

AITKIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

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TOWNSHIPS

AITKIN TOWNSHIP

Aitkin Township, named for William Aitkin, an early fur trader with the Northwest and American Fur Companies, had one of its first trading posts where the Mississippi and Ripple rivers met in present day Aitkin. It was incorporated June 18, 1873. Its 2010 population was 856.

BALL BLUFF TOWNSHIP

Ball Bluff Township, located on the east side of the Mississippi, was a center for river and rail shipping for early logging companies. Its original name was "Bald Bluff," due to the glacial morainic drift having a bald grassy top without trees. It was incorporated May 26, 1900. In 2010 its population was 278.

BALSAM TOWNSHIP

With much of its area in the Savanna State Park Forest, its name reflects the heavy areas of balsam fir and poplar. Its 2010 population was 42.

BEAVER TOWNSHIP

Beaver was named by the earliest settlers for the numerous beavers and dams found in Split Rock River which flows through the township's south sections. It was incorporated July 11, 1894. Its 2010 population was 53.

CLARK TOWNSHIP

Clark was named for early Tamarack resident, Frank Clark. It was incorporated May 27, 1902. Its 2010 population was 169.

CORNISH TOWNSHIP

Cornish was named for Charles E. and Milo F. Cornish, who came from Nobles County in southern Minnesota. Much of Cornish is part of the Savanna State Forest. It was incorporated August 6, 1906. Its 2010 population was 38.

FARM ISLAND TOWNSHIP

Farm Island township takes its name from its lake of this name having an island of 29 acres on which the Ojibwa formerly had large cultivated fields. It was incorporated on July 9, 1894. In 2010 its population was 1,099.

FLEMING TOWNSHIP

Named for an early settler, Fleming was an early site of logging, sawmills and more recently, wild rice paddies and cranberry bogs, resorts and summer homes. It was incorporated September 10, 1900. Its 2010 population was 312.

GLEN TOWNSHIP

Glen Township was incorporated on July 3, 1896. Its 2010 population was 450.

HAUGEN TOWNSHIP

Named in honor of Aitkin County Sheriff Chris C. Haugen, many of Haugen's sections are part of Savanna State Forest, a prime wildlife habitat. It was incorporated November 3, 1903. Its 2010 population was 178.

HAZELTON TOWNSHIP

Hazelton Township is named for Cutler J Hazelton, a former county commissioner whose homestead was on Pine Lake in this township. Cutler post office on the south side of Pine Lake was also named for him. Hazelton Township was incorporated March 12, 1892. In 2010 its population was 844.

HILL LAKE TOWNSHIP

Named for the prominent moraine drift in Section 25, Hill City employed over 1,500 workers in its heyday. The Ojibwa Indians called this hilly area Pikwadina (or Piquadinaw), so the lumberman referred to it as Poquodenaw Mountain. Hill Lake Township was incorporated November 19, 1900. In 2010 its population was 430.

IDUN TOWNSHIP

Idun Township was named by early settlers for a place in Sweden. It was incorporated November 29, 1901. Its 2010 population was 259.

JEVNE TOWNSHIP

Named for a family of early Scandinavian settlers, much of its area is in Kimberly Wildlife Management Area. It was incorporated July 14, 1902. Its 2010 population was 322.

KIMBERLY TOWNSHIP

Kimberly was named for Moses C. Kimberly, a surveyor, engineer and, later, general superintendent of the Northern Pacific which was built through the township in 1870. Mr.

Kimberly was born in Sandisfield, Massachusetts, December 1, 1845; he came to Minnesota in 1870. Kimberly Township was incorporated May 9, 1892. In 2010 its population was 195.

LAKESIDE TOWNSHIP

Lakeside Township is on the east side of Mille Lacs Lake. It was incorporated on June 8, 1897. In 2010 its population was 463.

LEE TOWNSHIP

Lee Township was named for Olaf Lee, a pioneer Norwegian Farmer in Section 18. Part of the Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge lies across the northern sections, with nearly 20 sections that are a hunter's paradise. It was incorporated July 12, 1904. In 2010 its population was 50.

