



STATE OF MINNESOTA
Office of Minnesota Secretary of State
Steve Simon

March 21, 2023

To whom it may concern,

It is the opinion of this office that Sandstone Township (42, Range 19-20), Pine County, Minnesota was first incorporated sometime in 1895. The township and the village of the same name were originally platted in 1887, but the town was not registered as an incorporated entity before 1895.

According to Minnesota's 1901 Legislative Manual, the townships of Dell Grove, Finlayson, Pine Lake, and Sandstone were all organized from part of Hinkley Township some time after 1890, but before 1900. Given that Sandstone does not appear in the 1895 Minnesota Census report, it was likely established sometime after the fiscal year ended. In September 1894, all of Sandstone was destroyed by a large fire in Hinkley Forest. This erased all official records for Sandstone around this time frame. In a Minneapolis Tribune article published October 7, 1894, it describes how residents were in the process of reconstructing a "new Sandstone township", which would be incorporated with the State sometime in the following winter.

At present, Sandstone Township, Pine County is an active municipality in the State of Minnesota. The address of their township clerk, Brooke Pond, is as follows:

Sandstone Township
P.O. Box 564
Sandstone, MN 55072

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Simon".

STEVE SIMON
Secretary of State

PINE COUNTY — 8,631.

	1895.	1890.
Brook Park (a).....	109	.....
Chengwatana.....	225	93
Hinckley.....	1,313	173
Hinckley, village of (b).....	589	618
Kettle River.....	1,182	377
Mission Creek.....	118	85
Pine City.....	598	255
Pine City, village of.....	793	535
Rock Creek.....	810	464
Royalton.....	647	342
Rutledge, village of (c).....	406	.....
Sandstone, village of (b).....	1,054	517
Windemere.....	369	472
Willow River, village of (d).....	418	.....
Finlayson, village of, returned in 1890 (e).....	.....	121
Total.....	8,631	4,052

a Detached from Pine City township since 1890.

b Totally destroyed by forest fire in 1894.

c Rutledge village, formerly in Kettle River township, incorporated since 1890.

d Willow River village, formerly in Kettle River township, incorporated since 1890.

e Finlayson village has no corporate existence, returned with Hinckley township.

PIPESTONE COUNTY — 7,115.

	1895.	1890.
Etna.....	315	187
Altona.....	362	282
Burke.....	278	337
Eden.....	584	476
Edgerton, village of.....	275	178
Elmer.....	347	314
Fountain Prairie.....	273	232
Grange.....	443	308
Gray.....	329	228
Jasper, village of.....	523	372
Osborne.....	396	267
Pipestone City, village of.....	1,668	1,232
Rock.....	217	150
Sweet.....	355	241
Troy.....	334	368
Trosky, village of (a).....	186	.....
Woodstock, village of (b).....	230	.....
Total.....	7,115	5,132

a Trosky village, formerly in Elmer township, incorporated since 1890.

b Woodstock village, formerly in Burke township, incorporated since 1890.

TABLE IV.—Continued.
POPULATION OF MINNESOTA BY MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS.

MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS.	1900.	1890.	MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS.	1900.	1890.
OTTER TAIL CO.—Con.			PINE COUNTY.....	11,546	(d) 4,052
Eastern township.....	548	285	Birch Creek township (e)	258	.....
Edna township.....	451	411	Brook Park township (f)	286	.....
Efington township.....	711	655	Chengwatana township..	307	98
Elizabeth township.....	718	744	Dell Grove township (g)..	425	.....
Elizabeth village.....	186	135	Finlayson township (g)..	467	.....
Elmo township.....	568	403	Hinckley township (g), including Hinckley vil- lage.....	924	(h) 912
Erhard Grove township..	759	686	Hinckley village.....	259	618
Everts township (a).....	989	966	Kerrick township (e).....	635	.....
Fergus Falls city.....	6,072	3,772	Kettle River township(e), including Rutledge and Willow River villages..	1,442	377
Ward 1.....	1,172	.....	Rutledge village.....	263	.....
Ward 2.....	1,164	.....	Willow River village.....	296	.....
Ward 3.....	2,822	.....	Mission Creek township..	350	85
Ward 4.....	844	.....	Pine City township (f)...	963	535
Fergus Falls township..	635	479	Pine City village.....	323	.....
Folden township.....	545	435	Pine Lake township (g)..	323	.....
Friberg township.....	739	574	Pokegama township (f)...	580	.....
Girard township.....	263	193	Pokegama township (f)...	1,030	464
Gorman township.....	553	502	Rock Creek township....	786	342
Henning township.....	632	466	Royalton township.....	.....	.....
Henning village.....	545	254	Sandstone township (g), including Sandstone vil- lage.....	1,885	.....
Hobart township.....	531	449	Sandstone village.....	1,189	517
Homestead township....	426	174	Sturgeon Lake twp. (e)..	457	.....
Inman township.....	564	292	Windemere township....	375	472
Leaf Lake township.....	713	640			
Leaf Mountain township.	716	623	PIPESTONE COUNTY....	9,264	5,132
Lida township.....	428	321	Aetna township (i).....	321	147
Maine township.....	701	510	Aitona township.....	432	282
Maplewood township....	739	439	Burke township (j).....	357	337
Newton township.....	726	353	Eden township.....	600	476
New York Mills village..	353	280	Edgerton village.....	450	178
Nidaros township (b)...	717	684	Elmer township (k).....	374	314
Norwegian Grove town- ship.....	676	744	Fontain Prairie town- ship.....	411	292
Oak Valley township....	515	357	Grange township (l)....	316	306
Orwell township.....	334	191	Gray township.....	383	228
Oscar township.....	713	742	Holland village (l).....	255	.....
Otter Tail township....	283	226	Jasper village (part of)	447	372
Otto township.....	557	459	Total for Jasper vil- lage (m), in Pipestone and Rock counties....	559	572
Paddock township.....	495	317	Osborne township.....	445	267
Parker Prairie township.	677	643	Pipestone village.....	2,596	1,232
Pelican township.....	669	629	Rock township.....	312	150
Pelican Rapids village..	1,033	624	Ruthton village (i).....	323	.....
Perham township (c)....	676	637	Sweet township.....	415	241
Perham village.....	1,182	761	Trosky village (k).....	215	.....
Pine Lake township.....	351	233	Troy township.....	481	368
Rush Lake township....	419	341	Woodstock village (j)...	211	.....
St. Olaf township.....	711	681			
Scambler township.....	470	445			
Star Lake township.....	339	159			
Sverdrup township.....	1,019	680			
Tordenskjold township..	791	624			
Trondhjem township....	669	794			
Tumuli township.....	614	615			
Western township.....	355	273			
Woodside township.....	542	329			

(a) Battle Lake village organized from parts of Clitherall and Everts townships since 1890. (b) Clitherall village organized from part of Nidaros township since 1890. (c) Dead Lake township organized from part of Perham township since 1890. (d) Includes population (517) of Sandstone village, given as independent in 1890. (e) Birch Creek, Kerrick and Sturgeon Lake townships organized from parts of Kettle River township since 1890. (f) Brook Park and Pokegama townships organized from parts of Pine City township since 1890. (g) Dell Grove, Finlayson, Pine Lake, and Sandstone townships organized from part of Hinckley township since 1890. (h) Includes population of Hinckley village, given as independent in 1890. (i) Ruthton village organized from part of Aetna township since 1890. (j) Woodstock village organized from part of Burke township since 1890. (k) Trosky village organized from part of Elmer township since 1890. (l) Holland village organized from part of Grange township since 1890. (m) Given in 1890 as Pipestone county only.

County.	No. of School District.	Amount.	Totals.
Mower	15	\$500	3,040
	34	1,290	
	107	1,000	
	126	250	
Murray	97	\$400	800
	99	400	
Niccollet	32	\$500	1,300
	34	400	
	40	400	
Nobles	77	\$700	1,750
	92	550	
	93	500	
Norman	36	\$700	2,895
	64	495	
	69	200	
	81	700	
	84	200	
	86	400	
	87	200	
Olmsted	112	\$700	1,500
	143	800	
Otter Tail.....	44	\$3,000	4,540
	54	450	
	113	600	
	242	490	
Pine	11	\$675	20,430
	16	400	
	20	500	
	27	225	
	28	500	
	Twp. of Sandstone	8,000	
Twp. of Finlaysen	6,930		
Twp. of Chenquatona	1,500		
Twp. of Pokegama	1,700		
Pipestone	11	\$300	1,230
	46	395	
	67	535	
Polk	50	\$300	7,818
	89	350	
	91	274	
	104	550	
	109	325	
	123	369	
	137	600	
	162	300	
	186	250	
	196	500	
	Twp. of King	1,000	
Twp. of Sullivan	3,000		
Pope	31	\$550	550

THE CITY CIRCUIT.

