



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Minnesota State Archives

## U.S. GENERAL LAND OFFICE Saint Cloud Land District (Minn.)

### An Inventory of Its Records

#### OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Agency:** United States. Saint Cloud Land District (Minn.).
- Series Title:** Saint Cloud Land District records,
- Dates:** 1853-1907.
- Abstract:** Correspondence; registers of homestead, agricultural college, Indian allotment, military bounty land, Sioux half-breed scrip, miscellaneous scrip, and timber culture entries; patent records; land contest records; and related materials covering land transfers in central, north central, and northwestern Minnesota.
- Quantity:** 32.5 cu. ft.
- Location:** See Detailed Description section for box locations.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF THE ST. CLOUD LAND DISTRICT

The Saint Cloud Land District was established by an act of Congress of August 30, 1852. By law the district was named the Sauk River Land District, but it came to be commonly known as the Saint Cloud Land District. The district's first land office was located at Sauk Rapids and opened for business in November, 1852. The boundaries of the Saint Cloud district changed several times. At various times, the district included lands surveyed under both the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> principal meridians. The following boundary descriptions correspond to the numbered diagrams (separate page).

(1) By the act of 1852 the Saint Cloud district included townships 121-168 in ranges 24-51 west of the 5<sup>th</sup> PM and townships 32-47 in ranges 28-33 west of the 4<sup>th</sup> PM.

(2) By an act of April 12, 1854, townships 32-47 in ranges 28-33 west of the 4<sup>th</sup> PM were removed from Saint Cloud and added to the Stillwater district.

(3) An act of July 8, 1856, established the Northwestern and Northeastern land districts. The Northwestern district included that part of the Saint Cloud district north of township 133 in ranges 24-51 west of the 5<sup>th</sup> PM and townships 46-71 in ranges 19-27 west of the 4<sup>th</sup> PM. This

left a reduced Saint Cloud district consisting of townships 121-133 in ranges 24-49 west of the 5<sup>th</sup> PM.

(4) An executive order of May 18, 1858, removed townships 129-133 from Saint Cloud to the Northwestern Land District.

(5) In August, 1863, the Northwestern district was merged into the Saint Cloud district. This created a district consisting of townships 121-168 in ranges 24-51 west of the 5<sup>th</sup> PM and townships 46-71 in ranges 24-27 west of the 4<sup>th</sup> PM.

(6) An act of July 25, 1868, created the Alexandria Land District out of the western part of the Saint Cloud district, including townships 121-164 in ranges 36-51 west of the 5<sup>th</sup> PM. This left a reduced Saint Cloud district composed of townships 121-168 in ranges 24-35 west of the 5<sup>th</sup> PM and townships 46-68 in ranges 24-27 west of the 4<sup>th</sup> PM.

(7) On February 28, 1889, a reduced Alexandria Land District, consisting of townships 125-136 in ranges 36-49, was added to the Saint Cloud Land District.

(8) By executive order of February 27, 1891, all land in the Saint Cloud district north of the Mississippi River, including all or parts of townships 54-71 in ranges 24-27 west of the 4<sup>th</sup> PM and townships 143-164 in ranges 25-29 west of the 5<sup>th</sup> PM was removed from Saint Cloud and added to the Duluth Land District.

(9) On January 1, 1894, the Stillwater Land District, consisting of townships 26-45 in ranges 15-33 west of the 4<sup>th</sup> PM, was merged into the Saint Cloud Land District.

(10) An executive order of January 16, 1896, removed townships 146-168 in ranges 30-35 from the Saint Cloud to the Crookston Land District.

(11) By executive order of April 1, 1903, townships 141-145 in ranges 25-29 west of the 5<sup>th</sup> PM and townships 53-55 in ranges 24-27 west of the 4<sup>th</sup> PM were removed from Saint Cloud and added to the new Cass Lake Land District.

(12) On July 1, 1903, the Winona Land District was consolidated with the Saint Cloud district.

(13) On December 16, 1906, the Saint Cloud land office was closed and the district merged with the Duluth Land District.

Land offices of the Saint Cloud Land District: Sauk Rapids (November 1852 to ca. April 15, 1858); St. Cloud (April 29, 1858 to December 16, 1906).

