



[Minnesota Geographic Board.
Records.](#)

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MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, *St. Paul 1*

February 8, 1960

Dear Mr. McCauley: ✓

Can I prevail on you to help me again with an inquiry from the U.S. Geographic Board? What is the present local usage on the branches of the Zumbro? Can you and your boys help straighten them out?

Many thanks in advance for your efforts.

Cordially,

June Holmquist

*As requested
Phil*



February 8, 1960

Dear Mr. McCauley:

Can I prevail on you to help me again with an inquiry from the U.S. Geographic Board? What is the present local usage on the branches of the Zumbro? Can you and your boys help straighten them out?

Many thanks in advance for your efforts.

Cordially,

Same letter to:

Miss Joe Mulligan
Plainview

Mr. Philip Duff
Red Wing

Mr. Elton Smith
Wasioja

Mr. M. C. Rockne
Zumbrota

Mrs. Grace N. Willson
Olmsted Co. Historical Soc.
Rochester, Minn.

Mr. Lawrence Hythecker
Claremont

Mr. C. F. Marvin
Zumbrota

Mr. Harry Cowles
Mantorville February 26, 1960

Mr. Frank Callister
Kenyon

Mrs. Alice B. Murdoch
Lake City, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Murdoch:

Mr. Fridley has suggested that I write to you concerning a problem that has been referred to us by the United States Board on Geographic Names. The national board is understandably confused about the correct names for the various branches of the Zumbro River in Wabasha, Goodhue, Olmsted, and Dodge counties, and they would like to know what the people living in these areas call the branches of this river today.

A few of the many variations we have found are North Fork, North Branch, North Middle Branch, Middle Branch, South Middle, South Branch, and South Fork in various stretches of the river.

We would appreciate it greatly if you could drop us a brief note telling us what the river is usually called in your area. Any information you can give us on this problem will be helpful.

Sincerely,

Mrs. June D. Holmquist
Deputy to Russell W. Fridley,
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

JDH:pns

MINNESOTA STATE GEOGRAPHIC BOARD

ST. PAUL

February 26, 1960

Mr. C. F. Marvin
Zumbrota, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Marvin:

Mr. Fridley has suggested that I write to you concerning a problem that has been referred to us by the United States Board on Geographic Names. The national board is understandably confused about the correct names for the various branches of the Zumbro River in Wabasha, Goodhue, Olmsted, and Dodge counties, and they would like to know what the people living in these areas call the branches of this river today.

A few of the many variations we have found are North Fork, North Branch, North Middle Branch, Middle Branch, South Middle, South Branch, and South Fork in various stretches of the river.

We would appreciate it greatly if you could drop us a brief note telling us what the river is usually called in your area. Any information you can give us on this problem will be helpful.

Sincerely,

June D. Holmquist

Mrs. June D. Holmquist
Deputy to Russell W. Fridley,
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

JDH:pns

The accepted name for the river from the Kenyon area down to and including Mazeppa is North Branch.

C. F. Marvin

C. F. Marvin

807

MINNESOTA STATE GEOGRAPHIC BOARD

✓

ST. PAUL

February 26, 1960

Mr. M. C. Rockne
Zumbrota, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Rockne:

Mr. Fridley has suggested that I write to you concerning a problem that has been referred to us by the United States Board on Geographic Names. The national board is understandably confused about the correct names for the various branches of the Zumbro River in Wabasha, Goodhue, Olmsted, and Dodge counties, and they would like to know what the people living in these areas call the branches of this river today.

A few of the many variations we have found are North Fork, North Branch, North Middle Branch, Middle Branch, South Middle, South Branch, and South Fork in various stretches of the river.

We would appreciate it greatly if you could drop us a brief note telling us what the river is usually called in your area. Any information you can give us on this problem will be helpful.

Sincerely,

June D. Holmquist

Mrs. June D. Holmquist
Deputy to Russell W. Fridley,
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

JDH:pns

The branch which flows through our community is known as the North branch. It starts in the swamps east of Faribault. Flows through Kenyon, Wanamingo, Zumbrota, Mazeppa and joins the middle branch at Zumbro Falls.

Kenyon, Zumbrota and Mazeppa have or will have sewage treatment plants on the stream. Wanamingo is laying plans for such treatment now. Years ago this was known as one of the best small mouth bass streams in the west. There was a dam at Wanamingo, Zumbrota, Forest Mills, Mazeppa on this stream.

All out now.

Melroy C. Peterson

MINNESOTA STATE GEOGRAPHIC BOARD

ST. PAUL



February 26, 1960

Mr. Harry Cowles
Mantorville, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Cowles:

Mr. Fridley has suggested that I write to you concerning a problem that has been referred to us by the United States Board on Geographic Names. The national board is understandably confused about the correct names for the various branches of the Zumbro River in Wabasha, Goodhue, Olmsted, and Dodge counties, and they would like to know what the people living in these areas call the branches of this river today.

A few of the many variations we have found are North Fork, North Branch, North Middle Branch, Middle Branch, South Middle, South Branch, and South Fork in various stretches of the river.

We would appreciate it greatly if you could drop us a brief note telling us what the river is usually called in your area. Any information you can give us on this problem will be helpful.

Sincerely,

June D. Holmquist

Mrs. June D. Holmquist
Deputy to Russell W. Fridley,
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

JDH:pns

As far as I know, or can find out, the above are the only names given or known as.

HARRY E. COWLES
CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT
DODGE CO., MANTORVILLE, M.I.

DAILY REPUBLICAN EAGLE

RED WING'S HOME PAPER

PUBLISHED BY RED WING PUBLISHING COMPANY



TELEPHONE DU 8-3535
RED WING, MINNESOTA

February 29, 1960

Mrs. June D. Holmquist
Deputy to Russell W. Fridley
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Holmquist:

I can't give you the answers you seek on the Zumbro out of my personal knowledge, but I can suggest a way to get them.

I've lived close to the Zumbro for over a decade, both here and in Kasson, but I couldn't sit down with a map and tell you exactly what the people along each branch call the stream they've grown up beside. I've heard all the names applied to various branches that you mention in your letter, but I couldn't tell you with certainty and authority just which are most commonly used for each.

However, I would make this suggestion --

Have somebody prepare a simple outline map showing the many branches of the Zumbro as they flow through these four counties and down into the Mississippi. Put in a few town names and county lines to help the reader locate the various branches.

Then send this map to us, along with a simple news story addressing your question to the public at large. (I'll write that for you, if you like.) We will run the map and story and ask people to clip the map out of the paper, write in what they believe to be the correct names, and mail to Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul.

You should also send the story and map to the Rochester Post-Bulletin, and you can include the weeklies in the four counties if you like. You can tell them all I suggested this project.

When all the clippings have come in, and you have tallied the results on what seem to be the most commonly used names for each branch, then you should make up another map with the various branch names on it. Mail this to the same papers

with a follow-up story describing the results.

In this way, everybody will benefit. You will get a survey of local opinion on what each branch is called at no expense beyond postage. We newspapers will get two interesting local news stories. And the public will benefit by increased standardization in the name applied to each Zumbro branch.

