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

### **HENNEPIN COUNTY: people and settlements in the 1800's -1862**

Dakota people had probably lived in present-day Hennepin County for hundreds of years. They lived primarily along rivers and by lakes. Some of their settlements were relatively permanent, but the people moved to different areas for hunting and for summer camps. The Ojibwe people were another dominant tribe in the area. The Dakotas and the Ojibwes often clashed over land and hunting areas. By a treaty in 1825 the tribes agreed to divide the land of present day Minnesota into roughly two areas--north and northeastern Minnesota for the Ojibwes, and southern and south western Minnesota for the Dakotas. By 1800 many of the Dakota Mdewakanton had settled along the lower Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers below the Falls of St. Anthony. **See also "Hennepin County by regions".**

•Lake Calhoun & Lake Harriet area: from 1829 to 1839 this area had an Indian village on the eastern shore of Lake Calhoun and a mission school at Lake Harriet. **See also "Hennepin County by regions".**

•The Old St. Anthony area of Minneapolis: starting in 1848 with a saw mill, the area was growing into a town that had hopes of being the state's largest and most important city. **See also "Hennepin County by regions".**

•Fort Snelling area: Fort Snelling had been built in 1819 and was a large presence on the edge of the Minnesota River Valley, attracting traders, government workers, civilian workers, etc. Some Indian villages were located near the fort. It was used for distributing annuities to the Indians. It was a center for interaction, for nearby residents, including Dakota people, to receive medical help from the fort's doctor.

•Bloomington area: a few farmers and early settlers had located there. Gideon Pond had built a large brick home in conjunction with his Oak Grove Mission, which operated from 1843 to 1852.

### **HENNEPIN COUNTY in 1862, just before the war broke out.**

Hennepin County had around 12,000 people by 1860, with about 5800 of them in the Minneapolis-Old St. Anthony and the remaining 6000+ people spread throughout the rest of the county. (See section TOWNS get correct title.) Many residents were immigrants from Germany, Ireland, Sweden and Norway, who were attracted to Hennepin County because of good farmland and by industrial work in the city. The water in Hennepin County's rivers provided the power for grist mills and saw mills, and fueled the growth of milling and lumbering throughout the county and near St. Anthony Falls. The farmers in rural areas of the county provided food for the city dwellers. Minneapolis industries provided lumber, furniture, farm implements and clothing. Other settled areas of Hennepin County in 1862 included: Champlin, Corcoran, Dayton, Eden Prairie, Excelsior, Golden Valley, Hopkins, Long Lake, Maple Grove, Maple Plain, Minnetonka, Mound, Osseo, Plymouth, Richfield, St. Anthony Village (not the portion of Minneapolis called Old St. Anthony), St. Louis Park, Tonka Bay, and Wayzata. Not all of these cities or towns had incorporated by 1862, but they had settlements which grew into the named towns.

**START OF THE CONFLICT:****AUGUST 18, 1862 AT LOWER SIOUX AGENCY IN PRESENT-DAY REDWOOD COUNTY****during the conflict:**

The US Dakota War of 1862 was not fought in Hennepin County, but its effect was felt in the men who volunteered to go out onto the prairies to protect settlers and on their families.

The country was involved in the Civil War at the time, so active military recruitment and enlistment was taking place throughout the state. The outbreak of the U.S. Dakota Conflict resulted in some of the existing units being transferred to fight on the Minnesota frontier, as well as new volunteer units forming to defend the settlers of Minnesota. See below: Military Units with men from Hennepin County.

August 19, 1862: Col. Henry Sibley set off by steamboat from Fort Snelling with a set of "raw recruits" to start his assignment from Governor Ramsey to protect the frontier. For more information on military details see HHS, DW.

August 19, 1862 and ongoing: existing military units were diverted to the frontier.

August 21, 1862. Refugees started "pouring into the city" (reported in St. Paul Daily Press).

Refugees in Minneapolis: settlers fled to Minneapolis for shelter. "Scores of frightened settlers and their families" came to Minneapolis from the prairies for refuge; "every home was opened to them". (Leonard, *Early Days in Minneapolis*). A writer in old St. Anthony remembers that every hotel room was filled, and children in St. Anthony homes slept on floors to make room for refugees. See Photo section below, for the photo of a house on Lyndale Avenue that sheltered refugees.

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.

August 29, 1862: *note of interest*: on the prairie a day's ride from Fort Ridgely, a group of 150 mounted volunteers, most of them from Hennepin County, described as a "contentious collection", refused to recognize the authority of Capt. Samuel McPhail or Col. Sibley, threatened to mutiny, and "took off for Fort Ridgely in advance of the main column and later claimed the glory of having been first to relieve the beleaguered garrison." HHS 175.

