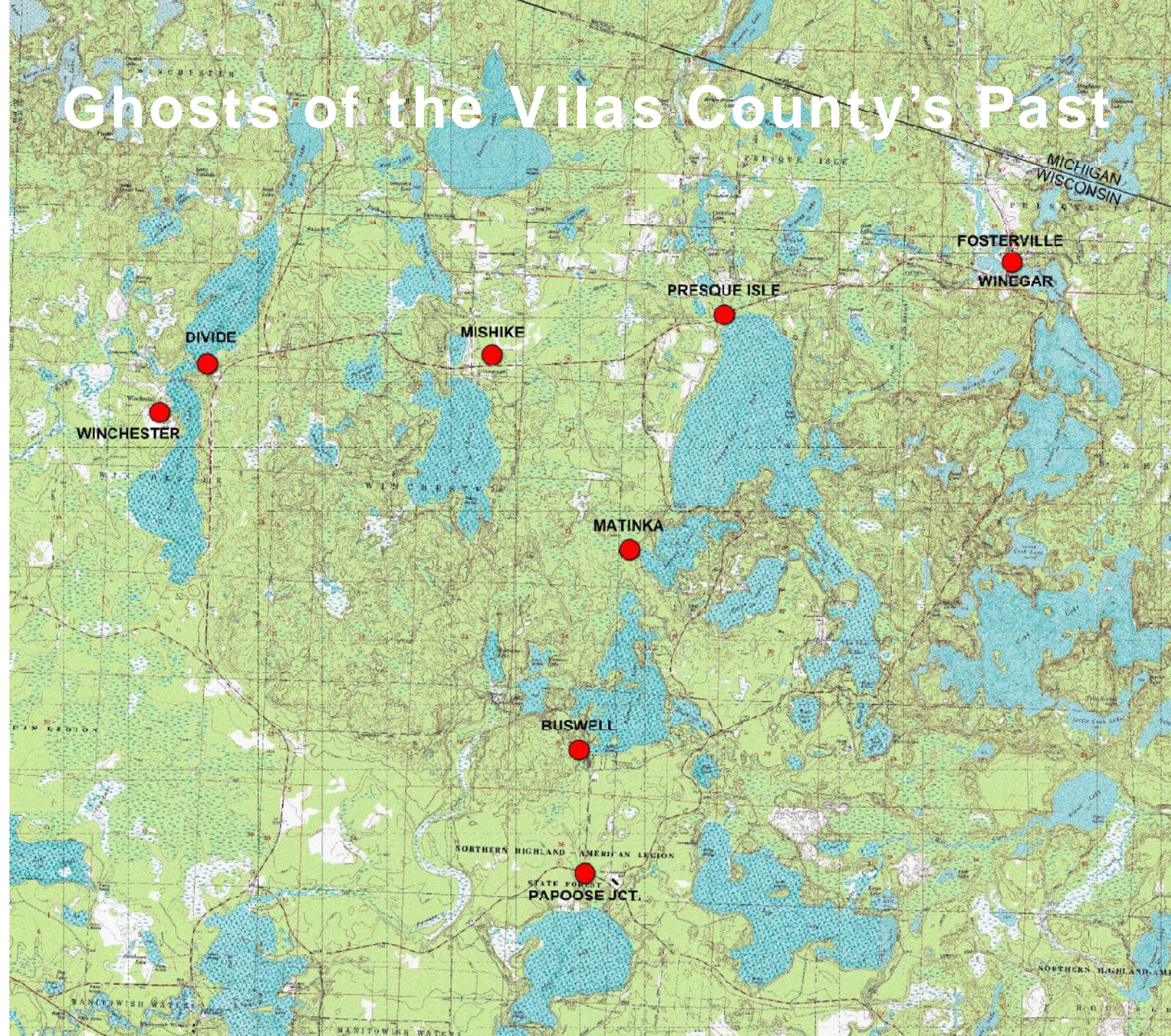


Ghosts of the Vilas County's Past



Most of the areas hamlets, towns, villages and camp names shown on the above area map are now memories or ghosts of the Vilas County's past. Most of them had some kind of lumber/logging operations and appeared on one map or another from 1905 to 1930. Only Winchester can be found on present day maps of Wisconsin with only Fosterville/Winegar (now Presque Isle) still has its own Post Office.

1. **Buswell**, Buswell Lumber & Manufacturing Company - Post Office opened in 1905 and shown on a Plat Map of Presque Isle Township. The town was destroyed by a fire in 1910. Trains eventually stopped with the Post Office being moved to Boulder Junction (Vilas County) in 1914.
2. **Divide** (Devide) - Shown on 1907 C&N-W Ry System Map and a 1909 Vilas County Plat Survey. A Post Office was in operation from 1905 to 1908. Divide came into existence because of the first class resort of the same name.
3. **Fosterville**, Vilas County Lumber Company - Nestled in rolling hills just south of the Michigan border was founded in 1904, by John J. Foster was president of the VCLCo from 1905-1910 naming the village after himself. The Post Office arrived in 1905 with the Post Office first changing the name to Winegar in 1913.
4. **Matinka** - Shown on 1921 C&N-W Ry Great North Woods Tourist and Fishing District brochure and a 1923 Railroad Commission Map of Wisconsin.
5. **Mishike** (Mishicke) - Shown on 1930 Township Plat Book and a 1935 Map of Vilas County. Mishike was a camp used for training forest fire fighters and had a Post Office from 1923 to 1931.
6. **Papoose Junction** - Shown on the: Wisconsin Valley and Railroads In The Northwoods Map. Papoose Junction, is shown on the 1921 C&N-W Ry Great North Woods Tourist and Fishing District Brochure. Papoose Lake, WI had a Post Office in 1917.
7. **Presque Isle**(1) - Town was first formed in 1907, shown on a 1916 map, and a 1949 Vilas County Vacation Map. No Post office records were found.
8. **Winchester**, Turtle Lake Lumber Company - Post Office established in 1907 and the Post Office was moved to Manitowish Waters (Vilas County) in 1966.
9. **Winegar**, Vilas County Lumber Company, Winegar-Gorman lumber Company, Bonifas-Gorman Lumber Company. The end of logging was when Wm. Bonifas dismantled the complex in 1933 and moved everything to Marenisco, (Gogebic County) MI, now the Wm. Bonifas Lumber Company, - W. S. Winegar took over the operation of the Sawmill in 1910 and renamed the village after himself. The US Post Office officially changing the name to Winegar in 1913 and again a third time to Presque Isle in 1956.