Don't worry about bringing in some high-priced cartographer to prepare the map. You can just make it up yourself on white paper by tracing from a regular map. Lettering can be by hand if neatly done. The newspapers can take care of reducing to proper size and preparing the necessary engraving. If you like, include a little colorful description or historical data about the Zumbro which will appeal to all the many readers which have fished in it, swum in it, canoed on it (that's me), or just plain admired it from its banks.

I do hope that you will carry through on this project. And best regards to Russell.

Sincerely,



Philip S. Duff, Jr.
General Manager

PSD/jh

Same letter to:

Miss Joe Mulligan
Plainview

Mr. M. C. Rockne
Zumbrota

Mr. C. F. Marvin
Zumbrota

Mr. Frank Callister
Kenyon

Mr. Philip Duff
Red Wing

Mrs. Grace N. Willson
Olmsted Co. Historical Soc.
Rochester, Minn.

Mr. Harry Bowles
Mantorville

Mr. Elton Smith
Wasioja

Mr. Lawrence Hythecker
Claremont

February 26, 1960

Mrs. Alice B. Murdoch
Lake City, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Murdoch:

Mr. Fridley has suggested that I write to you concerning a problem that has been referred to us by the United States Board on Geographic Names. The national board is understandably confused about the correct names for the various branches of the Zumbro River in Wabasha, Goodhue, Olmsted, and Dodge counties, and they would like to know what the people living in these areas call the branches of this river today.

A few of the many variations we have found are North Fork, North Branch, North Middle Branch, Middle Branch, South Middle, South Branch, and South Fork in various stretches of the river.

We would appreciate it greatly if you could drop us a brief note telling us what the river is usually called in your area. Any information you can give us on this problem will be helpful.

Sincerely,

Mrs. June D. Holmquist
Deputy to Russell W. Fridley,
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

JDH:pns

March 2, 1960

Mr. Philip Duff
Daily Republican Eagle
Red Wing, Minnesota

Dear Phil:

We are hoping that you and your paper can help us with this problem:

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names is understandably confused about the correct names for the various branches of the Zumbro river in Wabasha, Goodhue, Olmsted and Dodge counties and we would like to know what the people living in these areas call the branches of this river today. A few of the many variations we have found are: North Fork, North Branch, North Middle Branch, Middle Branch, South Middle, South Branch, and South Fork in various stretches of the river.

We would greatly appreciate it then if your paper, by running a story and the map sketch, could find out what the local people call their section of the river. I am enclosing a sketch of the Zumbro river system. If people in Rochester, Rock Dill, Mantorville, West Concord, Pine Island, Oronoco, Kenyon, Wanamingo, Zumbrota, Mazeppa, Zumbro Falls, Jarrett, Millville and Kellogg could give us the local name of the river, this would be the information that we would want.

It might be helpful in preparing your story if you had a copy of the letter we received from the U.S. Department of Interior Board on Geographic Names. Therefore, we are enclosing a Therom-fax copy.

When all of the information is in, we will send out a follow-up release describing the results. If you should desire more information, please write me. Any help that you can give us on this problem will be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Robert C. Wheeler
Assistant Director

RCW/b
Enc.

Same letters sent to: Pine Island Record
Kenyon Leader
Wanamingo Progress
Zumbrota News
Mazeppa Journal
Zumbro Falls Enterprise

March 2, 1960

Miss Marietta Sonnenberg
Rochester Post-Bulletin
Rochester, Minnesota

Dear Miss Sonnenberg:

We are hoping that you and your paper can help us with this problem.

The U. S. Board on Geographic Names is understandably confused about the correct names for the various branches of the Zumbro river in Wabasha, Goodhue, Olmsted and Dodge counties and we would like to know what the people living in these areas call the branches of this river today. A few of the many variations we have found are: North Fork, North Branch, North Middle Branch, Middle Branch, South Middle, South Branch, and South Fork in various stretches of the river.

We would greatly appreciate it if then if your paper, by running a story and the map sketch, could find out what the local people call their section of the river. I am enclosing a sketch of the Zumbro river system. If people in Rochester, Rock Dill, Mantorville, West Concord, Pine Island, Oronoco, Kenyon, Wanamingo, Zumbrota, Mazeppa, Zumbro Falls, Jarrett, Millville and Kellogg could give us the local name of the river, this would be the information that we would want.

It might be helpful in preparing your story if you had a copy of the letter we received from the U. S. Department of Interior Board on Geographic Names. Therefore, we are enclosing a Thermo-fax copy.

Phil Duff of the Daily Republican Eagle in Red Wing has suggested, (and his paper plans to do this) that the map sketch and story could be run with a request that the readers clip the map for their section, write in what they believe to be the correct names and mail to the Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul 1.

When all of the information is in, we will send out a follow-up release describing the results. If you should desire more information, please write me. Any help that you can give us on this problem will be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Robert C. Wheeler, Asst. dir.

RCW/b
Encls.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

January 19, 1960

✓
Mr. Russell W. Fridley, Secretary
Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Fridley:

We have been asked for information on the names of the various tributaries of the Zumbro River involving the following counties in Minnesota: Wabasha, Goodhue, Olmsted, and Dodge. *and Rice*

In checking the Geological Survey quadrangles, the county and State maps, and other sources that we have available here, we find many discrepancies in the stream pattern. These are indicated on the sketch map and list enclosed.

Can you help us in straightening out these problems; we are especially interested in actual present-day local usage.

Sincerely yours,

J. O. Kilmartin
Executive Secretary
Domestic Geographic Names

Enclosures 2

WABASHA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Lake City, Minn. March 4, 1960

Mrs. Jean Holmquist
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul (1), Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Holmquist:

This is in response to your inquiry dated February 26, 1960 concerning geographic names of the branches of the Zumbro River as used by people in this area. In Lake City and in the surrounding region the title of "Zumbro" is used almost exclusively. For over fifty years that is the name used in Mr. Murdoch's law office. One friend living near Mazeppa, where one finds the pronounced branches, refers to the "big" and little Zumbro".

Sincerely yours,

Alice B. Murdoch
Mrs. Alice B. Murdoch

210 W. Lyon Ave.

ack.
3-22-60

Write to-

JDH

Mr. H. Fischer

to Dodge County Soil Conservation
Service
Dodge Center, Minn.

I think he can help you.

Mention my name.

LH

P.S. Write to: H. Fischer
of Dodge County Soil Conservation Service
Dodge Center, Minn.

Claremont, Minnesota.
March 5, 1960.

Mr. Russell W. Fridley,
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board,
Minnesota Historical Society,
St. Paul, Minnesota.



ack.
3-22-60

Dear Russell:

In answer to letter of February 9th, by Mrs. June V. Holmquist, I understand the United States Board of Geographic Names is confused about the various names for the branches of the Zumbro River in our area.

