



[Minnesota Geographic Board.  
Records.](#)

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Becker County

MCB approved name Trieglaff Lake (not ~~RT~~ Trisglaff) May 2, 1962. See  
file U.S. Geographic Board correspondence

Bartram C.

February 24, 1960

Mr. Robert B. Kohl  
Kohl's Last Resort  
Big Turtle Lake  
Bemidji, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Kohl:

At the request of Commissioner George Selke, I am enclosing the information you requested on the procedure for naming a lake in this state. As you can see, it is a rather complicated business and must be done as specified by law in order to be official.

If you have further questions, we shall be glad to try to answer them.

Sincerely,

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

JDH:pns

cc to Mr. Selke

April 26, 1961

Mr. A. D. Johnson, County Auditor  
Beltrami County  
Bemidji, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This is to advise you that the United States Board on Geographic Names on April 13 approved the name Des Moines Lake for the body of water in T. 148 N., R. 33 W., sec. 29 formerly known as Horseshoe Lake or Lake Horseshoe.

The board's action makes the name Des Moines Lake binding on a national scale.

Sincerely,

Mrs. June D. Holmquist, Deputy Sec.  
Minnesota Geographic Board  
Minnesota Historical Society

JDH/th

February 21, 1961

Mr. A. D. Johnson, Auditor  
Beltrami County  
Bemidji, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This is to inform you that the Minnesota Geographic Board on November 22, 1960, approved the following name submitted by the Commissioners of Beltrami County:

Des Moines Lake, in Township 148 N, Range 33 W,  
SW 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 20 and NW 1/4 of  
NE 1/4 of Section 29, Beltrami County, Minnesota  
(Not Horseshoe Lake, Lake Horseshoe). So named  
May 3, 1960, by the Beltrami County Board of  
Commissioners on petition by local residents who  
wished to demonstrate "a spirit of genuine friend-  
ship and good will toward our many neighbors and  
friends in the city of Des Moines and the state of  
Iowa."

The resolution duly endorsed by members of the Board is enclosed for filing in the office of the Register of Deeds. Notice of the State Board's action will be forwarded to the United States Board on Geographic Names whose acceptance is necessary to make the name official nationally. We will notify you as soon as we hear from the national board.

Sincerely,

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

JDH:pns

May 31, 1960

Mr. A. D. Johnson, Auditor  
Beltrami County  
Bemidji, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This will acknowledge receipt of two certified copies of the resolution of the Beltrami County Board naming Des Moines Lake, two copies of the original petition, and proof of petition having been advertised and a hearing held.

We expect the Minnesota Geographic Board to act on this matter at its next meeting in June. We will notify you of the State Board's action as soon as the meeting has been held.

Sincerely,

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

JDH:pns

May 10, 1960

Mr. A. D. Johnson  
County Auditor  
Beltrami County  
Bemidji, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The resolution of the Beltrami County Board regarding the naming of a lake in Turtle Lake Township has been forwarded to this office by Mr. Frelsen of the Division of Waters. To become official, the name you have chosen must be approved by the Minnesota Geographic Board.

The Board requires two certified copies of the resolution, a copy of the original petition, and proof that the petition has been advertised and a hearing held. It will also need to know whether signers of the petition reside on or near the lake in question.

If you will supply us with this information, the State Board can review the matter at its June meeting. We are enclosing for your future reference a mimeographed sheet outlining the procedure for changing the name of a lake in Minnesota.

Very truly yours,

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

JH:pns

Enclosure

Copy for:  
Mrs. June Holmquist  
Room 204 Hist. Bldg.



OFFICE OF  
**Auditor of Beltrami County**

A. S. JOHNSON, AUDITOR

**Bemidji, Minn.**

May 6, 1960

**RECEIVED**

MAY 9 1960

DIVISION OF WATERS

Director		Public Affs.	
County		Records	
Secretary		Waterways	
Records		General W.	
Field		T. L. Hill	
Planning		Survey	
Permits		Training	
Public Affs.			
Telephone			

*P - water Res. div.  
Division of Waters*

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
State Office Building  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Attention: Sidney A. Frellesen,  
Director, Division of Waters

Dear Mr. Frellesen:

I am enclosing herewith the resolution adopted by the County Board relative to the naming of a lake in Turtle Lake Township, Beltrami County. The name adopted was "Des Moines."

Hoping that this procedure is in order, please advise.

Yours truly,

Enc.  
ADJ:sh

County Auditor







STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
SAINT PAUL 1

March 15, 1960

Mr. A. D. Johnson, County Auditor  
Beltrami County  
Bemidji, Minnesota

Re: Naming of Lake  
Sections 20, 29, Township 148 North  
Range 33 West

Dear Sir:

This is in response to and will acknowledge receipt of your March 4, 1960 letter with enclosures consisting of a petition, dated February 29, 1960, and a Notice of Hearing by the County Board, dated March 1, 1960, all of which are relative to the above lake.

In compliance with MSA, Section 378.05, I submit the following:

FINDINGS:

- (1) That the proposed name, Lake DesMoines, is not used, so far as I can determine, for any other lake in the state.
- (2) That the name "Horseshoe" has been used by the Division of Waters to identify the subject lake on maps and index lands. The origin of this name is not known.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the name "DesMoines" be adopted by the County Board without the prefix "Lake".

This is in accordance with the guiding principles of the U.S. Board on Geographic names in which it is stated that names constructed of two or more words should be avoided and, if selected, should be combined, if practicable. It is the conclusion of the Board that the longer names are less readily adopted by the public.

This division, to facilitate filing and indexing data, as a matter of policy never uses the word lake preceding a name.

14-10-1960

2.

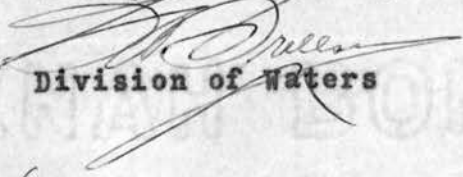
Mr. A.D.Johnson, Co. Auditor

March 15, 1960

I will appreciate receiving results of the final action of the County Board upon the petition.

Yours very truly,

Sidney A. Frellsen, Director

  
Division of Waters

JME:ms

CC- State Geographic Board ✓  
c/o Mrs. June Holmquist  
Acting Secretary



A PETITION

TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BELTRAMI COUNTY:

We, the undersigned legal voters residing within Beltrami County, hereby petition your honorable board that a lake, now unnamed, which is located in Beltrami County in Turtle Lake Township, Township 148, Range 33, in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 20 and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 29 shall be officially named Lake Des Moines for the following reasons:

Whereas, the Sovereign State of Iowa does not number among its many attributes a plentitude of recreational waters, and

WHEREAS, the Great State of Iowa now provides 18% of the travelers to Minnesota and ranks third in percentage of outstate guests visiting the North Star State, and

Whereas, the State of Minnesota is bountifully blessed with more than 11,000 lakes in this Land of Sky Blue Waters,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we the undersigned do hereby petition the Board of County Commissioners of Beltrami County and the Minnesota Geographic Board, as prescribed by law, to name forever the lake herein described "Lake Des Moines" in a spirit of genuine friendship and good will toward our many neighbors and friends in the Capitol City of Des Moines and throughout the Great State of Iowa.


Dated February 29, 1960.

Name	Address
1. Robert B. Kohl	Bemidji, Minn.
2. Beatrice Haley	Bemidji, Minn.
3. Edward E. Dessert	Bemidji, Minn.
4. C.D. Swedmark	Do.
5. Emmett O'Meara	Do.
6. Robert E. Wilson	Do.
7. Richard Dickinson	Do.
8. L.R. Dickinson	RFD, Bemidji
9. G. Hubert Munro	
10. R.J. Kroll	Bemidji
11. R. Corcoran	Bemidji
12. Al Stai	Bemidji
13. N.E. Grimes	R#1, Bemidji
14. P.F. Glogau	Do.
15. Jim Cerny	Do.

STATE OF MINNESOTA )  
                          )SS  
COUNTY OF BELTRAMI )

I, A.D. Johnson, County Auditor of Beltrami County, Minnesota do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original petition on file in my office.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this 7th day of March, 1960.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
County Auditor,  
Beltrami County.

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

A petition has been filed with the County Auditor for the purpose of naming a lake in Beltrami County, that now has no name, located in the SW 1/4 of SE 1/4, Section 20 and the NW 1/4 of NE 1/4, Section 29, Town 148, Range 33, Turtle Lake Township, said lake to be designated as "Lake Des Moines" and said petition having been presented to the Beltrami County Board March 1st, at which time the petition was set for hearing as provided by law for 2 p. m., May 3, 1960, at which time said County Board will hear any objections to said petition.

(Signed) A. D. JOHNSON,  
County Auditor.

Dated: 3/1/60.      3D 3-5 3-12 3-19

State of Minnesota, } ss.  
County of Beltrami }

JOHN A. AINLEY, being duly sworn, on oath says; that he is, and during all the times herein stated has been Secretary of the BEMIDJI PIONEER PUBLISHING CO., publisher of the newspaper known as THE BEMIDJI DAILY PIONEER, and has full knowledge of the facts hereinafter stated; that for more than one

year prior to the publication therein of the Notice of Hearing - naming Lake Des Moines

hereinafter described, said newspaper was printed and published in the City of Bemidji, in the County of Beltrami, State of Minnesota, daily except Sunday and legal holidays of each week; that during all said time said newspaper has been printed in the English language from its known office of publication within the City from which it purports to be issued as above stated and in newspaper format and in column and sheet form equivalent in space to at least 450 running inches of single column, two inches wide; has been issued daily except Sunday and legal holidays of each week from a known office established in said place of publication and employing skilled workmen and the necessary material for preparing and printing the same; that the press work on that part of the newspaper devoted to local news of interest to the community it purports to serve has been done in its known office of publication; that during all said time in its makeup not less than twenty-five per cent of its news columns have been devoted to local news of interest to the community it purports to serve; that during all said time it has not wholly duplicated any other publication, and has not been entirely made up of patents, plate matter and advertisements; has been circulated in and near its said place of publication to the extent of at least fifty-seven hundred (5700) copies regularly delivered to paying subscribers and has entry as second class matter in its local postoffice; and that there has been on file in the office of the County Auditor of Beltrami County, Minnesota, the affidavit of a person having knowledge of the facts, showing the name and location of said newspaper and the existence of the conditions constituting its qualifications as a legal newspaper.

That the Notice of Hearing hereto attached was cut from the columns of said newspaper, and was printed and published there-

in in the English language three days

that it was first so published on Saturday

the 5th day of March, 1960; and there-

after on Saturday to and including the 19th

day of March, 1960; and that the following is a printed copy of the lower case alphabet from A to Z, both inclusive, and is hereby acknowledged as being the size and kind of type used in the composition and publication of said notice, to-wit:

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz.

*John A. Ainley*

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of May, 1960

*A. E. Short*

A. E. SHORT  
Notary Public, BELTRAMI CO., MINN.  
My Commission Expires APRIL 29, 1967



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE OF HEARING

A petition has been filed with the County Auditor for the purpose of naming a lake in Beltrami County, that now has no name, located in the SW 1/4 of SE 1/4, Section 29 and the NW 1/4 of NE 1/4, Section 29, Town 148, Range 33, Turtle Lake Township, said lake to be designated as "Lake Des Moines" and said petition having been presented to the Beltrami County Board March 1st, at which time the petition was set for hearing as provided by law for 2 p. m., May 3, 1960, at which time said County Board will hear any objections to said petition.

(Signed) A. D. JOHNSON, County Auditor.

Dated: 3/1/60.

3D 3-5 3-12 3-19

State of Minnesota, } ss.
County of Beltrami }

JOHN A. AINLEY, being duly sworn, on oath says; that he is, and during all the times herein stated has been Secretary of the BEMIDJI PIONEER PUBLISHING CO., publisher of the newspaper known as THE BEMIDJI DAILY PIONEER, and has full knowledge of the facts hereinafter stated; that for more than one

year prior to the publication therein of the Notice of Hearing - naming Lake Des Moines

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in in the English language. three days

that it was first so published on. Saturday

the 5th day of March, 1960; and there-

after on Saturday to and including the 19th

day of March, 1960; and that the following is a printed

copy of the lower case alphabet from A to Z, both inclusive, and is hereby acknowledged as being the size and kind of type used in the composition and publication of said notice, to-wit:

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz.