LIBBY TOWNSHIP

Named for Mark Libby, a fur trader at Sandy Lake, the township is divided into East and West voting precincts that are separated by the Mississippi River. It was incorporated August 11, 1903. Its 2010 population was 45.

LOGAN TOWNSHIP

Logan Township was named for the long narrow ox bow lakes formed by the Mississippi, which are locally referred to as logans. It was incorporated July 8, 1901. In 2010 its population was 184.

MACVILLE TOWNSHIP

Macville Township, settled by Scottish pioneers, was named for the McIninch and McPheeters families. It was incorporated July 8, 1901. Its 2010 population was 206.

MALMO TOWNSHIP

Malmo township is named for the large city of Malmo in southern Sweden, on the sound opposite to Copenhagen. Beginning with the discovery of Indian burial mounds and village sites in 1899, archeologists have protected this area which is entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Some of the artifacts identified predate the Sioux and Chippewa Indians, perhaps going as far back as 1180 BC. It was incorporated on September 16, 1895. In 2010 its population was 337.

MCGREGOR TOWNSHIP

McGregor Township was named for the village and railroad station. Much of its area is in the Grayling Marsh Wildlife Management Area. It was incorporated October 7, 1895. Its 2010 population was 105.

MILLWARD TOWNSHIP

Millward Township, named for an early settler, is part of the Solana State Forest. It was incorporated February 28, 1902, unorganized July 8, 1933 and reincorporated May 19, 1997. Its 2010 population was 72.

MORRISON TOWNSHIP

Morrison Township was named for Edward Morrison, one of its pioneer farmers. The Mississippi River created rich farmland in its flood plain and many cultivated wild rice paddies and cranberry bogs are well established in Morrison. It was incorporated April 6, 1896. In 2010 its population was 200.

NORDLAND TOWNSHIP

Nordland Township bears the name of a large district in northern Norway. It was incorporated on March 21, 1885. In 2010 its population was 972.

PLINY TOWNSHIP

Pliny Township bears the name of an ancient naturalist. Between 1882 and 1917, early settlers cleared roads with horses and by using dynamite to blow stumps and ditches at wages of 30 cents per hour. It was incorporated on July 14, 1902. In 2010 its population was 109.

RICE RIVER TOWNSHIP

The Rice River flows through the township on its way to Rice Lake, both named for the many local wild rice beds harvested by the Indians as a valuable food supply. It was incorporated May 26, 1900. In 2010 its population was 136.

SALO TOWNSHIP

Salo Township was organized by Finnish settlers who named it for a town in southwest Finland. The Salo Wildlife Management Area comprises much of its area. It was incorporated November 20, 1901. Its 2010 population was 102.

SEAVEY TOWNSHIP

Seavey Township is possibly named after Frank Seavey who was an early Aitkin County official. The post office was called the Boston Post Office from 1899 to 1904. In 1904 it became the Seavey Post Office and was discontinued in 1938. Seavey Township was incorporated on January 7, 1902. In 2010 its population was 61.

SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP

Shamrock Township was founded by Irish settlers who named it for their national emblem. Lake Minnewawa and most of Big Sandy Lake are within the township, making tourism and recreational development two of its most important features. It was incorporated July 13, 1903. Its estimated 2009 population was 1,272.

SPALDING TOWNSHIP

Spalding Township was named for John L. Spalding, Aitkin County Treasurer. It is on the east border of the Rice Lake National Game Refuge. The Chippewa Tribe holds several land tracts. It was incorporated August 20, 1901. Its 2010 population was 329.

SPENCER TOWNSHIP

Spencer Township was named for William Spencer, and Aitkin druggist. It was incorporated September 16, 1895. Its 2010 population was 518.

TURNER TOWNSHIP

Named for former county commissioner L.E. Turner, it lies on the north shore of Big Sandy Lake with much land within the Savanna State Forest and an area owned by the Sandy Lake Indian Reservation. It was incorporated December 9, 1914. Its 2010 population was 208.