Registers of the Saint Cloud Land District: George W. Sweet (August 1853-May 1857); William A. Caruthers (June 1857-March 1860?); J. D. Crittenden (April 1860?-April 22, 1861); Thomas McClure (April 26, 1861-May 1865); H. C. Wait[?] (July 1865-May 17, 1869); C. A. Gilman (May 22, 1869-October 31, 1871); H. L. Gordon (December 1, 1871-July 3, 1874); Jacob V. Brower (July 15, 1874-April 1, 1879); D. H. Freeman (April 15, 1879- ? ).

Receivers of the Saint Cloud Land District: William H. Wood (August 4, 1853-1858); S. L. Hay (1859?-June 1860?); Samuel E. Adams (June 1860?-August 3, 1861); Charles A. Gilman (August 12, 1861-May 16, 1865); William B. Mitchell (May 20, 1865-October 1866); Charles A. Gilman (December 1866-March 19, 1867); H. C. Burbank (April 1867-February 18, 1870); T. C. McClure (March 19, 1870-May 17, 1874); Jacob V. Brower (May 18, 1874-July 14, 1874); Ole Peterson (July 15, 1874- ? ); W. B. Mitchell (April 1, 1878- ? ).

## **ORGANIZATION OF THE RECORDS**

These records are organized into the following sections:

- Abstract of Preemption Declaratory Statements, 1853-1905. 2 volumes.
- Contest Docket, 1880-1888, 1904. 1 volume and 1 folder.
- Correspondence: Letters Received from GLO, 1853-1906. 25 cubic feet (25 boxes).
- Correspondence: Receiver's Letters Sent, 1853-1879. 2 volumes.
- Correspondence: Register's Letters Sent, 1860-1879. 4 volumes.
- Record of Letters Received, 1901-1904. 1 volume.
- Record of Patents Delivered, 1884-1907. 1 volume.
- Register of Agricultural College Scrip Entries, 1864-1867. partial volume.
- Register of Certificates to Purchasers, 1853-1906. 4 volumes.
- Register of Final Homestead Certificates, 1868-1906. 3 volumes.
- Register of Homestead Entries, 1863-1906. 5 volumes.
- Register of Indian Allotment Entries under the Dawes Act, 1889-1902. 1 oversize folder.
- Register of Military Bounty Land Warrant Entries, 1853-1906. 1 volume.
- Register of Sioux Half-Breed Scrip Entries, 1859-1860. 1 volume.
- Register of Supreme Court Scrip Entries, 1874-1885. partial volume.
- Register of Surveyor General Scrip Entries, 1873-1906. 2 partial volumes.
- Register of Timber Culture Entries, 1889-1895. partial volume.

## **RELATED MATERIALS**

The U.S. General Land Office's Original Entry Tract Books (cataloged separately) include citations, by date sent, to letters received from the commissioner of the GLO regarding specific parcels of land. A packet of incoming letters, 1896, is held by the Northeast Minnesota Historical Center, Duluth.

## **OTHER FINDING AIDS**

Some of the volumes include indexes.

## INDEX TERMS

*These records are indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.*

### Topics:

Afforestation—Minnesota.  
Agricultural college lands—Minnesota.  
Betterments—Minnesota.  
Bounties, Military—United States.  
Cities and towns—Minnesota.  
Colonization—Minnesota.  
Dakota Indians—Land tenure.  
Dakota Indians—Mixed descent.  
Grasshopper plagues, 1873-1877—Minnesota.  
Homestead law—Minnesota.  
Indian land transfers—Minnesota.  
Indian reservations—Minnesota.  
Land grants—Minnesota.  
Land grants—United States.  
Land titles—Registration and transfer—Minnesota.  
Land titles—Registration and transfer—Minnesota—Cases.  
Ojibwa Indians—Land tenure.  
Pioneers—Minnesota—Biography.  
Pre-emption rights (United States).  
Public land sales—Minnesota.  
Public lands—Minnesota.  
Railroad land grants—Minnesota.  
Timber lands—Minnesota.

### Persons:

Gilmore, Charles D.  
Ireland, John, 1838-1918.

