



perhaps, if we were to look at them as though we are walking around the campground, surrounded by nature, the bark, the dirt, the smell of camp fire, the 353 train, the laughter, the birds chirping and in the midst of all that treasure, a real gold John Deere tractor. "Nature close up is breathtaking," Jean mentioned and went on to say, "Of course there is no comparison to watching the 353 steam around the tracks."

The fifth roll of film Jean formatted into a collage represents a time in history, shortly after Robert Cornelius snapped the first ever human portrait of himself (what we call a selfie) outside his family's store in Philadelphia. Now you can't even find film. "I love visiting the Pioneer Village. Viking blacksmithing and watching the kids run their

fingers in the water before it goes over the waterwheel," Jean shared.

While there is a lot of history to explore on Steamer Hill, Pioneer Village, along the shores of Gunderson Pond, is a bit of an eye opener to how pioneers lived. Much like the covered wagon ride to one of these rural villages, Pioneer Village is kind of off the beaten path. It is tucked back behind the Montana Boiler and as you come down the hill, you literally walk back in time. If you close your eyes, you can actually hear the sheets flapping on the clothes line and the crackling fire of the open flame supper is cooking over. Pioneer Village dates back to 1858, the year Minnesota became a state.

In one picture you can see Pum the ox pulling an oxcart

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The Pioneer Village



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