VERDON TOWNSHIP

Verdon Township, named after Verdon Wells, son of local postmaster, E.B. Wells, contains portions of the Savanna State Forest. It was incorporated January 6, 1903. Its 2010 population was 45.

WAGNER TOWNSHIP

Homesteaders found fertile land in the Wagner Township are, but faced great hardship due to the isolated location and the lack of good roads. Abundant supplies of pine and hardwood lured loggers, which eased the difficulty of life. It was incorporated on September 22, 1903. Its 2010 population was 332.

WAUKENABO TOWNSHIP

Waukenabo Township's name of Indian derivation translates to either "broth of fish milt" or "broth of moss growing on rocks or trees" lake, which the Indians utilized to stave of starvation. It was incorporated December 25, 1899. Its 2010 population was 316.

WEALTHWOOD TOWNSHIP

Dan Knox purchased land at Mille Lacs Lake and stocked it with what is thought to be the first purebred herd of cattle in Aitkin County. This place he named Wealthwood. It was incorporated on July 8, 1901. Its 2010 population was 268.

WHITE PINE TOWNSHIP

It was incorporated July 19, 1920. Its 2010 population was 34.

WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP

It was incorporated February 18, 1904. Its 2010 population was 144.

WORKMAN TOWNSHIP

Workman Township, named for a pioneer settler, borders the west side of Big Sandy Lake and the Sandy Lake Flowage. It was incorporated November 29, 1910. Its 2010 population was 207.

UNORGANIZED TERRITORIES

DAVIDSON TOWNSHIP

Davidson Township, named for A.D. Davidson is the site of the Rice River National Wildlife Refuge and one of the nation's premier bird watching areas. It was incorporated May 24, 1904, unincorporated December 4, 1951.

BAIN TOWNSHIP

William Bain homestead 160 acres developing a farm and the plat of Bain. The post office was established February 1, 1911 serving the area. A school, homes and businesses were built, but the October 11, 1918 forest fire burned the entire town, except for the school and the Charles Megarry house. The town was rebuilt and prospered for many years. Bain, named for hotel owner William Bain, is part of the Hill River State Forest. It was incorporated July 18, 1911, unincorporated June 10, 1939.

ESQUAGAMAH TOWNSHIP

"Esquagamah" means "the last lake" and it was given by the Ojibwa to the last, from east to west, in a series of three lakes. It was incorporated July 12, 1909, unincorporated June 2, 1942.

HEBRON TOWNSHIP

Hebron Township was named for the ancient Palestinian city and region. It was incorporated May 26, 1903. The Hebron post office was established August 7, 1911, with Marget Geisdorf being the first post mistress. It was discontinued January 15, 1913 with the mail going to Bain. It was reestablished April 15, 1915 and discontinued August 31, 1917 with the mail going to Bain

JEWETT TOWNSHIP

Jewett Township, named for D.M. Jewett, pioneer farmer, is part of the Solana State Forest. It was incorporated October 24, 1902, unincorporated December 27, 1937. The Jewett post office was established October 30, 1905. It was discontinued February 15, 1909 with the mail going to Malmo. The first postmaster was Erick H. Dahlen. The post office had been in homes. The Quass and Dresell homes were two of them.

LEMAY TOWNSHIP

The name is taken from an early settler, Frank Lemay. It was incorporated April 17, 1912, unincorporated December 6, 1932.

QUADNA TOWNSHIP

Quadna's name was shortened from the Indian name Piquadinaw. Today, many sections are in the Hill River State forest and the Moose Willow Wildlife Management Area. It was incorporated May 21, 1907, unincorporated July 8, 1933.

RUTH TOWNSHIP

Ruth Township was named in honor of Ruth Phillips, the first white child born in the township. Nearly all is state tax-forfeited land and is a hunter's haven. It was incorporated April 26, 1921.

