



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Minnesota State Archives

## U.S. GENERAL LAND OFFICE: Red Wing Land District (Minn.): An Inventory of its Records

### OVERVIEW

- Agency:** United States. Red Wing Land District (Minn.).
- Series Title:** Red Wing Land District records,
- Dates:** 1854-1889.
- Abstract:** Correspondence; registers of homestead, agricultural college, military bounty land, Indian reservation land, Sioux half-breed scrip, and timber culture entries; patent records; land contest records; and related materials covering land transfers in southern Minnesota.
- Quantity:** 10.75 cubic feet.
- Location:** See Detailed Description section for box locations.

### ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF THE RED WING LAND DISTRICT

The Red Wing land district was one of four districts established in the ceded Sioux territory by an act of Congress of April 12, 1854. The district's first land office was located in Red Wing and opened for business in February, 1855.

The Red Wing land district, as established by the act of 1854, included townships 111-115 in ranges 10-47 west of the 5<sup>th</sup> principal meridian. These bounds remained in effect until April, 1863, when the Red Wing land district was merged into the Winona district. Between April 1863 and June 1872, entries and other transactions on land in townships 111-115 were recorded in the records of the Winona land district. The Red Wing land district was re-established in June 1872, again comprising townships 111-115, with a land office at Redwood Falls.

On February 28, 1889, the Redwood Falls land office was closed and the Red Wing land district again consolidated into the Winona district with land offices first at Tracy and then at Mankato.

Land offices of the Red Wing land district: Red Wing (ca. February 1, 1855 – ca. June 1, 1857); Henderson (ca. June 1, 1857 – ca. April 6, 1863); St. Peter and New Ulm offices of the Winona land district (April 6, 1863 – ca. June 1, 1872); Redwood Falls (ca. June 19, 1872 – February 28, 1889).

Receivers of the Red Wing land district: Chris Graham (1855-June 1861), R. H. Pendergast (July 1861-May 1863), W. W. Kelly (July 1872-August 1876), William B. Herriot (August 1876-August(?) 1884), Andrew Railson (August 1884-1886), Bishop Gordon (January 1887-March 1889).

Registers of the Red Wing land district: William W. Phelps (1855-April 1859), James C. Dow (May 1859-May 1861), F. A. Renz (May 1861-May 1863?), Ben F. Smith (July 1872-July 1876), William P. Dunnington (September 1876-July 1883?), E. P. Freeman (August 1883?-December 1885?), William Christianson (January 1886-July 1887), James Greeley (August 1887-March 1889).

## **ORGANIZATION**

These records are organized into the following sections:

Abstract of Preemption Declaratory Statements, 1855-1884. 4 volumes.  
Contest Docket, 1872-1880. partial volume.  
Correspondence: Letters Received from GLO, 1855-1863, 1872-1889. 3.25 cubic feet.  
Correspondence: Receiver's Letters Sent, 1854-1863, 1872-1889. 1 volume.  
Correspondence: Register's Letters Sent, 1855-1889. 4 volumes.  
List of Forfeited Homesteads, 1873-1877. partial volume.  
Receiver's Accounts Current, Nov. 1855-Feb. 1856. 1 folder.  
Record of Patents Delivered, 1884-1889. 1 volume.  
Register of Agricultural College Scrip Entries, 1864-1872. 1 folder.  
Register of Certificates to Purchasers, 1855-1863, 1872-1889. 5 volumes and 2 folders.  
Register of Certificates to Purchasers of Sioux Land, 1872-1889. 1 volume.  
Register of Final Homestead Certificates, 1868-1889. 1 volume and 2 folders.  
Register of Homestead Entries, 1862-1889. 2 volumes and 2 folders.  
Register of Military Bounty Land Warrant Entries, 1855-1863. 6 volumes and 1 folder.  
Register of Sioux Half-Breed Scrip Entries, 1857-1861. 1 volume.  
Register of Timber Culture Entries, 1873-1885. 1 volume.

## **RELATED MATERIALS**

The 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.