My particular area, Claremont and Ripley Townships, is drained by the South Middle Fork of the Zumbro River. The only name given in an old Dodge County History for this branch of the river was Montowille Creek. The Northern part of the county is drained by the North Middle Fork, named in old County History as Concord Creek. Then of course these branches also have branches or brooks flowing into them.

I am afraid I am not giving you a very good answer to your question. I would suggest that you look in Hill's History of Winona, Olmsted and Dodge Counties - 1884 - pages 771 and 772. There is a copy on file in the Minnesota Historical Library.

Sincerely yours,
Lawrence Fythecker.

Return to -

Lawrence H. Thecker,
Claremont, Minn.



Mr. Russell W. Fridley
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board,
Minnesota Historical Society,
Saint Paul 1, Minnesota.

ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

March 11, 1960

Mrs. June D. Holmquist,
Deputy to Russell W. Fridley,
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society,
St. Paul 1, Minnesota.

ack. pc
3-22-60

Dear Mrs. Holmquist:

Please accept my regrets for being so tardy in replying to your letter of February 26th.

In checking both our old and present maps of Olmsted County, I find that there seems to be the following references the Zumbro River.

1. the main stream
2. three areas of the Middle Branch
3. South Branch (also South Fork of Zumbro).
4. North Branch.

These seem to be the present names of the Zumbro River in this county.

The Middle Branch flows thru Kalmar, New Haven and Oronoco Twps. (at Oronoco forming Lake Shady at Oronoco village). The South Middle Branch is in Kalmar and New Haven Twps. The South Fork of the Zimbrow River is in Cascade Twp.

The North Middle Branch is in the north part of New Haven Twp. flowing into Lake Shady at Oronoco.

The South branch meanders thru Rochester, Rock Dell and Salem Twps.

I have obtained a map of Olmsted County, which I enclose herewith for your file. This shows the various branches,

There is reference to the Zumbro in the Olmsted County histories of 1883 and 1910, which goes into more detail. Also early plat books; all of which I feel sure are in the M.H.S. library.

I trust that some of above may be helpful. From the article in the Post-Bulletin of March 8th, with map, I feel sure that you may have already received considerable data.

Very sincerely,

Grace N. Willson (Mrs. B.T.)

THE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

The Kenyon Leader

KENYON, MINN.

March 12, 1960

Mrs. June D. Holmquist
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul, Minnesota

*ack.
3-22-60*

Dear Mrs. Holmquist:

In regard to your recent letter concerning the the name of the river which flows through Kenyon, I am of the opinion, as are many of our older citizens, that it is known as the North Branch of the Zumbro River.

It is referred to locally as the Zumbro River and the Highway Department so designates it, but that name is, of course, misleading inasmuch as there are numerous tributaries.

I can find no authoritative name to be pre-fixed to the Zumbro which flows through Kenyon, but "North Branch" is most commonly used.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Callister

Frank Callister



A letter which appeared in Abigail Van Buren's column recently has come in for considerable discussion in local circles. For those who haven't read it, here it is. . .

= ♣ =

"We hear teen-agers complain. 'What can we do? Where can we go?' The answer is: Go home! Hang the storm windows, paint the woodwork. Rake the leaves, mow the lawn, shovel the walk. Wash the car, scrub some floors. Help the minister, rabbi or priest, the Red Cross, the Salvation Army. Visit the sick, the poor. Study your lessons. And when you're through, If you're not too tired, read a book. . .

= ♣ =

"Your parents do not owe you entertainment. Your city doesn't owe you a recreation center. The world doesn't owe you a living. You owe it your time and energy and your talent so that no one will be at war or in poverty or sick or lonely again. . .

= ♣ =

"You're supposed to be mature enough to accept some of the responsibilities your parents have carried for

years. They have nursed, protected, excused and tolerated you. They have denied themselves comforts so that you could have luxuries. This they have done gladly, for you are their greatest treasure. In heaven's name, grow up and go home!"

= ♣ =

A county-wide committee is being formed for the Commemoration of the Civil War and Sioux Uprising Centennial for the year 1961. The preliminary committee is anxious to secure representation from all parts of the county to serve on county-wide group. Individuals in this area who would like to volunteer to serve on this committee are urged to contact Carl Hegseth, County Commissioner from this district, or they may write to Dr. R. H. Hvezda, Red Wing Route 1, chairman of the preliminary committee, or E. P. Ekholm, County Auditor, Red Wing, secretary.

= ♣ =

What is the correct name of the river which flows through Kenyon? The U. S. Board of Geographical Names is confused about the correct names of the various branches of the Zumbro river in Wabasha, Goodhue, Olmsted and Dodge counties. A few of the variations which they have found are: North Fork, North Branch, North Middle Branch, South Middle, South Branch, and South Fork in various stretches of the river.

= ♣ =

The Minnesota Historical Society is attempting to assist the U. S. Board of Geographic Names in establishing the correct names of the river branches. Does anyone know the correct name of the branch of the Zumbro which passes through Kenyon? I have been under the assumption that it is the North Branch of the Zumbro. Can anyone help out?