SHOVEL LAKE TOWNSHIP

Shovel Lake was an important railroad shipping point in the early logging industry. It was incorporated July 17, 1912, unincorporated May 4, 1943.

UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES

ARTHYDE

Arthyde was established by land donated by Guy Thomson, Arthur and Clyde Hutchins. It took on the name of the brothers Arthur and Clyde. The post office was established July 16, 1909 with the first train coming through. Stores and people soon followed. The Arthyde Stone House is the sole standing structure in the unincorporated platted community of Arthyde. This one and half story bungalow style residence is almost completely constructed of field stone. It is one of the Historic Places on the National Register in Aitkin County.

ATTICA

The Attica post office was established a short distance North of Wealthwood on Lone Lake June 15, 1889. Stephen Northrup was the first postmaster. Anna Clearly was the Attica postmistress from June 22, 1891 to the discontinuance June 30, 1911 with the mail going to Aitkin.

BALSAM

The Balsam post office was established January 5, 1905 and was discontinued September 15, 1937 with the mail going to Tamarack. The first postmaster was Thomas Hamel.

BENNETTVILLE

On May 21, 1898, a third post office was established in the northern area of Hazelton Township because of an increase in population. It was called Bennetville named for the first post master, Ashal Bennett. The post office was in his residence. When highway 35 was redone to become highway 169, the store and post office were moved by Charles Kibbey to the current intersection of highway 169 and county road 11. The Bennetville post office was discontinued October 30, 1937 with the mail going to Aitkin.

BILLINGS

Billings post office was established on March 23, 1896 and discontinued May 15, 1903. It was renamed Cedar Lake and continued until April 29, 1916 with the mail going to Aitkin.

BLOEMENDAL

L.R.C. Bloemendal homesteaded land west of Giese. A post office was needed between McGrath and Finlayson so the Blomendals volunteered their home for a post office. It was established March 19, 1901 and continued until December 31, 1914 when the mail went to McGrath.

BOOT LAKE

The Boot Lake post office was established April 13, 1914. Edgar E. Raveill was the first postmaster. Until that time mail came to and from Libby. The mail was carried by rural carriers. The post office was discontinued June 30, 1935 with the mail going to Jacobson.

BOSTON

The Boston post office was established July 3, 1899. It was changed to Seavey February 18, 1904. Hans Hanson was the first postmaster. The Seavey post office began February 19, 1904 and was discontinued November 15, 1938 with the mail going to McGrath. Thor Anderson was the first postmaster.

CAYO

The Cayo post office was established December 17, 1918 and was named after Percy A. Cayo who was a fourth district Aitkin County Commissioner June 4, 1929 to January 1, 1933. Percy moved to Tamarack to start an enterprise so the post office closed May 31, 1920 with the mail going to Tamarack.

CUTLER

Cutler was named for Cutler J. Hazelton, a county commissioner. It was the second post office opened in Hazelton Township. It was established October 7, 1894. Edgar S. Hazelton was the first postmaster. The Cutler post office was discontinued October 30, 1924 with the mail going to Bennettville.

DARINA

Darina was on the Soo Line Railroad. It is an unrecorded plat. It did not have a post office but was a place where the train would stop to pick up milk and passengers. There was a water tower there at one time.

DORRIS

The Dorris post office was established January 2, 1896 and was discontinued April 30, 1912 with the mail going to Aitkin. The first postmaster was Charles D. Wilkonson.

EAST LAKE (Minisinaakwaang)

East Lake was the name given to the area that was settled in the early 1900s. A sawmill and stores were built in the community. Anthony Spicola petitioned for a post office in 1910. The Soo Line Railroad came through in the fall of the same year bringing the mail

by train. Rural routes were established and were in effect until October of 1953 when the mail was distributed out of McGregor.

ELMWOOD

Elmwood was about a mile south of the Village of McGrath. The post office was established March 7, 1903 and discontinued March 29, 1908 and the name changed to McGrath.

ERICK

The Erick post office was established September 12, 1900 and was discontinued November 14, 1944 with mail going to Valpariso. The first postmaster was Magnus Erickson.