### Organizations:

Northern Pacific Railroad Company.  
St. Paul, Minneapolis, & Manitoba Railway Company.  
United States. Alexandria Land District (Minn.).  
United States. General Land Office.  
United States. Stillwater Land District (Minn.).  
United States. Supreme Court.  
United States. Surveyor General.

### Types of Documents:

Deeds—Minnesota.  
Land scrip—Minnesota.  
Sioux half-breed scrip.

**Titles:**

United States. General Allotment Act (1887).  
United States. Land Grant Act of 1862.  
United States. Preemption Act of 1841.  
United States. Timber Culture Act.

**ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Preferred Citation:**

*[Indicate the cited section and the volume and page or item and folder title here].* U.S.  
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State Archives.

*See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.*

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## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE RECORDS

*Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note both the location and box numbers shown below.*

### **Abstract of Preemption Declaratory Statements, 1853-1905. 2 volumes.**

An incomplete set of abstracts of preemption declaratory statements filed in the St. Cloud Land District under provisions of the General Preemption Act of 1841.

The Preemption Act of 1841 recognized the claims of those settlers or "squatters" who had settled on public land before it had been offered for sale. This act enabled the settler to purchase the claim at the minimum price rather than having to bid for it at public auction. The preemptor was required to file a declaratory statement within three months after the local land office had received the survey plat of the township in which the claim was located or within three months of making settlement. The declaratory statement, which gave the date of settlement and detailed the improvements made to the property, was used by the land office to determine the validity of the claimant's preemption, and it established the priority of his claim against those of other claimants.

When the land office announced that an area of land was to be offered for sale, the preemptor had to pay for his land before the date of the sale or risk losing it to the highest bidder. For land that was open to private entry, the preemptor had to make payment within one year of filing a declaratory statement. In 1854, preemption rights were extended to settlers on unsurveyed land.

The abstract for each declaratory statement gives statement number, date of settlement, date the declaratory statement was filed, name of preemptor, legal description of the tract preempted, and occasional remarks on the eventual disposition of the tract.

Arrangement: Numbered chronologically by date the statement was filed. There are separate sequences for preemptions on "unoffered" lands not yet open for settlement and on "offered" lands which were preempted after being opened for settlement.

Related materials: United States: General Land Office: Original Entry Tract Books (cataloged separately) cite the type and number of the certificate issued on the preempted parcel; the parcel can then be located in the appropriate register of entries.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Volume</b>	
114.J.2.5B-1	1	Nos. 1 - 6108, Sept. 1853 - Sept. 1889 (offered land).
	[2]	[missing]
114.J.2.5B-1	3	Nos. 2955 - 6147, July 1867 - Nov. 1905 (unoffered land)

**Contest Docket, 1880-1888, 1904. 1 volume and 1 oversize folder.**

Summary: A summary record of official proceedings in contests brought against land entries in the St. Cloud land district.

The docket entry for each contest case gives names of plaintiff (contestant) and defendant (entryman), number of entry contested, legal description of the parcel covered by the contested entry, summary of actions taken on the case, and citations to decisions of the register and receiver or the commissioner of the General Land Office.

Many of the contests involve contested homestead or preemption entries on land claimed by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company as part of its land grant.

Arrangement: Entries are chronological by date the contest was filed.

Indexing-Note: The volume is indexed by name of plaintiff.

**Location            Box**

114.J.2.4F-1        ---        Contest Docket, 1880-1888, 1904. 1 volume, 1 folder.

**Correspondence: Letters Received from GLO, 1853-1906. 25.0 cu. ft. (25 boxes).**

Letters received by the register and receiver of the St. Cloud land district from the commissioner of the General Land Office. They include letters of transmission and acknowledgment, instructions to the register and receiver, decisions of the land commissioner and secretary of the interior in contested cases, and notices of approval or rejection of land entries.

The letters forwarding decisions of the commissioner and the secretary of the interior contain the most significant information. They generally include a summary of the facts in the case, giving information on the date of settlement and entry, improvements made on the claim, and biographical information on the contestants and witnesses. Some of these letters include transcripts of testimony and affidavits relating to the case.

