

## Wheaton-Dumont Co-op Elevator – Wheaton, MN

According to Phil Deal, the general manager at Wheaton-Dumont Co-op Elevator, a 20 year charter to organize the Farmers Cooperative Elevator of Wheaton was granted in 1905.

The history of the elevator's early years is a little short. In 1941, the Hanson Elevator in Wheaton was purchased. Ten years later, there was a grand opening of the new elevator on February 3, 1951. In 1978, the board of directors voted to build a load-out site at Tenny, MN, which was on the SOO Line Railroad. This included four 10,000 bushel hopper bins and two 42,000 bushel bins. The railroad tracks in Wheaton were removed in 1980 & later that year a proposal to merge with the elevator in Dumont passed. The Wheaton-Dumont Co-op Elevator was established in January 1981.



The following 29 years were quite busy with business growth & acquisitions. A fertilizer plant was purchased in 1983 in Dumont. Two 88,000 bushel storage bins were added in 1986 in Wheaton. They also added three 68,000 bushel bins in Tenny, along with a 10,000 bushel per hour leg to load 25-car unit trains.

In 1988, a chemical plant was purchased in Wheaton, followed by a new fertilizer plant in Dumont in 1989.

Storage capacity in Dumont was increased in the early 1990's with the construction of a 90,000 bushel storage bin.

The Tenny location received the same treatment in the mid to late 1990's as well. A 180,000 bushel concrete elevator was built with a bulk-weigh load-out system and a Meyer 3,000 bushel per hour dryer. Track was added in Tenny for loading 100-car unit trains.

The LaMars Farmers Elevator in LaMars, ND was purchased in 1999 where WDCE built a 500,000 bushel storage complex. Two additional 500,000-bushel bunkers for corn storage were added a few years later.

In 2002, the Campbell Farmers Elevator Company was purchased and later that year the Tenny location grew again. Three 500,000 bushel storage bins were built, along with a 60,000- bu. per hour bulk weigh load-out system and a 20,000-bushel per hour receiving pit.

In 2005, Wheaton-Dumont Co-op Elevator celebrated 100 years of service, and they've continued to thrive.



The Hankinson & Mantador Elevator's were purchased in 2007 and two years later, WDCE added the Sisseton Elevator & the New Effington Agronomy plant.

New bins were added to the Wheaton location in 2009, which brought their total storage capacity to 2.4 million bushels.

WDCE's latest acquisition was the Britton Elevator, purchased last May, and finally, WDCE's new headquarters were built last year in Wheaton.

Congratulations to the Wheaton-Dumont Co-op Elevator for over 100 years of service to your customers & community!