## **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.  
Dakota Indians—Land tenure.  
Dakota Indians—Mixed descent—Reservations.  
Dakota Indians—Reservations.  
Grasshopper plagues, 1873-1877—Minnesota.  
Homestead law—Minnesota.  
Land grants—Minnesota.  
Land grants—United States.  
Land titles—Registration and transfer—Minnesota.  
Land titles—Registration and transfer—Minnesota—Cases.  
Pioneers—Minnesota—Biography.  
Pre-emption rights (United States).  
Public land sales—Minnesota.  
Public lands—Minnesota.  
Railroad land grants—Minnesota.  
Timber lands—Minnesota.

### **Organizations:**

United States. General Land Office.  
United States. Winona Land District (Minn.).

### **Types of Documents:**

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

### **Titles:**

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. General Land Office: Red Wing Land District (Minn.). Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.

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

### Accession Information:

Accession number(s): none

### Processing Information:

PALS ID Nos.: 800002100; 800002101; 800002103 to 800002113; 800002116; 800002119; 800002121

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

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

### Abstract of Preemption Declaratory Statements, 1855-1884.

Abstracts of preemption declaratory statements filed in the Red Wing 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 includes the following information: 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.

Declaratory statements filed between May 5, 1863, and May 22, 1872, are not always consecutive. During this time the Red Wing land district was merged into the Winona land district and all preemptions were recorded consecutively in the Winona abstract of declaratory statements. This series contains only those preemptions for land in the former Red Wing district.

Arrangement: Numbered chronologically by date the statement was filed. There are separate sequences for preemptions on "unoffered" lands not yet open for settlement (volumes 1-2) and on "offered" lands which were preempted after being opened for settlement (volumes 3-4).

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.I.3.8F-2	1	Nos. 1-1875, February 1, 1855 - September 14, 1855 (unoffered land); indexed..
	2	Nos. 1876-3216, September 14, 1855 - January 12, 1856 (unoffered land); indexed.
	3	Nos. 3150-12869, January 2, 1856 - June 26, 1858. Nos. 3150-3216 are transcribed from Volume 2.
	4	Nos. 4-1514, October 29, 1860 - May 24, 1872 (Henderson, St. Peter, New Ulm). Nos. 1-92, July 19, 1872 - May 16, 1884 (Redwood Falls). Entries after May 5, 1863 are copied from Winona district records.

### **Contest Docket, 1872-1880.**

A summary record of official proceedings in contests brought against homestead and other entries in the Red Wing 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.

Also found in this volume are register's letters sent for the Winona land district (pages 1-9).

Arrangement: Entries are numbered chronologically by date the contest was filed.

Finding aids: The volume is indexed by name of defendant.

### **Location**

114.I.4.2F-2                      Contest Docket, 1872-1880. partial volume.

### **Correspondence: Letters Received from GLO, 1855-1863, 1872-1889.**

Letters received by the register and receiver of the Red Wing 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, Sioux half-breed scrip, military bounty land warrant, and cash entries; the Sioux half-breed reservation; railroad land grants; public land sales; the grasshopper plagues of the 1870s; and the general operation of the land office.

Arranged chronologically.

Related materials: United States. General Land Office. Original entry tract books (cataloged separately) include citations to letters regarding specific land entries.

### **Location**

108.K.19.3B	1855-1857 (Red Wing). 1858-1863 (Henderson) 1872-1874 (Redwood Falls)
108.K.19.4F	1875-1880 (Redwood Falls)
108.K.19.5B	1881-May 1885 (Redwood Falls)
108.K.19.6F	June 1885-1889 (Redwood Falls). partial box,

### **Correspondence: Receiver's Letters Sent, 1854-1863, 1872-1889.**

Handwritten and letterpress copies of letters sent by the receiver of the Red Wing 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 are a few transcriptions of letters received from the commissioner of the General Land Office.

Between March 1863 and May 1872, the Red Wing land district was merged with the Winona district and the receiver's letters sent for those years are recorded in the Winona receiver's letters sent.

Arrangement: Arranged chronologically.

## Location

114.I.3.5B-2 Receiver's Letters Sent, 1854-May 1863, July 1872-March 1889. 1 volume.

## Correspondence: Register's Letters Sent, 1855-1889.

An incomplete set of handwritten and letterpress copies of outgoing letters of the register of the Red Wing 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. A letter of December 29, 1856, describes a violent confrontation at Poplar Grove. 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, the Sioux half-breed reservation, Sioux half-breed scrip entries, townsite locations, public land sales, and state land grants.

Volumes 2, 4, and 6 are missing. Between April 1863 and June 1872, the Red Wing land district was merged with the Winona district. During that time, letters relating to land in what had been the Red Wing district are recorded in the register's letters sent for the Winona district.

Arrangement: Arranged chronologically.

Finding aids: The volumes are indexed by name of claimant/contestant mentioned in the letter.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Volume</b>	
114.I.3.5B-1	1	January 1855 - September 1857 (Red Wing, Henderson).
	3	July 1860 - May 1863 (Henderson)
	5	October 1876 - March 1879 (Redwood Falls)
114.I.3.5B-2	7	March 1886 - March 1889 (Redwood Falls)

### **List of Forfeited Homesteads, 1873-1977.**

A list of homestead entries on which forfeiture notices were issued under terms of the General Land Office circular of December 20, 1873.

Homestead entrants could "prove up" their claims five years after the date of entry, and were expected to make final proof within seven years. By the circular of December 20, 1873, the register was to notify the homesteader that his entry would be canceled unless proved up or otherwise perfected. The seven-year notice gave the homesteader a final opportunity to make final proof or commute the homestead to a cash, scrip, or warrant entry.

This list is of the five- and seven-year notices issued for homesteads in the Red Wing land district. It gives the date the notice was issued, date of entry, entry number, name of homesteader, legal description and acreage of the homestead, and some annotations regarding the eventual disposition of the homestead entry. Most of the seven-year notices include citations to commissioner's letters or various registers of entries.

Arrangement: Entries are chronological. Bound with volume 4 of Registers of Certificates to Purchasers.

### **Location**

114.I.4.1B-1 List of Forfeited Homesteads, 1873-1877. partial volume.

### **Receiver's Accounts Current, November 1855-February 1856.**

A fragmentary portion of the receiver's record of accounts current for the Red Wing land district; removed from an otherwise empty volume.

The accounts current is a record of payments received for land sold in the Red Wing land district and includes the following information: date each parcel was purchased, number of the receiver's receipt, name of purchaser, legal description and acreage of the parcel purchased, acreage of the tract, price per acre, and total amount paid to the receiver.

Arrangement: Entries are chronological by date of purchase.

Related materials: United States: Red Wing Land District: Register of certificates to purchasers.

### **Location**

114.I.4.1B-2 Receiver's Accounts Current, November 1855-February 1856. 1  
oversize folder.



### **Record of Patents Delivered, August 1884-February 1889.**

Record of patents delivered to patentees or their agents for land entered in the Red Lake 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, and name and address of the person to whom the patent was delivered.

Arrangement: Entries are roughly chronological by date the patent was delivered.

Finding aids: Entries are indexed by name of patentee.

#### **Location**

114.I.4.1B-2                      Record of Patents Delivered, August 1884-February 1889. 1 volume.

### **Register of Agricultural College Scrip Entries, 1864-1872.**

An abstract of land entries made in the Red Wing land district with agricultural college scrip under provisions of the Agricultural College Act of 1862. The pages were removed from an otherwise blank volume.

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 includes the following information: 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 first page (entry nos. 1-46) is missing.

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

#### **Location**

114.I.4.1B-2                      Register of Agricultural College Scrip Entries. 23 pages.  
   Registers/receivers nos. 47-298, January 12, 1865-May 10, 1872.  
   Preceded by 1 page giving locations, dates, and by whom  
   located (facing page missing).  
   Registers/receivers nos. 1-12, July 22, 1872-December 16, 1872.

## **Register of Certificates to Purchasers, 1855-1863, 1872-1889.**

An abstract of certificates issued by the register of the Red Wing 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, total purchase price, and occasional remarks. Most are annotated with the date the patent was issued and the volume and page in which it is recorded in the GLO patent records. A few include citations to letters from the commissioner of the General Land Office.

