



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minnesota State Archives

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**STATE LAND OFFICE:
An Inventory of Its Record of Sales of State Trust Fund
Lands:**

OVERVIEW

- Agency:** Minnesota. State Land Office.
- Series Title:** Record of Sales of State Trust Fund Lands.
- Dates:** 1862-circa 1940.
- Abstract:** Summary records of the sale of trust fund lands by the state of Minnesota to private parties.
- Quantity:** 10 microfilm reels; 12.25 cubic feet (8 boxes and 1 partial box); 223 microfiche.
- Location:** See Detailed Description section for shelf locations.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS

They list each parcel of land offered for sale in a given year or span of years, and include both original sales and resales of forfeited or delinquent lands. They constitute an administrative record of transactions, not legal instruments conveying title.

The record for each parcel sold includes certificate number, legal description, appraised value, sale date, purchaser's name, purchase price, amount paid at time of sale, unpaid balance, first year's interest, and type of trust fund land.

The majority of these records are available on microfilm. An unmicrofilmed supplement continues and partially duplicates the entries for Dakota County and north-central Minnesota counties.

ARRANGEMENT

These records are arranged in the following sections:

- Record of Sales, 1862-1879 (Microfilm SAM 45, Reels 46-49)
- Record of Sales, circa 1878-circa 1940 (Microfilm SAM 45, Reels 50-55)
- Record of Sales, Supplement, circa 1883-circa 1936 (Unfilmed)
- Closed Originals
- Closed Master Microfiche

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:

- Land titles--Registration and transfer--Minnesota.
- Public land sales--Minnesota.
- Salt spring lands--Minnesota.
- School lands--Minnesota.
- Swamp lands--Minnesota.
- Trust fund lands--Minnesota.

Types of Documents:

- Microforms.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Restrictions:

Microfilmed originals (9.75 cubic feet) and master microfiche (223 microfiche) are held by the Minnesota Historical Society and closed to general use. In the case of records being illegible on the microfilm, the original records may be consulted. They are located off site in Remote Storage, however, and advance arrangements are required in order to view the files.

Preferred Citation:

Minnesota. State Land Office. Record of Sales of State Trust Fund Lands. *[Indicate the cited volume and page here]. [For microfilm, add:] SAM 45, [Reel number].* Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.

See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

Microfilm Production:

Saint Paul, MN : Minnesota Historical Society, 1982.

Microfiche. Burbank, CA and Saint Paul, MN : P.F.A., Inc. and Minnesota Historical Society, 1984. 223 microfiche : 16 mm.

Microfilm available for sale or interlibrary loan from the Minnesota Historical Society.

Accession Information:

Accession numbers: None; 984-41; 985-143

Processing Information:

Catalog ID No.: 1735190

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note the location and, if applicable, reel number shown below.

Record of Sales, 1862-1879 (Microfilm SAM 45, Reels 46-49)

The records list each parcel of land offered for sale in a given year or span of years, with sale data added for those parcels actually sold, and include both original sales and resales of forfeited or delinquent lands. The majority of the parcels listed are school lands, but agricultural college (beginning in 1868), university (beginning in 1871-1872), and internal improvement (beginning in 1873-1874) lands are also included.

The records for 1862-1869 are arranged by year; then by county and category of land; and then by legal description (range, town, section, and fractional section). Those for 1870-1879 are organized in sets of volumes covering multiple (usually two-) year spans; within each set the entries are alphabetical by county and thereunder by legal description. If an offered parcel was not sold, it was usually offered again at the county's next sale.

The record for each parcel sold includes the following information: certificate number, legal description, appraised value per acre, value of improvements, damage assessment, name of occupant if the land had been preempted, total acreage, date of sale, purchase price per acre, total purchase price, percent due at time of sale, principal paid at the time of sale, unpaid balance, first year's interest, and name of purchaser.

The lists for each county usually include an annual recapitulation of sales listing the totals for acreage sold, value of sales, principals paid, unpaid balances, and first year's interest paid. Many volumes also contain tables summarizing all land appraisals and sales for the year. For the years 1862-1872, an index at the beginning of each volume cites the pages on which the records for each county appear. There are no indexes for the years 1873-1879.

There are no records for some counties, either because the counties were not yet formally organized, because no lands were offered for sale, or perhaps because the records are missing.

| Location | Reel | |
|-----------------|-------------|---|
| SAM 45 | 46 | Volume 1. 1862. Volume 2. 1863. Volume 3. 1864. Volume 4. 1865. Volume 5. 1866. |
| SAM 45 | 47 | Volume 6. 1867. Volume 7. 1868. Volume 8. 1869. Volume 9. 1870-1871. |

| Location | Reel | |
|-----------------|-------------|--|
| SAM 45 | 48 | Volume 10. 1871-1872. Volume 11. 1873-1874, Anoka - Houston counties. Volume 12. 1873-1874, Jackson - Ottertail counties. Volume 13. 1873-1874, Ottertail - Wright counties. |
| SAM 45 | 49 | Volume 14. 1875-1879, Anoka - Freeborn counties. Volume 15. 1875-1879, Goodhue - Mower counties. Volume 16. 1875-1879, Nicollet - Rock counties. Volume 17. 1875-1879, Scott - Wright counties. |

Record of Sales, circa 1878-circa 1940 (Microfilm SAM 45, Reels 50-55)

Continues the Record of Sales, 1862-1879. Arranged alphabetically by county, and thereunder by location or by land category and location. If a parcel of land did not sell the first time it was offered, or if the original purchase became forfeit or delinquent, it may be listed in more than one place in the county's record of sales. There are no records for some counties.

