

FISHING CLUBS

along the BAPTISM RIVER

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Recreational fishing has been a part of American culture for more than 300 years. Spreading westward from the Atlantic seaboard, social fishing clubs formed wherever dedicated anglers found a river or stream to call their “home water.” The fishing-club concept reached Lake Superior in the early 1800s, and by the end of the century the Baptism River Club was one of several taking advantage of the tremendous fishing and other natural resources of Minnesota’s North Shore.

Early American anglers discovered in some streams and brooks a beautifully colored fish that vaguely resembled the brown trout of Europe. Its fine taste and aggressive willingness to bite a hook led people to pursue this previously unknown “brook trout” for sport as well as food. The cold, clear streams of Manhattan Island and Long Island were particularly popular for colonial anglers. As the population increased and more people ventured afield to fish (particularly anglers from Philadelphia and New York), they discovered productive trout streams in the nearby Pocono and Catskill mountains as well.¹

As with any sport, enthusiasts formed groups centered around their pastime. The Schuylkill Fishing Company of Philadelphia, incorporated in 1732, is generally accepted to be the first private fishing club in North America. Others soon followed. Their purposes were both social and recreational. In the tradition of European clubs, many purchased land along prime streams and rivers, limiting access to members only. Typical of this approach was the South Side Sportsmen’s Club (later the Southside Sportsmen’s Club of Long Island). Membership was capped at 100, and each member was charged a \$100 initiation fee. This group eventually acquired 3,475 acres of streamside land and leased an additional 2,300 acres for hunting.

The development of railroads made it easier for trout anglers to venture farther into the New York and Pennsylvania mountains and increased the angling pressure on regional rivers. In his 1862 book *Game Fish of the Northern States of America and the British Provinces*, Robert Barnwell Roosevelt implied what unchecked fishing pressure could do to the fragile streams of that area: “When the railroad was first opened, the country was literally overrun, and [the rivers] which we thought inexhaustible, were fished out.”²

“THE FINEST TROUT-FISHING
IN THE WORLD IS TO BE OBTAINED
AT LAKE SUPERIOR.”

It was perhaps the decline of the New England trout fisheries that initially led Roosevelt to look westward to the Great Lakes for the next great angling destinations. Certainly, others were already aware of the immense lake trout, brook trout, whitefish, and herring fisheries in Lake Superior. In Roosevelt’s 1865 classic, *Superior Fishing*, he commented:

The finest trout-fishing in the world is to be obtained at Lake Superior. . . . Nowhere is to be found the same abundance of trout, averaging above two pounds, and wonderfully game and vigorous, and nowhere a more beautiful region to explore or pleasanter waters to fish over. . . . The skilful angler can at any point find delightful sport; the innumerable tributaries, large and small, of the British or American territory, unless shut out by precipitous falls, are crowded with myriads of speckled beauties; and the rapids at the outlet furnish trout of the largest size.³

At that early date, Roosevelt also commented on the sheer quantity of fish that could be taken. At Bayfield, Wisconsin, “is the best of fishing, united with good hotel life,” he wrote. In the vicinity, some

two hundred and fifty pounds weight of speckled trout have been killed in one day by one good fisherman and one poor one; fish of two and three pounds are common, and in the sheltered channels, between the Apostle



FACING PAGE: *Successful fisherman at the mouth of the Baptism River, about 1910.* AT RIGHT: *Creel of speckled trout, about 1920.*

Islands, the namaeoose [lake trout] are taken in unlimited quantities. The Brulé River, and the many streams that empty into the lake in the neighborhood, although often choked with drift, are filled with fine trout.

The second half of the nineteenth century saw the rapid development and exploitation of trout fishing in Lake Superior. In July 1869 the *Duluth Minnesotian* observed: “Lands at the entrances of all the small rivers on the South Shore of the lake are being sought after for fishing purposes.”⁴

The Bois Brule River, located approximately midway between Ashland, Wisconsin, and Duluth was a common destination, both before and after the railroad reached Ashland in 1877. A number of private fishing clubs (the Winneboujou, the Gitche Gume, the Nissishin, and the White Birch, among others) were constructed along its banks and entertained such dignitaries as presidents Ulysses S. Grant and Grover Cleveland. The Huron Mountain Shooting and Fishing Club on the Salmon Trout River in the upper peninsula of Michigan was another prominent club in the region. Formed in 1889, it is still in existence today.⁵

AMID WIDESPREAD REPORTS OF FANTASTIC LAKE SUPERIOR TROUT FISHING, A GROUP OF MEN BEGAN PLANNING TO ESTABLISH THEIR OWN NORTH SHORE FISHING RETREAT.

