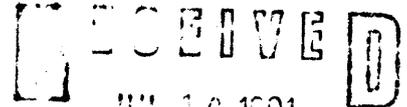


1061

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 Saint Cloud and Red River Valley Stage Road: Kandota Section
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number off Co. Hwy 92 not for publication N/A
city, town Kandota Township West Union vicinity
state Minnesota code MN county Todd code 153 zip code 56389

3. Classification

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

Name of related multiple property listing: Overland Staging Industry in Minnesota, 1849 - 1880
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 7/3/91
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. Entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet. 8/30/91
 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 [Signature] Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Transportation/road-related

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Vacant/not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Other: earth road

foundation

walls

roof

other

earth

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

St. Cloud and Red River Valley Stage Road: Kandota Section, Kandota Township, Todd Co.

Section number 7 Page 1

DESCRIPTION

Minnesota's best-preserved fragment of the Saint Cloud and Red River Valley Stage Road is located in a rural area three miles southeast of West Union in section 30 of T127N R34W. It belongs to the general property type of "stage road," as defined in "Section F" of the multiple property listing, "Overland Staging Industry in Minnesota, 1849 - 1880."

The fragment begins at the westward turn in the gravel road along the south edge of section 30. Initially, it runs to the northwest down a slight incline, through a wooded area, lined by small ditches on either side. At approximately the fifty-yard mark, the road levels, the ditches disappear, and the road continues its northwesterly path for another 200 yards. The road then enters a clearing. It is barely visible at this point, but appears to have followed a footpath through a small clump of trees. The land on the other side of the trees has been ploughed and contains no signs of the road.

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

1859 - 1871

Significant Dates

1859

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

St. Cloud and Red River Valley Stage Road: Kandota Section, Kandota Township, Todd Co.

Section number 8 Page 1

SIGNIFICANCE

The Kandota section of the Saint Cloud and Red River Valley Stage Road is historically significant under criterion A in the area of transportation. It meets the following registration criteria: it conforms to the original route; it is unimproved, passable, and distinct from the surrounding land; it is long enough to evoke a sense of destination or direction; and its woodland setting is reminiscent of the area's condition during the period of significance. The road section is located in the southeast quarter of section 30, T127N, R34W in Todd County.¹

In 1857, Northwestern Express and Transportation Company, a Minnesota staging firm, learned that Hudson's Bay Company had received permission from the Federal government to transport goods through Saint Paul to Hudson's Red River Valley outposts. Northwestern acquired the contract to carry the goods. A year later, after merging with another stage company, Northwestern changed its name to the Minnesota Stage Company and gained the mail contract between Saint Cloud and Fort Abercrombie in the Valley. To accommodate the planned increase in traffic, a Minnesota Stage Company party, under the leadership of Russell Blakely, one of the firm's partners, built a road from Saint Cloud to the Valley -- cutting down trees and building bridges and stage stops -- in June and early July of 1859. The first stagecoach arrived in the Valley on 4 July 1859 and regular service soon followed.²

The opening of the Saint Cloud and Red River Valley Stage Road was one of the most important achievements in Minnesota staging history. It capped a six-year period during which area stage companies laid the major lines of travel through the state. The route accommodated the first regular stage traffic between the Valley and the settlements to the southeast, and operated in conjunction with the first attempts at steamboat navigation on the Red River. In addition, it played an important role in the development of Minnesota's west-central region. According to Blakely, the road "was an entirely new one and probably located in the interest of some new town sites, whose claim stakes had been driven in anticipation that they would have the benefit of the bridges and the road the stage company would have to build." William Goetzinger, a local historian familiar with the region's nineteenth-century road system, has indicated that within a year of construction, "settlement was taking place . . . along the stage route." He has also noted that the Federal government used the road as a supply route to Fort Abercrombie. By 1863, the Minnesota Stage Company had so much business over the road that it had to advertise in a Saint Cloud paper for additional teams.³

The Kandota Section of the Saint Cloud and Red River Valley Stage Road became less important following the completion of a rail line to the Valley in 1871. Todd County vacated the section in 1939, but a few other segments of the stage road have been improved and incorporated into the modern road system.⁴

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

St. Cloud and Red River Valley Stage Road: Kandota Section: Kandota Township, Todd Co.

