Company Town is an economic institution where stores and buildings are owned by a single firm (in this case the VCLCo in Fosterville/Winegar, WI) that provided employment, goods and infrastructure (electricity, housing, and store) to support the company's effort and answer complaints from residents. Typically, such towns were founded in a remote location, therefor residents could not easily commute or shop elsewhere. Also paying employees with self-minted money that could only be used in the Company Store. A story is told that the VCLCo fired an employee because he purchased an item from Montgomery Wards, in Chicago!

And, as often the case, once a community takes hold and begins to grow attracting other non-company residents, vacationers, relatives and small business entrepreneurs, and people with other employment, such as railroad employees and resort owners, the company would sell off or rent housing within the town to increase their return on investment. In effect divesting themselves of the town and forest property. At Winegar by 1933 when all the commercial trees had been cut into lumber. Prosperous company towns such as Winegar eventually evolved and included amenities such as bars, cafes, artisan shops, churches, a restaurant, a school, a gas station, and an IGA grocery store.

Our Company-Town-Series of structure Plan-Sets for the Vilas County Lumber Co., Company Town are now being offered. This series of Plan-Sets can be broken into three sub-sets throughout the VCLCo web site.

- Sawmill Complex (VCLCo)
- Company Town (Village of Winegar, WI)
- Company Town RR Terminal (C&N-W Ry)

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