ESQUAGAMAH

“Esquagamah” means "the last lake" and it was given by the Ojibwa to the last, from east to west, in a series of three lakes. The post office was established July 25, 1900 and discontinued March 15, 1910 with the mail going to Waldeck. The first postmaster was Francis W. Smith.

FLEMING LAKE

Olaf Pearson petitioned the U.S. government for mail to come from Kimberly twice a week. The post office was in the home of Olaf Pearson with Olaf being the first postmaster in July of 10, 1909. This continued for nearly twenty years with the mail coming by rural route from Aitkin. In 1930 the Fleming Lake rural route was established with Charles A. Peysar as the first contract driver, with many contract drivers to follow.

GIESE

Giese is a small community in the southeast corner of Aitkin County named for George Giese, who owned a store there. A fourth class post office was established October 4, 1918 and continued until November 1953. Today the mail comes out of Finlayson.

GLEN

The Glen community is located in Malmo township around the area of the intersection of Highway 47 and County Road 12. Today it has many more businesses than in the 1900's. The Glen post office was established in 1899 and operated in the Glen Store until April of 1954 when the mail came by rural route carrier from Aitkin.

GLORY

Erick O. Swanson began a small store in the early 1900's, when it outgrew his kitchen. He was asked to petition for a post office. Names were sent to the federal government but turned down. "Glory" was suggested from Glory, Glory Hallelujah. Glory was approved and the post office was established in August of 1900 and continued until April of 1913. The corner has been referred to as Hallelujah.

GRAYLING

Grayling was a settlement about half-way between McGregor and Tamarack. Grayling was sometimes known as Sandy River Crossing. The community had several stores and a hotel. The post office was established in January of 1897 and discontinued in 1929, resulting in the mail coming out of Tamarack.

HASSMAN

Hassman community is the area where highway 169 and 210 junction northeast of the city of Aitkin. In 1911 land was platted out with streets, avenues and alleys as the village of Hassman, but the town never developed. The Russell Chute family had the plat vacated in 1945 and used it for farmland. The post office was established on March 30, 1914, and discontinued on April 30, 1915, with the mail coming on rural route from Aitkin.

HAUGEN

The Haugen post office was in Rice River Township. It was established December 23, 1904. Andrew E. Haugen was the first postmaster. It was discontinued May 15, 1905 with the mail going to Ronald in Beaver Township.

HAYPOINT

The Haypoint post office was established July 25, 1900 in the home of O. O. McAninch. Mr. McAninch was the first post master and his son Ira was the first mail carrier, carrying the mail on foot to and from the Waldeck Ranch and the post office. The post office was discontinued May 15, 1919 with the mail going to Swatara.

HICKORY

The Hickory post office was in Farm Island Township. It was established February 19, 1884. It was discontinued November 30, 1886. It was re-established April 5, 1888 and discontinued May 31, 1906. George Thompson was the first postmaster. The Hickory post office is said to be the fourth post office to open in the county.

JACOBSON

Jacobson is a community with many names. It was known as Mississippi Landing, Mississippi Junction, Hiawatha and Mississippi. It was also platted as Bridge Park. It was once a thriving community on the river and rail lines with many stores, taverns, schools and churches. Paul Jacobson started the local post office on December 21, 1901. It was later taken over by Robert Greenwood but the Jacobson name stuck with the community.

KIMBERLY

The Kimberly post office was established September 12, 1879. It served many communities around Kimberly. The first postmaster was John W. Jones. The last postmaster was Vernon Lundeen. It was discontinued January 4, 1974 with mail coming by rural route from Aitkin.

LAWLER

The Lawler post office was established December 8, 1909 and went to a rural branch of McGregor August 1, 1964. It was discontinued April 22, 1966 with the mail going to McGregor. The first postmaster was Carl S. Borg.

LIBBY

Libby village and township received its name from early fur trader Mark Libby. The Libby post office began in July of 1891 with the first postmaster being William L. Wakefield. Mail service discontinued in October of 1953 with rural route mail coming out from McGregor.