With the popularity of recreational fishing surging around Lake Superior, it is not surprising that Minnesota’s North Shore would also attract adventure-some anglers. The areas around the mouths of many North Shore rivers had been used by native people for centuries, as archaeological studies of the Baptism River have discovered. Early European explorers, including Groseilliers and Radisson, likely passed by the river as they made their way along the Lake Superior coastline. Major Stephen H. Long’s 1823 exploration of the upper Mississippi River valley and Lake Superior region iden-

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Duluthian Charles H. Graves, who would purchase the land for the Baptism River Club, about 1870

tified the stream as the “Baptist River.” The 1854 treaty with the Lake Superior Ojibwe opened much of the North Shore to settlement, and Lake County was organized in 1856. It is likely that immigrant fishermen and their families used the area around the Baptism River as a base for plying the waters of Lake Superior not long thereafter, but records do not indicate any private land ownership before 1886.⁶

Amid widespread reports of fantastic Lake Superior trout fishing, a group of men began planning to establish their own North Shore fishing retreat. The earliest event that can be tied to the formation of the Baptism River Club dates to April 1886, when Duluth resident Charles H. Graves, a decorated Civil War veteran and future U.S. minister to Sweden (and avid trout angler), purchased nearly 352 acres near the mouth of the river from the federal government for \$1.25 per acre. Approximately six weeks later, Graves and his wife sold the entire property to the newly formed Baptism River Club at cost.⁷

It is almost certain that Graves had viewed High Falls, the towering cataract on the Baptism River, before selecting the mouth of the river as the location of his fishing club. Approximately 1.5 miles inland from Lake Superior, the Baptism River drops 60 feet, creating the tallest waterfall entirely within the state of Minnesota. This spectacular natural feature, along with the proximity of the river to the dramatic cliff, Palisade Head, made for an ideal place to establish a private retreat. Club members

could fish, hunt, hike, pick berries and wildflowers in season, and view wildlife—all within easy distance of the mouth of the river.

According to its charter, the club's mission was "the breeding, preserving, and propagating of brook trout and other fish in the streams and lakes within the State of Minnesota." By July 1886 the group had 40 members, most of them prominent businessmen or political leaders from Duluth and the Twin Cities. The club's first president was Edmund Rice, the mayor of St. Paul. Charles Graves served as vice-president, St. Paul lawyer George Squires was secretary, and St. Paul bank president Everett H. Bailey, treasurer. That month, a letter from Squires to James J. Hill named the current members and stated that the club was to be funded through the sale of 70 shares of stock at \$50 each. One share entitled its holder to bring two family members to the clubhouse to fish, and each additional share enabled the club member to host a nonresident of Minnesota. Guests who were not family could not fish the river unless covered by the ownership of adequate shares. Hill responded by purchasing three.⁸

**"TROUT IN THE VICINITY OF
BAPTISM RIVER HAD BEST BE WARY."**

After creating the Baptism River Club, members next set out to construct a clubhouse and other necessary buildings. It was around this time that the Pyette family became linked to the group and the area. Peter Pyette was a French Canadian who had migrated to the region in the late 1880s. A jack-of-all-trades, he supported his wife, Anna, and their three children through a combination of farming, logging, and fishing. Family tradition holds that Peter helped build the anglers' clubhouse in 1887, with all construction materials brought in by boat. By 1890 Pyette had established his own home just west of



The towering High (or Great) Falls, about 1890

the clubhouse and was working as a caretaker during the long periods each year that the building sat vacant.⁹

Reaching the clubhouse required advance planning. The mouth of the Baptism River lies some 60 miles up the North Shore from Duluth, and at that time there was no real road between the two. In their 1888 annual report, the club's directors detailed the suggested travel itinerary for visitors from the Twin Cities:

By leaving St. Paul on either Tuesday or Friday evenings, Duluth will be reached at 6:30 the next morning. The