= ♣ =

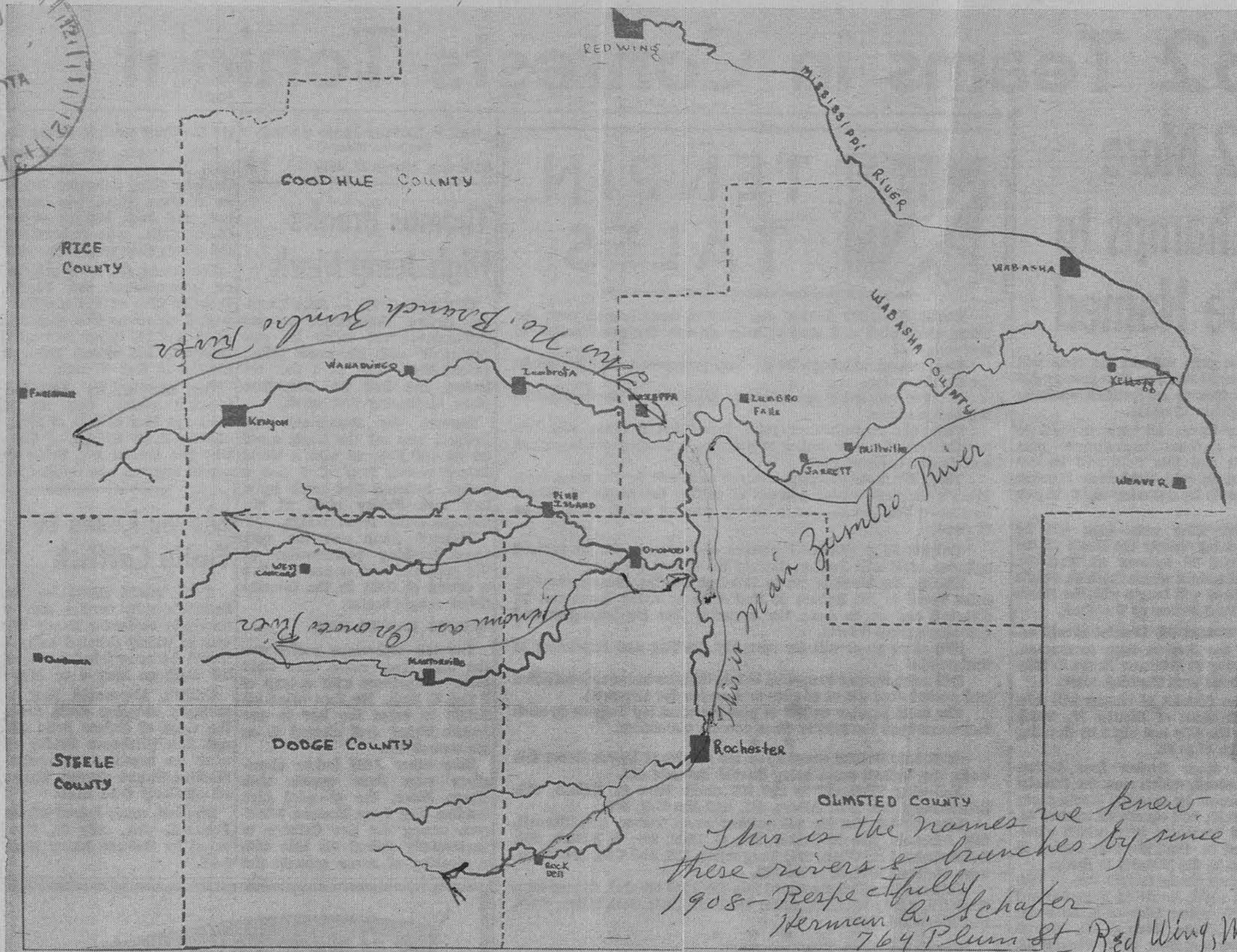
BOWLING

LADIES TUESDAY LEAGUE

Team	W	L
Sec. State Bank	16	11
Bergh Drug	14	13
Doll House	14	13
Farmers Implement	14	13
Bluebird	14	13
Kenyon Leader	13	14
Bowlitorium	12	15
Farmers Lumber	11	16

Ten high individual games: Carol Aase 186, Mary Larson 183, Janis Ray 180, Toots Meyer 178, Carol Erath 173, Doris Jorsstad 165, Virginia Aase 164, Mabel Gates and Bessie Helgeson 163, Mabel Gates 162.

What Are Names for Zumbro River Branches?



*This is the names we knew
these rivers & branches by since
1908 - Respectfully
Herman A. Schafer
764 Plum St. Red Wing, Minn*

Oct. 3-22-60

Can you help the government put the right names on the various branches of the Zumbro river in Goodhue, Wabasha, Dodge and Olmsted counties?

This request has come to the Daily Republican Eagle, and we're passing it along to our readers.

The U. S. Board of Geographic Names writes from Washington, D. C., that it is confused about the

correct names for the many Zumbro branches and wants to know what the people along each branch call their section of the river.

The U. S. board directed its question to the Minnesota Historical Society in St. Paul, and the Historical Society has relayed it to the newspapers serving the Zumbro watershed.

"If people in Kenyon, Wanamin-

go, Zumbrota, Mazeppa, Zumbro Falls, Jarrett, Millville, Kellogg, Pine Island, Ononco, West Concord, Mantorville, Rock Dell and Rochester could give us the local name of the river," the Historical Society wrote, "this would be the information that we would want."

It has heard such names as North Fork, North Branch, North Middle Branch, Middle Branch,

South Middle, South Branch, and South Fork, the society explained, but it doesn't know which names are actually most commonly used today.

Accompanying this news story is a map showing the various branches of the Zumbro. All readers in the area are urged to clip this map, write on it the names most commonly used for the

branches they are familiar with, and then mail it to Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul 1, Minn.

After this newspaper survey of Zumbro branch names is complete, the Historical Society will prepare a new map showing the correct name of each Zumbro branch. This information will then be relayed to the U. S. Board on Geographic Names in Washington, D. C.

MANKATO STATE COLLEGE

MANKATO, MINNESOTA

DIVISION OF LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

March 17, 1960



Minnesota Historical Society
Saint Paul 1, Minnesota

Gentlemen:

As a native of the Zumbrota area, I may be justified in contributing to your newspaper survey to determine the correct nomenclature of the various branches of the Zumbro River. Unfortunately, most of my information, like that of most other respondents, is taken from published maps--old county atlases and plat books, modern county highway maps, and Geological Survey quadrangle maps. Most of these I find to be in essential agreement, however, and they probably reflect local usage; your survey may be able to confirm or refute this conclusion.

Much of the confusion arises from the fact that both of the tributaries that meet at Pine Island are called the "North Middle Branch." This is precisely the kind of situation that the U.S. Board on Geographic Names would like to eliminate, but I fail to see what the Board can do, short of designating the smaller stream by some such awkward name as "North Fork of the North Middle Branch of the Zumbro." As George Stewart points out, this method of naming streams is logical and systematic but also highly cumbersome. (Even the Zumbro hasn't gone as far in this direction as a river Stewart mentions: the West Fork of the South Fork of the North Fork of the San Joaquin.)

Another, less serious, question is why the "North Branch" was so denominated, when a glance at the map will show that it is no branch at all but the upper portion of the main stream, flowing in the same general direction as the lower, or "Main," Zumbro. A more imaginative place-naming tradition would have applied the name "Zumbro" to the stream flowing from southeastern Rice County to empty into the Mississippi near Kellogg, and provided other names for the various branches that enter from the south and southwest. But now the usage of more than a century has pretty well fixed the nomenclature of this region, and it is certainly not the function or the intention of the Board on Geographic Names to dictate to localities what they shall call their natural features.

Some years ago I thought of writing a book about the Zumbro valley, to cover its geography, history, racial composition, economy, etc. Nothing ever came of this project except a study of the milling community of Forest Mills, a condensed version of which appeared in Minnesota History in 1956. If I ever revive my scheme, perhaps the information unearthed by this survey will prove useful to me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roy W. Meyer".

Roy W. Meyer

March 23, 1960

Mr. Sidney A. Frellsen, Director
Division of Waters
Centennial Building
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Frellsen:

Thank you for your memorandum of March 21 with its information on the various branches of the Zumbro River. Be assured that the interest of your division in the names of streams in the state is appreciated by members of the State Geographic Board. As a matter of fact, we consulted your division and obtained this information before the inquiry went out to the newspapers.

We greatly appreciate your continuing co-operation and will see to it that the information you gave us is forwarded to the national board.

Sincerely,

Mrs. June D. Holquist
Deputy to Russell W. Fridley,
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

JDH:pn

March 23, 1960

Professor Roy W. Meyer
Division of Languages and Literature
Mankato State College
Mankato, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Meyer:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter of March 17 on the various names of the Zumbro River. We plan to forward a copy of your letter to the national board. I am sure it contains exactly the sort of information the board is seeking.

It was pleasant to hear from you again, for it has been some years since we published your article on Forest Mills. By all means let us hear from you if you should decide to do some writing on the Zumbro Valley.