Section number 8 Page 2

NOTES

1. A vacation notice for the road section dates it to the late 1850s, the period when Minnesota Stage Company built the Saint Cloud and Red River Valley Stage Road. See Road Order filed 22 August 1939, in Kandota Road Order File at County Auditor's Office, Todd County Courthouse, Long Prairie, Minnesota. For a verbal description of the Stage Road, see "The Frazer River Trail," Daily Pioneer and Democrat 6 July 1859.
2. Russell Blakely, "Opening of the Red River of the North to Commerce and Civilization," Minnesota Historical Society Collections 8 (1898): 46, 50 - 51; "Red River Stage," Saint Cloud Democrat 23 June 1859, p. 2, c. 5; "From Col. Nobles' Expedition," Daily Pioneer and Democrat 9 September 1859.
3. The first quote is from Blakely, p. 50; see also pp. 47 - 48, 51 - 55. The second is from William Goetzinger, "Traffic on the East Plain Trail," an unpublished manuscript available at the Minnesota Historical Society, p. 33.
4. Arthur J. Larsen, "Roads and the Settlement of Minnesota," Minnesota History 21 (September 1940): 239; Road Order filed 22 August 1939, in Kandota Road Order File, County Auditor's Office, Todd County Courthouse, Long Prairie, Minnesota.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

St. Cloud and Red River Valley Stage Road: Kandota Section, Kandota Township, Todd Co.