Early view of the clubhouse, freshly painted on its newly cleared lot before the grassy lawn was established or outbuildings erected



tug "Camp," belonging to the A. Booth Packing Company, will leave its dock in Duluth at 10 o'clock each Wednesday and Saturday, landing passengers at the Club House about six hours later. Fare \$2.50 each way. The tug has poor accommodations for passengers, but is strong and safe. About August 1st, the Booth Packing Company will put on a new steamer with passenger capacity of 200.¹⁰

Myron Cooley, a Baptist minister from Detroit (now Detroit Lakes), Minnesota, was an avid angler and fly-fisherman. In his 1894 book, *Outings and Innings in Northern Minnesota*, Cooley vividly described the scene of people disembarking at the Baptism River Club:

The club house looks very pretty, perched upon the bluff with that grass covered lawn, sloping from the porch to the very edge of the cliff at whose feet the restless waves beat and dash in time of storm, or softly lap as on this beautiful day. Some passengers were going ashore. Four boats came out to the steamer and began loading up. What a mixture the loads were. Trunks, boxes, bags, grips, bundles, baskets, guns in cases and out, ammunition boxes, trout creels, rods of half a dozen varieties, tackle boxes, a water spaniel, five men in outing suits, four ladies and—and—but this is all, and away the boats pulled. . . . We concluded trout in the vicinity of Baptism river had best be wary, as this party of fishermen and fisherwomen evidently meant business.¹¹

Transportation via commercial boat was not the only means of reaching the Baptism River, as Cooley wrote: "Yet we learned that a party would leave Duluth that evening for Baptism River, where they would fish Friday and then run on down to the Brule and fish Saturday. We passed the Picket, a steam yacht, owned by some members of the Baptism River Club, at Silver Creek, with a fishing party aboard that were stopping and fishing every creek and river that they came to."

THE BAPTISM RIVER CLUB'S ACCOMMODATIONS COULD HARDLY BE DESCRIBED AS LUXURIOUS.

Over time, access improved. Peter Pyette reportedly constructed the first bridge across the lower Baptism River at his own expense. This wooden structure simplified getting pedestrians and supplies across the river. Later, as commercial logging and mining activities increased in northeastern Minnesota, railroads to move men, equipment, logs, and ore were constructed. Realizing the value of this improved mode of transportation, some of the lines sought to capitalize on the interest in fishing the North Shore. In May 1908 the *Duluth News Tribune* reported:



Lounging inside the simple clubhouse, 1891, from left: Christopher D. and Mrs. O'Brien, Florence Bailey, Mrs. Saunders, unidentified man (Mr. Saunders?), and Edward N. Saunders Jr.

For years the local anglers have longed for a train service that would enable them to get to the trout streams in this vicinity early in the morning and get them back home the same evening . . . Yesterday the Duluth & Iron Range road issued a new time table which goes into effect tomorrow, whereby the Sunday train is arranged to meet the requirements of the large and growing number of fishermen who wish . . . to enjoy the freedom of an outing.¹²

Reflecting the burgeoning demand for the service, the newspaper soon advertised a fishing excursion via the Duluth & Northern Minnesota Railway: “Special train connecting with Duluth and Iron Range leaving Duluth 7:45 A.M. Returning 6:45 P.M. stopping at Knife River, Stewart River, Encampment River, Gooseberry River, Split Rock River, Beaver River and Schauff Lake. Fine fishing at any of these points.”¹³

Given the difficulty of access in the early years and the general lack of amenities, the Baptism River Club’s accommodations could hardly be described as luxurious. The 1888 annual report advised: “The house now has fourteen (14) beds. They are iron cots, with woven wire and other mattresses, blankets, and pillows. The directors cannot this year provide a laundry, hence every one should carry bed linen and towels.”¹⁴

The club hired a cook, George Lawrence, for that summer and kept the clubhouse open from July 14 to September 1. Meals were likely not of the style to which many members were accustomed, so the directors included this admonition in their July report: “It must be remembered that the Club House is in the wilderness and it is not intended to set a hotel table, but every effort will be made to furnish good, simple food, well cooked and cleanly served.” Rates for this spartan accommodation were \$1 per day or \$6 per week; costs for children were half-price.

