

Cyclone House

MAP 4

2.43 miles

1 UBC Lumber Yard – Even with name changes, the history still dates back to the original town site. The Cannada and Yates Lumber Company operated this site in the 1890's. Around 1901, Cannada and Yates dissolved its partnership, with Yates staying at the original site. In 1922, the original lumberyard became the Washburn and Meyer Lumber Company, with Art Dixon as manager. In 1943, it was sold to Burtrum Wright Lumber Company, who constructed a new building in 1949-50. In 1960, it became the Great Plains Lumber Company. In 1997, Great Plains sold the Osakis yard to United Building Centers. UBC was purchased by Fidelity Investment under the name Pro Build in 2006, and continues to operate under the name UBC here in Osakis.

2 Cyclone House – The house has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1977. Theodore Halstead built the house for John B Johnson in the late 1870's-1880. Johnson and his cousin became the first general merchants in Osakis, opening a trade post and general store. Johnson designed the Cyclone House, after a tornado took his first home. In 1912, the home was purchased by the school district. While the 1915 school building was being built, the Cyclone House was used for the school. When the school opened, Andrew Anderson purchased the house, and moved the home to its present site. The house maintains many original characteristics.

3 Stage Station – This marker was built in 1932 by the MN Highway Department. The site recognizes Osakis as one of the stops on the Burbank MN State Company Line established in 1859 on the Fort Abercrombie Military Road.

4 Tip Top Dairy Bar – The Dairy Bar has been open for over 50 years. This is a family owned landmark. Tip Top started in 1955. Norman Hansen purchased the property, tore down the existing old house, and put up a square flat roofed 50's style structure. Hansen drew on a napkin a cone with ice milk in it, and the ice milk was tipped at the top, which gave it the name "Tip Top Dairy Bar." It had one of the first Hires Root Beer machines in this area. New owners purchased it in 2002.

5 Community Hall/Fire Dept. – Originally called the Pioneer Fire Company, the Osakis Fire Department was organized after a disastrous fire in the winter of 1887 that destroyed a two-block area of downtown Osakis. In the late 1880's the only equipment was the engine, hose carts, hand pumps, hooks, and ladders. The Village Council on December 28, 1887 authorized the fire company to purchase all the equipment necessary for its use, not to exceed the amount of \$100. In 1953, an automatic fire siren blower was installed. On June 1, 1970, the fire department moved to an all new fire hall adjoining the Osakis Community Center.

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