Thank you for the interest that prompted you to write us.

Sincerely,

Mrs. June D. Holquist
Deputy to Russell W. Fridley,
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

JRH:pns

March 23, 1960

Mr. Al Fischer
Dodge County Soil Conservation Service
Dodge Center, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Fischer:

At the suggestion of Mr. Lawrence Hythecker of Claremont we are writing to you concerning a problem that has been referred to us by the United States Board on Geographic Names. The national board is understandably confused about the correct names for the various branches of the Zumbro River in Wabasha, Goodhue, Olmsted, and Dodge counties, and it would like to know what the people living in these areas call the branches of this river today.

We would appreciate it greatly if you could drop us a brief note telling us what the river is usually called in Dodge County. Any information you can give us on this problem will be helpful.

Sincerely,

Mrs. June D. Holmquist
Deputy to Russell W. Fridley,
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

JDH:pns

March 23, 1960

Miss Veronica J. Schouweiler
1248 West 6th Street
Red Wing, Minnesota

Dear Miss Schouweiler:

Thank you for returning to us the clipping showing the various branches of the Zumbro River. We are glad to know that the river is called simply the Zumbro in the Hammond area.

We are sorry to have inadvertently omitted the town of Hammond from the map, but it was in no sense a complete map. It was meant merely to suggest the region covered by the river.

Thank you for the interest that prompted you to write us.

Sincerely,

Mrs. June D. Holmquist
Deputy to Russell W. Fridley,
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

JDH:pns

March 23, 1960

Mr. Philip Duff
Red Wing Daily Republican Eagle
Red Wing, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Duff:

Many thanks for your fine co-operation on the Zumbro River story. We have received quite a few replies from your area, and they are still coming in.

Now I have another problem to put to you. The June 17, 1954, issue of the Winona Daily News is missing from the Society's files. It is supposed to contain an article by Elizabeth Hatch on the 100th anniversary of the founding of the town of Pickwick. We would like very much to obtain a copy of this missing number of the paper, or if that is not possible, to secure a copy of the Pickwick article. Do you perhaps have an extra copy of that issue, or do you have one that we might borrow long enough to copy the information we need? Any help you can give us with this problem will indeed be appreciated.

Please give my best to Mr. Marshall, whom I was most pleased to see again a week or so ago. Although we have not yet unraveled the many names of the Zumbro, the information we are receiving is just what the U.S. Board will want.

Sincerely,

Mrs. June D. Holmquist
Associate Editor

JDH:pns

Minnesota Drainage Commission. (and U.S. Geological
Survey)

Report of Water Resources Investigation of Minn.

(St. Paul, 1910)

p. 319-320

Branch of the Zumbro

X 9 B705

• Mb A4

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ST. PAUL 1, MINNESOTA

March 23, 1960

Mr. Philip Duff
Red Wing Daily Republican Eagle
Red Wing, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Duff:

Many thanks for your fine co-operation on the Zumbro River story. We have received quite a few replies from your area, and they are still coming in.

Now I have another problem to put to you. The June 17, 1954, issue of the Winona Daily News is missing from the Society's files. It is supposed to contain an article by Elizabeth Hatch on the 100th anniversary of the founding of the town of Pickwick. We would like very much to obtain a copy of this missing number of the paper, or if that is not possible, to secure a copy of the Pickwick article. Do you perhaps have an extra copy of that issue, or do you have one that we might borrow long enough to copy the information we need? Any help you can give us with this problem will indeed be appreciated.

Please give my best to Mr. Marshall, whom I was most pleased to see again a week or so ago. Although we have not yet unraveled the many names of the Zumbro, the information we are receiving is just what the U.S. Board will want.

Sincerely,

June D. Holmquist

Mrs. June D. Holmquist
Associate Editor

JDH:pns

Glad to hear you are getting some replies on the Zumbro, Mrs. Holmquist. But I am puzzled by this request. Was "Winona Daily News" above a mistake, and you intended to refer to our paper? Or if not, I suggest you ask the Winona Daily News for a copy of their June 17, 1954 issue. If you did mean our paper, it should be on microfilm in your files.

Best wishes,

Phil Duff

Don't forget
your follow-up
story & map.
Be sure to make
lettering on
map
large enough.

ack

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Dodge Center, Minnesota

Mrs. June D. Holmquist
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

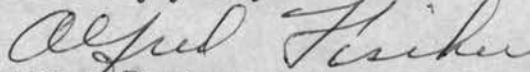
Dear Mrs. Holmquist,

In reply to your letter of March 23, 1960. My only familiarity with the Zumbro River are the names that are attached to the sign boards by the highway department where state and federal highways cross the Zumbro in Dodge County.

I'm sure these same names could be supplied to you on a map by Mr. Sidney Frelson of the Division of Waters, State of Minnesota, State Capital, St. Paul 1, Minnesota.

The Zumbro River enters Dodge County in three places and branches out still further as it winds through Dodge County. Since all waters of Minnesota are in Mr. Frelson's jurisdiction I think he would be better able to supply you with the names and perhaps also a map showing the various locations.

Sincerely yours,



Alfred Fischer
Soil Conservation Service
Dodge Center, Minnesota

November 4, 1960

Mr. J. O. Kilmartin
Executive Secretary
Domestic Geographic Names
Board on Geographic Names
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Kilmartin:

Early in the year -- on January 19 to be exact -- you wrote asking us to help ascertain the actual present-day local usage for various branches of the Zumbro River in Minnesota.

We contacted numerous individuals and organizations in the area drained by the Zumbro and prepared news stories on the problem which appeared in at least four local newspapers serving the area. The responses we received generated more heat than light on the problem.

Our informants seem to be in substantial agreement that the northernmost section of the river between Kenyon and Mazeppa is called the North Branch Zumbro River. From Mazeppa to its junction with the Mississippi it is definitely known as the Zumbro River. From there on, all is confusion.

I am enclosing the more interesting letters we received on this point as well as memoranda from the Minnesota Department of Highways map division and the Minnesota Division of Waters outlining their respective ideas on the matter.

(Sent
Mrs.
Wilson +
Meyer)

We hope that our efforts will be of some help to your board in its effort to clear up the confusion which exists in the various names of this river. Obviously, a decision is needed. From the general tone of the letters we received, the local people seem to feel strongly about the North Branch and the Zumbro sections, but appear to be as confused as the rest of us about the Middle and South Forks or Branches.

Sincerely,

Mrs. June D. Holmquist
Deputy to Russell W. Fridley,
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

JDH:pns



JDH

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



January 19 1960

Mr. Russell W. Fridley, Secretary
Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Fridley:

We have been asked for information on the names of the various tributaries of the Zumbro River involving the following counties in Minnesota: Wabasha, Goodhue, Olmsted, and Dodge.

In checking the Geological Survey quadrangles, the county and State maps, and other sources that we have available here, we find many discrepancies in the stream pattern. These are indicated on the sketch map and list enclosed.

Can you help us in straightening out these problems; we are especially interested in actual present-day local usage.