Judging from many years’ entries in the club’s guest register, the clubhouse was an active place from the time it opened, generally in late May or early June, until it closed in mid-September. Twenty-five names appear in the register for July 1889 alone, with guests staying from 3 days to 2 weeks. Use appears to have peaked in 1892, when 60 people signed the register.¹⁵

If relaxation were among the objectives of clubhouse visitors, many found it. In 1911, for example, Arthur Foote wrote to Everett Bailey, the club’s first treasurer, “My trip did me a world of good and I have you and Cousin Jennie to thank for it. It was a fine rest and I



Clubhouse bedroom, still spartan in 1933

enjoyed my visit very much. Everything about my vacation has the most pleasant recollections—even to the drenching we got on the Bridge just before leaving camp and the ducking on the River.”¹⁶

The Baptism River Club was chartered for 30 years—from 1886 to 1916. People continued to visit the clubhouse and fish through the early 1920s, however. The club’s guest register records the highs and lows of angling over the course of those years. At first, the fishing appears to have approached the quality extolled at other points along Lake Superior. Even accounting for the occasional fisherman’s exaggeration, guestbook comments report the regular catching of brook trout ranging up to five pounds and, a year or two after the introduction of non-native rainbow and brown trout to the river, similarly sized specimens of these species as well.¹⁷

Over time, however, the entries document a decline in the quality of fishing. One of the final notes in the register, on August 3, 1922, reads: “As a fishing stream this Baptism would make a good duck pond.”

The club and other agencies had tried to preserve and enhance the fish populations in the Baptism River. The association’s February 1889 annual report, for example, referred to 110,000 fish (presumably brook trout) stocked in the previous three years. The report also mentioned the stocking of 15,000 “Rocky Mountain” trout (probably rainbow trout) the preceding winter. In June 1891 the guest register stated that the club’s George Spencer stocked 5,000 Loch Leven-strain brown trout near the island at the mouth of the Baptism River. In July 1898 the club planted 3,000 brook trout and 3,000 steelhead (migratory rainbow trout) purchased from the U.S. Fish Hatchery in Duluth in the river just above the

bridge. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Baptism River had also received brook trout from the federal hatchery in Duluth five times between 1900 and 1916.¹⁸ With all of this stocking, one would think that the fishing would have remained first class.

The deterioration is ironic, considering that the club's primary mission was to preserve the river's brook trout fishery. The reasons for its decline are numerous and complex. The North Shore watershed for the Baptism River has few places for storage of snowmelt and rain-water; this was the case even before settlement. Run-off reaches the river relatively quickly rather than infiltrating the forest soils. What had been a river with unusually variable flows (and presumably temperatures) became a much less hospitable place for the cold-water-loving brook trout shortly after the club was founded, when land use in the watershed changed. Between 1895 and 1905, Alger, Smith and Company logged off much of the mature white and red pine stands at the headwaters of the Baptism River, contributing to the increased volume and rate of runoff to the river in the spring and after summer thunderstorms.¹⁹ In addition, the introduction of non-native rainbow and brown trout placed more stress on the river's limited food base. It is also possible that the fishing declined simply because later anglers were not as proficient as their predecessors or the fish became educated to their methods. Most likely, all of these factors played a role. In any event, by the time the club's charter had expired, the quality of fishing that had attracted the original members had declined and seemed unlikely to recover in the near-term.

Upon the expiration of its charter in 1916, the Baptism River Club faded from prominence in the area. In 1910 the association had sold 40 acres and several smaller lots of its holdings to Peter Pyette for \$1.00. Between 1916 and 1926, the year after Pyette's death, a series of land transactions ended with Anna Pyette and her son George owning much of the land that had once belonged to the club.²⁰

Also during this time, George Pyette and his wife, Nora, began raising their ten children at the mouth of the Baptism River. Like his father, George was a jack-of-all-trades earning most of his modest living by commercial fishing. One daughter, Margaret Pyette Johnson, born in 1919, recalled the hard work of fishing, especially "choking" herring from the nets in the fall. (She also re-



ABOVE: *Fish house and other buildings belonging to the Pyette family, 1933.* BELOW: *Cars parked in the tall grass behind the clubhouse and an outbuilding called the Owl's Nest, at right, 1932. The flag flying atop the clubhouse signaled that the building was inhabited.*





ABOVE: *Cliff Club members at the clubhouse, 1932*

membered the fun she and her siblings had searching for agates along the shoreline.)