Handwritten signature of John A. Ainley

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of May, 1960

Handwritten signature of A. E. Short

A. E. SHORT
Notary Public, BELTRAMI CO., MINN.
My Commission Expires APRIL 29, 1967

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**Affidavit of  
Publication**  
*of*

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***The Bemidji Daily Pioneer***

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FILED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF

\_\_\_\_\_ . 19 \_\_\_\_\_

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OFFICE OF  
**Auditor of Beltrami County**

A. D. JOHNSON, AUDITOR

**Bemidji, Minn.**

May 18, 1960

MINNESOTA GEOGRAPHIC BOARD  
Minnesota Historical Society  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

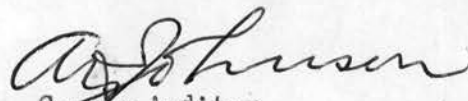
Attention: Mrs. June D. Holmquist  
Deputy to R.W. Fridley,  
Sec'y

Dear Mrs. Holmquist:

In compliance with your letter of May 10th, I am enclosing herewith two certified copies of the resolution of the County Board naming "Lake Des Moines," two copies of the original petition, two copies of Proof of Petition Being Advertised and two copies of the hearing held.

Yours truly,

Encs. 4 (dup.)  
ADJ:gh

  
County Auditor



NOTICE OF HEARING

A petition has been filed with the County Auditor for the purpose of naming a lake in Beltrami County, that now has no name, located in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 20 and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 29, Town 148, Range 33, Turtle Lake Township, said lake to be designated as "Lake Des Moines" and said petition having been presented to the County Board March 1st, at which time the petition was set for hearing as provided by law for 2 P.M., May 3, 1960, at which time said County Board will hear any objections to said petition.

Dated: 3/1/60

(Signed) A.D. Johnson,  
County Auditor.

Bemidji, Minnesota  
March 18th, 1960

I, James Marsch, Chairman of the Town Board of Turtle Lake Township, accept personal service of the above notice of hearing from A.D. Johnson, County Auditor, Beltrami County.

(Signed) James Marsch  
Chairman of the Town Board of  
Turtle Lake Township

We, the Town Board of Turtle Lake Township, do hereby approve the petition attached hereto designating the lake located in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 20 and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 29, Town 148, Range 33 to be named "Lake Des Moines."

Dated this 18th day of March, 1960.

(Signed)  
Attested: Elaine Glogau  
Town Clerk


(Signed) James Marsch  
Chairman of the Town Board of  
Turtle Lake Township

FILED  
Mar 18, 1960  
A.D. Johnson  
County Auditor

STATE OF MINNESOTA )  
                                  )SS  
COUNTY OF BELTRAMI )

I, A.D. Johnson, County Auditor of Beltrami County, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original document on file in my office.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this 18th day of May, 1960.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
County Auditor,  
Beltrami County.

*Beltrami  
Gnatt Lake*

Re renaming Gnatt Lake, Beltrami County.

See

E. C. Gryce to State Historical Society, 5/14/23.

T. C. Blegen to E. C. Gryce, 5/17/23.

E. C. Gryce to Minnesota Historical Society, 7/5/23.

TCB to ECG, 8/2/23.

ECG to TCB, 6/5/37.

TCB to ECG, 6/9/37.

ECG to W. M. Babcock, 6/10/37.

Bert Fesler to Herman C. Wenzel, 9/13/37.

TCB to Bert Fesler, 9/16/37

Herman C. Wenzel to Lake County Board of Commissioners, 9/16/37.

Indian Hotel

THOS. FENNESSY  
PROPRIETOR

MAY 1923

COMMERCIAL AND TOURIST  
HEADQUARTERS

E. C. Gryce

Turtle River Minn.

~~Cass Lake, Minn.~~ May 14 1923

State Historical  
Society of Minn.  
St. Paul:

I have heard that  
a department of the State  
Historical society will  
coöperate with parties  
interested in re-naming  
the Minnesota lakes.

Will you kindly  
refer this letter to the  
proper parties. I would  
be glad to take up the  
matter of re-naming  
lakes in which I happen  
to be interested.

Very truly,  
E. C. Gryce

May 17, 1923

Mr. E. C. Gryce  
Turtle River, Minnesota

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your letter of May 14, I wish to say that the Minnesota Historical Society will be glad to give you whatever assistance it can in the matter of finding a suitable name for the lake to which you refer. Will you kindly send us further particulars regarding the case?

Sincerely yours

TCB/B

A. W. KING,  
PRESIDENT

J. S. HIBBERT,  
VICE PRES. & AGENCY MGR.

J. E. TAPPAN,  
SEC. & TREAS.

ESTABLISHED 1894

# Investors Syndicate

5½% CERTIFICATES



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SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. AMERICAN NAT'L BANK BLDG.

73  
July 5, 1923,

Minnesota Historical Soc.  
St Paul Minn.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of May 17, <sup>regarding remaining tract etc.</sup> requesting further particulars, I regret to say that I do not understand the nature of the particular you desire but shall attempt something which may be pertinent.

The lake in question lies in Beltrami County, Turtle Lake Twp. 148-33. It was named Quatt. The Leech Lake Trail (an old Indian road running from Red Lake Reservation to Leech Lake) passes the north east shore. There are but few people living on the lake, 2 settlers and three summer residents, and the sentiment for change is unanymous.

Suggested names: Jewel; Beltrami; Luzerne; Poloma; Ramona; etc.

Thanking you for any information and assistance  
Very truly, E. C. Frye.

August 2, 1923

Mr. E. C. Gryce  
Turtle River, Minnesota

Dear Sir:-

So far as I know there is no lake in the state named after the explorer Beltrami and so this name, which you mention in your letter of July 5 as a suggested name for Gnatt Lake, seems to me to be an appropriate one. It seems to me that such names as Poloma and Ramona, however euphonic they may be, have no particular appropriateness.

It occurs to me, however, that if you desire a euphonic name of that general type you might select Giacomo. The explorer's full name was Giacomo Constantino Beltrami.

Sincerely yours

TCB/B

*Gryce, E. C.*

Cable Address  
Chalburco Minneapolis

Manufacturers of **JUN 7 1937**  
FULL AUTOMATIC OIL BURNERS FOR DOMESTIC USE  
SINCE 1920

Telephone  
Granville 3527

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NEW YORK CITY BOARD  
of  
STANDARDS and APPEALS

Listed by  
Underwriters Laboratory  
of Chicago

C. H. CHALMERS, E. E.  
General Manager  
JOHN ROSCHE  
Production Manager  
E. C. GRyce  
Sales Manager

# Chalmers Oil Burner Co.

1234 CENTRAL AVENUE N.E

Minneapolis, Minnesota

June 5, 1937



Mr. T. C. Blegen  
Chairman, Minn. Geographical Board  
State Historical Society  
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

A number of years ago the state historical society was quoted by the public press as willing to cooperate in the renaming of Minnesota lakes.

Acting on this information, I wrote the society with regard to the renaming of Gnatt Lake in Turtle Lake township and several letters passed resulting in the suggestion of the society that this lake might be very properly named Beltrami Lake. *(about 1923)*

It was stated that the explorer, Beltrami, had undoubtedly traveled this neighborhood and that his name had not been placed on any lake or river or other natural feature than Beltrami county itself.

This suggestion was very gratefully received and the writer and some neighbors proceeded at once to take the necessary steps according to the procedure that was believed then to be in order; however, when the matter was brought before the county board, it was learned that the legislature had during the preceeding session passed a new procedure, and time and circumstances did not favor carrying on this project any further.

The writer has just learned that the Minnesota Geographical Board is again cooperating actively in this work and would be very grateful indeed to have the assistance of this body in placing an appropriate name on this beautiful lake. This project is more than ordinarily pressing at this time in as much as there have been several proposals of personal names such as "Lillian" and "Annabelle" which I believe are not especially favored by your society, and certainly not by the writer.

I will appreciate very much being favored by you on this and will be glad to cooperate as much as possible along lines you may suggest.

Yours very truly,

CHALMERS OIL BURNER CO.

BY *E. C. Gryce*  
E. C. Gryce

ECG/ML

P. S. Kindly address the writer.

**ACE**  
Horizontal  
Rotary  
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Burners

Listed by  
Underwriters  
for  
Full Automatic  
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with  
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Sizes  
10 to 450  
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June 9, 1937

Mr. E. C. Gryce  
c/o Chalmers Oil Burner Co.  
1234 Central Avenue N. E.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Gryce:

As soon as the State Geographic Board is organized and begins to function, I shall be very happy to lay before it the problem of renaming Gnatt Lake, and I shall keep your letter of June 5 at hand in order to have available the necessary information. In fact I find upon looking into our correspondence files the exchange of letters that we had in 1923 on the same subject. I find that we at that time endorsed the idea of utilizing the name "Beltrami." It appears from that correspondence that there was some thought of finding a euphonious name, such as "Poloma" and "Ramona," and at the time it occurred to me that if a particularly euphonious name were wanted it might be found in the first name of Beltrami, which was Giacomo. I am inclined to think, however, that if "Beltrami" has not actually been used as the name of a Minnesota lake, it might prove to be a very good choice.

I take it that Gnatt Lake is in the general vicinity visited also by David Thompson, the great astronomer-explorer of early times, who was known as the Star Man or Koo-Koo-Sint. Possibly this connection might suggest some name.

I understand that the Geographic Board will be convened before long and will proceed to deal with some of the problems involved in the naming and renaming of Minnesota lakes.

Sincerely yours,

TCB/H

Superintendent

*"Beltrami" the name of a railway village in Polk County.*

JUN 11 1937

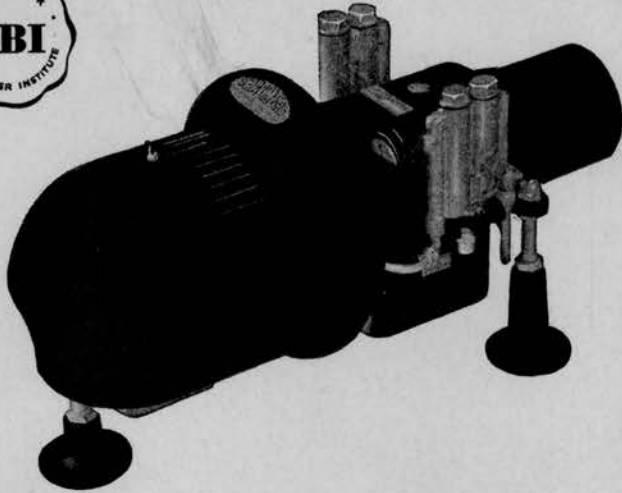
# Chalmers OIL BURNER CO.

1234 Central Avenue N. E.

Minneapolis, Minn.

U. S. A.

June 10, 1937



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AUTOMATIC  
OIL  
BURNERS  
Since 1920

Passed by the  
NEW YORK  
CITY  
BOARD  
of  
STANDARDS  
and  
APPEALS

Listed  
by  
Underwriters  
Laboratory  
of  
Chicago

Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock  
% Minn. Historical Society  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Willoughby:

I acted on your suggestion and wrote Mr. Elegen and have just received a reply to my letter.

I wasn't sure about it at the time I talked to you, but I had a faint recollection that Mr. Elegen was the party with whom I had had my previous correspondence and his letter of June 9th indicates that this is the case.

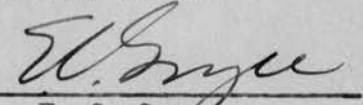
I considered that you might be interested in the proposition and in view of this suggestion which you gave me about the Geographic Board, I am taking the liberty of sending you copies of this correspondence.

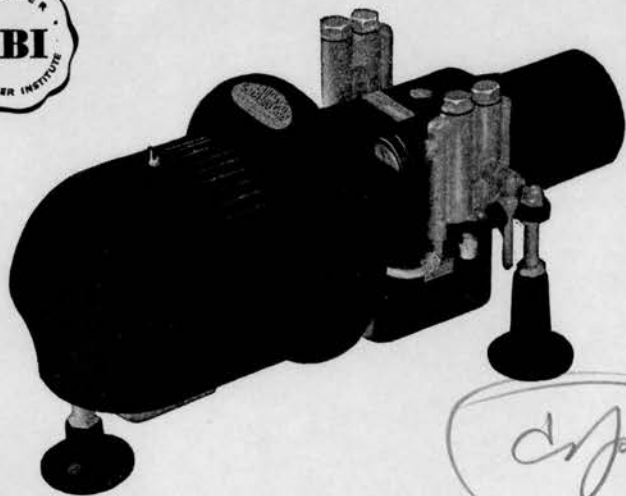
Thank you very much, Willoughby, for your help on this and I hope that something of value will be the result of your suggestion.

ECG/ML

Yours very truly,

BY

  
E. C. Gryce



# Chalmers OIL BURNER CO.

1234 Central Avenue N. E.

Minneapolis, Minn.

U. S. A.

June 5, 1937

*Copy*

Mr. T. C. Blegen  
Chairman, Minn. Geographical Board  
State Historical Society  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Sir:

A number of years ago the state historical society was quoted by the public press as willing to cooperate in the renaming of Minnesota lakes.