Sincerely yours,

J. O. Kilmartin
Executive Secretary
Domestic Geographic Names

Enclosures 2

1 & 2 Zumbro River
 North Branch Zumbro River
 North Fork Zumbro River

2 to 3 South Branch Zumbro River
 South Fork Zumbro River
 Zumbro River

3 to 4 Zumbro River
 Middle Branch Zumbro River
 Middle Fork Zumbro River
 Middle Fork South Zumbro River
 Middle Branch South Zumbro River

4 to 5 North Branch Middle Branch Zumbro River
 North Branch Middle Fork South Zumbro River
 North Zumbro River

4 to 6 Zumbro River
 South Middle Branch Zumbro River
 South Middle Fork South Zumbro River
 Rice Lake Branch Zumbro River

8 to 7 Zumbro River
 South Middle Branch Zumbro River
 South Middle Fork South Zumbro River

3 to 9 South Branch Zumbro River
 South Fork Zumbro River

10 to 11 South Branch Zumbro River
 South Fork Zumbro River



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEC 16 1960

Mr. Russell W. Fridley, Secretary
Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Attention: Mrs. June D. Holmquist

Dear Mr. Fridley:

We appreciate very much your letter of November 4 with enclosures relating to the Zumbro River and its tributaries. From the evidence we have at hand now we have prepared cases on the names as they appear on the enclosed three pages from our Docket List No. 25. These will be presented to the Domestic Names Committee of the Board on Geographic Names at its January meeting and we should be glad to have any further comments you wish to make.

Sincerely yours,

J. O. Kilmartin
Executive Secretary
Domestic Geographic Names

Enclosures 3



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEC 16 1960

Mr. Russell W. Fridley, Secretary
Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

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Sincerely yours,

J. O. Kilmartin
Executive Secretary
Domestic Geographic Names

Enclosures 3

December 8, 1960

MINNESOTA (Cont.)

South Fork Zumbro River: stream about 40 miles long, heading about 3 miles northeast of Hayfield, in sec. 2, T. 105 N., R. 17 W., and flowing generally northeastward to Rochester and then northward to join the Middle Fork to form the Zumbro River in what is now Zumbro Lake; Olmsted and Dodge Counties; sec. 14, T. 108 N., R. 14 W., fifth principal meridian; $44^{\circ}09'15''$ N., $92^{\circ}28'12''$ W. Not: South Branch Zumbro River. Soil Cons. Ser., St. Paul & Mason City, 1/250; submitted in connection with confused tributaries of the Zumbro R. the Minn. Geog. Bd., through a newspaper story and maps, attempted to get the local picture but confusion still remains.

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MISSISSIPPI

Priest Bayou: bayou about 0.8 mile long, heading at about $30^{\circ}20'10''$ N., $88^{\circ}29'20''$ W., about 1.5 miles northwest of Point aux Chenes, and flowing generally southwestward, through a swampy area, to a drainage ditch; its lower course, by which it once reached Mississippi Sound, has been obliterated by a fill; Jackson County; $30^{\circ}19'40''$ N., $88^{\circ}29'38''$ W. Not: Priestly Bayou. USC&GS, Pascagoula & Grand Bay, 1/62; the very early name appears to have become shortened in current local usage, as reported by the Geological Survey's Central Region Office.

December 8, 1960

MINNESOTA

Dodge Center Creek: stream about 14 miles long, heading about 4 miles southwest of Claremont, in sec. 17, T. 106 N., R. 18 W., and flowing generally northeastward, passing Dodge Center, to the South Branch Middle Fork Zumbro River at Wasioja; Dodge County; sec. 14, T. 107 N., R. 17 W., fifth principal meridian; 44°04'45" N., 92°49'30" W. Not: South Middle Branch Zumbro River, South Branch Middle Fork Zumbro River [q.v.], Zumbro River [q.v.].

Soil Cons. Ser., St. Paul 1/250; this stream is unnamed on most sources, or confused with South Branch Middle Fork Zumbro River; recommended name was sent to Minn. Geog. Bd. by State Highway Dept. after newspaper story.

Middle Fork Zumbro River: stream about 35 miles long, heading about 3 miles northeast of Rice Lake, in sec. 30, T. 108 N., R. 18 W., and flowing generally eastward through Concord, Pine Island, and Oronoco to join the South Fork to form the Zumbro River in what is now Zumbro Lake about 9 miles north of Rochester; Olmsted, Goodhue, and Dodge Counties; sec. 14, T. 108 N., R. 14 W., fifth principal meridian; 44°09'15" N., 92°28'12" W. Not: Middle Branch Zumbro River, North Middle Branch Zumbro River, North Zumbro River.

Soil Cons. Ser., Rochester 1/62, St. Paul 1/250; submitted in connection with confused tributaries of the Zumbro River; see also South Fork, or Branch, Zumbro River.

North Branch Middle Fork Zumbro River: stream about 20 miles long, heading about 2 miles south of Kenyon, in sec. 21, T. 109 N., R. 18 W., and flowing generally eastward to the Middle Fork Zumbro River at the village of Pine Island; Goodhue and Dodge Counties; sec. 31, T. 109 N., R. 15 W., fifth principal meridian; 44°12'10" N., 92°39'15" W. Not: North Middle Branch.

DGN, St. Paul, 1/250; this stream is confused with the Middle Branch; this name submitted to Minn. Geog. Bd. by the State Highway and Conservation Departments after they sent out a news story on the confusion.

December 8, 1960

MINNESOTA (Cont.)

North Fork Zumbro River: stream about 38 miles long, heading about 5 miles southeast of Faribault, in sec. 27, T. 109 N., R. 20 W., and flowing generally eastward to the Zumbro River about 25 miles north of Rochester; Wabasha, Goodhue, and Rice Counties; sec. 10, T. 109 N., R. 14 W., fifth principal meridian; 44°15'30" N., 92°28'47" W. Not: North Branch Zumbro River, Zumbro River [q.v.].

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South Branch Middle Fork Zumbro River: stream about 30 miles long, heading about 1 mile east of Rice Lake, in sec. 8, T. 107 N., R. 18 W., and flowing generally eastward, then northeastward, to the Middle Fork Zumbro River at Oronoco; Olmsted and Dodge Counties; sec. 17, T. 108 N., R. 14 W., fifth principal meridian; 44°09'45" N., 92°32'15" W. Not: Rice Lake Branch Zumbro River, South Middle Branch Zumbro River, South Middle Fork Zumbro River.

Soil Cons. Ser., St. Paul 1/250; among the confused tributary names, and applications, for the Zumbro River, this name was submitted to the Minn. Geog. Bd. by the State Highway and Conservation Departments.

February 10, 1961

Mr. J. O. Kilmartin, Executive Secretary
Domestic Geographic Names
U. S. Dept. of the Interior
Board on Geographic Names
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kilmartin:

Mr. Fridley has asked me to answer your recent letter on the various names of the Zumbro River in southern Minnesota. At its December meeting the Minnesota Geographic Board reviewed the problem of the Zumbro and tentatively concluded that the chaos can best be relieved by an arbitrary decision on your part. It is our feeling that such a decision would be accepted by the people of the area, many of whom feel that the confusion has got completely out of hand. I know you will agree that none of us like to make such decisions, but under the circumstances, we feel you have no other choice.