While the guest register suggests that members of the original Baptism River Club continued to use the clubhouse after the charter expired, the frequency and duration of visits waned. Then, in 1928, a group of Minneapolis- and St. Paul-area friends formed the Cliff Club and signed a ten-year lease with Anna Pyette for use of the clubhouse and premises. The annual lease rate was \$600, payable quarterly. Immediately, there was a resurgence of activity. Anna was hired as a cook for the Cliff Club, and George and Nora acted as caretakers. One of the new club's members, Dr. Seward Randall Winter, was a Minneapolis dentist and an avid amateur photographer. With his Kodak "Brownie," Winter captured many of the club's activities—such as hiking, fishing, and cook-outs—between 1928 and 1938.²¹

*IN 1945 BAPTISM RIVER STATE PARK
WAS FORMED THROUGH THE PURCHASE
OF JUST OVER 500 ACRES NEAR THE
MOUTH OF THE RIVER.*

Access to the area had improved greatly when the State of Minnesota constructed the Highway 61 bridge over the Baptism River in 1923. This new span, replacing Peter Pyette's handiwork, marked a milestone of change in how visitors used the North Shore's resources. In this new era of automobile travel, members of the Cliff Club would not have wanted the property without such ease of access. Now the general public could visit previ-

ously hard-to-reach North Shore locations, as well.²²

Increased access prompted a growing call to preserve many of the natural features along Lake Superior. The State of Minnesota responded to this call, and in 1945 Baptism River State Park was formed through the purchase of just over 500 acres near the mouth of the river. Anna Pyette sold a portion of her holdings to the state that year and the rest to Martin Pahl, a local businessman, in 1952.²³

The state did little with the property at first, finally burning down the clubhouse and the other buildings in about 1954. Pahl tore down the Pyettes' buildings soon thereafter and built a tavern that he operated for a time. Margaret Pyette Johnson remembers these years with mixed feelings. She married and moved to Duluth in 1954. Her father, George, died in 1955 and her grandmother Anna, in 1958. In little more than a decade, her family's ties to the property, dating back nearly 70 years, were gone.²⁴

Although the state added some 200 acres to the Baptism River park, it remained essentially undeveloped for 34 years. Then, in 1979 it was incorporated into the new—and much larger—Tettegouche State Park. In 1991 the Pahl family sold its Baptism River property to the Minnesota Parks and Trails Council, which two years later sold it to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for incorporation into Tettegouche.²⁵



*The 1923 Baptism River Bridge, pictured in about 1950.
A new span was built in the 1970s, leaving this bridge
for pedestrians and snowmobilers.*

Today, the site that was once the location of a well-maintained clubhouse and a manicured lawn sloping down to Lake Superior is virtually indistinguishable from the surrounding forest. Little evidence remains of the spot's previous uses. Gone are the home, boathouses, and fish houses of the family that worked as caretakers for two successive clubs. Instead, the DNR manages the area as a series of primitive-use campsites. A trained eye familiar with the former layout of the property might be

able to find the foundations of the buildings amidst the leaf litter of second-growth forest that now completely covers the area south and west of the river. The foundations of at least one of the earlier bridges are also still visible along the lower river. Most visitors to the park, however, hike down to the river to fish, view the series of spectacular rapids and waterfalls, or gaze out at Lake Superior, all without realizing the earlier human history of the beguiling site. □