Acting on this information, I wrote the society with regard to the renaming of Gnatt Lake in Turtle Lake township and several letters passed resulting in the suggestion of the society that this lake might be very properly named Beltrami Lake.

It was stated that the explorer, Beltrami, had undoubtedly traveled this neighborhood and that his name had not been placed on any lake or river or other natural feature than Beltrami county itself.

This suggestion was very gratefully received and the writer and some neighbors proceeded at once to take the necessary steps according to the procedure that was believed then to be in order; However, when the matter was brought before the county board, it was learned that the legislature had during the preceding session passed a new procedure, and time and circumstances did not favor carrying on this project any further.

The writer has just learned that the Minnesota Geographical Board is again cooperating actively in this work and would be very grateful indeed to have the assistance of this body in placing an appropriate name on this beautiful lake. This project is more than ordinarily pressing at this time in as much as there have been several proposals of personal names such as "Lillian" and "Annabelle" which I believe are not especially favored by your society, and certainly not by the writer.

I will appreciate very much being favored by you on this and will be glad to cooperate as much as possible along lines you may suggest.

Yours very truly,

BY \_\_\_\_\_  
E. C. Gryce

ECG/ML

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NEW YORK  
CITY  
BOARD  
of  
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and  
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Listed  
by  
Underwriters  
Laboratory  
of  
Chicago

copy

June 9, 1937

Mr. E. C. Gryce  
c/o Chalmers Oil Burner Co.  
1234 Central Avenue N. E.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Gryce:

As soon as the State Geographic Board is organized and begins to function, I shall be very happy to lay before it the problem of renaming Gnatt Lake, and I shall keep your letter of June 5 at hand in order to have available the necessary information. In fact I find upon looking into our correspondence files the exchange of letters that we had in 1923 on the same subject. I find that we at that time endorsed the idea of utilizing the name "Beltrami." It appears from that correspondence that there was some thought of finding a euphonious name, such as "Poloma" and "Ramona," and at the time it occurred to me that if a particularly euphonious name were wanted it might be found in the first name of "Beltrami", which was Giacomo. I am inclined to think, however, that if "Beltrami" has not actually been used as the name of a Minnesota lake, it might prove to be a very good choice.

I take it that Gnatt Lake is in the general vicinity visited also by David Thompson, the great astronomer-explorer of early times, who was known as the "Star Man" or "Koo-Koo-Sint". Possibly this connection might suggest some name.

I understand that the Geographic Board will convene before long and will proceed to deal with some of the problems involved in the naming and renaming of Minnesota lakes.

Sincerely yours,

TCB/H

Superintendent

January 16, 1940

Mr. E. C. Gryce  
c/o Chalmers Oil Burner Co.  
1234 Central Avenue N. E.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Gryce:

From the files of the State Geographic Board it appears that in June, 1937, you had some correspondence with Dr. Theodore C. Blegen, who was at that time a member of the Board, about renaming Gnett Lake, in Turtle Lake Township, Beltrami County. At the time of your correspondence the Board was not yet organized, and its policies had not been determined. It is now organized, and the general policies under which it will operate have been established.

Chapters 35 and 63 of the Session Laws of 1937 prescribe definite rules to regulate the process of changing the names of lakes. Although the State Geographic Board has the power to initiate proceedings, we believe that greater satisfaction will result if local wishes are consulted, and if the initial action for changing names comes from the communities in which the lake is located.

I am therefore enclosing a set of instructions to be followed in beginning such action, together with copies of the laws under which the Board operates. You will note that the petition, which is also enclosed, must be signed by fifteen legal voters residing within the county in which the lake or stream is located. If any questions arise, you probably can get additional information from the chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Beltrami County, or from the county auditor. If they are unable to answer your questions, please do not hesitate to write to us.

"Beltrami Lake," the name which you favored in 1937, seems altogether appropriate; it has historical significance, and it is borne by no other lake in the state.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur J. Larsen, Secretary  
State Geographic Board

mw B  
JAN 25 1940  
WHITE PINE LODGE • WILDROSE • BALSAM LODGE • GRyce-STINE • SPRUCELEDGE LODGE  
LOOKOUT LODGE • BIRCH CREST • WHISPERING PINES

# Gryce-Stine

SELMA S. GRyce, Prop.

TURTLE RIVER, MINNESOTA

BEMIDJI Jan 24 1940

Minnesota Historical Society  
St Paul Minn

Attention, Mr Arthur J Larsen

Gentlemen:

We wish to thank you for your letter of January 19th and for keeping us in mind in connection with the change of name at one time desired for our lake, Gnatt Lake, Turtle Lake Township. As we have no doubt indicated in our correspondence, we have made some efforts during a number of years to bring about this change and have had a number of informal meetings of people in this neighborhood who were interested and affected.

The situation is very much changed, however, at this time. There are a number of resorts on the lake at this time, and several of them have done considerable advertising and have had printed matter made up. The amount of publicity that has used the "old" name has been considerable and the feeling regarding making a change is quite opposite to what it was several years ago.

I assure you that I personally regret the change in conditions and would much prefer the name Beltrami which is available and which in the "long run" would be greatly preferable. However I have learned that any move to make a change at this time would be definitely opposed, and under these circumstances it appears that we could hardly make any move to override this opposition. I particularly regret this in view of the fact that the procedure has been simplified, and that you are now in position to give us such valuable aid.

Thanking you sincerely for your cooperation in this, I am,

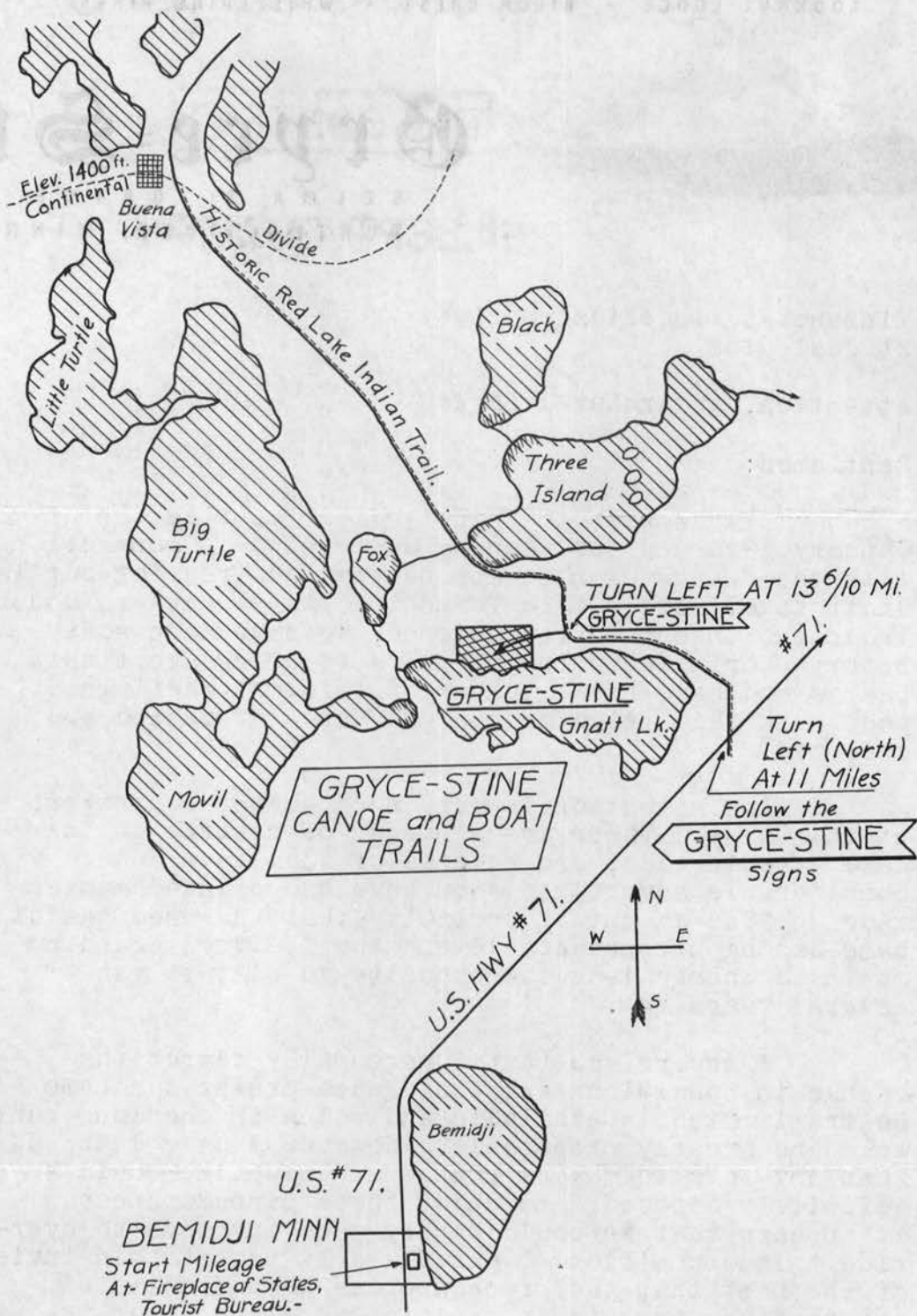
Very truly yours,

*E C Gryce*  
E C GRyce

Encl: Folder and  
letterhead.

Picturesque shore line, heavily timbered, chain of five lakes • New log cabins 200 feet apart, water and sink in each cabin • Telephone and telegraph, daily newspaper • Sandy swimming beach, safe for children and adults • Boats, bait, motors, fishing bays and potholes • Gamefish: Black Bass, Northern and Walleyed Pike • Panfish: Rock Bass, Sunfish, Blue Gills, Crappies.

SEE MAPS ON REVERSE SIDE.



AUTO TRIPS TO POINTS OF INTEREST.

Lake Itasca, Itasca Park. Source of Mississippi River.-From Bemidji South on U.S. HWY #71, 32 miles to entrance.

Red Lake Indian Reservation. - From Bemidji 7 miles west on U.S. #2; 26 miles north on Minn #89.

State Fish Hatchery on Red Lake. - Follow above to Red Lake. Then go east on Minn. #1 to Redby.

Chippewa National Forest-East from Bemidji on U.S. #2. See Highway map.

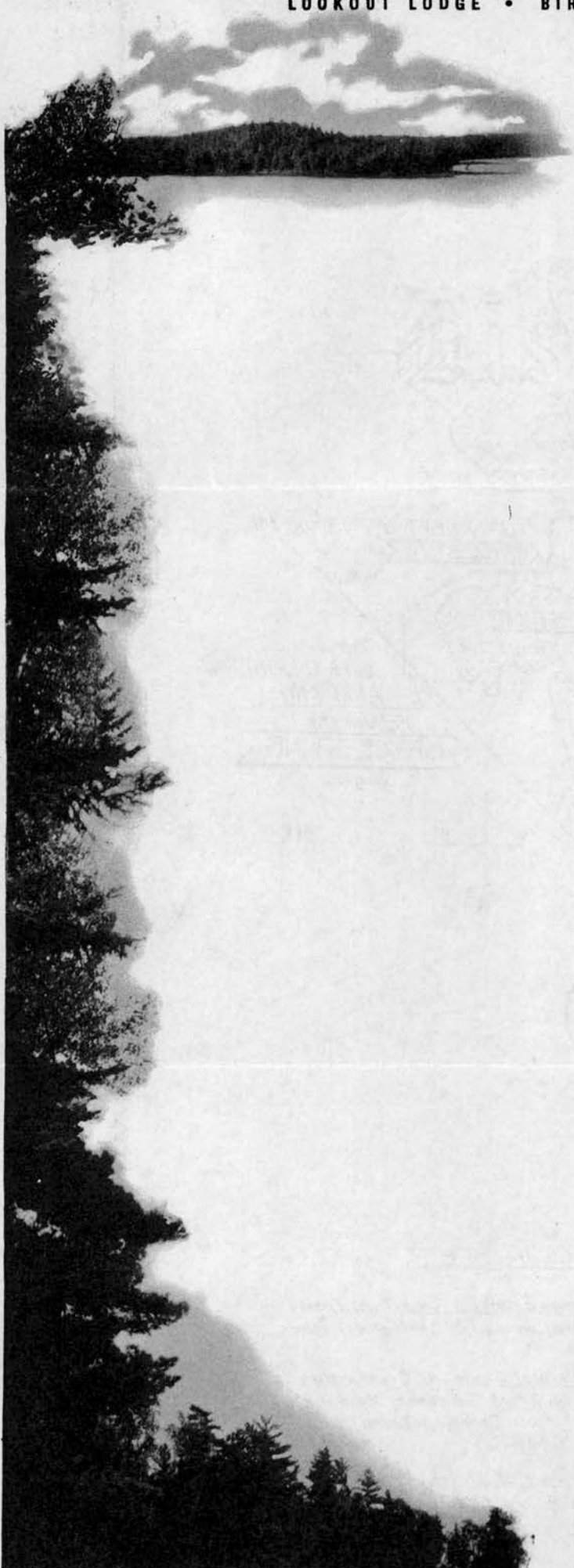
Continental Divide. At Buena Vista.- Elev. 1400 feet. Take County Road due north from Bemidji to Buena Vista, about 14 miles.