Sept. 3, 1862: three men from Hennepin County were killed: George Gideon of Excelsior Township, Edwin Stone of Minneapolis, and Alva Getchell of Brooklyn Township, all from Company B of the 9th Minnesota Regiment under Cap. Richard Strout, who were on their way to protect settlers. They were attacked near Acton by a large group of Dakota under the command of White Spider, a half brother of Little Crow. DUV 15

Sept. 17, 1862: an article in the *State Atlas* (Minneapolis) notes that "Some fifty stand of arms have been received from the State Government to arm a Home Guard for Minneapolis--also a large supply of fixed ammunition. These arms have been put into excellent order, ready for any emergency. But where is the 'Home Guard?' Why has there not been one organized?" (Some towns, such as Plymouth, formed their own citizen militias.)

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

**After the conflict:**

Attention shifted from battles to the Dakota Indians, some of whom were known to have fled to the prairies of Dakota Territory or to Canada, and the others who were being held by Col. Sibley's troops at Camp Release. From late September 1862 through November 1862 trials were conducted both at Camp Release and later at the Lower Agency, to which all the Dakota prisoners, families, and soldiers had been moved. In early November the prisoners were sent to separate places; the 303 condemned prisoners were imprisoned first at Camp Lincoln, and soon after that at the prison in Mankato. The non-hostile Dakota men and their families, along with some hundred mixed blood people who were non-hostiles, were taken under armed guard from the Lower Agency to Fort Snelling.

***FORT SNELLING'S ROLE***

Fort Snelling was the mustering center at which several military units were formed, from which Sibley assembled his troops for his 1862 expedition to the Minnesota Valley to protect the settlers and his 1863 Punitive Expedition to Dakota Territory to track down escaped Dakota people. It was the site where some 1800 Dakota were interned from between November 1862 and June 1864.

***see section this website: The Dakota Internment at Fort Snelling***

It was also the site where Shakopee and Medicine Bottle were hanged in November 1865.

Nov. 13, 1862: the non-hostile Dakota prisoners were escorted to Fort Snelling for internment, arriving there November 13, 1862. A map showing their journey and the story of the march is found in Trails of Tears. This group of prisoners were those who had not been convicted of any war crimes.

December 1862: Some of the known friendly Dakota who had protected the settlers were allowed to settle in Hennepin County near the home of Gideon Pond. John Otherday wanted to farm near Gideon Pond, if land could be found; Agent Galbraith was helping him look for land. In December 1862, there were 20+ Dakota people living near Gideon Pond's farm in present day Bloomington.

November 1862-May 1863: the prisoners remained at Fort Snelling. See section The Dakota Internment at Fort Snelling.

May 1863: The prisoners interned at Fort Snelling were taken by steamboats out of Minnesota.

August 1863:A new group of Dakota Indians started arriving at Fort Snelling; this group was composed of the warriors, hostiles, and their families who had escaped to the prairie after the Battle of Wood Lake. They were captured by members of the Sully and Sibley Expeditions.

June 6, 1864 The warrior Dakota men and their families were taken from the stockade at Fort Snelling and removed to Camp McClellan. This ended the internment of Dakota Indians at the Fort Snelling stockade.

November 11, 1865 Shakopee (Little Six) and Medicine Bottle were hanged at Fort Snelling. They had been held in the Fort Snelling prison after their capture in Canada in 1864.

By the early 1870's some Dakota people had formed communities at Bloomington. Roy Meyer, History of the Santee Sioux.

**MILITARY UNITS WITH MEN FROM HENNEPIN COUNTY SERVING IN THE U.S. DAKOTA WAR**

1st Minnesota Mounted Rangers\* 2nd Minnesota Voluntary Cavalry Regiment, Co. D, 3rd Minnesota, Co. A, 4th Minnesota, Co. C\*, Co. D\* 6th Minnesota,\* Co. B, Co. C, Co. D 7th Minnesota\* 8th Minnesota\*, Co. A and Co. K. 9th Minnesota, Co. A, Co. B.\* 10th MN., Co. K. Hatch's Independent Battalion of Cavalry\*

\* indicates there were men from Minneapolis in the company.

[https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/1st\\_Regiment,\\_Minnesota\\_Cavalry\\_%28Mounted\\_Rangers%29](https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/1st_Regiment,_Minnesota_Cavalry_%28Mounted_Rangers%29)

[https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/2nd\\_Regiment,\\_Minnesota\\_Cavalry](https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/2nd_Regiment,_Minnesota_Cavalry)

[https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/3rd\\_Regiment,\\_Minnesota\\_Infantry](https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/3rd_Regiment,_Minnesota_Infantry)

[https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/4th\\_Regiment,\\_Minnesota\\_Infantry](https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/4th_Regiment,_Minnesota_Infantry)

[https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/6th\\_Regiment,\\_Minnesota\\_Infantry](https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/6th_Regiment,_Minnesota_Infantry)

