



THIS PASTORAL scene was the first flour mill in Houghton County. The mill was powered by the water from Boston Creek north of Hancock.

Finnish Farmers' Milling Co.

HOUGHTON — The first flour mill in Houghton County was established by a group of Finnish farmers and businessmen in the Salo district in the spring of 1906 alongside the Boston Creek. The grinding mill was operated by water power.

It was known as the Finnish Farmers' Milling Company and could produce 35 barrels of ground wheat, barley, rye or oats per day for 20 to 25 farmers in

Houghton County.

In August of that year the Daily Mining Gazette reported the crops in all grains was excellent. Wheat alone produced from 30 to 40 bushels per acre. The mill was expected to operate continually for five months; there was enough wheat grown to keep it in operation that long.

Some grains from Keweenaw, Baraga and Ontonagon counties were ground

there later.

An experienced foreman for the plant was sought for the mill. An addition to the mill was contemplated for the future to handle an expected increase in business.

In later years a small grinding plant was located along the Traprock River northeast of Lake Linden for farmers of the vicinity. — Ray Peterson