Among the subjects discussed in the other letters are preemption, homestead, timber culture, military bounty land warrants, and cash entries; land grants of the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba and the St. Paul and Pacific railroads; colonization projects of Archbishop John Ireland; the grasshopper plagues of the 1870s; the survey and settlement of Indian land; public land sales; and the general operation of the land office.

Arrangement: Arranged chronologically.

Related materials: United States. General Land Office. Original entry tract books (cataloged separately) include citations, by date sent, to letters received from the commissioner of the GLO regarding specific parcels of land. See also the district's Record of letters received (cataloged separately).

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	
107.C.13.1B	1	1853 - May 1858 (Sauk Rapids) May 1858 - 1862.
107.C.13.2F	2	1863 - May 1868.
107.C.13.3B	3	June 1868 - 1870.
107.C.13.4F	4	1871 - 1873.
107.C.13.5B	5	1874 - June 1876.
107.C.13.6F	6	July 1876 - 1878
107.C.13.7B	7	1879 - 1881.
107.C.13.8F	8	1882 - 1883.
107.C.13.9B	9	1884 - September 1885.
107.C.13.10F	10	October 1885 - May 1888.
107.C.14.1B	11	June 1888 - November 20, 1889.
107.C.14.2F	12	November 21, 1889 - October 1890.
107.C.14.3B	13	November 1890 - October 1891.
107.C.14.4F	14	November 1891 - April 1893.
107.C.14.5B	15	May 1893 - September 1894.
107.C.14.6F	16	October 1894 - July 1895.
107.C.14.7B	17	August 1895 - August 15, 1896.
107.C.14.8F	18	August 16, 1896 - September 20, 1897.
107.C.14.9B	19	September 21, 1897 - December 1898.
107.C.14.10F	20	January 1899 - April 1900.
107.C.15.1B	21	May 1900 - August 5, 1901.
107.C.15.2F	22	August 6, 1901 - December 1902.
107.C.15.3B	23	January - October, 1903.
107.C.15.4F	24	November 1903 - September 1904.
107.C.15.5B	25	October 1904 - December 1906.



**Correspondence: Receiver's Letters Sent, 1853-1879. 2 volumes.**

Handwritten copies of letters sent by the receiver of the St. Cloud land district in his capacities as receiver of public money and government disbursing agent.

Principal correspondents are the commissioner of the General Land Office, secretary of the treasury, and comptroller of the Treasury Department. The letters include transmittals of monthly and quarterly reports of accounts current and estimated office expenditures; inventories of office supplies and records; requests for information on procedural matters; responses to inquiries from the General Land Office or the Treasury Department about office receipts and expenditures; and reports on public auctions and the general operation of the land office. Occasional letters relate to contested entries. There is considerable overlapping of subject matter between the Receiver's Letters Sent and the Register's Letters Sent.

Arrangement: Arranged chronologically.

Location	Volume	
114.H.3.4F-1	1	August 4, 1853 - April 30, 1873.
114.J.2.5B-1	2	May 1, 1873 - September 30, 1879.

**Correspondence: Register's Letters Sent, 1860-1879. 1.25 cu. ft. (4 volumes).**

Handwritten copies of outgoing letters of the register of the Minneapolis land district. They are written primarily to the commissioner of the General Land Office, with some additional letters to federal and state officials and private citizens. Some letters of the receivers are also included.

Letters to the GLO fall into two broad categories: routine interoffice communications, and letters relating to imperfect or contested entries. The routine administrative correspondence includes letters of transmittal and acknowledgment, monthly and quarterly reports of entries made, records of patents delivered, requests for record books and forms, inquiries on procedural matters, and general commentary on the operation of the land office.

The letters relating to contested entries include reports of the decisions of the register and receiver, accompanied by summaries of the facts and witnesses' testimony for those cases that were appealed to the commissioner of the GLO. In addition to naming the rival claimants and giving the legal description of the contested parcel, these letters often cite the date of settlement and entry, describe the improvements made--sometimes in great detail--and give biographical information on the contestants and witnesses in the case.

The letters concerning imperfect entries are usually responses to requests from the commissioner for additional information needed to approve an entry. This most often related to the entryman's naturalization, change in name, witnesses' testimony, or procedural matters.