This matter of following local usage reminds me of another Minnesota situation that I have meant to call to your attention. It has to do with a decision made by the national board quite a few years ago, a decision that has not been accepted locally. I refer to the naming of Cypress Lake on the international boundary, listed in the Sixth Report of the U. S. Geographic Board, 1890-1932. We are aware that there is historical precedent for calling this lake Cypress, but we want you to know that the name is unpopular locally and is not used. Locals (both American and Canadian) insist upon calling this Otter Track Lake, because on a rocky cliff on the lakeshore there are marks that resemble otter tracks and a path such as an otter would make sliding. These marks are in the rock, are well known, and constitute a rather famous landmark. Perhaps under the circumstances, your board might wish to reconsider its decision in this matter. It seems improbable to us that Cypress is ever going to be accepted as the name of this lake. In fact, if you want a good argument, just try to use it in that area.

Sincerely,

Mrs. June D. Holmquist, Deputy to
Russell W. Fridley, Secretary
Minnesota Geographic Board

JDH/t



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

JAN 30 1961



Mr. Russell W. Fridley, Secretary
Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Fridley:

At its meeting on January 12, the Domestic Names Committee of the Board on Geographic Names discussed the Zumbro River tributary names as presented in our Docket List No. 25, from which copies of the pertinent entries were sent to you on December 16, 1960.

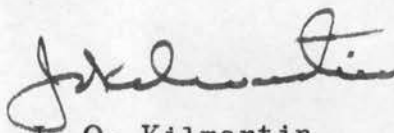
The Committee deferred action on these names, feeling that the solution presented, though logical, might appear too arbitrary. There are, admittedly, confusing numbers of fork, branch, and directional terms involved in these names which look reasonable on maps but may cause local confusion in actual usage.

Individualized names, such as Dodge Center Creek and Salem Creek, are to be preferred, and if the Zumbro River name itself were carried all the way up the South Fork it would eliminate one directional fork name and make its headwaters more definitive.

The Committee's general policy is to follow local usage if it can be ascertained; in these cases there seems to be so much confusion locally that probably an arbitrary solution is required. However, the Committee would like to be reasonably assured of the general acceptability of the proposed decisions before requiring their use on Federal maps and would be glad to have any further comments you wish to make on these names.

We are sending similar letters to the Department of Conservation, Division of Waters, the Highway Department, and Professor Roy W. Meyer of Mankato State College, whose suggestions, forwarded by you, were considered by the Committee.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. O. Kilmartin".

J. O. Kilmartin
Executive Secretary
Domestic Geographic Names

Enclosures 4



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

JAN 30 1961

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Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

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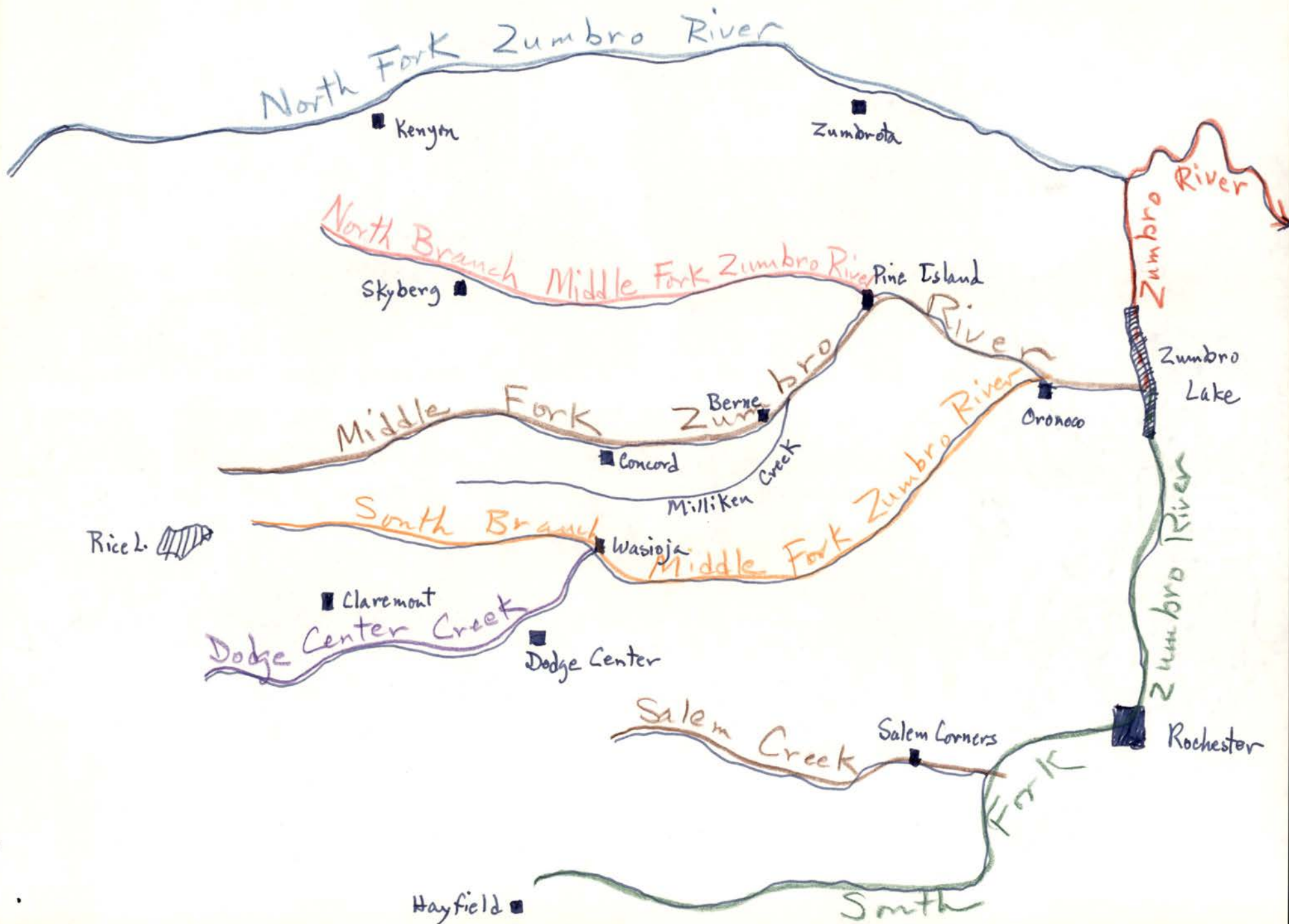
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J. O. Kilmartin
Executive Secretary
Domestic Geographic Names

Enclosures 4

JAN 27 '61



December 8, 1960

MINNESOTA

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December 8, 1960

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December 8, 1960

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MISSISSIPPI

Priest Bayou: bayou about 0.8 mile long, heading at about $30^{\circ}20'10''$ N., $88^{\circ}29'20''$ W., about 1.5 miles northwest of Point aux Chenes, and flowing generally southwestward, through a swampy area, to a drainage ditch; its lower course, by which it once reached Mississippi Sound, has been obliterated by a fill; Jackson County; $30^{\circ}19'40''$ N., $88^{\circ}29'38''$ W. Not: Priestly Bayou. USC&GS, Pascagoula & Grand Bay, 1/62; the very early name appears to have become shortened in current local usage, as reported by the Geological Survey's Central Region Office.

