

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Removal

Property Name: Itasca Lumber Company Superintendent's House

Multiple Name: Itasca County MRA

State & County: MINNESOTA, Itasca

Date Received:
12/17/2018

Date of Pending List:

Date of 16th Day:

Date of 45th Day:

Date of Weekly List:

1/31/2019

Reference number: OT82002976

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

☒ Accept ☐ Return ☐ Reject 2/4/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary
Comments:

Recommendation/
Criteria

Reviewer Roger Reed

Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2278

Date

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

Minnesota Historic Preservation Office

Request for Removal from the National Register of Historic Places

Name of Property: Itasca Lumber Company Superintendent's Residence (NR 82002976)

Address: 506 Fifth Street SE

City/Township: Deer River

County: Itasca

Reason for Removal: The property has ceased to meet the criteria for listing because the qualities which caused it to be listed have been lost or destroyed (36 CFR 60.15 (a)).

Dates and Nature of Change: Razed, circa 2011

Comments:

The nomination for the Itasca Lumber Company Superintendent's Residence spoke to the property's significance "for its association with the Itasca Lumber Company, . . . the foremost logging concern in the region."¹ The lumber company helped establish Deer River, where it platted an addition to the community and built several employee homes. The 1904 Superintendent's Residence, a log cabin built at the peak of the lumber company's activity in Deer River, was made from Norway pine logs measuring 18 inches in diameter and 30 feet in length. By 1982, when the property was added to the National Register of Historic Places, the lumber company's depot-office and mill were gone and its housing district was greatly altered, making the Superintendent's Residence "the most identifiable remaining link to this important firm."¹

Now this link to the company is lost as well. Records indicate that the house was put on the market as a bank foreclosure in 2005, with a "possible pest problem . . . termite issues . . . [and a] lead-based paint problem."² By 2016, the house had been demolished and an addition to the nearby Cyrus M. King Elementary School built on the site. Karen Storlie, a paraprofessional at the school, indicated in a May 2016 interview that the residence had been demolished three or four years earlier.³ No newspaper record of the demolition was found for either 2012 or 2013, but aerial photos indicate that the building was demolished after 2010 and before 2014, making 2011 the most likely date for the demolition.⁴ Ms. Storlie also mentioned that prior to demolition, some parts of the structure were salvaged; she herself acquired some windows and cabinets from the property.³

When it was nominated in 1982, the Itasca Lumber Company Superintendent's Residence retained the seven aspects of integrity (location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association) needed to be nominated to the National Register. The integrity of the

property's *setting* within a residential neighborhood is much the same, although the nearby elementary school's footprint has expanded since the nomination was written. The integrity of the *design* and *workmanship* was lost when the building was torn down. While some of the *materials* were salvaged before demolition, their integrity is lost without the context of the building itself. The integrity of *feeling* and *association* with the Itasca Lumber Company was also lost when the residence was demolished.

References:

¹Haidet, Mark. "Itasca Lumber Company Superintendent's Residence," National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 1982. Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office, Minnesota Historical Society, Saint Paul.

²Online house listing
(<http://208.229.144.62/us/us/homes/w/1348/&case=8000196454&/search.html>)
accessed and printed out 20 January 2005. Inventory files. Minnesota Historic Preservation Office, Minnesota Historical Society, Saint Paul. The listing mistakenly gives the house address as **504** Fifth Street SE; the correct number is 506.

³Storlie, Karen. Interview with Emily Ganzel. Deer River, Minnesota, 27 May 2016. Summary, Inventory files. Minnesota Historic Preservation Office, Minnesota Historical Society, Saint Paul.

⁴www.historicaerials.com. Accessed 27 June 2016.

Field Check By: Emily Ganzel, 27 May 2016.

Legal Description:

Lots 36-39
Block 3
Second Addition to Deer River

 12/10/18
Amy Spong **Date**
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, MN Department of Admin





ITASCA LUMBER COMPANY SUPERINTENDENT'S RESIDENCE ITASCA COUNTY MN
27 MAY 2016 CAMERA FACING SE



5th St

5th Ave SE

SLOW
SCHOOL
ZONE

10
M.P.H.



HISTORIC NAME: Itasca Lumber Company Superintendent's
Residence
CURRENT NAME: House
LEGAL DESC.: Lots 36-39, Block 3, Second Addition to
Deer River

COUNTY: Itasca **MAR 15 1982**
CITY/TWP.: Deer River City
ADDRESS: 506 Fifth St. SE

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

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:	Yes <u> </u> No <u>X</u>	Restricted <u> </u>	PRESENT USE:
VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD:	Yes <u>X</u> No <u> </u>		Residence
OCCUPIED:	Yes <u>X</u> No <u> </u>		

DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1904

ORIGINAL USE: Residence

ORIGINAL OWNER: Itasca Lumber Company

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: unknown

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Theodore W. Olson
506 5th St. SE
Deer River, MN 56636

ACREAGE: Less than one acre X

LOCAL CONTACT/ORG.: Itasca County Historical Society,
P.O. Box 664, Old Central School Grand Rapids, MN 55744

UTM REFERENCE:

Deer River Quad. 7.5

FORM PREPARED BY: Mark Haidet

15 / 440490 / 5241670

DATE: March 1981

DESCRIPTION:

The Itasca Lumber Company Superintendent's log residence is a local landmark in Deer River, an historic logging town characterized by small frame residential structures. The house occupies a corner location on the community's south side immediately west of the public school building.

