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**EVENTS: battles, deaths, injuries.**

**pre-conflict:**

Dodge County was originally inhabited by Native Americans, as were many counties in Minnesota . This area was a common hunting and battle ground for the Mdewakanton Sioux, often fighting the Sauk and Fox Indians who had wandered into their territory. The first white person to visit Dodge County, however, is not known. It is believed by some that a French fur trader from Canada was the first, setting foot on its soil in the spring of 1655. Guides deemed this area unsafe due to the Natives living there. But, it was not until over two hundred years later that the locality truly came to life.

Sioux Indians annually gathered at what was known in the early days as "Rice Lake" to harvest wild rice. The region of Dodge County was common hunting and combat ground for the Mdewakanton Sioux who often battled the Sauk and Fox Indians ranging this distance from their Iowa encampments. Indians resided in Vernon Township as late as 1856-57. Some died there during a winter's residence and were buried in the snow until the spring trek west. A band of Indians living in Milton Township lost a number of their members my smallpox in 1855. On the third of July, 1855, Chief Waupaconta and a fellow tribesman visited the village of Mantorville and on their way back to the encampment in Milton Township removed provisions, money and a coat from a cabin belonging to a Mr. E.A. Bunker, who having faith that no white settler would stoop to thievery, he organized a band of 15 white settlers armed with rifles and pistols, and rode to the big timber where more than 300 men, women and children of the Sioux tribe were encamped. Dismounting and creeping close to the camp through high grass bordering it, the band of whites dashed into the Indian village and quickly surrounded the chief's teepee before he could escape. The Indian leader denied complicity in the theft, but by means of threat was finally persuaded to produce the money and return the coat. Preceding material from the "History of Dodge County", Dodge County Historical Society.

**During the conflict:**

An Indian panic in the summer of 1862 was reported by the Mantorville Express of that time. Indians were reported as a threat in a southerly direction from Mantorville and many people rushed to the village for refuge, some ready to seek protection behind the stone walls of the Hubbell House."

September 26, 1862: see **Camp Release; the state breathes a sigh of relief.**

In January, February and March 1863 men from Dodge County were enlisted for service against the Indians on the frontier.

**MILITARY UNITS FROM DODGE COUNTY THAT SERVED IN THE US DAKOTA WAR**

2ND MN VOLUNTEER CAVALRY, CO. K; 3RD MN., CO. E; 5TH MN. CO. A; 11THMN, CO B

**(SOME) PEOPLE OF HISTORIC NOTE FROM DODGE COUNTY**

**WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE US DAKOTA WAR OF 1862**

Alonzo J. Edgerton of Mantorville, attorney, senator, who organized a militia during the US Dakota War which became part of Company B of the Tenth Minnesota Infantry Volunteers.

[http://edgertonmn.com/information/early\\_settlers.php](http://edgertonmn.com/information/early_settlers.php)

**BOOKS**

DW, DU,

**See Resource section: Book titles and Codes, Journal titles and Codes**

**CEMETERIES WITH GRAVESTONES OF PARTICIPANTS**

**WEBSITES**

<http://www.dodgecountyhistorical.org/history-of-dchs/>  
615 Main - Mantorville, MN 55955. Phone: (507) 635-5508  
<http://www.dodgecountyhistorical.org/contact-us/>

**WEB CONTENT**