Included in this series is the receiver's register of receipts for cash entries (1856-1857 only), which is largely duplicative except for occasional differences in the annotations.

Arrangement: Arranged by chronologically assigned certificate number.

Related materials: See also the district's Register of final homestead certificates and Register of homestead entries (both cataloged separately).

### **Location**

114.I.4.1B-1

Register of Certificates to Purchasers:

Volume 1. Nos. 1-1254, February 10, 1855 - November 15, 1855.

Volume 2. Nos. 1255-2802, November 15, 1855 - June 24, 1857.

Nos. 1255-1278 are missing the facing page.

Volume 3. Nos. 2803-3961, June 24, 1857 - August 2, 1862.

Volume 4. Nos. 3947-3992, April 5, 1862 - March 28, 1863.

Overlapping entries are recorded in both volumes 3 and 4.

Many of the entries between no. 3681 and no. 3992 are missing from these volumes. A complete record of the inclusive entries is found in the Register of Certificates to Purchasers for the Winona land district.

Volume 4 also includes a List of Forfeited Homesteads (cataloged separately).

Volume 5. Nos. 1-757, July 22, 1872 - January 1889.

Register of Receipts for Cash Entries, 1856-1857. 1 folder.

“Register of Certificates,” August 2, 1869-May 15, 1872. 1 folder.

Entries give legal description of land, acreage, rate per acre, purchaser's name, date of sale, certificate number, by whom patented (usually the name of a county), and remarks (usually regarding proof or cancellation). Found among the Red Wing land district records with no further identification.

## **Register of Certificates to Purchasers of Sioux Land, 1872-1889.**

Abstracts of cash entries made in the Red Wing land district for land in the former Sioux (Dakota) Indian reservation.

A reservation for the Dakota Indians had been established along the Minnesota River by the Treaty of 1851. In the aftermath of the Dakota Conflict of 1862, the Indians were removed and the land was opened for purchase.

For each entry, the register gives legal description and acreage of the tract purchased, price per acre, total purchase price, name of purchaser, date of purchase, certificate number, person to whom patented, date the patent was issued, and volume and page where the patent is recorded in GLO records.

Certificates for Sioux reservation land in the Red Wing district sold between June 1865 and June 1872 are recorded in the Register of Certificates to Purchased of Sioux Land for the Winona land district.

Arrangement: Arranged chronologically by date of purchase.

### **Location**

114.I.3.7B-1

Register of Certificates to Purchasers: Sioux Land, nos. 1-280, June 1872-February 1889. 1 volume.

The pages are headed "Abstract of Land Sold." *[From archival processor Greg Kinney's notes: The register may be incomplete; the National Archives appears to have a register covering nos. 1-294.]*

## **Register of Final Homestead Certificates, 1868-1889.**

An abstract of all final certificates issued for homesteaded land in the Red Wing 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 issued for homesteads in the Red Wing land district between 1867 and May 1872 are recorded in the register for the Winona land district. During this time the Red Wing district was merged with the Winona district, and all final certificates were recorded consecutively in the Winona register.

Arrangement: Numbered chronologically by date the final certificate was issued.

### **Location**

- 114.I.3.8F-1
- Volume 1. Nos. 2-1821, January 2, 1868 - May 27, 1872. 1 folder.  
Transcript from the register of final homestead certificates issued in Winona for homestead on land in what had been the Red Wing land district (T111-115).
- Volume 2. Nos. 1-3747, July 1872 - December 1888. 1 volume.
- Volume 3. Nos. 3748-3757, January-February, 1889. 1 folder.  
Pages 1-2, removed from an otherwise blank volume.

## **Register of Homestead Entries, 1862-1889.**

An abstract of all applications to acquire land under the provisions of the Homestead Act of 1862 that were filed in the Red Wing 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. Some abstracts also give the number and date of the final proof.

Entry numbers 370-7087 (June 1863-May 1872) are discontinuous. During this time the Red Wing land district was merged with the Winona district and all homestead entries from both districts were numbered consecutively. However, the entries for land in the former Red Wing district continued to be recorded in a separate volume. When the Red Wing district was re-established in June 1872, a new numerical sequence of homestead entries was started.