[https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/7th\\_Regiment,\\_Minnesota\\_Infantry](https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/7th_Regiment,_Minnesota_Infantry)

[https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/8th\\_Regiment,\\_Minnesota\\_Infantry](https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/8th_Regiment,_Minnesota_Infantry)

[https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/9th\\_Regiment,\\_Minnesota\\_Infantry](https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/9th_Regiment,_Minnesota_Infantry)

[https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/10th\\_Regiment,\\_Minnesota\\_Infantry](https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/10th_Regiment,_Minnesota_Infantry)

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mnhennepin/militarypages.htm>

**Note: see section on this website, "Military units: USDakotaWar" for more information.**

**A FEW MILITARY DEATHS OF HENNEPIN COUNTY RESIDENTS**

Edwin Stone of Minneapolis, serving in Company B of the Ninth Minnesota Regiment under Capt.

Richard Strout, was killed at Acton, Sept. 1862. DUV

George Gideon of Excelsior Township also died at Acton, as did Alva Getchell. DUV

Sgt. William Edwards of Champlin. DUV 21

David Morgan, a Minneapolis lawyer, went out with the first volunteers, killed.

*Data on the number who served from Hennepin County and the number who died is not known to this author. To add more names of military deaths in Hennepin County, contact <usdakotawar1862mn@gmail.com>*

**(SOME) HISTORIC HENNEPIN COUNTY PEOPLE CONNECTED TO THE CONFLICT**

- Bishop, Harriet. St. Paul resident, whose writings and strong opinions informed state residents about the status of the Indians. Her book, Dakota War- Whoop, was widely printed and marketed, and emphasized only the worst aspects of the war and the Dakota people.

- Bottineau, Pierre: French Canadian-Ojibwe frontiersman, one of first residents of old St. Anthony, worked with Franklin Steele and Henry H. Sibley.. In 1862 he was present at Fort Abercrombie when it was attacked.

- William S. King, established the *State Atlas*, in 1859, the second Minneapolis newspaper. He also built the Lyndale Farmstead, King's Highway is named for him.

- Marshall, Lt. Col. William, commander of the troops that escorted the Dakota from the Lower Agency to Fort Snelling, and in charge of the prisoners during their internment at Fort Snelling. ??

- Northrup, Capt. Anson, led a company of volunteer cavalry for the relief of Fort Ridgely.

- Pond, Gideon: missionary at Lake Calhoun (Eatonville, Cloud Man's Village), built a home in Bloomington (still exists as historic site as the Pond-Dakota House), built a mission in Bloomington, developed Dakota alphabet, translated portions of Bible, organized Oak Grove Presbyterian Church in Bloomington, pastor, legislator.

- John B. Renville, (son of trader Joseph Renville Sr., trader at Ft. Renville in Lac qui Parle County), bought a house in St. Anthony, lived there for one or two years starting in 1863 with his wife, Mary Butler Renville, who taught school to white children; he translated "Precept Upon Precept, published in Boston, subsequently used as a textbook for Dakota children. Both John and Mary had been captives during the war. M&I 261. John and Mary later moved to the Sisseton reservation John was ordained in 1865, the first Dakota person to become a pastor. His affiliation was with the Dakota Presbytery.
- Missionary Stephen R. Riggs family went to St. Anthony for protection. They had been at the Upper Agency in Yellow Medicine County, and left soon after the agency was attacked. They were part of the so-called "Missionary Party" who escaped across the plains to safety at Shakopee. M&I
- John Vander Horck; Captain of Company D Fifth Regiment, lived in Minneapolis 1866-1877, was city comptroller and an alderman.
- Missionary Thomas S. Williamson had purchased a home in St. Anthony. There is no information that he actually lived in it or what happened to the property.
- Upton, B.F., photographe,r of St. Anthony; his photographs preserved valuable history of the period.

Person of interest: Jane DeBow Gibbs, white girl who lived at Lake Harriet Mission Station, later married Heman Gibbs of the Gibbs Farm Museum in Lauderdale, MN.  
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mnwabash/biographies.htm>

## RESOURCES

### Books (see attached bibliography for titles)

CM, DII, DU, DUV, DW, M&I, TDE, TT

See especially DII above, The Dakota Indian Internment at Fort Snelling, 1862-1864 by Corinne L. Monjeau-Marz.