The series includes occasional letters to registers of other land offices and to the U.S. Surveyor General, and a few letters to the Minnesota governor or state land commissioner relating to state land grants.

Letters to private individuals consist primarily of notices of hearings set, appeals forwarded, or decisions rendered in contested cases; requests for additional information or testimony; and procedural instructions necessary to perfect an entry.

Among the topics covered in the letters sent are: homestead and preemption claims, military bounty land warrant entries, railroad land grants, Sioux half-breed scrip entries, townsite locations, public land sales, and state land grants.

Arrangement: Arranged chronologically.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Volume</b>	
114.H.3.4F-1	1	November 1860 - January 9, 1867.
114.H.3.4F-1	2	July 23, 1867 - June 1870. There is no evident explanation for the gap between January 9 and July 23.
114.H.3.4F-2	3	June 1870 - December 1874.
114.H.3.4F-2	4	January 1875 - August 1879.

### **Record of Letters Received, 1901-1904. 1 volume.**

An abstract of letters received from the commissioner of the General Land Office.

Each abstract gives letter number (assigned chronologically by the St. Cloud land office), GLO identification initial, date of letter, name of person/case discussed in the letter, a brief of the subject of the letter, date the letter was received, date the letter was answered and/or a notice was sent to the entryman, and a summary of the actions taken in response to the commissioner's letter. Dates noted in the "date answered" column refer to letters contained in the Register's Letters Sent (above).

The volume in which the abstracts are recorded was originally designated "homestead contest docket."

Arrangement: Chronological by date the letter was received.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	
114.J.2.4F-2	---	Record of Letters Received, 1901-1904. 1 volume.

### **Record of Patents Delivered, 1884-1907. 1 volume.**

A record of patents delivered to patentees or their agents for land entered in the St. Cloud land district.

The record gives the type and number of entry, person to whom the patent was issued, date the patent was issued, volume and page where the patent is recorded in GLO records, name and address of the person to whom the patent was delivered, and date delivered.

Arrangement: Roughly chronological by date delivered.

Indexing-Note: Indexed by name of patentee.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	
114.J.2.4F-1	---	Record of Patents Delivered, 1884-1907. 1 volume.

**Register of Agricultural College Scrip Entries, April 1864 - November 1867. partial volume.**

An abstract of land entries (numbers 1-3279) made in the St. Cloud land district with agricultural college scrip under provisions of the Agricultural College Act of 1862, accompanied by a list of land selected by the state of Minnesota under this act.

The Agricultural College Act, commonly referred to as the Morrill Act, granted each state 30,000 acres of land for each of its United States senators and representatives. The proceeds from the sale of this land were to be used for the benefit of colleges of agricultural and mechanical arts in the state. Those states in which public land was still available for private entry selected their grant from the public land within their boundaries. Those states without sufficient public land received scrip of equal value, which could be redeemed for public land in the western states. The states receiving scrip could not enter the land directly but were required to sell the scrip to second parties, who then either used it to locate land or resold it.

The abstract for each scrip entry gives land office entry number, scrip number, the date a scrip certificate was issued, to what state the scrip was issued, acre value of the scrip, legal description of the tract located with the scrip, date located, and by whom located, with occasional added remarks.

The entries are recorded in a volume along with Register of Surveyor General Scrip Entries (cataloged separately) and a few loose miscellaneous scrip entries.

Arrangement: Entries are chronological by date the scrip was located (a certificate was issued).

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	
114.J.2.5B-2	---	Register of Agricultural College Scrip Entries, nos. 1-3279, April 1864 - November 1867. partial volume.

### **Register of Certificates to Purchasers, 1853-1906. 1.5 cu. ft. (4 volumes).**

An abstract of certificates issued by the register of the St. Cloud land district for land entries made by cash purchase, scrip, or warrant. The certificate established the buyer's legal claim to a parcel of land pending issuance by the GLO of a patent that formally transferred title.

The abstract for each certificate gives certificate number, date issued, name of purchaser and county of residence, legal description and acreage of the parcel purchased, price per acre, and total purchase price. Most abstracts are annotated with the date the patent was issued and the volume and page in which it is recorded in GLO patent records. A few include citations to letters from the commissioner of the General Land Office.

