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

As one of the established towns on the prairie, it was a known transit point on the river and by land. Goods could be shipped up river by steamboat and barge, and hauled over land from Henderson to points farther west, such as Fort Ridgely. Numerous owners of teams and wagons could be hired to haul goods to where they were needed. Many settlers recognized the advantage of settling fairly close to government roads, mail routes, stage routes, etc. Stage routes and mail routes were in place by 1856. The Henderson Transportation Company carried "goods of all kinds" on the government road from Henderson to Fort Ridgely, Sioux Agency, Glencoe, and Hutchinson by oxcart and covered wagon. The Faribault Stage Line ran from Henderson to Faribault, where it connected with the Red Wing to Faribault line. There was also a line from St. Paul to Fort Atkinson. A further line of stages was run by the Henderson and St. Cloud Stage Company; its route included Henderson, Fort Ridgel, St. Paul, Red Wing, St. Anthony, Mankato "and all important places." TT 58

Travelers along the long journeys might stay at a "traveler's rest", a place where both humans and livestock could rest. These places were generally situated about 7 or 8 miles apart. TT 65

pre-conflict

"Sibley Co. population in 1860 was 3600

In February 1858 a Dakota named Woa-Sioux was murdered in Henderson; he was a farmer, with cut hair, wore white man's clothing, and was stabbed by another Dakota for refusing to revert to native ways. Noted from the translated version of the German language paper, The New Ulm Pioneer.

during the conflict:

No battles or major attacks took place in Sibley County during the conflict. Because of its central location, there was movement of people (soldiers, travelers, refugees) and supplies through the county.

Aug. 21, 1862 article in St. Paul Daily Press: "Several loads of the panic-stricken people of Carver and Sibley counties arrived in town last evening. They were all Germans, and principally women and children. It is impossible to believe the terror existing among these people. They said that St. Peter, Henderson, and Glencoe were burned, and 10,000 Indians were marching upon Carver and Chaska, and only six miles from those places. They had rode night and day, and were nearly jaded out."

Aug. 22, 1862 Rescue party led by John Otherday went through Henderson on their way to safety in Shakopee. TDU 132

August 25, 1862:(or Sept. 1?)The Missionary party, the group of missionaries from the Upper Agency, reached Henderson. see Nicollet Co.DW 20, MH1:51

Stockades were built at New Auburn, Gaylord, and Fort Goodhue to protect settlers.

August 20-September 26, 1862: battles and attacks on the prairies raged, while those at home dealt with uncertainty and fear, newspaper and in-person reports that were sometimes accurate and sometimes exaggerated, aiding refugees, and worries about their loved ones on the farms, in the towns and on the battlefields.

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

November 11, 1863: The four mile long caravan of Dakota family prisoners being sent to Fort Snelling passed through Henderson. Some angry local people fiercely attacked the Dakota; a Dakota infant was snatched from its mother and injured so badly it died soon afterwards. TT 66.

November 11, 1863: Lt. Col. William R. Marshall saved one of the family prisoner party, Charles Crawford, from attack by an enraged drunken man in Henderson. TT 67.

November 11-12, 1863: the family prisoner party stopped for the night on a small prairie north on Henderson and south of Walker's Landing, now known as Faxon. TT 67.

#### Post-conflict:

Small bands of hostile Dakota operated in central Minnesota in the fall of 1862 and between the spring and fall of 1863. To prevent attacks the military stationed soldiers at various points on the Minnesota frontier. Curt Dahlin, Dakota Uprising Victims.

#### **(SOME) NOTABLE HISTORIC PEOPLE**

Joseph R. Brown, owner of the Henderson Democrat, among many other notable activities.

James W. Lynd, fur trader, former editor of the Henderson Democrat, state senator, was at the Redwood Agency and was the first person killed in the attack on August 18, 1862. DU 51

Dr. H.J. Seigneuret, physician at Henderson, was brigade surgeon of the Sibley expedition, including the Battle of Wood Lake. He certified the deaths of the 38 Dakota at Mankato and was in charge of the medical treatment of the prisoners at Ft. Snelling, and was surgeon for the Expedition in Dakota Territory in

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

7TH MN, Co. H; 10th MN, Co. I.

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

#### **RESOURCES**

##### **Books (see attached bibliography for titles)**

DU: section on Henderson 139

DU, M&I 194, TT provides probably the most complete account of the journey of the Dakota families through Henderson on their way to Fort Snelling.

The Henderson to Ft. Ridgely Trail: sold at the Sibley County historical Society

Tales of the Tenth Regiment: Minnesota Volunteers, sold at the Sibley Co. Hist. Society

##### **Articles**

"The J.R. Brown Minnesota River Center" MH 3

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

##### **Narratives:**

H.D. Cunningham, tells of the Missionary Party's journey across the prairie after the attack on the Upper Agency. His narrative includes the mention of Henderson. TN 192

Samuel Brown Jr., provides his reminiscence of going through Henderson with the families. TDE Gabriel Renville, TDE 234

**Photos****Paintings, sketches, & murals****MILITARY**

Civil War service men from Sibley County served in various regiments. Men often joined a company (within a regiment) that originated in their county. Listed below are companies or regiments that were formed from men of Sibley County.

- 7th Regiment, Minnesota Infantry, Company H.
- 10th Regiment, Minnesota Infantry, Company I.
- Brackett's Battalion, Minnesota Cavalry, Company A.

[https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Sibley\\_County,\\_Minnesota](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Sibley_County,_Minnesota)

**Note: see Section 5, this website, "Military units: USDakotaWar" for more information.**

**MONUMENTS & HISTORIC SITES****INTERPRETIVE CENTERS**

Joseph R. Brown Historical Interpretive Center <http://jrb.hendersonmn.com/index.html>

**CEMETERIES WITH GRAVESTONES OF PARTICIPANTS**

The Brown Cemetery in Henderson: Ellen Brown Allanson, Elizabeth "Libby" Fadden Brown,

**WEBSITES**

<http://www.sibleycountyhistoricalmuseum.com/>

P.O. Box 407

Henderson, MN 56044

SIBLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 407

700 Main Street

Henderson, MN 56044

Contact: Sharon Haggemiller, Curator

507-248-3818

[schs1@frontiernet.net](mailto:schs1@frontiernet.net)

[www.history.sibley.mn.us/index.htm](http://www.history.sibley.mn.us/index.htm)

Local Historical Organizations:

Arlington Historical Society

204 Shamrock Drive (City Hall)

Arlington, MN 55307

Contact: Dwight Grabitske

507-964-5878

Joseph R. Brown Heritage Society

P.O. Box 25

Henderson, MN 56044-0025  
508-248-3234  
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[www.jrb.org/](http://www.jrb.org/)

Winthrop Community Historical Society  
c/o Diane Fredin  
25271 571st Avenue  
Winthrop, MN 55396  
507-647-2322