The History of Hennepin County and the City of Minneapolis:

[http://books.google.com/books?id=jMrn0Jfwcc0C&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs\\_atb#v=onepage&q&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=jMrn0Jfwcc0C&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_atb#v=onepage&q&f=false)

Two Volunteer Missionaries Among the Dakota: The story of the labors of Samuel W. and Gideon H. Pond. <http://archive.org/details/twovolunteers00pondrich>

### Articles

The Pond Dakota Mission Park MH 1

Minnesota on the Verge of Civil War MH 4

You Had To Be There: Panorama of the dakota War MH 3

Painting the Dakota Conflict MH 3

The Dakota Indian Settlement at the Gideon Pond Farm 1863-1891 MH 3

Historic Fort Snelling MH 2

The Family Caravan TT

Section on the Fort Snelling Internment Camp DU

Milton Stubbs account: <http://www.stubbsfamily.org/HenryStubbs/Milton.htm>

<http://www.stubbsfamily.org/HenryStubbs/Milton.htm>

<http://athrillingnarrative.com/2012/05/07/lamsons-daughter-tells-the-story-of-little-crows-death/>  
 Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Lamson, 1011 Sixth street southeast [Minneapolis?], a daughter of Mr. Lamson, was a child of five at the time of the shooting and recalls many of the events of those exciting days.

**Photos**

house in Minneapolis used for sheltering refugees: Elijah Austin residence, originally at 1525 Lyndale Avenue North, and subsequently moved to 713 Sixteenth Avenue North, Minneapolis; house was a center for refugees from the Dakota Conflict. Minnesota Historical Society, Photograph Collection ca. 1885

B.F. Upton photos at Ft. Snelling: Wapastoka; Winona, first born daughter of Red Iro; Apistoka; young Daiota boy at tepee entrance; Red Legs' Wacouta; Ta-chun-da-hpaor Nispipe; White Spider; Wowinape; one of Little Crow's wives and two children

R.W. Ranson photos at Fort Snelling: Two Dakota women,

Joel Whitney photos at Fort Snelling: Two Dakota women, six Dakota men, Dakota Indians and two tepees in front of the high stockade fence.

Bishop Whipple confirming Dakota at Fort Snelling  
see: <http://collections.mnhs.org/visualresources/>

**Paintings, sketches, & murals**

Eastman, Seth; view of Ft. Snelling  
Eastman, Seth: prairie back of Ft. Snelling  
Eastman, Seth: Minnehaha Falls  
Eastman, Eza Kazah, Silver Face  
Eastman, Fishing Below Ft. Snelling  
see: <http://collections.mnhs.org/visualresources/>

**MONUMENTS & HISTORIC SITES**

Marker: Indians at the Falls <http://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=43661>  
Marker: John H. Stevens house: <http://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=43036>  
Marker: Remembers the 1600 Dakota who were interned below Fort Snelling in 1862-1863  
<http://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=50817>

**INTERPRETIVE CENTERS**

Historic Fort Snelling <http://www.historicfortsnelling.org/>  
Pond Dakota House, Bloomington  
[http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us/main\\_top/2\\_facilities/rec\\_facility/pond/pondhous.htm](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us/main_top/2_facilities/rec_facility/pond/pondhous.htm)

**CEMETERIES WITH GRAVESTONES OF PARTICIPANTS**

- Lakewood Cemetery, Minneapolis; Commander John Vander Horck, Edwin Stone.
- Lakewood Cemetery: See the G.A.R. graves in sections 2,3,4, and 6; some of the gravestones are inscribed "killed in the Indian Wars". Searchable database at <http://www.lakewoodcemetery.com/>
- Lakewood Cemetery has gravestones for some men who served but were not killed in the conflict including Erick Wirshing, Co. E 1st Minn M.T.D. Rangers, and Samuel H. Carver, Co. K, Minn M.T.D. Rangers.
- Pioneer and Soldiers' Memorial Cemetery, Minneapolis; Philander Prescott, trader, killed at Redwood Agency 1862. Joseph Dickinson and Lalthrop Dickinson, brothers, killed at Redwood Agency; Lawrence Taliaferro Prescott (captive during US Dakota Conflict,), some Pettijohn graves: children of Lucy Prescott and Eli Pettijohn. Lt Cyrus Redlon, served in 3rd MN Regiment, at Camp Release.
- Woodside Cemetery, Shorewood: George Gideon. DUV 15

•Brooklyn-Crystal Cemetery: Alvah Getchell, DU 330. <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=34667994>

•Champlin: William Edwards

To add more names on burials in Hennepin County, please contact  
<usdakotawar1862mn@gmail.com>

**WEBSITES**

<http://www.hclib.org/pub/search/specialcollections/mplshistory/?id=1>

[http://www.archive.org/stream/earlydaysinminne00leonrich/earlydaysinminne00leonrich\\_djvu.txt](http://www.archive.org/stream/earlydaysinminne00leonrich/earlydaysinminne00leonrich_djvu.txt)  
Hennepin History---

**WEB CONTENT**

<http://www.historicfortsnelling.org/history/us-dakota-war>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gideon\\_H.\\_Pond\\_House](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gideon_H._Pond_House)

[http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us/main\\_top/2\\_facilities/rec\\_facility/pond/pondhous.htm](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us/main_top/2_facilities/rec_facility/pond/pondhous.htm)