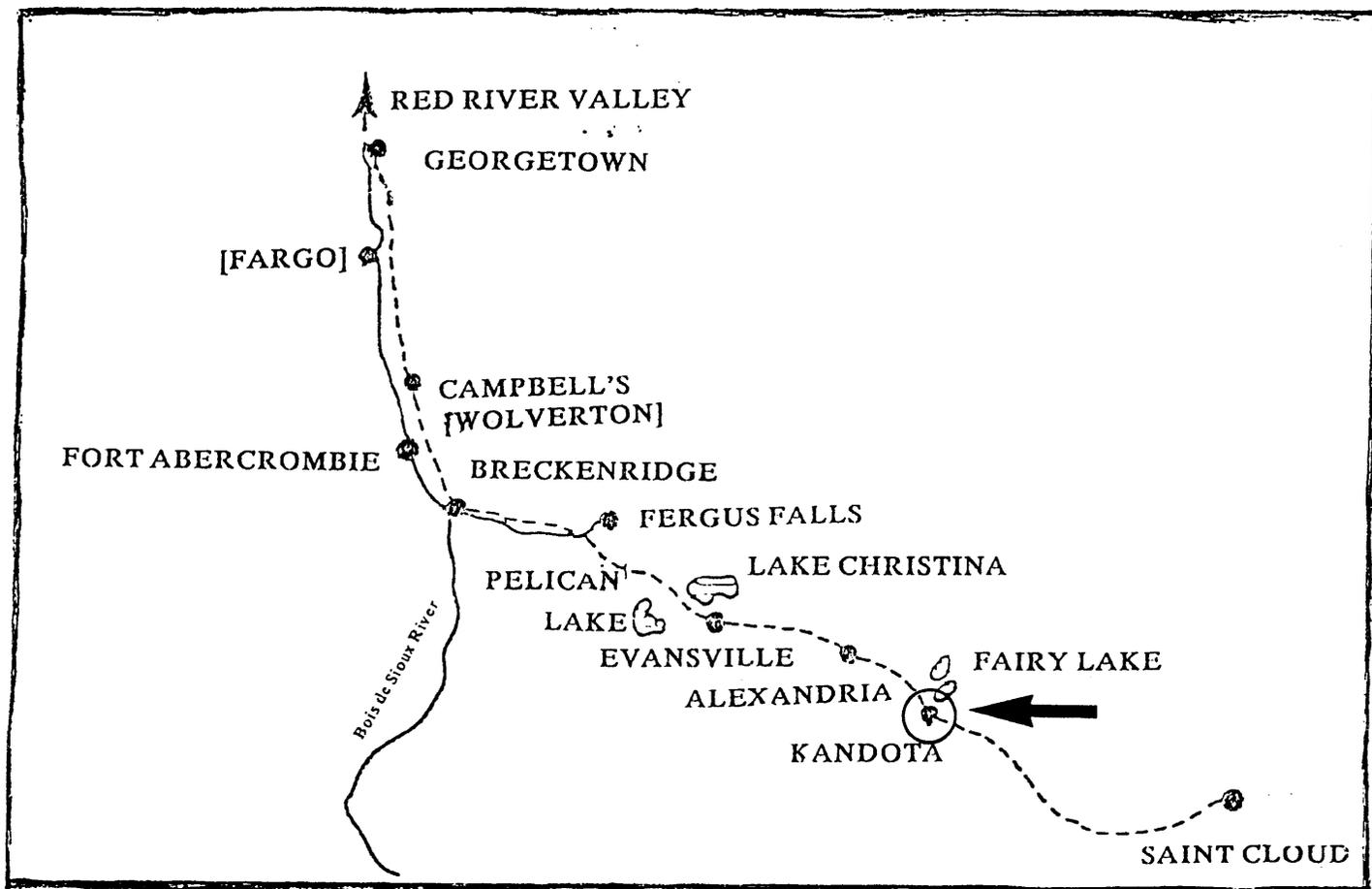
Section number 8 Page 3

Map 2

Saint Cloud and Red River Valley Stage Road

(Source: Roy Johnson, Roy Johnson's Red River Valley,

[Moorhead, Minnesota: Red River Valley Historical Society, 1982], p. 93).



9. Major Bibliographical References

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

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 Less than 1 acre

UTM References

A

1	5
Zone	

3	4	4	3	5	0
Easting					

5	0	7	0	7	1	0
Northing						

C

Zone	

Easting							

Northing									

B

1	5
Zone	

3	4	4	1	2	0
Easting					

5	0	7	0	8	9	0
Northing						

D

Zone	

Easting							

Northing									

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert Hybben and Jeffrey A. Hess
organization Hess, Roise and Company date July 1990
street & number 710 Grain Exchange Building telephone 612-338-1987
city or town Minneapolis state MN zip code 55415

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

St. Cloud and Red River Valley Stage Road: Kandota Section, Kandota Township, Todd Co.
Section number 9 Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Blakely, Russell. "Opening of the Red River of the North to Commerce and Civilization." Minnesota Historical Society Collections, 8 (1898): 45 - 66.

"Frazer River Trail." Daily Pioneer and Democrat, 6 July 1859.

"From Col. Nobles Expedition." Daily Pioneer and Democrat, 9 September 1859.

Goetzinger, William. "Traffic on the East Plain Trail." Unpublished manuscript available at Minnesota Historical Society.

Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Minnesota. Chicago: A.T. Andreas, 1874.

Larsen, Arthur J. "Roads and the Settlement of Minnesota." Minnesota History, 21 (September 1940): 225 - 244.

"Red River Stage." Saint Cloud Democrat, 23 June 1859, p. 2, c. 5.

Road Order. Filed 22 August 1939. Kandota Road File, County Auditor's Office, Todd County Courthouse, Long Prairie, Minnesota.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

St. Cloud and Red River Valley Stage Road: Kandota Section, Kandota Township, Todd Co.

Section number 10 Page 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property consists of a six-foot wide strip of land centering on the line delineated on the accompanying map (USGS, 7.5 Minute Series, West Union Quadrangle). The line connects the following UTM reference points: A 15 344350 5070710, B 15 344120 5070890.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The property boundaries encompass the visible roadway as determined through field survey by Robert Hybben, 22 May 1990.