The 1904 gable-roofed square structure is constructed of Norway pine logs measuring approximately 18" in diameter and 30' in length with saddle-notch corner-timbering. About 1919 both sides of the roof were raised to create extra space on the second story. Shingle sheathing adorns the gable ends and the walls of the raised second level. An enclosed hipped porch featuring vertical log construction and multi-paned windows extends the length of the west (front) facade. Fenestration is irregular; windows vary in size and the number of lights. A recent shingled shed addition is located at the rear of the structure. Despite the additions, the house retains its rustic character.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Itasca Lumber Company Superintendent's Residence is significant for its association with the Itasca Lumber Company. The company, the foremost logging concern in the region, had a tremendous impact on the initial development and settlement of Deer River and western Itasca County. Founded by prominent Minneapolis lumberman H.C. Akeley in 1886, the firm established its local headquarters in Deer River ten years later. The company constructed the region's longest logging railroad (incorporated as the Minneapolis and Rainy River Railroad in 1904) from Deer River northward to Craig between 1896 and 1906. Several small unincorporated communities were established along the line and the company widely promoted settlement of its cutover lands. At its peak shortly after the turn of the century, the company operated between fifteen and twenty camps a season and cut over 100,000,000 ft. of timber a year which was then transported by rail to the Mississippi River south of Deer River and floated downstream to the firm's large Minneapolis mill. In 1904, David Joyce, president of the Itasca Lumber Company, and John S. Pillsbury, former Minnesota governor and prominent Minneapolis lumberman and miller, erected a large mill in Deer River to saw the company's lower grades of timber which could not be floated downstream. The Itasca Lumber Company platted a large addition to Deer River and constructed several houses for employees of the mill, then operating under the name Deer River Lumber Company. With the closing of its Minneapolis mill in 1910, the Itasca Lumber Company acquired the Deer River mill and operated

(see continuation sheet)

Itasca Lumber Company Superintendent's Residence

Itasca County
Deer River, Minnesota

Significance - page 2

it until its discontinuation in 1921. The log superintendent's residence, erected in 1904, housed the firm's chief local administrator, W.R. Wallace. With the disappearance of the large combination depot-office and the mill, and substantial alteration of the housing district, the Superintendent's Residence is the most identifiable remaining link to this important firm.

Bibliography:

Deer River News, September 4, 1958.

Wallace, Franklin (Son of William Wallace). Conversation with Mark Haidet, February 1981.

Zetterstrom, John. "The Story of a Logging Town", 1932.

Zetterstrom, Lydia. "The Itasca Lumber Company and Minneapolis and Rainy River Railway", 1932.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Itasca County Multiple Resource Area
State MN

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|-------------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------|
| 1. | Hartley Sugar Camp | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper | <u>Selma Byers 4/22/82</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 2. | Itasca Lumber Company
Superintendent's House | Substantive Review | Keeper | <u>William H. Graham 4.22.82</u> |
| | | | Attest | <u>Linda McVillard 4-16-82</u> |
| 3. | Gran, Frank, Farmstead | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper | <u>Selma Byers 4/22/82</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 4. | Coleraine Methodist Episcopal
Church | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper | <u>Selma Byers 4/22/82</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 5. | Nashwauk Village Hall (Western Mesabi
Iron Range Village Halls
Thematic Resources) | Substantive Review | Keeper | <u>dit</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 6. | Coleraine Village Hall (Western Mesabi
Iron Range Village Halls
Thematic Resources) | | Keeper | <u>dit</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 7. | Marble Village Hall (Western Mesabi
Iron Range Village Halls Thematic
Resources) | | Keeper | <u>dit</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 8. | General Superintendent's House (Oliver
Iron Mining Co. Bldgs Thematic
Resources) | Substantive Review | Keeper | <u>William H. Graham 4.22.82</u> |
| | | | Attest | <u>Linda McVillard 4-19-82</u> |
| 9. | Canisteo District General Office Bldg
(Oliver Iron Mining Co. Bldgs
Thematic Resources) | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper | <u>Selma Byers 4/22/82</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 10. | Oliver Boarding House (Oliver Iron
Mining Co. Bldgs Thematic Resources) | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper | <u>Selma Byers 4/22/82</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |



03894
9
Itasca Lumber Company Superintendent's

Residence

Deer River, MN; Itasca County

Mark Haidet

1980

Minnesota Historical Society, 690 Cedar

Street, St. Paul, MN 55101

Looking East

03894/9

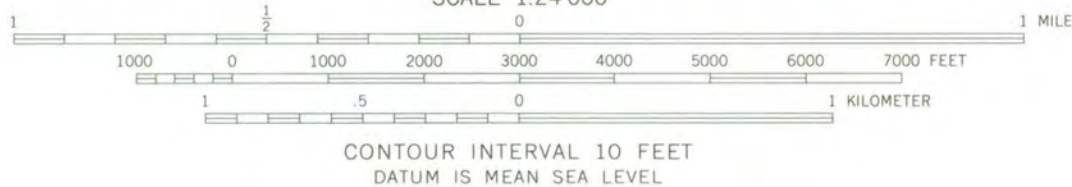
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Itasca Lumber Company Super-
intendent's Residence
Deer River, MN; Itasca County
UTM References
15 / 440490 / 5241670