Fireplace of States. -Tourist Bureau, Bemidji, on U.S. #71.

WHITE PINE LODGE • WILDROSE • BALSAM LODGE • GRYCE-STINE • SPRUCELEDGE LODGE  
LOOKOUT LODGE • BIRCH CREST • WHISPERING PINES

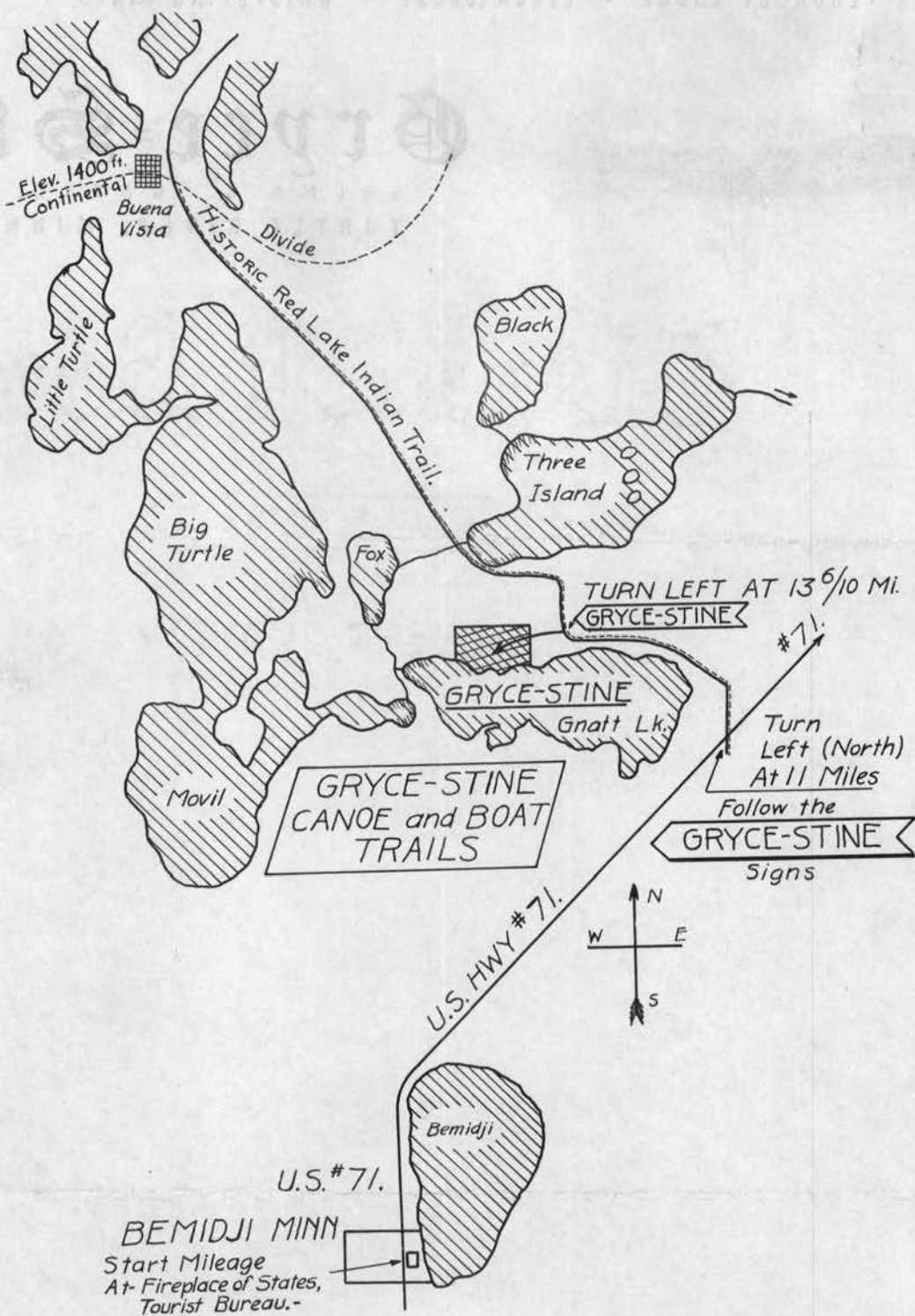
# Gryce=Stine

SELMA S. GRYCE, Prop.  
TURTLE RIVER, MINNESOTA



Picturesque shore line, heavily timbered, chain of five lakes • New log cabins 200 feet apart, water and sink in each cabin • Telephone and telegraph, daily newspaper • Sandy swimming beach, safe for children and adults • Boats, bait, motors, fishing bays and potholes • Gamefish: Black Bass, Northern and Walleyed Pike • Panfish: Rock Bass, Sunfish, Blue Gills, Crappies.

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Fireplace of States.—Tourist Bureau, Bemidji, on U.S. #71.

January 19, 1940

Mr. A. D. Johnson, County Auditor  
Bemidji, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Johnson:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Mr. E. C.  
Gryce of Minneapolis, in regard to renaming Gnat  
Lake, in Turtle Lake Township, Beltrami County.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur J. Larsen, Secretary  
State Geographic Board

WHITE PINE LODGE • WILDROSE • BALSAM LODGE • GRYCE-STINE • SPRUCELEDGE LODGE  
LOOKOUT LODGE • BIRCH CREST • WHISPERING PINES

FEB 2 1940

# Gryce-Stine

SELMA S. GRYCE, Prop.

~~XXXXXX~~ MINNESOTA

Bemidji Route #1

Minnesota Historical Society  
St Paul Minn

Attention, Mr Arthur J Larson

Bentlemen:

If no action on your part has occurred to make the name "Beltrami" unavailable since our letter of Jan 24th, I would be glad to have you reserve it for a time for us, until an attempt can be made to get a more favorable reaction from the local people.

It is beginning to appear that if a long range program of change for the literature that is printed and for the official maps could be carried out, there would be but little adjustment difficulty.

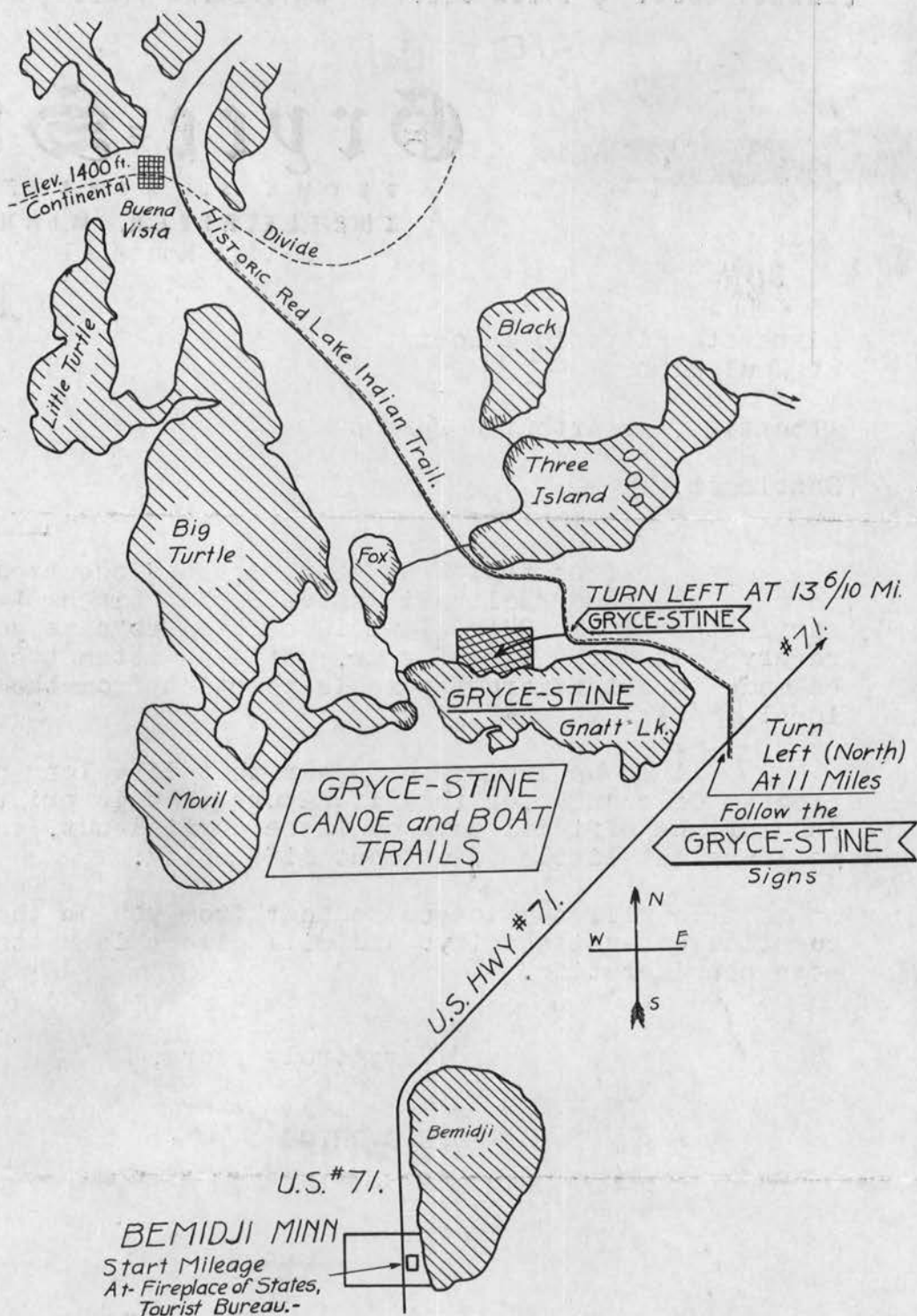
We will be pleased to hear from you on the question of availability, and will give this matter more consideration.

Very truly yours,

*E C Gryce*  
E C GRYCE

Picturesque shore line, heavily timbered, chain of five lakes • New log cabins 200 feet apart, water and sink in each cabin • Telephone and telegraph, daily newspaper • Sandy swimming beach, safe for children and adults • Boats, bait, motors, fishing bays and potholes • Gamefish: Black Bass, Northern and Walleyed Pike • Panfish: Rock Bass, Sunfish, Blue Gills, Crappies.

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Fireplace of States.—Tourist Bureau, Bemidji, on U.S. #71.

MWB

February 5, 1940

Mr. E. C. Gryce  
Route 1  
Bemidji, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Gryce:

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter regarding the name Beltrami as applied to Gnatt Lake in Beltrami County. The name is available for your use subject to the terms of the law.

I believe you received full information about the procedure to be followed in changing the names of lakes a short time ago. Please keep us informed as to the action that is taken. Personally I highly approve the use of the name Beltrami. The historical connections with that name are so great throughout the whole area. It is strange no one has given it to a lake before.

Sincerely yours,

AJL/U

Secretary, State Geographic Board

WHITE PINE LODGE • WILDROSE • BALSAM LODGE • GRYCE-STINE • SPRUCELEDGE LODGE  
LOOKOUT LODGE • BIRCH CREST • WHISPERING PINES

MAR 7 1940

# Gryce=Stine

SELMA S. GRYCE, Prop.

TURTLE-RIVER, MINNESOTA

BEMIDJI ROUTE # 1

March 5 1940

State Historical Society  
St Paul Minn

Attention Mr Arthur J Larsen

Gentlemen:

This is to advise you that the writer is engaged in securing the approval and signatures of local interested property owners.

The object of this letter is to keep you informed of the progress of this work.

Very truly yours,

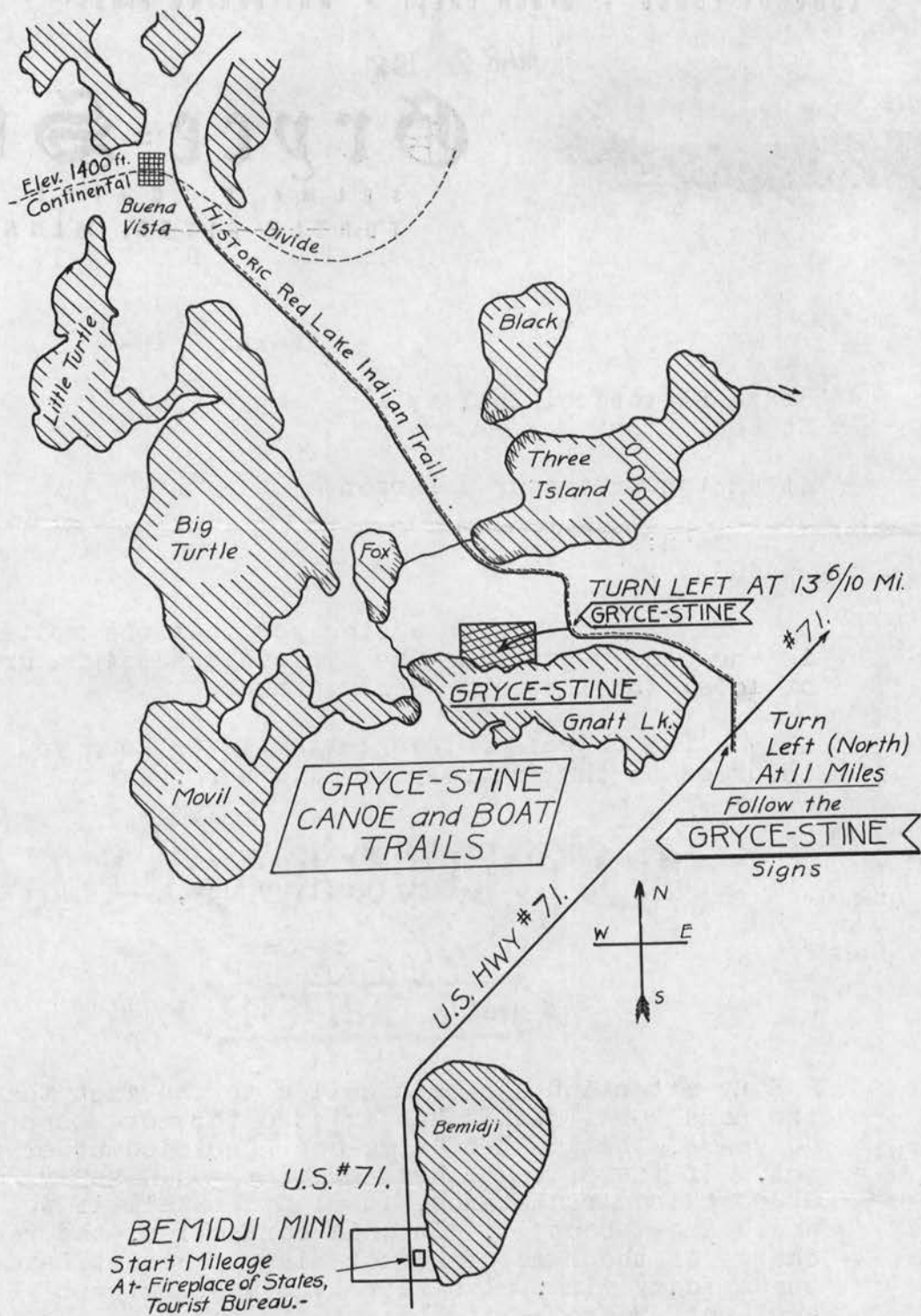
*E C Gryce*  
E C GRYCE

P S My attention has been called to the fact that the name "GNATT LAKE" has existed for more than 40 years, the limit of time-use specified under the act. If there is another act that would apply under this circumstance, it might be well if we would know about it. In this connection, the recent change of the name of Pequot Minn to Pequot Lakes, comes to my mind; also Detroit Lakes, several years ago (not under the recent act of course). I believe that there will be no difficulty in getting nearly unanimous approval to this change. I do not expect opposition, as it now appears.

E C G

Picturesque shore line, heavily timbered, chain of five lakes • New log cabins 200 feet apart, water and sink in each cabin • Telephone and telegraph, daily newspaper • Sandy swimming beach, safe for children and adults • Boats, bait, motors, fishing bays and potholes • Gamefish: Black Bass, Northern and Walleyed Pike • Panfish: Rock Bass, Sunfish, Blue Gills, Crappies.

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Fireplace of States. - Tourist Bureau, Bemidji, on U.S. #71.

MWB

March 11, 1940

Mr. E. C. Gryce  
Route 1  
Bemidji, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Gryce:

Thank you for keeping me informed about the progress of the move to change the name of Gnatt Lake. The restriction upon changing names of lakes which have been in existence more than forty years is one which I believe does not apply to the State Geographic Board but only to action by the county board. However, we deem it advisable for the county board to submit a recommendation to the State Geographic Board before any action is taken here. Obviously that is our best way of determining whether or not the proposed change meets the approval of a majority of the people in the county.

Sincerely yours,

AJL/U

Secretary, State  
Geographic Board

APR 1 1940

# Gryce-Stine

SELMA S. GRYCE, Prop.  
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~, MINNESOTA  
BEMIDJI ROUTE # 1

March 29 1940

Minnesota Historical Society  
St Paul Minn

Attention, Mr Arthur J Larsen

Dear Sir:

We are sending you herewith tentatively the copy of the petition, which has been so far signed by 15 persons, line 6 having two signatures, and line 8 Gryce-Stine Resort signed for by E C Gryce, locally in charge but not the owner, tho the owner Selma S Gryce has approved this action.

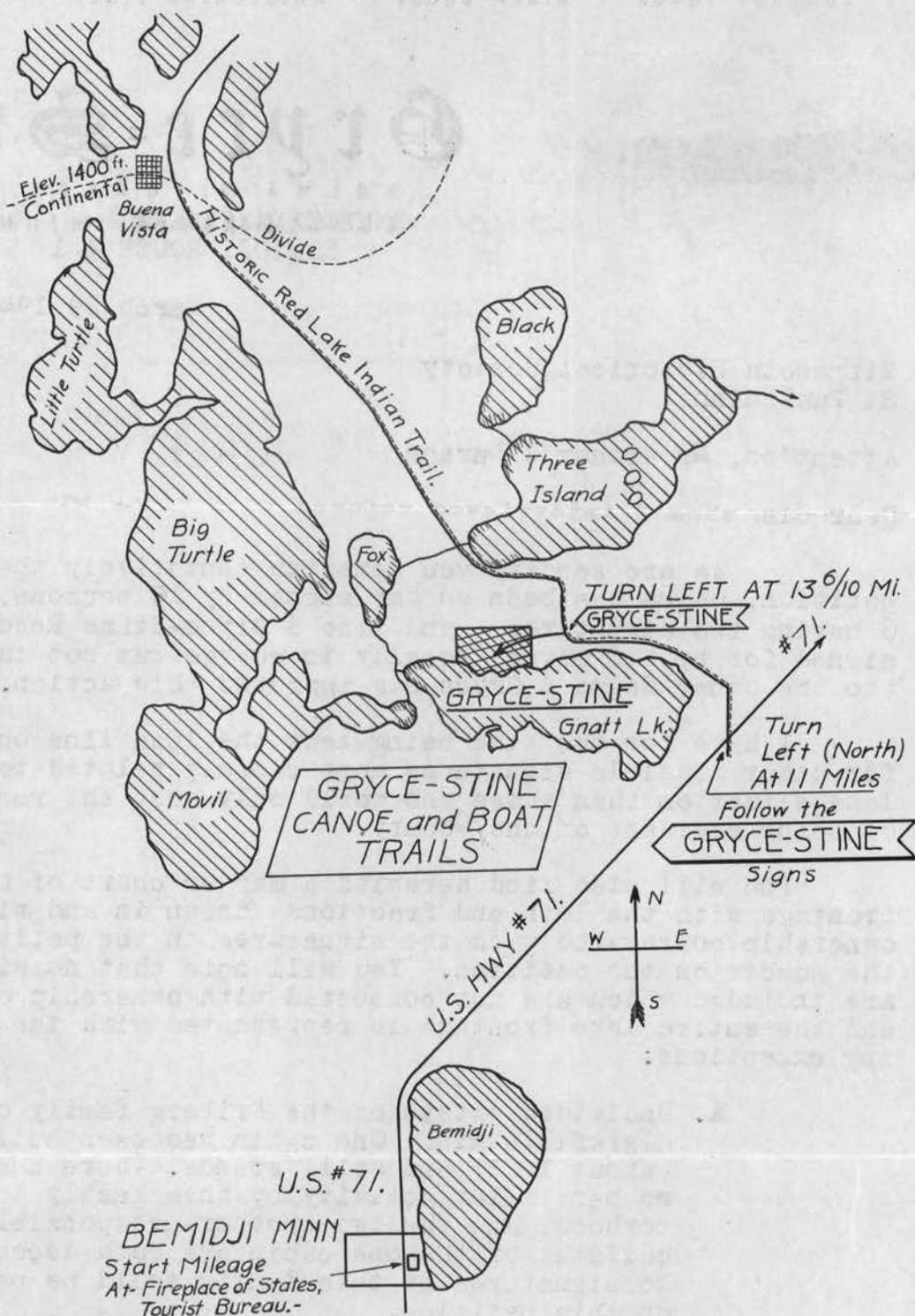
I have for the time being kept the 15th line open for other possible signatures more closely related to this lake situation than those who would only meet the requirement of being resident of the County.

You will also find herewith a map or chart of the lake frontage with the lots and fractions drawn in and with the ownership correlated with the signatures in the petition by the number on the petition. You will note that no signatures are included which are not connected with ownership on the lake and the entire lake frontage is represented with the following exceptions:

- A. Undivided estate of the Friberg family of Clarkfield Minn. One cabin has been built (about 1921) and still stands. There has been no particular activity by this family in the neighborhood, and the two brothers responsible for the building of the one cabin are both deceased. No signatures of this family would be permissible on this petition.
- C. S B E Seese, former owner of the property on which Cyrana Lodge now stands, was one of the original committee who waited on the County Board in 1925 to bring about a change in the name of this lake. The effort was abandoned at that time as the procedure had been changed that year, and the interested parties were principally summer visitors and left shortly after this meeting. We feel that this would indicate that Mr Seese would not oppose this action. His present address is not known to the writer.

Pictures show line, heavily timbered, chain of five lakes • New log cabins 200 feet apart, water and sink in each cabin • Telephone and telegraph, daily newspaper • Sandy swimming beach, safe for children and adults • Boats, bait, motors, fishing bays and potholes • Gamefish: Black Bass, Northern and Walleyed Pike • Panfish: Rock Bass, Sunfish, Blue Gills, Crappies.

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Fireplace of States.—Tourist Bureau, Bemidji, on U.S. #71.

D. The tract indicated at "D" has recently been sold or traded to a person who is not known locally and whose address is said to be Thief River Falls Minn. This signature would not be permissible on this petition. There is no development on this tract.

In view of the practically unanimous approval of this proposal, we are wondering if the Historical Society would not feel justified in invoking its rights under the law and make this change for us without further formalities of expense on our part. The writer is personally acquainted with every signer, and with some of them for more than 20 years. No person whom I interviewed refused to give me his signature and the general attitude was that it was a splendid thing and should surely be done. The initial difficulty anticipated by the writer was connected with printed literature, and I have been assured that there will be no trouble to ~~change~~ the name when new printings are made.

We trust that this request will not appear to you to be out of order, and hope that we may have your approval.

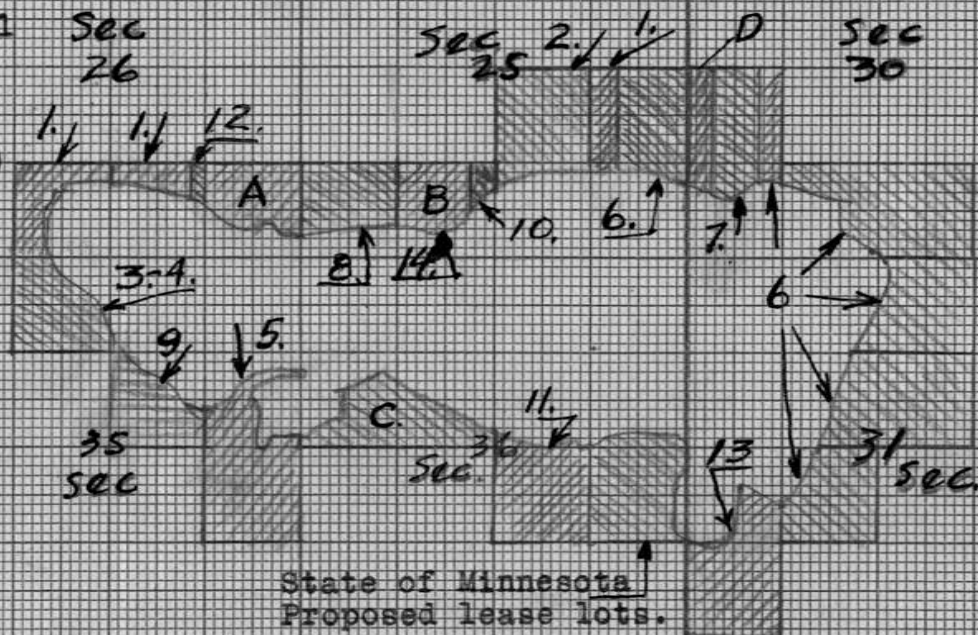
Very truly yours,

  
E C Gryce

Turtle Lake Township  
148-33

Part Hope Township,  
148-32

1. Cozy Cabins E C Gryce
2. Wild Rose Resort (Ann Erickson)
3. C J Goodman
4. John Goodman
5. Lake Shore Dev. Co W.L. Brooks
6. Jens J Opsahl Inc. Jens J Opsahl.
7. Maurice R Kolp- Stan O Christenson
8. Gryce-Stine Resort E C Gryce
9. H M Lindseth
10. Wold's Camp Ed Wold
11. Dahl Cabins Chas Dahl
12. W A Sanberg
13. Ed Nordhein
14. Clarence R Smith
15. (Cyrena Lodge)



*M. W. Belmont*

April 2, 1940

Mr. E. C. Gryce  
Route 1  
Bemidji, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Gryce:

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter enclosing the petition for the change of the name of Gnatt Lake in Beltrami County to Beltrami Lake. I shall call your petition and your letter asking for direct action to the attention of the Board at my earliest opportunity. I appreciate the fact that time is important to you now. It is apparent that you have the consent of the property owners about the lake.

Sincerely yours,

AJL/U

Secretary, State  
Geographic Board

April 11, 1940

Mr. E. C. Gryce  
Route 1  
Bemidji, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Gryce:

This is to advise you that your request that the State Geographic Board act upon the petition for the change of name of Gnatt Lake to Beltrami Lake without a county hearing was discussed in some detail by the State Geographic Board at a meeting on April 4.

I was requested to inform you that the Board does not see its way clear to act upon this request unless there is evidence in the form of a resolution of the Board of County Commissioners to indicate that the change of name is desired by the people of the county. I might say that the evidence is clear that the property holders surrounding the lake are in favor of the change. I should think it would not be difficult to obtain a resolution from the County Board at a hearing conducted in accordance with the terms of chapter 35 of the Session Laws of Minnesota for 1937.

I am returning herewith your petition with the request that you submit this first to the local authorities and obtain from the County Auditor a certified copy of a resolution to request the change of name.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Secretary, State  
Geographic Board

AJL/U

APR 19 1940

WHITE PINE LODGE • WILDROSE • BALSAM LODGE • GRyce-STINE • SPRUCELEDGE LODGE  
LOOKOUT LODGE • BIRCH CREST • WHISPERING PINES

Mary B.

# Gryce-Stine

SELMA S. GRyce, Prop.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~, MINNESOTA

BEMIDJI ROUTE # 1

April 17 1940

State Historical Society  
State Office Building  
St Paul Minn

Attention, Mr A J Larson

Gentlemen:

I regret that I have neglected for so long this reply to yours of April 11th. I am now reporting our continued activity in this matter.

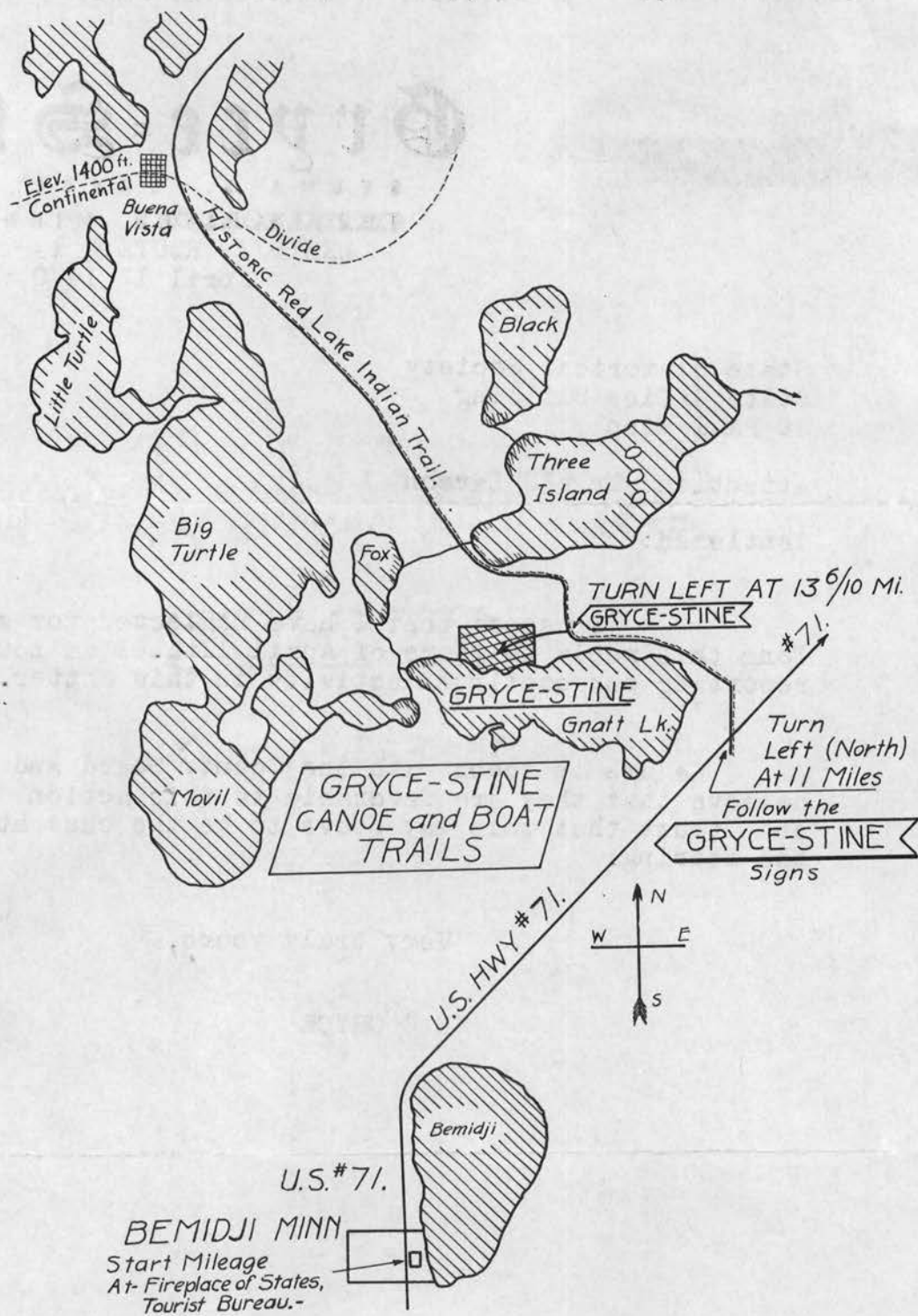
We are in touch with the County Board and believe that they are favorable to this action and trust that this may prove to be the case at the hearing.

Very truly yours,

*E. C. Gryce*  
E C GRyce

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Fireplace of States. -Tourist Bureau, Bemidji, on U.S. #71.

MAY 10 1940



Office of  
Auditor of Beltrami County

A. D. JOHNSON, AUDITOR  
Bemidji, Minn.

May 9, 1940

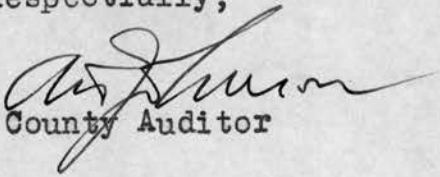
Mr. Theodore C. Blegen  
Secretary, Minnesota State  
Graphic Board  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find copy of Notice of Hearing on Petition for the change of the name of Ghatt Lake in Beltrami County, Minnesota, to Beltrami Lake, which notice is herewith served upon you in accordance with the provisions of the statutes in such cases provided.

For your information I also advise that petition is on file in my office, bond has been duly filed, this notice is being published in the local newspaper of this county for three weeks and notice is being served upon the Chairman of the town board of the two townships.

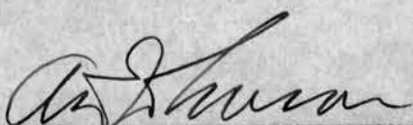
Respectfully,

  
County Auditor

NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a hearing will be held before the Board of County Commissioners of Beltrami County, Minnesota, at the court house in the City of Bemidji, Beltrami County, Minnesota, on the 8th day of July, 1940, at 2 o'clock P. M., to consider a Petition on file before said Board for the change of the name of Gnatt Lake within said County and to name said lake Beltrami Lake; that all persons interested therein appear at the time of said hearing and show cause, if any they have, why such petition should or should not be granted.

Dated this 8th day of May, 1940.

  
A. D. Johnson, County Auditor,  
Beltrami County, Minnesota

MAY 10 1940

# Gryce=Stine

SELMA S. GRYCE, Prop.

~~TURTLE RIVER~~ MINNESOTA

Bemidji Route # 1

May 9 1940

Minnesota Historical Society  
St Paul Minn

Attention, Mr Arthur J Larsen

Gentlemen:

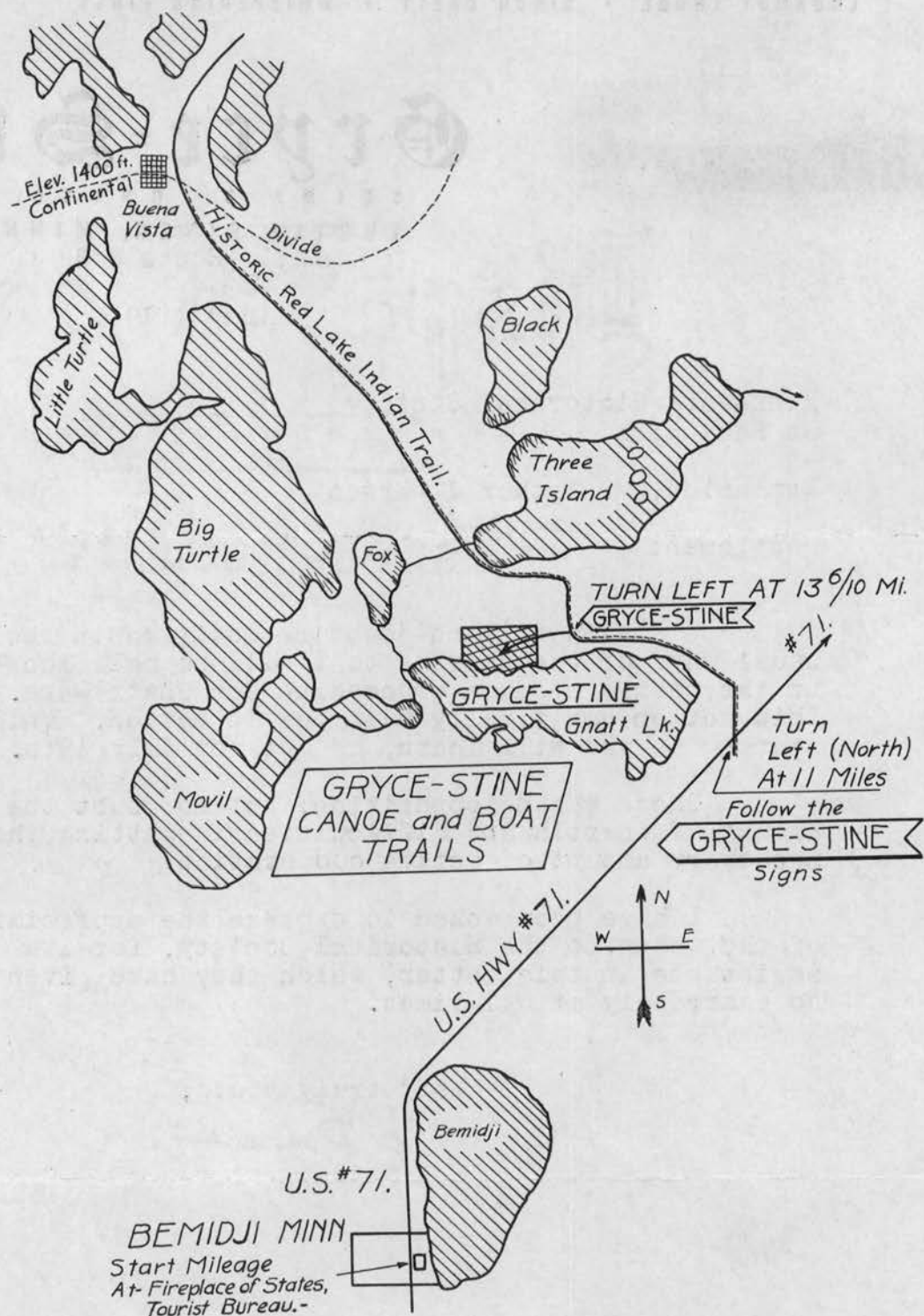
You will no doubt be notified in the usual way, of the hearing that will be held locally on the change of name proceeding for Gnatt Lake. This action has finally been put in motion, and the hearing as you will learn, is set for July 15th.