Arrangement: Arranged by chronologically assigned certificate number.

Related materials: See also the district's Register of final homestead certificates and Register of homestead entries.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Volume</b>	
114.J.2.3B-1	1	Nos. 1 - 6360, August 1853 - January 1873.
114.J.2.3B-1	2	Nos. 6361 - 12273, February 1873 - August 1883.
114.J.2.3B-2	3	Nos. 12274 - 19851, August 1883 - December 1899.
114.J.2.3B-2	4	Nos. 19852 - 20622, February 1900 - December 1906.

### **Register of Final Homestead Certificates, 1868-1906. 1.2 cu. ft. (3 volumes).**

An abstract of all final certificates issued for homesteaded land in the St. Cloud land district.

The abstract for each final certificate gives certificate number; date the certificate was filed; legal description of the tract homesteaded; name of applicant and county of residence; number of the original homestead application (recorded in the separately cataloged Register of Homestead Entries); commissions and fees paid; price per acre (commissions were based on the appraised price per acre); and various remarks relative to delivery of patents, citations to letters from the commissioner of the General Land Office, and citations to the Register of Certificates to Purchasers (cataloged separately) if the acreage of the parcel originally entered was in excess of the applicant's homestead eligibility.

Final certificates for homestead entries in the Alexandria district proved up after February 28, 1889, and for homestead entries in the Stillwater district proved up after December 20, 1893, are recorded in the St. Cloud register. Some final certificates for homestead entries made in the St. Cloud land district are recorded in the Cass Lake register.

Arrangement: Chronological by date the final certificate was issued.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Volume</b>	
114.J.2.2F-1	1	Nos. 1 - 5821, January 1868 - June 1885.
114.J.2.2F-1	2	Nos. 5822 - 11933, July 1885 - March 1903.
114.J.2.2F-2	3	Nos. 11934 - 13184, April 1903 - December 1906.

### **Register of Homestead Entries, 1863-1906. 1.75 cu. ft. (5 volumes).**

An abstract of all applications to acquire land under the provisions of the Homestead Act of 1862 that were filed in the St. Cloud land district.

Individuals seeking to acquire land under the Homestead Act first filed an application or "declaratory statement" with the local land office, thereby establishing their claim to a particular tract of land. They were then required to live on and improve the land for five years, after which time they presented the local land office a "final proof" of their compliance with the provisions of the Homestead Act. If the land office accepted the proof, it issued a "final certificate." The final certificate was then turned in to the General Land Office, which issued a patent formally transferring title to the homesteader.

The abstract for each homestead entry gives number of the application or declaratory statement; date of application; name of the applicant; legal description of the parcel entered; and remarks on the issuance of a patent, cancellation, or other disposition of the entry, with citations to relevant letters from the commissioner of the General Land Office.

Arrangement: Arranged by chronologically assigned application (entry) number.

Related materials: See also the district's Register of final homestead certificates and Letters received.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Volume</b>	
114.J.2.4F-2	1	Nos. 1 - 3400, January 1863 - December 1866.
114.J.2.1B-1	2	Nos. 3401 - 8320, January 1867 - July 1874. Bound out of order; first half is Nos. 6305-8320 and second half is Nos. 3401-6304.
114.J.2.1B-1	3	Nos. 8321 - 14073, July 1874 - December 1887.
114.J.2.1B-2	4	Nos. 14074 - 21685, January 1888 - October 1900.
114.J.2.1B-1	5	Nos. 21686 - 24925, November 1900 - December 1906.

### **Register of Indian Allotment Entries under the Dawes Act, 1889-1902. 1 oversize folder.**

An abstract of land entries (nos. 1-48) made in the St. Cloud land district under provisions of the Indian Allotment Act of February 8, 1887.

The Indian Allotment Act, often referred to as the Dawes Act, provided for the breaking up of Indian reservations by allotting land in severalty to enrolled tribal members and opening the remainder to settlement. Land "suitable for agricultural and grazing purposes" was to be allotted in tracts of 160 acres to all heads of families, 80 acres to all single persons over 18 and orphan children under 18, and 40 acres to all other children.