GREATER SANDSTONE

PHOENIX-LIKE THAT VILLAGERISES FROM THE ASHES.

Traces of the Awful Calamity of Last September Almost Wholly Obliterated—Lands Burned Over Are Growing Fruitful, and Hundreds of Persons Are Making Their Homes on Hitherto Waste Acres—Substantial Improvements Being Made in and About the Place—A Visit to the Quarries, Famous all Over the Country.

While it seems sacrilegious to speak of a great calamity like the Hinckley forest fire of last September in any terms save those of sorrow, the fact remains that to the county of Pine and the adjacent country, the great holocaust was a substantial blessing. The lands burned over will be filled with thousands of happy homes and prosperous towns earlier by reason of the work of the fire fiend. It is true valuable timber was burned and made worthless, but instead of trees, children will grow up there, and already, instead of the forest of incipient telegraph poles, grass has grown up preparing the way for the little potato patches which will soon spread into the 80 acre farms with which this country is destined to be covered in a few years.

Within a mile of the village of Sandstone, in the midst of the burned district, a field of oats has been cut within a few days, the straw of which was six feet high, and which averaged 60 bushels to the acre. For miles on either side of the railroads running through this section can be seen the most inviting pieces of wild land found in the state. The fire burned the trees and underbrush so that a man can grub an acre in a day, and a two-horse team can pull nearly any stump out of the ground. The ground is mixed clay and sand, generally, and is particularly adapted to small farms. Hundreds of people have gone upon this land during the past season, and thousands more may be expected to make their homes there within the next twelve-month.

Perhaps the most remarkable result of the great fire has been in the development of the new village of Sandstone. There were 400 people in this town when the fire swept over it, and about 50 of them lost their lives in the intense heat. The remainder were panic stricken and poverty stricken for weeks; nearly everything they had in the world had been destroyed, and they were left to live on the charity of the public and the bounty of the state until they could be restored to self-support. The state rebuilt some of the homes of the most needy families in the little village, about a dozen little cottages having been erected on the old town site.

Since that day there has been a transformation scene enacted at Sandstone which is a reminder of Minneapolis in the early days. The reopening of the quarries on Kettle river, formerly operated by Ring & Tobin, by the Minnesota Sandstone Company, was the initial move in this pleasing drama. Then followed the announcement that the Eastern Minnesota Railroad Company would build a 29 stall roundhouse at this point and make it a division headquarters, with all the auxiliaries. A contract for extensive grading was let to Winston Bros., of Minneapolis, and a railroad yard a mile long with a capacity of 15 to 25 miles of track was laid out. Water tanks and coal sheds capable of supplying the necessities of life to a hundred locomotives were planned, and a contract was made with the Minnesota Sandstone Company to supply a minimum of 150,000 gallons of water per day for the use of the engines and general railroad purposes in the yards.

This started a boom for Sandstone which is still on the up grade, having made a fine start. There are now all the way from 1,400 to 2,000 people in the town, and the arrivals are numerous every day. At least three dozen new houses are in course of construction; every house in the town has boarders; people are sleeping in tents, and several hundred railroad men and quarrymen are anxious to have some one come along and build houses for them to be paid for on the installment plan.

MORE WORKMEN NEEDED.

Winston Bros. are short of men, and would hire at least 50, perhaps 100, any day. The quarry is short of quarrymen and laborers, and there is employment for at least 100 men on the streets and about the roundhouse and railroad yards. In addition, the town needs mechanics to put up houses, particularly carpenters. There is a chance for a few good politicians of the Twin Cities who are out of a job and a dozen more business men could be doing very fair trade at Sandstone. The town has water mains and street lights on all the principal streets, and at least one substantial stone block, the remainder of the houses being of wood. Lots are selling for \$100 to \$500, according to location. The Pine County Courier, edited by Howard Folvom, is the best indication of a thriving town, and Mayor Fred L. Dennie, is an ideal village president. He is the leading lawyer of the town, and the man that stands between the settler and townsite corporation, doing equal and exact justice to both.