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Orthophotomap prepared from high-altitude aerial photograph
taken April 24, 1969. Topography by photogrammetric methods
from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Minnesota coordinate system,
north and central zones
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

DEER RIVER, MINN.
N4715-W9345/7.5

1970

AMS 7278 IV SE-SERIES V8720

D-298-

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Substantive Review
EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

(Itasca Co. MRA)

82002976

Property: Itasca Lumber Co. Superintendent's House
State, County: MN, Itasca
Federal Agency: _____

Working No. 3-15-82-734
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.1.83
Date Due: 4/15/82 - 4/29/82
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 4/22/82
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

photos ☒
maps _____

Substantive Review: ☒ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Supt's House of Itasca Lumber Co.

Recom./Criteria A Accept
Reviewer L. McClelland
Discipline Civil Hist
Date 4/16/82
☐ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: ☐ technical corrections cited below
☐ substantive reasons discussed below

✓ 1. Name

✓ 2. Location

✓ 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

✓ 4. Owner of Property

✓ 5. Location of Legal Description

✓ 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

✓ 7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☒ summary paragraph
☒ completeness
☒ clarity
☒ alterations/integrity
☒ dates
☒ boundary selection

Some alterations but general character intact

8. Significance

Period _____ Area of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- ☒ summary paragraph
- ☒ completeness
- ☒ clarity
- ☒ applicable criteria
- ☒ justification of areas checked
- ☒ relating significance to the resource
- ☒ context
- ☒ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☒ justification of exception
- ☐ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UNIT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

Title _____ date _____

13. Other

- ☒ Maps
- ☒ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

Deer River High School
101 First Avenue NE
PO Box 307
Deer River, MN 56636
"Home of the Warriors"



King Elementary School
504 5th St. SE
PO Box 307
Deer River, MN 56636
"King Pride"

Dedicated to develop lifelong learners prepared to succeed in an ever-changing world

October 8, 2018

Amy Sprong
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
50 Sherburne Avenue
Administration Building 203
Saint Paul, MN 55155

RECEIVED OCT 16 2018

RE: Itasca Lumber Company Superintendent's Residence, 506 Fifth Street SE, Deer River,
Itasca County

Dear Ms. Sprong,

This letter is in response to yours dated October 2, 2018 regarding the above property and its potential delisting from the state's National Register of Historic Places.

Based on our records, the Deer River School District acquired the property in June 2015 from Itasca County Habitat for Humanity. My recollection is that Habitat for Humanity had acquired it not long before that through an Itasca County foreclosure auction. Since aerial photos confirm the building was demolished before 2014 (per the delisting request included with your letter), it is clear that the district's acquisition was after the building was razed. I cannot recall if the building was demolished before or after Habitat for Humanity acquired the property.

Your letter indicates that I may comment on whether the property should be removed from the Register. For the simple reason that the building no longer exists and no significant materials from the site remain, I would suggest that is the prudent course of action.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Regards,

Matt Grose
Superintendent

cc: Itasca County Board of Commissioners, Itasca County Courthouse, 123 NE 4th St., Grand
Rapids, MN 55744
The Honorable Steven Geving, Mayor of Deer River, Deer River City Hall, 60 2nd St. SE., PO
Box 70, Deer River, MN 56636
President, Itasca County Historical Society, 201 N. Pokegama Ave., Grand Rapids, MN 55744

MN Department of Administration
MN State Historic Preservation Office
50 Sherburne Avenue, Suite 203, St. Paul, MN 55155
651.201.3292

TO: Joy Beasley, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places

FROM: Denis P. Gardner

DATE: 12/10/2018

NAME OF PROPERTY: Itasca Lumber Company Superintendent's Residence

COUNTY AND STATE: Itasca County, Minnesota

SUBJECT: National Register:

- ☐ Nomination
- ☐ Multiple Property Documentation Form
- ☐ Request for determination of eligibility
- ☒ Request for removal (Reference No. 82002976)
- ☐ Nomination resubmission
- ☐ Boundary increase/decrease (Reference No.)
- ☐ Additional documentation (Reference No.)

DOCUMENTATION:

- ☐ Original National Register of Historic Places Registration Form
 - ☐ Multiple Property Documentation Form
 - ☐ Continuation Sheets
 - ☒ Removal Documentation
 - ☒ Photographs
 - ☒ CD w/ image files
 - ☐ Original USGS Map
 - ☐ Sketch map(s)
 - ☐ Correspondence
 - ☐ Owner Objection
- The enclosed owner objections
Do ☐ Do not ☐ constitute a majority of property owners

STAFF COMMENTS: