

0/2/26

NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA.
VALUATION SECTION 4-A.
- OAKES BRANCH -

PRE-INVENTORY INFORMATION.
GENERAL OUTLINE AND HISTORY OF THE WORK.

This is a single track branch line running from Independence (formerly Valley Junction) to Oakes.

Was built by the James River Valley Railroad Company in the year 1886. The original work of grading, tracklaying and part of the surfacing was done by Winston Brothers under the terms of their accepted proposal of July 8th, 1886, copy of which is submitted with the inventory.

The line traverses a rolling open prairie, which was originally covered with a heavy sod, at places the sub-soil is composed of hard pan which lies close to the surface and hard pan borrow has resulted.

During original construction timber bridges were frequently provided, later many of these were filled or replaced by culverts.

Many water holes or sloughs were encountered and in these places considerable settlement of the roadbed has been noted. This settlement or subsidence will be developed at the time of Government inventory.

The ballast is composed of gravel and some cinders, the gravel coming from Lisbon Pit, and the cinders from Jamestown, the location of both places being shown on print attached to the inventory.