The Kettle river, which flows by the town, gets its name from the Indians. A few miles above where Sandstone is located the soft sandstone rock is full of round holes worn several feet deep by the action of the water, making what the Indians called kettles. This sandstone ledge is the basis for the making of the town. The stone is the best of its kind in the world. It is comparatively soft when quarried, but hardens in a short time, and soon acquires the crushing strength almost of granite. The United States government made up of alumina and iron, calcium, magnesium and sodium oxides. The stone remainder of its constituent elements being made up of alumina, and iron, calcium, magnesium and sodium oxides. The stone will stand the highest test of heat that has ever been applied. It will remain intact when the best firebrick melts and runs like molasses, and for this reason it is suggested that the stone be sawed into lengths like firebrick and put on the market a substitute for brick.

Today the principal use for the stone is for building purposes. It has been used in a number of the finest residences in Minneapolis and other cities of the state with perfect satisfaction. The color of the stone is the several shades of salmon, and it can be blended to excellent advantage in artistic stone work. While sandstone is usually intended for outside use the Kettle river variety is so fine in appearance and so close in texture that it is susceptible of the finest carving. Some idea of the adaptability of the stone for this purpose is given

by the vault in the Minneapolis Trust Company's building. But perhaps the highest tribute ever paid to the stone was the designation of Kettle river sandstone for one of the fireplaces in Biltmore, the great Vanderbilt manor house at Asheville, N. C.

LOCATION OF THE QUARRIES.

The quarry is about a half-mile from the center of the town, although it requires a circuit of about four miles to reach it by rail. This is because the stone is loaded on the cars on the edge of the river, and the quarry forms the banks on the west side. The stone ledge presents a surface of about 80 feet ready for the drill; comparatively little stripping is needed, and the rock is never hoisted but is repeatedly lowered from the time it is blasted from the parent rock until it is put upon the cars for shipment. There are three general qualities of rock, based principally upon the uniform color.

The stone is used not alone for building purposes, but is specially adapted to bridge work. The Great Northern railroad has now a contract for the abutments and piers for three new bridges, and many others have already been constructed. The new dam of the Pillsbury-Washburn Company in Minneapolis is being built of this stone, and cars of the stone are shipped as far as New York and Boston for building purposes. The capacity of the quarry is almost unlimited, so far as rough stone is concerned.

Up to this time the stone has been very largely cut and drilled by hand. But the new company has erected a stone saw mill, fitted with a diamond saw and the common cross-cut stone saws, which will be operated by water power. A dam was built several months ago, but the spring freshets washed it out. A steam plant is being used until the dam can be rebuilt. This dam will furnish the power for the water works, will saw the stone, run the compressed air drills and operate the electric light plant, all at a cost which will be a mere trifle compared with the power generated.

One of the features of the town is a magnificent spring, located in the quarry. It is pronounced the purest water that has ever been taken from the ground. The water has been analyzed and pronounced almost absolutely free from any mineral or vegetable substance whatever. It is from this spring that the water for the town is to be supplied.

Something about the importance of the town in the railroad sense may be inferred from the Fourth of July edition of the Courier. It reads:

"The round house which the Eastern Minnesota is putting up is a very extensive one, containing 20 stalls, and points to more than the fact that this place will be made the largest division point on the Great Northern system, as Sam Hill says it will, but also to the junction of other roads at this point. The Washburn, Iron River and Western, that is building from Washburn to Iron River to join the Northern Pacific, will, next year, be extended to this place for connection with the Great Northern, and also to give another outlet by way of the lakes for the sandstone.

"Then, too, the Fosston branch of the Great Northern will be extended to a connection at this place during the coming year. This extension will open up the best timber and farming counties in the state, and by its eastern connections at this point will give outlet, through Sandstone, to the immense patronage it will command both along its line and in the wheat countries of the Dakotas.

"To facilitate the operations of these connections the side tracks are being doubled, so that within a few weeks there will be more than 12 miles of storage and switching track here."

HAS A GOOD POPULATION.

In view of the large amount of heavy work which is going on the town is eminently free from the characteristics of a "new" town. The substantial people of the city are very largely from Minneapolis and St. Paul and the head of the lakes. The present town is just north of the old town-site, and while its streets are still full of burned stumps and stumps that threaten to upturn every passing buggy, there are a number of substantial comfortable homes there, with residents that have had all the comforts of city life and that are well able to make of Sandstone as attractive a town, socially, as any in the state.

