



## PINE COUNTY MINNESOTA

Where the Snake River emerges on the east shore of Cross Lake, an Indian village had been located from time immemorial. This had always been a rallying point for Indians and traders. It was called Chengwatana, which means "town of pines." The county itself, named in the earliest days of the white man, was probably named after this early village as well as for the extensive pine forests. The little village was located on the old Government Road on which post riders and stage coaches carried mail and passengers from St. Paul to the head of the Lakes.

Pine County was officially organized by act of the Territorial Legislature in 1856. Chengwatana was designated the county seat. When the Lake Superior-Mississippi railroad was built in 1870, the court house, by popular vote, was moved to the present Pine City, and Chengwatana as a village ceased to exist.

The oldest church in the county is the First Presbyterian Church in Pine City. It was organized in 1870 by Rev. D. C. Lyon of St. Paul Presbytery. The first building was erected in 1878 and is still a part of the remodeled sanctuary.

The citizens of Pine County salute the early pioneers. It was their sturdy character and enduring spirit that gave us a great state and nation.

The old Pine County Court House, featured on the front of this plate, was erected in 1886. The beautiful building served the county until it was struck by lightning on June 12, 1952.

This limited edition Bicentennial plate was provided by the 1st National Bank of Pine City. Part of the proceeds from the sale of the plate was donated to the Pine County Historical Society.