Handwritten initials



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



FEB 24 1961

Mr. Russell W. Fridley, Secretary
Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Fridley:

This is in reply to your letter of February 10, recommending that the Domestic Names Committee of the Board on Geographic Names resolve the Zumbro River "name problem" arbitrarily. The Committee will probably make its decisions on these names at the March meeting. We will let you know of the actions taken.

We are also preparing a case for Otter Track Lake vs. Cypress Lake using your letter as evidence of local usage for the former name. This case will be presented to the Committee at its April meeting.

Sincerely yours,

J. O. Kilmartin
Executive Secretary
Domestic Geographic Names

June 7, 1961

Mr. J. O. Kilmartin
Executive Secretary
Domestic Names Committee
Board on Geographic Names
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Kilmartin:

About your inquiry of May 24 regarding Skunk Lake in Clay Township, Hubbard County, Minnesota. The Minnesota Board has never formally ruled on the proposed change in the name of Skunk Lake for the following reason. Under the law governing the Minnesota board's activities, it is forbidden to change any name that has been in use for more than 40 years. According to our records, Skunk Lake has been so named since at least 1914; thus we are powerless to change it. We so informed Mr. H. O. Folkestad on April 4, 1961, and suggested that he take the problem up with the United States Board.

Personally, I feel that Mr. Folkestad's reasons for wishing the change are perhaps a bit overstated. I doubt that the name is the overwhelming factor in preventing development of this lake. However, the Minnesota Board would have no objection to changing the name of this feature if an appropriate name were selected. When he wrote to us Mr. Folkestad suggested "Emerald Lake," of which there are already a fair number in Minnesota. We would hope that he could come up with something more appropriate, perhaps a name suggesting some of the history of the area.

Thank you for informing us about this matter. If we can be of further help, please write us again.

Sincerely,

Mrs. June D. Holmquist
Deputy to Russell W. Fridley,
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic Board
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

JDH:pns



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

MAY 24 1961

Mr. Russell W. Fridley, Secretary
Minnesota State Geographic Board
Minnesota State Historical Society
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Fridley:

We have received a letter from Mr. H. O. Folkestad [Curator, Hubbard County Historical Society] requesting information on procedures necessary to change the name of Skunk Lake, in Clay Township (sections 29, 30, 32 and 33), "to 'Emerald Lake' or some other appropriate name."

He mentions, in his letter, that this proposal has support of the Hubbard County Board of Commissioners. However, he also writes that the Minnesota State Geographic Board has turned down this proposal and referred him to us.

Since the Federal Board wishes to cooperate with State Boards whenever possible, it would be useful to us to know your position concerning this name-change.

We are enclosing a copy of our reply to Mr. Folkestad.

Sincerely yours,

J. O. Kilmartin
Executive Secretary
Domestic Geographic Names

Enclosure



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

MAY 24 1961

Mr. H. O. Folkestad, Curator
Hubbard County Historical Society
Park Rapids, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Folkestad:

This is in reply to your letter of April 14, concerning a name change for "Skunk Lake" in Hubbard County.

The Domestic Names Committee of the Board on Geographic Names does not itself suggest or propose names, but follows the policy of using names that are in general use in the locality. When a particular geographic name is distasteful to a substantial number of people living in the vicinity of the named feature, the Board is glad to consider proposals for a change. Often, of course, local residents long accustomed to using a particular name resent any attempt to change it.

The Board therefore wishes to be sure that both the distastefulness of the present name and the acceptability of the newly proposed name are community wide. The burden of supplying evidence to indicate local wishes generally rests with the person or persons proposing the name change. Evidence the Board likes to see are petitions signed by people living in the area, those who may own property on the lake, and by the County Commissioners. It would also be useful to show evidence that the proposed name change was advertised in the local papers. Because considerable weight is given to the wishes of the State we are writing to the Minnesota Geographic Board, asking for its comments.

Upon receipt of the above evidence, we will prepare a case for the name change and submit it to the Board on Geographic Names for consideration.

Sincerely yours,

J. O. Kilmartin
Executive Secretary
Domest Names Committee

April 4, 1961

Mr. H. O. Folkestad, Curator
Hubbard County Historical Society
Little Log Museum
Park Rapids, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Folkestad:

Your letter of March 30 inquiring about the procedure for changing the name of Skunk Lake has been referred to me.

You do not give the location of this lake, but we assume that you are referring to the Skunk Lake in Township 142 N., Range 34 West, sections 29, 30, 32, and 33. If this is the body of water in which you are interested, I am afraid that nothing can be done to change its name under the present law. The Minnesota Geographic Board is the official agency of the state charged with responsibility for lake names. But the laws under which the Board operates provide that no name which has been in use for forty years or more can be changed. According to the Board's records, Skunk Lake in Township 142 North had carried that name for well over the forty-year period. Thus nothing can be done at the state level. (Hubbard Co)

If you wish to carry this problem further, the only suggestion I can make is that you might consult the national agency in charge of names in Washington. I am not sure they will be able to help you, but the man to write is Mr. J. O. Kilmartin, Executive Secretary, Domestic Geographic Names, United States Department of the Interior, Board on Geographic Names, Washington 25, D.C.

If this is not the Skunk Lake to which you refer, please let me hear from you again.

Sincerely,

Mrs. June D. Holmquist, Deputy
Secretary, Minnesota Geographic
Board, Minnesota Historical
Society, St. Paul 1, Minn.

Hubbard County Historical Society, Inc.
"Little Log Museum"

(Member Minnesota Historical Society)

Park Rapids, Minnesota.
March 30th, 1961

Minnesota Historical Society,
Saint Paul, Minnesota.
Gentlemen;-

What steps or procedure must a group take in order to officially change the name of one of our lakes here in Hubbard County?.

The lake is known as "SKUNK LAKE" and is a very nice lake with plenty of fish in it, but no one wants to build and develop the lake, due to its name. In fact there are only about half a dozen residents in the entire township. Surrounding the lake is very nice timber and by a change in the name it would induce a large number of buyers to erect summer homes and all around permanent homes for summer and winter.

Kindly furnish us with the necessary information relative to proper steps to be taken and if you cannot furnish the information, would you kindly forward the letter to the proper State department for their attention.

Thanking you for an early reply,

We are Very sincerely,

Hubbard Co. Historical Society,
"Little Log Museum",

By *A. O. Jakobstad* Curator.



T 142N, R 34W.

Sec. 29, 30, 32,

33