This register records the applications of Indians to receive their allotted acreage. The abstract for each allotment entry gives application number, date of application, name and tribal affiliation (Chippewa) of applicant and/or minor child, description of the tract applied for (some are legal descriptions; some are by metes and bounds), and remarks on the disposition or cancellation of the entry with citations to letters from the commissioner of the General Land Office.

Arrangement: Arranged by chronologically assigned application number.

Indexes: An index of names, in the order in which they appear on the schedule, is available in PDF format:

[http://www.mnhs.org/library/findaids/glo006/pdf/st.\\_cloud\\_dawes\\_index.pdf](http://www.mnhs.org/library/findaids/glo006/pdf/st._cloud_dawes_index.pdf)

**Location            Box**

114.J.2.5B-2        ---        Register of Indian Allotment Entries, nos 1-48, 1889-1902. 1 folder.

**Register of Military Bounty Land Warrant Entries, 1853-1906. 1 volume.**

Registers or abstracts of public land entries made with military bounty land warrants in the St. Cloud land district.

Under acts of 1842, 1847, 1850, 1852, and 1855, Congress authorized the issuance of land warrants as a bounty for military service. The warrants entitled the holder to enter or "locate" a specified amount of public land. The warrants were transferable and most were entered by someone other than the person to whom they were originally issued.

The abstract for each warrant entry gives the land office entry number, warrant number, date a warrant was issued, person in whose favor the warrant was issued, legal description of the tract located with the warrant, date located, and by whom located. Some entries are annotated with citations to decisions of the commissioner of the General Land Office.

Arrangement: Arranged by warrant law; thereunder numbered chronologically by date of land office entry.

**Location            Box**

114.J.2.2F-2        ---        Register of Military Bounty Land Warrant Entries, 1853-1906. 1 volume.

Act of 1842: Nos. 1-7, 1853-1854.

Act of 1847: Nos. 1-51, 1855-1882

Act of 1850: Nos. 1-259, 1853-1878.

Includes entries for ranges 27-33, transferred to the Stillwater land district in April 1854.

Act of 1852: Nos. 1-17, 1852-1868.

Act of 1855: Nos. 2-2451, 1855-1906.

Entries 1986-2008 are missing the right-hand side.

**Register of Sioux Half-breed Scrip Entries, 1859-1860. 1 volume.**

An abstract of land entries made in the St. Cloud land district with Sioux half-breed scrip. The entries are for lands in townships 132-142, ranges 46-49.

The Treaty of Prairie du Chien of 1831 set aside 320,819 acres of land near present-day Wabasha as a reserve for the Dakota mixed-bloods. They were expected to settle and take possession of the reserved tract, but this did not occur. As the surrounding area was opened for settlement, pressure arose to open the half-breed tract. The mixed-bloods' title to the tract was extinguished by dividing the reserve among the enrolled mixed bloods and issuing scrip to each individual in proportion to his or her share of the reserve.

A total of 640 individuals received scrip to the value of 480 acres, and 38 persons were issued scrip for 360 acres. The scrip could be used to locate land, surveyed or unsurveyed, anywhere in the public domain. By law the scrip could not be alienated, but this restriction was often evaded and much of the scrip was entered by someone other than the person to whom it was issued.

The abstract for each scrip entry gives entry or certificate number, number and letter of the scrip, date the scrip was issued, person to whom issued, person by whom the scrip was located, date located, legal description of the tract located, date a patent was issued, and volume and page in which the patent is recorded in the GLO records. Some entries contain annotations on cancellations, relinquishments, and conflicting claims with citations to letters from the commissioner of the General Land Office.

The volume is set up in the manner of a tract book, with an entry for each section of land; however, only a few were actually taken up by purchasers. The volume also records some entries made by agricultural college scrip and military bounty land warrants. This may not be a complete record of Sioux half-breed scrip entries in the St. Cloud land district.

Arrangement: Arranged by range and township.

**Location            Box**

114.J.2.5B-2        ---        Register of Sioux Half-breed Scrip Entries, 1859-1860. 1 volume.

**Register of Supreme Court Scrip Entries, August 1874 - June 1885 June. partial volume.**

An abstract of land entries (nos. 1-82) made in the St. Cloud land district with "Supreme Court scrip" under provisions of acts of Congress of June 22, 1860, March 2, 1867, and June 10, 1872.

