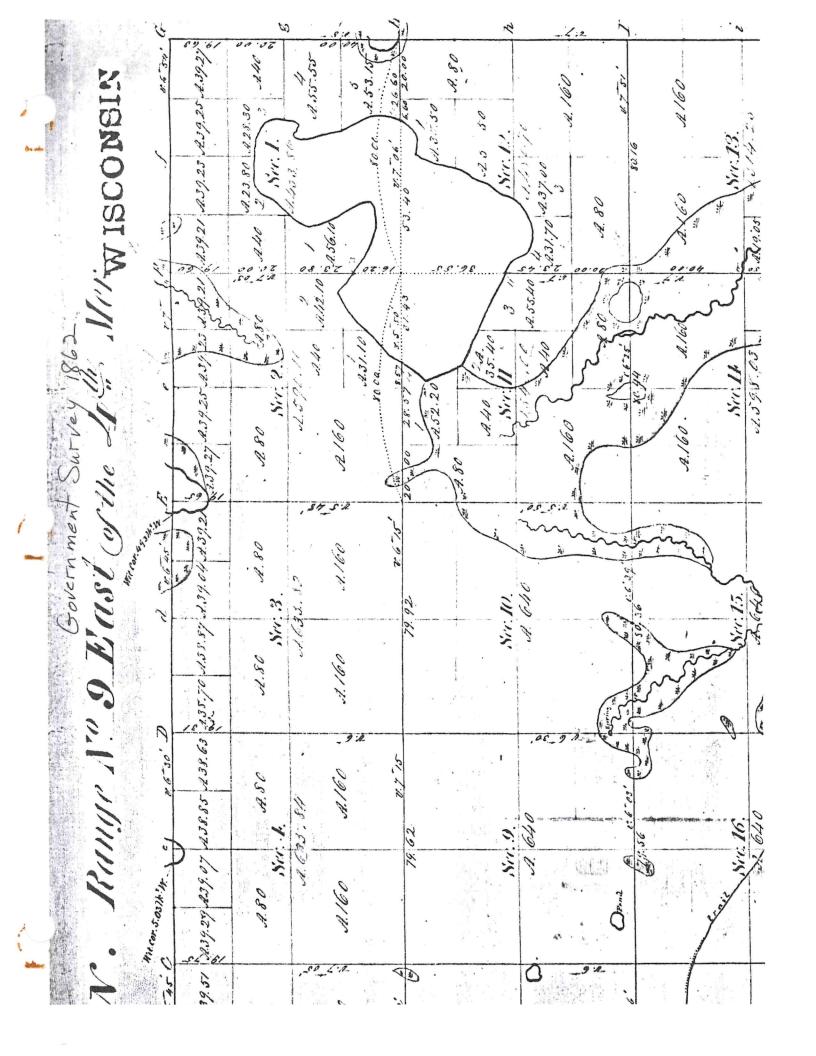
Early Stormy Lake 1928 to 1982 By Charles and Dorothy Rose – Spahn

The first two cottages built on Stormy Lake as far as modern times are concerned were built – one by the Lindens (it is my understanding that this cottage is to be torn down some time in the Spring of 1982). The second cottage was built by the Schaeffels and is still owned by members of that family. The third cottage was built by the Youngs. They lived there into the very late 1930's or early 1940's. This cottage was sold several times and is now owned by the Washburns. In 1928, Judge John Chalmers bought a lot just north of the Youngs and built a cottage. The Judge interested his good friend, G.D. Rose, in buying a lot north of him and he owned several other adjoining lots. Mr. Kenerdine in the early 1930's bought several lots further north of Mr. Denton's property. Mr. Kenerdine first lived in tents and later built several cottages on his property. A business associate of Mr. Rose, Mr. J.C. Collier, bought 600 feet north of Kenerdine and north of Mr. Collier, another Dubuque man, Mr. Poinsett, bought a lot and built a summer home. This last property is now owned by the Hansens. Judge Chalmers bought lots for two of his sons, John and Edward, north of Poinsetts. This takes all the property to the bay that adjoins Pearl Lake, in fact, the Chalmers lots went to the other side of Pearl Lake to some extent.

During this same period of the 1930's, Mr. Denton sold 300 ft. between his home site and Kenerdines to a Mr. J. J. Roshek, also of Dubuque. Mr. Rose bought a piece of shoreline from Mr. Denton in the bay adjacent to his lot for a beach. Some years later a second portion of beach was purchased together with property behind it and that is where our cottage now stands. Judge Chalmers was instrumental in getting a road developed between Stormy and Pearl Lake to serve the lots that had been sold. This is now the dead end of Denton Road. You can see from this that a good section of Stormy could have been a Dubuque Colony. Over 1500 ft. of shoreline from Washburns to the bay at Pearl Lake, with the exception of Denton's and Kenerdines, was owned by Dubuque people. However, this did not happen and today in this early east side area only Schaeffels, Chalmers, Roses through their daughters, Adams, Spahn, and Dentons are still on the lake, five families. This is enough about the early comers and their cottages.

About the lake, my wife, Dorothy, remembers her father and Judge Chalmers helping the conservation people empty milk cans of bass in the bay in front of our present cottage. This was done several times in those early days. I had in my files a letter written by the commander of the C.C.C. telling about the fish shelters they put in the lake. They took fair sized tree limbs, tied them with wire and weighted them with old engine blocks and dragged them on to the ice. As a result of this, in the late forties and early fifties, we had good fishing around these shelters. However, they disintegrated and were not replaced, except for a few private efforts, and fishing changed. Also the conservation stopped stocking with bass and used other species of fish, some that cannot propagate. Mr. Denton told my wife years ago that when the train whistle blew in the early evening was the best time to fish.



The Lonesome Pine