LONGFELLOW

The Longfellow post office was established August 20, 1903 and discontinued January 29, 1909 changing the name to White Pine. The first postmaster was Ray L. Thomson.

MALMO

Malmo is named after a Swedish seaport by Freeman E. Krech, the Aitkin postmaster at the time. The post office was established May 23, 1889 and changed to a rural branch out of Aitkin July 31, 1954. The first postmaster was Benjamin D. Shriner. The post office was in the Malmo general store that had different owners throughout the years. The rural branch was discontinued July 12, 1958 with a rural route coming out of Aitkin.

MILLWARD

The Millward post office was established March 15, 1898 and the name changed to Arthyde July 15, 1909. The first postmaster was Charles Millward.

NICHOLS

An early settler, Austin R. Nichols had his name perpetuated for an area west of Mille Lacs Lake. He is said to have had the first summer resort called "Nichols Place" on Mille Lacs Lake. The Nichols post office began February 19, 1884 and was discontinued December 31, 1926 with the mail going to Bennettville.

OSTLUND

Ostlund was a community in Seavey township named after Olaf Ostlund. The post office was established June 8, 1901. John Johnson was the first postmaster. The post office was housed in a small building on the Ostlund property. In 1907 it was relocated to the Olsson-Severin homestead. It was discontinued October 1, 1917 with mail going to Redtop.

PINE KNOLL

The Christopher Weltons were the first settlers in Pine Knoll. In the early years there was a post office in the Welton home. It was established by the government August 6, 1900. It

was discontinued October 30, 1915 with mail going to Aitkin. The first postmaster was George A. Bailey.

PLINY

The Pliny post office was established April 23, 1903 and was discontinued April 30, 1908 with mail going to Longfellow. The first postmaster was Joseph I. Stephens.

PORTAGE

The Portage post office was established December 12, 1889 and discontinued June 15, 1903 with mail going to Libby. It was reestablished August 8, 1903 and discontinued June 30, 1911 with mail going to Palisade. The first postmaster was Patrick Sanders.

RABEY

Rabey got its start with the Western Railway Company coming in 1908. There were many spurs outside of Rabey, namely Pierceville, Washburn, Seaver, Brauer and Martin. The first post office at Rabey was established March 21, 1913 and was discontinued August 15, 1941 with the mail going to Jacobson. The first postmaster was Vane R. Walker.

REDTOP

The plat of Red Top was approved and ordered filed August 6, 1908 by the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners. It is located in Section 29, Idun Township. The post office was established April 8, 1909 and was in various businesses until it was discontinued March 15, 1954 with the mail going to Isle.

RICE RIVER

The Rice River post office was established February 19, 1908 and discontinued December 15, 1911 with the mail going to Aitkin. It was situated in Sec. 36, Morrison Township. Thomas Ermatinger was the first postmaster.

RONALD

The Ronald post office was established September 17, 1894 in Beaver Township. It was discontinued October 30, 1926 with mail going to Arthyde. The first postmaster was Henrick M. Ruonalo.

ROSSBURG

Rosburg, located five miles east of Aitkin, was the result of the Northern Pacific Railroad movement west. The post office was located in the Louis Digiovanni store. It was later relocated to the Anderson store. It was established April 16, 1901 and discontinued October 15, 1937 with a rural route out of Aitkin. The first postmaster was Luigi Digiovanni.

SHESHEBEE

The Sheshebee post office was established June 7, 1918. It was discontinued October 14, 1933 with mail going to McGregor. The first postmaster was Frank S. Smith.

SHOVEL LAKE

The Shovel Lake post office was established October 27, 1910 and discontinued January 21, 1952. Mail was sent to Swatara. The first postmaster was Roscoe Reynolds.

SOLANA

Solana is the result of the Soo Line Railroad becoming a wood landing point for trains to bypass at White Pine. Settlers came and a post office was established May 9, 1910. Katherine Clewett was the first postmistress. It was discontinued November 30, 1938 with mail going to Arthyde.

