455