



Prepared in cooperation by the Dodge County Historical Society, Dodge County Environmental Services and the Goodhue County GIS Office

First Settlement of Dodge County

LOCATION: Concord, MN

STATUS: Public

TYPE: Historic, Local landmark

HISTORY: The unincorporated village of Concord was the site of the first settler's dwelling in Dodge County. On April 15, 1854, pioneers assisted James Monroe Sumner in erecting his family's log house and subsequently called this new town "Sumner's Grove." However, when the plat was filed in 1856, the name was changed to Concord, after the capitol of New Hampshire. In spite of the rattlesnakes the town prospered with a post office that was established in 1856 and by 1870 had fourteen businesses including a hotel.

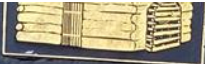
OTHER RESOURCES:

<https://www.dodgecountyhistorical.org/>

PROPERTY PICTURES:



First Settlement of Dodge County plaque, 2021



FIRST SETTLEMENT DODGE COUNTY, MINNESOTA

The unincorporated village of Concord was the site of the first settler's dwelling in Dodge County. On April 15, 1854, pioneers assisted James Monroe Sumner in erecting his family's log house and subsequently called this new town "Sumner's Grove." However, when the plat was filed in 1856, the name was changed to Concord, after the capital of New Hampshire. In spite of the rattlesnakes the town prospered with a post office that was established in 1856 and by 1870 had fourteen businesses including a hotel. However, in 1885 the Chicago Great Western Railroad bypassed Concord three miles to the west, and slowly businesses gravitated to the new community of West Concord. The railroad offered modern, swift transportation and access to broader markets and a wider variety of wholesale goods. The village continued to serve local farmers despite the lack of a rail connection. The post office closed in 1906, and by 2005 there was only one business and the cemetery remaining in the village. Unlike many villages, Concord did not become a ghost town and still in 2005 has a small community of residents.

ERECTED BY THE CONCORD TOWNSHIP-2005

First Settlement of Dodge County plaque, 2021