Because these land sale records were kept by the county auditors, there are variations in the manner in which the sales are recorded. Most auditors recorded the sales first by category of trust fund land and then by legal description (range, town, section, and fractional section). Some auditors, however, recorded all lands sold by legal description without regard to category, in which case the type of land was noted as part of each individual entry. For some counties, the auditors employed both systems at different times.

In addition to the information noted for the 1862-1879 section, the record for each parcel sold notes the year appraised and the cash required for timber on the land. The records for land sections containing lakes, rivers, swamps, or railroad rights of way are usually accompanied by a plat drawing and occasionally by other supporting documentation. Redemption of parcels schedules for delinquency sale is also recorded.

| Location | Reel | |
|-----------------|-------------|--|
| SAM 45 | 50 | Volume 1. Aitkin - Becker counties. Volume 2. Beltrami - Brown counties. Volume 3. Carlton - Clay counties. |
| SAM 45 | 51 | Volume 4. Clearwater - Faribault counties. Volume 5. Fillmore - Isanti counties. Volume 6. Itasca - Kandiyohi counties. |
| SAM 45 | 52 | Volume 7. Kittson - Koochiching counties. Volume 8. Lac Qui Parle - Marshall counties. Volume 9. Martin - Meeker counties. |
| SAM 45 | 53 | Volume 10. Nicollet - Otter Tail counties. Volume 11. Pennington - Polk counties. |
| SAM 45 | 54 | Volume 12. Pope - Roseau counties. Volume 13. St. Louis - Swift counties. |
| SAM 45 | 55 | Volume 14. Todd - Watonwan counties. Volume 15. Wilkin - Yellow Medicine counties. |

Record of Sales, Supplement, circa 1883-circa 1936 (Unfilmed)

Summary record of the sale of state trust fund land in the five north-central Minnesota counties (Aitkin, Cass, Itasca, Koochiching, and St. Louis) in which heavy concentrations of trust fund lands were located, as well as in Dakota County. The entries are by county, and thereunder by range, township, and section, with some deviations.

The record for each parcel sold includes the same information as the microfilmed Record of Sales. Toward the end of each volume are additional listings, apparently representing later appraisals, classifications, and sales of new parcels, as well as resales.

The microfilmed Record of Sales includes earlier versions of the volumes for each of these counties except Dakota. All sale entries recorded in the filmed volumes are also recorded in these volumes, in addition to updated entries. There is no volume for Dakota County in the microfilmed series.

Location

- 106.G.6.5B Itasca County, circa 1902-1922 (by range and township).
 Itasca County, circa 1902-1922 (by trust fund type)
 Koochiching County, circa 1908 - circa 1926.
- 106.G.6.6F Aitkin County, circa 1883 - circa 1935.
 Cass County, circa 1897 - 1936.
 Dakota County.
 St. Louis County, circa 1895 - circa 1935.

CLOSED ORIGINALS

Access restricted. Closed to general use, researchers are directed to use the microfilm.

Location

- 304.G.4.6F Record of Sales of State Trust Fund Lands, 1862-1879.
 1862- 1868.
- 304.G.4.7B Parts 1 and 2, 1869. 2 volumes.
 1870-1871.
 1871-1872.
 1873-1874. 3 volumes.
- 304.G.4.8F 1875-1879. 4 volumes.
- 304.G.3.4F Record of Sales of State Trust Fund Lands, circa 1878-circa 1940.
 Volume 1, Aitkin-Becker.
 Volume 2, Beltrami-Brown.
- 304.G.3.5B Volume 3, Carlton-Clay.
 Volume 4, Clearwater-Faribault.
 Volume 5, Fillmore-Isanti.
 Volume 6, Itasca-Kandiyohi.
 Volume 7, Kittson-Koochiching.

Location

304.G.3.6F Volume 8, Lac Qui Parle-Marshall.
 Volume 9, Martin-Meeker.
 Volume 10, Nicollet-Otter Tail.
 Volume 11, Pennington-Polk.

304.G.3.7B Volume 12, Pope-Roseau
 Volume 13, St. Louis-Swift.
 Volume 14, Todd-Watonwan.
 Volume 15, Wilkin-Yellow Medicine.

CLOSED MASTER MICROFICHE

Created from the microfilm to distribute to Department of Natural Resources [DNR] field offices. Positive copies were given to the DNR; the Minnesota Historical Society retained the negative copies.

Access restricted. Closed to general use, researchers are directed to use the microfilm.

Location

SAFN 6 1862-circa 1940. 223 microfiche.
 A listing of each microfiche's contents is housed in the State Archives accession file for these records.