

HENNEPIN COUNTY REGIONS SETTLED DURING THE EARLY-MID 1800S

REGION	INFORMATION	RESOURCES
Nicollet Island	Father Hennepin in 1680 encountered Dakota by the falls. Both Dakota and Ojibway people at different times used the land near the falls. The Dakota were hunters, fishermen, craftsmen, and warriors, and they also farmed on river flats. According to Dakota oral tradition was used as a ceremonial site, a treaty site, as well as a site for women giving birth. Little archeological information has been found about the settlement of the island. By 1825 most of the Dakota had left the Falls area.	Nicollet Island: Hage, Christopher and Hage, Rashika F. Arcadia Publishing, 2010.
Old St. Anthony	In 1848 Franklin Steele, seeing the potential of the falls' waterpower, purchased land and built a mill with Ard Godfrey's help. The area attracted settlers, and hopes were high for making this the principal city of the area. There was a newspaper <i>The St. Anthony Express</i> by 1851, a bridge in 1854 to connect with the area that became Minneapolis. St. Anthony incorporated in 1855. There was a "watch house" (to hold wrong-doers but not strong enough to serve as a jail) in 1855, a police department in 1858, a fire department after big fire of 1857, its own school district by 1860, for which it had built three school buildings by 1861. Its water system was not developed, and residents had to provide their own. St. Anthony's population in 1857 was 4,689, and 6000 in 1862, according to Dr. William E. Leonard, in his "Early Days in Minneapolis". St. Anthony was served by stagecoaches, and by June 1862 the train "William Crooks" ran between St. Paul and St. Anthony. Two historic houses are B.O. Cutter's house, built in 1856, and the Van Cleve house of 1858. (Note: Charlotte Ouisconsin Van Cleve, wife of Civil War Captain Horatio Van Cleve, spoke the Dakota language fluently; she was the first white woman born in Wisconsin Territory.)	http://collections.mnhs.org/MNHistoryMagazine/articles/35/v35i03p117-129.pdf
Lake Calhoun	<p><u>Cloudman's Village (Eatonville)</u></p> <p>In 1828 a Dakota Mdewakanton village was located on the east shore of what is now known as Lake Calhoun; Indian Agent Laurence Taliaferro established the village, with Cloud Man, a Mdewakanton Indian chief who was willing to try farming. Philander Prescott, a government farmer, and missionary brothers Gideon and Samuel Pond were enlisted to work with them to learn farming methods.</p>	

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<p>Lake Calhoun, continued</p>	<p>In 1839 there were violent attacks between the Dakota at Cloudman's village and visiting Ojibwe. Cloudman called for help, and Dakota warriors came from the villages of Black Dog, Shakopee, Good Road and Bad Hail. They pursued the Ojibway north and had a large battle at Rum River in which the Dakota killed about 95 Ojibway people, mostly women and children, and lost seventeen of their own, all fighting men. M&I 288.</p> <p><i>see watercolor: Seth Eastman -Dakota Agricultural Village-likely Eatonville.</i></p> <p>Because of the hostilities and the probability of retaliation, Cloud Man, realizing his village was located in a vulnerable place, relocated in the fall of 1839 to the Minnesota River Valley where he could be closer to other Indian villages. His new village was located in at Oak Grove in present-day Bloomington below the site of the historic Pond House.</p>	<p>Pond, Samuel and Gideon: Two Volunteer Missionaries</p>
<p>Lake Harriet</p>	<p>Dakota people used this area for their summer camp, with shelters made of small poles and the barks of trees, with a population of some 400 people. They hunted and fished in the area, and had gardens of corn, squash, potatoes, cabbage and pumpkins. .</p> <p>A mission station was located at Lake Harriet from 1834-1840, run by Jedediah Stevens, who with Lucy Stevens organized a mission school here. The boarding school, said to be the first school in Minneapolis if not Minnesota, was close to the site of the present Lake Harriet pavilion. Among their students were Harriet Sibley, Philander Prescott's daughter, and Nancy Eastman. Gideon and Samuel Pond lived at this station; Samuel Pond completed his Dakota dictionary and Dakota grammar here.</p>	<p>S.R. Riggs, Mary & I.</p>

Bloomington

More than 100 mounds made by prehistoric people in present-day Bloomington clearly point to a strong presence of Indians before the state's recorded history. The Dakota came in the 1600's, displacing the Iowa and Oto Indians. Peter Quinn settled there in 1842; he was Indian farmer and interpreter in the Dakota and Chippewa languages.

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Oak Grove (Bloomington)	The area in present day Bloomington, near East 104th St. and the bluffs overlooking the Minnesota River, is where Cloud Man relocated his people from Lake Calhoun in 1840. It was close to the villages of Good Road and Kahbodaka (The Drifter) and across the river from Black Dog's village. Gideon Pond built a mission house there in 1843, naming it the Oak Grove Mission. Gideon built a large brick house for his family in 1856, which now is part of the historic Pond-Dakota Mission Park.	http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us/main_top/2_facilities/rec_facility/pond/signs/dakota_life/dakota_life.htm
Medicine Lake (Plymouth)	Located within the present day city of Plymouth. Dakota people had camped at the north end of the lake for hundreds of years.	
Ft. Snelling area	Dakota villages were located in the river valleys near where Fort Snelling was built in 1809: Black Dog's, Pinnichon's, and Six's (Shakopee). Little Crow's village was farther down stream by present day Kaposia. Soldiers, officers, traders, laundresses, cooks, mechanics, blacksmiths, boatmen, tradesmen, inhabited the area around the fort and provided a place where Indian people might readily meet and interact with white and mixed-blood people.	http://collections.mnhs.org/MNHistoryMagazine/articles/35/v35i01p022-029.pdf
southwestern, western and northern parts of Hennepin County.	From the 1850's and on, more settlements were forming throughout the county. See document "Hennepin County towns in 1862". Many of these towns sent men to fight in the Civil War; some of these men were sent to fight in the U.S. Dakota Conflict.	
<i>West Hennepin County note</i>	<i>Note of interest: The West Hennepin County Pioneer Association: at their 1907 gathering, their first president, William Wakefield, was " old enough to remember the terror of the 1862 Indian massacres and how refugees of that conflict had fled through the area. The second president was Milton Stubbs, a veteran of both the Civil War and the military quelling of the Dakota uprising."</i> http://www.whcpa-museum.org/founders.html	