The schoolhouse was burned last September, and no new structure has been put up to take its place. But the Sandstone Company has given a block in a very sightly location for a new building which will no doubt be erected as soon as the more immediate necessities of the town are supplied. The Presbyterians have erected a \$2,000 church capable of seating 300 people, and the Union Congregational Church, recently completed, is a neat little structure. The Episcopalians have \$2,000 for a church which will be built in a short time.

Sandstone is already ambitious to become the county seat of Pine county. A petition to separate the village from Hinckley township is now before the county commissioners, and the matter is soon to be considered. It will no doubt be granted. The patrol limits idea has been adopted from Minneapolis, and it is the purpose of the people of the town generally to keep the saloons on a closely confined area. This will, however, be subject to the tests of the various elections until the town is organized under the Howard charter law.

With the friendship of the Great Northern road and the personal backing of the Sandstone Company, there is no reason why Sandstone should not become all that its most ambitious citizens claim for it, the best town between Minneapolis and the lakes.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

Members of the Order in Minneapolis, St. Paul and Stillwater Preparing for An Outing—Committee in Charge of the Work.

The Knights of Pythias of St. Paul, Minneapolis and Stillwater are arranging for a grand outing at White Bear lake, to take place Saturday, Aug. 17, 1895. At a meeting Wednesday evening the following committees were appointed:

Executive—C. R. Cooley, A. C. Godfrey, of Minneapolis; Judge J. C. Nethaway, of Stillwater; A. G. Odell and George H. Allen, chairman, of St. Paul.

Printing and Advertising—Fred E. Wheaton, Minneapolis; W. E. Easton, Stillwater; A. L. Zander, St. Paul.

Music—M. G. Pfau, W. T. Clark, Minneapolis; A. E. Wing, Stillwater; Munch, H. W. Kelch, St. Paul.

Sports, Amusements and Prizes—P. J. Kavanagh, George Flanders, H. C. Reeves, St. Paul; F. J. Jungen, C. A. Quist, H. T. Ham, Minneapolis; J. B. Sutton, E. J. Spindle, Stillwater.

Refreshments—M. T. Bridges, Maj. C. A. Folse, St. Paul; John D. Dorner, H. A. Moss, Minneapolis; N. A. Nelson, Stillwater.

Dance—F. R. Wilson, Minneapolis; L. Pavan, St. Paul; E. O. B. Frieligh, Stillwater.

The gentlemen first named on each committee except the executive is to act as temporary chairman of that committee, and is to call a meeting at once.

STARTLING PRICES

At the Minnetonka Meat and Provision Co., 318 Nicollet Avenue,

ITS FUTURE IS ASSURED.

Sandstone, Minn., Will Perform the Phoenix Act, and Rise From the Ashes of the Past Summer Grander and More Prosperous Than Ever Before.

THE TRIBUNE yesterday noted the resumption of work in the quarries at Sandstone, and a statement made by Samuel Hill, president of the Eastern Minnesota Railroad Company, brings out new facts in connection with the rebuilding of the town and the work at the quarries. He said: "The parties who are organizing the new town of Sandstone authorize me to say that the new town will be located about half a mile nearer the quarries than the old town. It is their purpose to give a lot to each sufferer from the fire who will build upon it this fall. The lots will be given without conditions, except that there will be a provision prohibiting the sale of liquor in the residence portion of the town. It can be sold only on the main street, or, in other words, there will be a patrol limit. It is likely that the falls above the town will be developed, and a 20-foot head of water obtained. The new company is one with ample capital, and they assure me that they will work the quarries to their full capacity and send the sandstone to all points of the state and as far east as Chicago and Buffalo. If they do so it will make a town of considerable importance, the largest one, in fact, between Princeton and the head of the lake. The Eastern railway of Minnesota will begin at once to erect a depot at the new town, the location of which was fixed by Chief Engineer N. D. Miller and General Manager Farrington today. I am not prepared to speak at this time as to the location of the yards, coal chute and roundhouse. They will necessarily be large, in order to accommodate the company's business. The new hotel will be open at Sandstone quarries about Oct. 15. It is probable that about 10,000,000 feet of pine will be banked on the Kettle river near the new town this coming winter."

The Minneapolis
tribune.,

Collection:Minneapolis
tribune (Minneapolis,
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