Notes

1. Here and below, Paul Schullery, *American Fly Fishing: A History* (New York: Nick Lyons Books, 1987), 16; Nick Karas, *Brook Trout: A Thorough Look at North America's Great Native Trout—Its History, Biology, and Angling Possibilities* (New York: Lyons and Burford, 1997), 144.
2. Robert B. Roosevelt, *Game Fish of the Northern States of America* (1884; repr., New York: Arno Press, 1967), 37.
3. Here and below, Robert B. Roosevelt, *Superior Fishing, or The Striped Bass, Trout, and Black Bass of the Northern States* (1865; repr., St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1985), 120, 122.
4. *Duluth Minnesotian*, July 10, 1869, p. 3.
5. Dennis Pratt, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, to author, May 13, 2003; Bayard H. Christy, ed., *The Book of Huron Mountain, A Collection of Papers Concerning the History of the Huron Mountain Club and the Antiquities and Natural History of the Region* (privately pub., 1929), 1–6.
6. Brian A. M. Phillips and Christopher L. Hill, *Tettegouche State Park: Geomorphological Features and Potential Archeological Sites* (University of Minnesota—Duluth Archeometry Laboratory, 1994), 2; Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, *Tettegouche State Park Management Plan*, July 1997, p. 35; Thomas F. Waters, *The Superior North Shore: A Natural History of Lake Superior's Northern Lands and Waters* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1987), 47–48; Warren Upham, *Minnesota Place Names*, 3rd ed. (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2002), 309, 314; Lucile M. Kane, June D. Holmquist, and Carolyn Gilman, ed., *The Northern Expeditions of Stephen H. Long: The Journals of 1817 and 1823 and Related Documents* (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1978), front endsheet (map); Lake County Property Deed Records, Book D, entry 300, Lake County Courthouse, Two Harbors.
7. Lake County Miscellaneous Property Records, Book A, entry 109; Lake County Property Deed Records, Book D, entry 300. On Graves, see Grace Lee Nute, “St. Paul Club of 60 Years Ago,” *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, June 16, 1946, “Call of the Open” supplement, 14.
8. Nute, “St. Paul Club,” 14; George Squires to James J. Hill, July 7, 1886, and handwritten receipt, July 22, 1886, General Correspondence (file labeled Baptism River Club), James J. Hill Papers, James J. Hill Reference Library, St. Paul (hereinafter cited as BRC file).
9. Margaret Pyette Johnson, interview with author, Two Harbors, Apr. 28, 2003.
10. Annual report, July 10, 1888, BRC file.
11. Here and below, Myron Cooley, *Outings and Innings in Northern Minnesota, and Along the North Shore of Lake Superior* (Detroit [Lakes], MN: The Record Steam Print, 1894), chapter 43, [p. 2], chapter 21, [p. 2–3].
12. Richard S. Prosser, *Rails to the North Star* (Minneapolis: Dillon Press, 1966), 89–90; *Duluth News Tribune*, May 2, 1908, p. 3.
13. *Duluth News Tribune*, May 14, 1908, p. 3. Schauff or Schaff's Lake was the early name for Lax Lake, a popular destination located only five miles or so from the mouth of the Baptism River; Upham, *Minnesota Place Names*, 314.
14. Here and below, annual report, July 10, 1888, BRC file.
15. Baptism River Club guest register, 1889–1922, Minnesota Historical Society (MHS), St. Paul.
16. Arthur Foote to Everett Bailey, Sept. 14, 1911, Everett H. Bailey and Family Papers, MHS.
17. Here and below, Nute, “St. Paul Club,” 14; Baptism River Club guest register, MHS.
18. Report to members of the Baptism River Club, Feb. 28, 1889, BRC file; Dr. Robert Behnke (professor emeritus, Colorado State University, a leading authority on trout genetics and the history of early trout stocking and propagation in North America) to author, Feb. 21, 2001; Baptism River Club guest register; M. C. James, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to Lloyd Smith, Minnesota Department of Conservation, Dec. 3, 1942, office files, Lake Superior Area Fisheries Office, Duluth.
19. Department of Natural Resources, *Tettegouche Management Plan*, 36.
20. Here and below, Lake County Property Deed Records, Book 8, entry 609; Johnson interview.
21. Lake County Property Deed Records, Book 26, entry 610; Johnson interview; Patricia and Tom Anderson, interview with author, Independence, MN, Sept. 9, 2002. Eighteen of the approximately 70 extant photos taken by Winter are now in MHS collections. The others are in the collection of Patricia Anderson.
22. The current Highway 61 bridge was built in 1973. Ownership of the 1923 bridge was transferred to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in 1974. That span is now reserved for snowmobile and pedestrian traffic. Department of Natural Resources, *Tettegouche Management Plan*, 37.
23. Roy W. Meyer, *Everyone's Country Estate: A History of Minnesota's State Parks* (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1991), 156; Lake County Property Deed Records, Book 43, entry 515; Johnson interview.
24. Johnson interview.
25. Meyer, *Country Estate*, 156; Lake County Property Deed Records, Book 112, entries 406 and 408, Book 113, entry 131.

All photos are in MHS collections, including p. 233, 234, and 235 (top), all by Seward R. Winter and part of the Baptism River Club album, p. 229 by William Roleff, p. 230 by Charles Zimmerman, and p. 235 (bottom) by Kenneth Wright.



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