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

Related materials: See also the district's Register of final homestead certificates and Letters received (both cataloged separately).

### **Location**

- 114.I.3.7B-2                      Volume 1. Nos. 1-340, 1862-1863; nos. 370-7087, June 1863-May 1872.  
    Volume 2. nos. 1-3821, July 1872-September 1887.  
    Volume 3. Nos. 3822-3874, October 1887-February 1889. 1 folder.  
    Pages 1-16, removed from an otherwise blank volume.  
    "Patent Record, Henderson, 1-340." softbound volume in folder.  
    (A note by archival processor Greg Kinney states that this  
    duplicates parts of Volume 1, Register of Homestead Entries.)

## **Register of Military Bounty Land Warrant Entries, 1855-1863.**

Registers or abstracts of public land entries made with military bounty land warrants in the Red Wing 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 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.

This series consists of some original records and some transcriptions. The original records have been labeled with letters and the transcriptions with numbers.

### **Location**

- 114.I.3.6F-1                      Volume F. Act of 1842. Nos. 1-5, October 18, 1855 - October 12, 1860. 1 folder.  
  2 pages, removed from an otherwise blank volume.
- Volume D. Act of 1847. Nos. 1-84, October 4, 1855 - December 18, 1862.
- Volume E. Act of 1850. Nos. 1-266, April 16, 1855 - March 14, 1863.
- 114.I.3.6F-2                      Volume 2 (part). Act of 1852. Nos. 1-5, April 16, 1856 - August 5, 1859.
- Volume A. Act of 1855. Nos. 1-1526, August 13, 1855 - September 30, 1856.  
  Nos. 1527-2872 are missing from the original records; see transcriptions in Volume 1.
- Volume B. Act of 1855. Nos. 2873-3621, July 25, 1857 - July 17, 1858.
- Volume C. Act of 1855. Nos. 3622-6433, July 17, 1858 - March 12, 1863.  
  Nos. 4312-4320 and 5022-5162 are missing from the original records; see transcriptions in Volume 2.
- 114.I.3.7B-1                      Volume 1. Act of 1855. Nos. 1-4192, August 13, 1855 - June 30, 1859.  
  Beginning with no. 2562, the transcriptions do not include the warrant number, date of issue, or name of person to whom the warrant was issued.
- 114.I.3.6F-2                      Volume 2 (part). Act of 1855. Nos. 4193-5958, July 2, 1859 - March 22, 1861.  
  Also contains some partial transcriptions of entries for acts of 1842 and 1850.

The most complete sequence of 1855 warrant entries can be obtained by using the original and transcription volumes in the following order:

- Vol. A. Nos. 1-1526, Aug. 13, 1855-Sept. 30, 1856.
- Vol. 1. Nos. 1527-2872, Oct. 1856-July 25, 1857.
- Vol. B. Nos. 2873-3621, July 25, 1857-July 17, 1858.
- Vol. C. Nos. 3622-4311½, July 17, 1858-Sept. 23, 1859.
- Vol. 2. Nos. 4312-4320, Sept. 23, 1859-Sept. 30, 1859.
- Vol. C. Nos. 4321-6433, Oct. 1, 1859-March 25, 1863.

## **Register of Sioux Half-Breed Scrip Entries, 1857-1861.**

An abstract of land entries made in the Red Wing land district with Sioux half-breed scrip.

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 includes the following information: 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 General Land Office records. Some entries contain annotations on cancellations, relinquishments, and conflicting claims with citations to letters from the commissioner of the GLO.

Arrangement: Chronological by date of entry.

### **Location**

114.I.4.1B-2                      Register of Sioux Half-Breed Scrip Entries, nos. 1-839, April 23, 1857 -  
May 1, 1861. 1 volume.

## **Register of Timber Culture Entries, 1873-1885.**

An abstract of land entries made in the Red Wing 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.

Arrangement: Entries are chronological by date of application.

### **Location**

114.I.3.7B-1                      Register of Timber Culture Entries, nos. 1-1598, May 26, 1873 -  
November 1885. 1 volume.