There was no opposition, but no doubt the usual amount of inertia and difficulties in getting the necessary amount of active cooperation.

I have been asked to express the appreciation of the group, to the Historical Society, for its assistance in this matter, which they have given us so generously at all times.

Very truly yours,

*E. C. Gryce*  
E C Gryce



#### AUTO TRIPS TO POINTS OF INTEREST.

Lake Itasca, Itasca Park. Source of Mississippi River.-From Bemidji South on U.S. HWY #71, 32 miles to entrance.

Red Lake Indian Reservation.- From Bemidji 7 miles west on U.S. #2; 26 miles north on Minn #89.

State Fish Hatchery on Red Lake.- Follow above to Red Lake. Then go east on Minn. #1 to Redby.

Chippewa National Forest.-East from Bemidji on U.S. #2. See Highway map.

Continental Divide. At Buena Vista.- Elev. 1400 feet. Take County Road due north from Bemidji to Buena Vista, about 14 miles.

Fireplace of States.-Tourist Bureau, Bemidji, on U.S. #71.

May 13, 1940

Mr. E. C. Gryce  
Route 1  
Bemidji, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Gryce:

Thank you for your letter. At the same time that it arrived I received a notice from County Auditor A. D. Johnson notifying me that the hearing was to be held at the Court House Monday afternoon, July 8. You will notice that the date is different from that originally set.

I hope that the movement may go forward now without any further opposition. I feel that the name "Beltrami" is a very appropriate one.

Sincerely yours,

AJL/U

Secretary, State  
Geographic Board

Mary B.

May 13, 1940

Mr. A. D. Johnson  
Auditor of Beltrami County  
Bemidji, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This is to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your notice of the hearing on the proposed change of name of Gnatt Lake. If it is possible for me to do so, I shall plan to attend, or arrange for someone else from the State Geographic Board to be present.

Sincerely yours,

AJL/U

Secretary, State  
Geographic Board

*Mrs. Bentzel*



Office of  
**Auditor of Beltrami County**

A. D. JOHNSON, AUDITOR  
Bemidji, Minn.

July 23, 1940

Mr. Theo. C. Blegen  
Secretary, Minnesota State  
Graphic Board  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing herewith a certified copy of  
a resolution of the County Board of Beltrami County  
changing the name of Gnat Lake located in Beltrami  
County to Beltrami Lake.

Yours truly,

*A. D. Johnson*  
County Auditor

ADJ/GH

July 29, 1940

Mr. A. D. Johnson  
Auditor of Beltrami County  
Bemidji, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Johnson:

This is to acknowledge the receipt of the certified copy of the resolution of the County Board of Beltrami County changing the name of Gnat Lake to Beltrami Lake. The resolution will be presented to the State Geographic Board at its next meeting.

I was very happy to have the opportunity to meet you at Bemidji at the day of the hearing, even though that meeting was of very brief duration.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary, State  
Geographic Board

AJL/U

December 10, 1940

Mr. A. D. Johnson  
County Auditor, Beltrami County  
Bemidji, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Johnson:

I am inclosing a resolution of the Beltrami County Board of Commissioners renaming Gnat Lake in Beltrami County Beltrami Lake.

The resolution is indorsed with the approval of the State Geographic Board, and is sent to you to file in the office of the Register of Deeds of Beltrami County, in compliance with chapter 35 of the Session Laws of 1937.

Sincerely,

Secretary,  
State Geographic Board

AMERICAN TRUST

BOND

A BUTLER PAPER

HAS CONTENT

February 3, 1941

Mr. A. D. Johnson  
County Auditor, Beltrami County  
Bemidji, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Johnson:

I am enclosing a petition from the State Geographic Board to be presented to the Board of Commissioners of Beltrami County at its next meeting.

Very truly yours,

Secretary,  
State Geographic Board

AJL/B

AMERICAN TRUST

BOND

A BUTLER PAPER

HAS CONTENT

A PETITION

To the Board of County Commissioners of Beltrami County:

The State Geographic Board hereby petitions that your honorable board accept the following names for geographic features located in Beltrami County and described below, for the reasons given in each case. These names were submitted to the State Geographic Board by the supervisor of the Chippewa National Forest, after consultation with local residents, and have been accepted by the Board, subject to the approval of the Beltrami County Board of Commissioners.

RABIDEAU LAKE (not Robideau Lake nor Lake Gladys): T.148 N., R.30,31 W., secs.8,16,17, 18,19,20;13. All three names are used on various maps. Rabideau Lake is the name in local use, and local residents acquainted with living members of the Rabideau family verify the spelling. Rabideau was the first homesteader on the lake.

ROADSIDE LAKE (not Loon Lake, Long Lake, nor Turtle River Lake): T.147 N., R.31,32 W., secs.6;1. Loon Lake has some local use because the lake affords a natural feeding ground for loons. One authority lists it as Long Lake, but Long has no local use. Another map gives it as Turtle River Lake, but that name is not considered authentic by local residents. Roadside Lake is recommended, with the approval of local residents, to establish a name that will not be confused with other lakes in the vicinity. A road extends around approximately one third of the shore line.

Respectfully submitted,

STATE GEOGRAPHIC BOARD

Secretary

*Has this  
been ans.*

FEB 6 1941



Office of  
**Auditor of Beltrami County**

A. D. JOHNSON, AUDITOR  
Demedji, Minn.

February 5, 1941

Minnesota Historical Society  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Attention: Arthur J. Larsen, Secty.

Dear Sir:

With reference to your letter of February 3rd enclosing a petition for re-naming certain lakes in Beltrami County by naming Rabideau Lake and Roadside Lake. In the proceedings for changing the name of these lakes is it the intention of the Historical Society to pay the costs in this matter? Your letter does not indicate what further procedure is to be taken for the county board in connection with the petition. Your early advice will be appreciated.

*Let soon, to  
in with River Lake*

*Lake Rabideau  
Local name*

Yours truly,

*A. D. Johnson*  
County Auditor

ADJ/GH

Mary B

February 11, 1941

Mr. A. D. Johnson  
County Auditor, Beltrami County  
Bemidji, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Johnson:

This is to acknowledge your letter of February 5. I wrote to you in my capacity as secretary of the State Geographic Board, which has the authority to initiate action for the change of names of geographic features in Minnesota. Under the provisions of the act creating the board, it is not liable for costs in connection with hearings on changes of state geographic names.

In these particular name changes, you will observe that they were suggested only after local opinion had been determined by the United States Forestry Service. Moreover, the name Rabideau Lake is merely the designation of one of several names having local usage, as the official name. Roadside Lake is new, but its local acceptance seems assured.

I believe that ratification of the recommendation of the State Geographic Board by your county board is all that is necessary. This is not an official interpretation of the law, however, but it is my opinion only. So far as the State Geographic Board is concerned, ratification by your board is all that is required.

Sincerely yours,

AJL/U

Secretary, State  
Geographic Board



APR 4 1941

Office of  
**Auditor of Beltrami County**

A. D. JOHNSON, AUDITOR  
Bemidji, Minn.

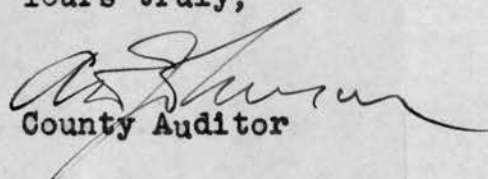
April 3, 1941

State Geographic Board  
c/o Minn. Historical Society  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Sirs:

I wish to advise that the County Board of Commissioners of Beltrami County at their session held yesterday approved the naming of Rabideau Lake and Roadside Lake as requested in your petition of February 4, 1941.

Yours truly,

  
County Auditor

ADJ/GH

C O P Y

Hotel Markham  
Bemidji, Minn.  
September 23, 1944

Minnesota Historical Association  
St. Paul  
Minnesota

Gentlemen:

Eleven miles southwest of Bemidji, at the junction of the Mississippi and Little Mississippi Rivers, there is a lake called Rice Lake or Monamina, or Battle Lake.

In talking with some Chippewa Indians the other day, they told me that they believed that the true name of the lake was Battle Lake, although it appears on the map as Monamina and its common name is Rice. They also advised that the name Battle Lake came from the fact that about 1800 the Sioux and Chippewa Indians had a big Battle over the ricing privileges in the lake, and that the Sioux Indians were driven out. Hence the name Battle Lake.

There is very little information available on the Sioux-Chippewa war here, and I am wondering if you could assist me in getting more information.

My interest in the matter is due to the fact that we own some 600 acres of land bordering on this lake.

Any assistance you may give me will be appreciated.

Yours very truly,

WILBUR S. LYCAN

October 11, 1944

Mr. Wilbur S. Lycan  
Hotel Markham  
 Bemidji, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Lycan:

Mr. Beeson has asked me to reply to your letter of September 23 requesting information about the name of the lake at the junction of the Mississippi and the Little Mississippi rivers, and the battle between the Sioux and the Chippewa that took place there.

The names given on maps and other sources published during the last forty-five years -- Monimin, Monamina, Manimin, Monomin, and Manomin -- are all variations in spelling of the Indian word "manomin," which means "wild rice." The lake, as you say, is also known as Rice Lake. So far as I have been able to discover, the lake has never been known as "Battle Lake," although the Chippewa Indian name "Pinidiwin," meaning "massacre" or "carnage," was given to the lake, as well as to the Little Mississippi River, by early explorers and writers, who undoubtedly got it from the Indians. This is a more accurate name than "Battle Lake," for it was a massacre rather than a battle that occurred there. The sources that I consulted were vague as to the time when the massacre occurred, but it was probably some years before 1800. Friedrich Baraga in his Chippewa Dictionary gives the word "nissidiwin" for "carnage" or "massacre." It would be interesting to learn from the Chippewa Indians whom you mention in your letter what they consider the more accurate rendering of their word for "massacre" -- "pinidiwin" or "nissidiwin." Perhaps neither spelling would sound right to their ears.

Henry R. Schoolcraft, in his Narrative of an Expedition through the Upper Mississippi . . . in 1812, p. 66, describes the lake and the massacre that occurred there as follows:

"At four o'clock, we came to the junction of the Finiddiwin, a tributary from the left, having its origin in a lake, and entering the Mississippi amidst an extensive marsh of rice, reeds, and rushes, which give it rather the appearance of a marsh than a lake. It is, however, called Lac la Folle. It is estimated to be one hundred and four miles below Itasca Lake. The name of the river employed above, is an abbreviation of the phrase Jah-pinuniddewin, the place of violent deaths, in allusion to an inroad and murder committed at this place, in former times, by the Sioux. A party of this tribe, had previously entrenched

themselves on the river above, at a spot which concealed their position and gave them command of the river channel. After waiting here for a time, without success, they proceeded lower, and discovered a Chippewa lodge, not far below the entrance of this river. It was cautiously approached, assaulted, and all its inmates killed, without distinction of age or sex. This event happened at an early period. No persons are now [1832] living who were contemporary with the victims. And it may be regarded as one of the occurrences which marked the Chippewa conquest of this portion of the country."

Schoolcraft's name for the lake, Lac la Folle, is a shortened form of "Lac la Folle Avoine," a French name meaning "Wild Rice Lake."

It may interest you to know of the existence of the Minnesota State Geographic Board, composed of the Commissioner of Highways, the Commissioner of Conservation, and the Superintendent of the Historical Society, who is the secretary of the Board. The Board was established by the Minnesota Legislature and given the authority to determine the correct and most appropriate names of geographic features in the state and to change names of lakes, streams, etc., in order to eliminate duplication. It is the policy of the Board to make no arbitrary decisions in regard to place names, but rather to be guided by the sentiment of the citizens of the region concerned before naming or renaming lakes or other geographic features.

The lake in question is one of the many lakes in the state that are known by two or more names; moreover, the names by which it is known -- "Manomin" and "Rice" -- are both duplicated many times in the state. It is the Board's concern to reduce this duplication, as well as to have the lake known by one name only. If you and others in your locality are interested in giving the lake an appropriate name, which is not already in use for a lake elsewhere in the state, I shall be glad to send you information as to the proper procedure to follow.