The act of June 22, 1860, was intended to settle the remaining claims of individuals or corporations that had received land grants from foreign powers prior to 1846 but whose title to the land had become clouded or lost. The act allowed the United States Supreme Court to decide these cases and to issue scrip, which could be redeemed for land elsewhere in the public domain, as compensation to those claimants who established the validity of their grants. This scrip, commonly known as "Supreme Court scrip," was transferable and most was entered by someone other than the person to whom it was originally issued. The acts of March 2, 1867, and June 10, 1872, extended the time in which these claims could be brought before the Supreme Court.

The abstract for each entry gives land office entry number, scrip number, acre/value of the scrip, date of the Supreme Court decree awarding the scrip, person to whom the scrip was issued, date the scrip was located (a land certificate was issued), legal description of the tract located, person who located the scrip, and occasional remarks with citations to letters from the commissioner of the General Land Office.

This is a photostatic copy of the original, which was sent to the General Land Office. It is bound into a volume that also contains a Register of Surveyor General scrip entries.

Arrangement: Arranged by chronologically assigned entry number.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	
114.J.2.5B-2	---	Register of Supreme Court Scrip Entries, nos. 1-82, 1874-1885. partial volume.

### **Register of Surveyor General Scrip Entries, 1873-1906. 2 partial volumes.**

An abstract of land entries made with surveyor general scrip in the St. Cloud land district under provisions of an act of Congress of June 2, 1858.

This act was intended to settle outstanding claims of individuals or corporations (mainly in Louisiana, Florida, and Missouri) that had received land grants from foreign powers but had lost the land to settlers or whose title to the land had become clouded. The surveyor general of the district in which the claim was located certified the amount of land lost by the claimant and issued scrip of equal value which could be used to locate land in the public domain. This scrip, commonly known as "Surveyor General scrip," was transferable and most was located by someone other than the person to whom it was originally issued.

The abstract for each entry includes the following information: entry number, scrip number, date the scrip was issued, acre/value of the scrip, person to whom the scrip was issued, legal description of the tract located with the scrip, date of location, person who located the scrip, and occasional remarks with citations to letters from the commissioner of the General Land Office.

Arrangement: Arranged by chronologically assigned entry number.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	
114.J.2.5B-2	---	[Volume 1]: In a volume with Register of Supreme Court Scrip Entries. Nos. 1-3, March 1895. No. 1, July 1895 (same as no. 44 in the second volume, below).
114.J.2.5B-2	---	[Volume 2] In a volume with Register of Agricultural College Scrip Entries. The majority were located in 1872-1874 by Charles D. Gilmore. Nos. 54-66 are loose pages, inserted after No. 53. Nos. 1-66, June 1873 - January 1906.

### **Register of Timber Culture Entries, March 1889 - 1895. partial volume.**

An abstract of land entries (nos. 1-144) made in the St. Cloud land district under provisions of the Timber Culture Act of March 3, 1873.

The intent of the Timber Culture Act was to encourage the planting of trees on the western prairies. The law enabled qualified individuals to acquire title to 160 acres of land on the condition that forty acres be planted to trees. Residence on the tract was not required. In the original act, the entryman was required to plant the entire 40 acres to trees in the first year after making entry. The time period was later extended to four years, and in 1878 the acreage was reduced to ten acres with a minimum of 2700 trees per acre at the time of planting and "675 living, thrifty trees" at the time of patenting. Timber culture entries could be "proved up" and patented after eight years. They could be made in addition to homestead or preemption entries. The Timber Culture Act was repealed in 1891.



The abstract for each timber culture entry includes the following information: application or entry number, date of application, legal description of the tract entered, acreage, name of the applicant and county of residence, and fees and commissions paid. Some entries include information on the date of final proof and the eventual disposition of the entry, with citations to letters from the commissioner of the General Land Office.

The volume also contains abstracts of entries for the Alexandria land district, 1873-February 1889 (cataloged separately).

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	
114.H.3.2F-1	---	Register of Timber Culture Entries, March 1889 - 1895. partial volume.