STROLE

Strole was found on a C.H. Warner 1908 map situated in Section 2, Glen Township. The post office was established September 17, 1904 and discontinued November 30, 1909 with mail going to Kimberly. Andrew L. Olafson was the first postmaster.

SWATARA

In 1903, Jim Boyd made an application to the US Postal Department to establish a post office named Boydville at Boyd's Ranch. When the application came back approved, the name Swatara was inserted and Boydville crossed out. Jim Boyd ran the post office from September 14, 1903 until June 30, 1908. It was discontinued until February 15, 1911 when it was re-established with A.A. Heath as postmaster. In recent years, the mail comes to Hill City and then by route to Swatara where the mail is placed in outside locked boxes.

THOR

Thor is in Lee Township. The post office was established September 29, 1904 and discontinued March 15, 1937 with a rural route out of Aitkin. The first postmaster was Jonas Frederickson. The first mail was carried to Thor from Kimberly.

TRIPP

The Tripp post office was established April 23, 1895 and changed to Seavey April 9, 1896. The first postmaster was William L. Moss.

TRONNES

The town of Tronnes was located in the NE corner of the NE corner of Section 20 in Pliny Township. Peter and Grace Anderson came to the area about 1900 where they built their home. A post office was established in their home September 9, 1901. Mail went to Seavey May 14, 1910. Nothing remains of Tronnes.

UDE

Ude is in Jevne township in See 33 along the Northern Pacific Railroad. The post office was started in 1904 and discontinued in 1907. Ude was then changed to Landsford. The Landsford post office closed November 30, 1925 with mail coming to McGregor. There was a Methodist Church at Lansford that was moved to Fleming Township where it still stands.

VALENTINE

There is very little information of Valentine. The post office was established February 16, 1901 and discontinued April 30, 1902. Arthur L. Wilbur was the first postmaster. Mail went to Kimberly when Valentine closed.

VERDON

The Verdon post office got its name from Verdon Wells, son of Emery B. Wells. The post office was established April 16, 1901. The first postmaster was Emery B. Wells. The first site was Section 22 on the west side of the Mississippi River. On July 29, 1932 it was moved to Section 14 on the east side of the Mississippi River. It was discontinued June 19, 1935 with the mail going to Jacobson.

VETERANSVILLE

Disabled veterans who moved into White pine in 1922 were able to purchase 80 acres to farm. Most were not farmers so they left but they had named their area Veteransville. The post office was established November 13, 1922 and it was discontinued March 15, 1927, with the mail going to Arthyde.

WAUKENABO

The name Waukenabo is derived from a Native American word used by the Chippewa for a broth made of moss or milt when their people were faced with starvation. The Waukenabo post office was established August 21, 1902, and discontinued on October 14, 1916 when the mail came from Bain.

WALDECK

The Waldeck post office, formerly Seavey, was established March 3, 1898. Grace Waldeck was the first postmistress. The Waldeck post office was moved to the Isadora and Maria Chute home. It was in one corner of a room that was "off limits" to everyone except Miss Louise who was the postmistress. Rural delivery began and the Waldeck post office closed.

WEALTHWOOD

Mail to towns like Wealthwood was a challenge when people would have to trek to Aitkin, Brainerd, Milaca or Mora to get their mail. The first Wealthwood post office was established September 7, 1881. The first postmaster was Jessie C. Knox. It was

discontinued October 15, 1915 with the mail going to Bennettville. A major change occurred in 1933 with the mail going to Aitkin.

WHITE PINE

White Pine was a James McGrath plan for a 3 mile spur track from Solana on the Soo Line to the proposed site on the Snake River. The White Pine post office was established January 30, 1909 and discontinued October 15, 1921 with the mail going to Arthyde. The first postmaster was Alexander S. McPhee.

WILLOW RIVER

The Willow River post office was established July 23, 1874 and was discontinued July 12, 1880. The first postmaster was Charles R. Smith.