Sincerely yours,

B/b

Upham, 125: Little Mississippi river, beginning in the north part of Shevlin, on a nearly level tract within a mile south of the Clearwater river, runs south and southeast to Manomin or Rice lake and the Mississippi in the southeast part of Jones township, Beltrami county. It was called Piniddiwin river by Schoolcraft in 1832, an abbreviation of the Ojibway name, meaning "the place of violent deaths, in allusion to an inroad and murder committed at this place in former times, by the Sioux" (that is, at or near the mouth of this stream).

Coues, Pike, 1:163 note: We go on through a monotonous swampy tract of reeds, rushes, wild rice, and lily-pads, alternately approaching and receding from tamarac clumps as the river winds about, for 2 1/2 miles further W. in an air-line, and more than three times that distance in actual paddling, till we reach some haying meadows, and soon find the entrance of a notable stream on our right, in the N.E. 1/4 of Sect. 25, T. 146 N., R. 35; this is Pinidiwin r. (Pinnidiwin, Carnage, and De Soto r. of Schoolcraft, Piniddiwin of Brower), through a lake about a mile wide filled with a fine crop of wild rice. Hence it is one of many lakes which are called La Folle, Rice, or Manomin (Monomina on the Rand-McNally map); but it had better keep the distinctive name of the river which flows through it. I paddled up into Pinidiwin l., and was surprised at the volume of water it discharged, as well as at the strength of its current. But the river is a large, forked stream which drains a very extensive area N. of the Mississippi. The volume of the Mississippi seemed diminished nearly one-half above the mouth of this "Little Mississippi."

According to Baraga, the word for carnage is "Nissidiwin."

*great variation in  
interpretation of sound.*

JAN 23 1948

*mwb*  
*for reply*  
**Gryce=Stine**

E. C. AND SELMA S. GRYCE, PROPS.  
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

January 21 48

State Historical Society  
St Paul Minn

Gentlemen:

I am submitting to our local newspapers, a short article for whatever use they may make of it, relating to the connection of the name Beltrami with this area.

On page 2 of this article, there is a suggestion which I believe has considerable merit. The river which he named Mississippi in this locality, might well carry the name Beltrami. It would be my impression that the local people would be quite interested in this, which I believe you might also be interested in.

The correspondence referred to in this letter, with your organization, is probably no longer in your active file, but it occurred substantially as stated.

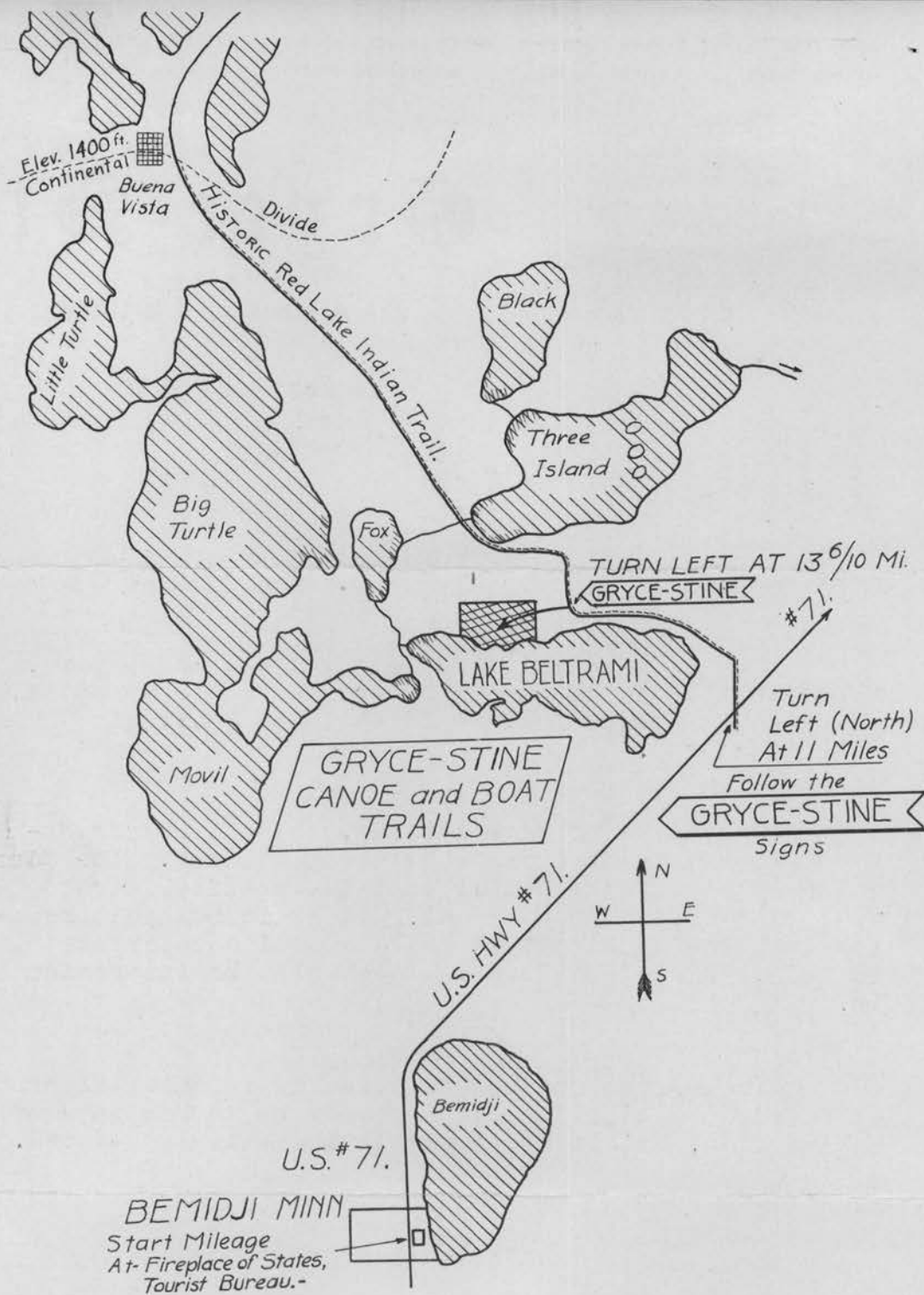
Very truly yours,

*E. C. Gryce*

E C Gryce  
GRYCE-STINE LODGE

PICTURESQUE SHORE LINE, HEAVILY TIMBERED, CHAIN OF FIVE LAKES . . . NEW LOG CABINS WIDELY SPACED . . . ELECTRICITY, GAS, AND SINK IN EACH CABIN . . . TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH, DAILY NEWSPAPER . . . SANDY SWIMMING BEACH, SAFE FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS . . . BOATS, BAIT, MOTORS, FISHING BAYS AND POTHoles . . . GAMEFISH: BLACK BASS, NORTHERN AND WALLEYED PIKE . . . PANFISH: ROCK BASS, SUNFISH, BLUE GILLS, CRAPPIES.

SEE MAPS ON REVERSE SIDE.



### AUTO TRIPS TO POINTS OF INTEREST.

Lake Itasca, Itasca Park. Source of Mississippi River.—From Bemidji South on U.S. HWY #71, 32 miles to entrance.

Red Lake Indian Reservation.—From Bemidji 7 miles west on U.S. #2; 26 miles north on Minn #89.

State Fish Hatchery on Red Lake.—Follow above to Red Lake. Then go east on Minn. #1 to Redby.

Chippewa National Forest.—East from Bemidji on U.S. #2. See Highway map.

Continental Divide. At Buena Vista.—Elev. 1500 feet. Take County Road due north from Bemidji to Buena Vista, about 14 miles.

Fireplace of States.—Tourist Bureau, Bemidji, on U.S. #71.

BELTRAMI

JAN 23 1948

" I guess I'm an old timer around here all right. I've owned property near Bemidji for the past 31 years. Why, I can remember when Beltrami Avenue was "paved" with mud and deep sand."

" Thirtyone years? Thats nothing. I've been here for 45 years. I can remember when...."

Well, anyhow, 31 years is quite a stretch and I do begin to think that I belong.

We bought our place, where we built GRyce-STINE RESORT, 31 years ago. At that time it was undeveloped woodland, thickly covered with pines, spruces and hardwoods. ~~Was~~ Our woods were nice enough, fine large, fully grown trees, but were somewhat overshadowed by the beautiful Norway pines to the east of us, on the north shore of GNATT lake.

But four years later, these pines were cut out, and the region was thoroily burned over, which killed out the nice young growth that the cutters had spared. Then our trees began to show up in their true value, a beautiful stand of large trees.

In 1921, we built our first cabin, an old style log cabin in which we lived during the first full year we spent in this region. We were warm and comfortable and the social life in the community of hardy, sturdy pioneering families, was pleasant and interesting.

During the winter, we had time to do and think of a lot of things, and among these, we thought of how fine it would be if our lake had a more pleasant name than GNATT lake. We knew how often the reference to the insects would stir up our ire, and what a grand opportunity it offered to the jokesmiths. Somehow we learned that the State Historical Society was working with those who wished to change the names of lakes, and we wrote them. After some correspondence, they informed us that it would be eminently proper, in their opinion, if this lake might be renamed BELTRAMI, since it was at the headwaters of one of the branches of the Mississippi River, and incidentally the branch which the explorer and traveler, BELTRAMI had thought to be the properly ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ designated source of the Mississippi. After a delay of many years, during which time the name changing procedure was being escorted thru the State Legislature, the Historical Society wrote us, sending a copy of the procedure and inviting us to start proceeding.

The idea was agreeable to all property owners concerned, and finally three resorts undertook the financial obligations to make the change; Wild Rose, Cyrana Lodge and Gryce-Stine. This occurred in 1940 and the new ~~name~~ name BELTRAMI is now a matter of record, and maps are being changed accordingly.

In recent years, the Bemidji area is trying to publicise the ~~the~~ <sup>news</sup> importance of the Beltrami connection with this locality, and paper and magazine articles are being collected for some future use in this connection. There is ~~xxxx~~ a splendid possibility which ~~is~~ has so far been overlooked, to place the name Beltrami on another geographical feature in our locality, and this should be done at once.

Those who have read the account of Count Beltrami's travels thru this region, will remember his map of the Mississippi, and in particular that portion which is of this region, which he thought was the headwater locality of the Mississippi. It is not easy to correlate the Beltrami map with the true modern surveyed map, but some kind of resemblance does exist. Also there are two names that have come thru the years, the names of Lake Julia and Turtle Lake. Several other lakes are shown, but the names have not survived, and one of these is now the newly named LAKE BELTRAMI. We have the opportunity in this district of extending the BELTRAMI name and history. We should immediately rename the the river which he named Mississippi, and which was later given the meaningless name, "Turtle". This name should be changed to Beltrami, as it is<sup>as</sup> definitely Beltrami River, as any other feature of this region is Beltrami.

E C Gryce  
GRYCE STINE RESORT LODGE  
Bemidji Minn.

January 26, 1948

Mr. E. C. Gryce  
Gryce-Stine Lodge  
Bemidji, Minnesota

Your letter of January 21 and the enclosed copy of an article which you have submitted to your local newspapers have been referred to me.

Your suggestion that the name of Turtle River be changed to "Beltrami" River seems to me an excellent one, since the name "Beltrami" is so appropriate to your region, and the name "Turtle" has no particular significance. Some difficulties, however, are presented in changing the name.

Chapter 35 of the Session Laws of 1937, which defines the procedure to be followed in changing the name of a lake or stream by petitioning the board of county commissioners in the county wherein the body of water lies, provides that "no name of any lake, river, stream or other body of water, which name has existed for forty (40) years shall be changed under the provision of this act." Turtle River falls under this provision, for it was named more than forty years ago.

The act establishing the State Geographic Board (chapter 63 of the Session Laws of 1937), however, empowers the state board, in co-operation with the county boards and with their approval, to change the names of geographic features in order to eliminate duplication of names within the state. Unfortunately, I know of no other Turtle River in the state; but there are two Turtle Creeks elsewhere in the state, so the first part of the name, at least, is duplicated. It might be possible that the State Geographic Board, for that reason, would construe the name as a duplication.

The procedure for you to follow under the circumstances is to forward to the State Geographic Board, at the Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul 1, a petition containing:

- (a) The location of the stream by sections, townships, and ranges.
- (b) The name by which the stream is now known.
- (c) The name which it is desired to give the stream.
- (d) The reasons why the change is desired, and why the new name is appropriate.
- (e) The signatures of 15 legal voters residing in the county. Signers must also give their addresses.

When the petition is received by the State Geographic Board, the county board of Beltrami County will, if the state board so decides, be asked to hold a joint hearing on the question. After the hearing is held the state board will act upon the matter.

I am enclosing a blank petition which you may wish to use.

Sincerely yours,

Deputy to the secretary  
State Geographic Board

MWB/b