



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minnesota State Archives

U.S. GENERAL LAND OFFICE.
Minneapolis Land District
An Inventory of Its Records

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Agency:** United States. Minneapolis Land District (Minn.).
- Series Title:** Minneapolis Land District records,
- Dates:** 1854-1905.
- Abstract:** Correspondence; registers of homestead, agricultural college, military bounty land, and Sioux half-breed scrip entries; patent records; land contest records; and related materials covering land transfers in central Minnesota.
- Quantity:** 14.5 cu. ft.
- Location:** See Detailed Description section for box locations.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF THE MINNEAPOLIS LAND DISTRICT

The Minneapolis 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 Minneapolis and opened for business in October, 1854.

The Minneapolis Land District, as established by the act of 1854, included townships 116-120 in ranges 20-49 and fractional township 121 in ranges 22-23, all west of the 5th principal meridian. This comprised a swath through the central part of Minnesota to its western border. By an executive order of August 28, 1871, townships 121-124 in ranges 36-49 were added to the Minneapolis district from the Alexandria district. On February 28, 1889, the Minneapolis Land District was merged into the Winona district with land offices first at Tracy and then at Marshall as lands in the eastern part of the district were taken up.

Entries and other transactions on land in the Minneapolis district dating after March 1, 1889, are recorded in the records of the Winona Land District.

Land offices of the Minneapolis Land District: Minneapolis (ca. October 9, 1854 to February 27, 1858); Forest City (ca. March 22, 1858 to October 1, 1862); Minneapolis (November 1, 1862 to ca. June 15, 1866); Greenleaf (July 3, 1866 to December 31, 1869); Litchfield (ca. January 1, 1870 to September 16, 1876); Benson (October 2, 1876 to February 28, 1889).

Registers of the Minneapolis Land District: M. L. Olds (1854-February 1857); A. C. Smith (March 1857-October 1858); Thomas E. Massey (November 1858-May 1, 1861); Dana E. King

(May 1, 1861-August 7, 1865); Benjamin F. Baker (August 12, 1865-December 1, 1866); John M. Waldron (December 1, 1866-April 1, 1874); James C. Braden (April 1, 1874-March 8, 1878); Darwin S. Hall (March 8, 1878-).

Receivers of the Minneapolis Land District: R. P. Russell (1854-October 1857); John D. Evans (November 1857-October 9, 1860); George Bradley (October 20, 1860-May 1861?); C. B. Jordan (June 1861-January? 1864); Hezekiel Fletcher (February? 1864-December 1, 1866); Henry Hill (December 1, 1866-June 5, 1869); James C. Braden (June 25, 1869-April 1, 1874); W. H. Greenleaf (April 1, 1874-March 12, 1879); Herman W. Stone (March 12, 1879-).

ORGANIZATION OF THE RECORDS

These records are organized into the following sections:

Abstract of Preemption Declaratory Statements, 1854-1889. 3 volumes and partial volume.

Abstract of Preemption Declaratory Statements on Sioux Land, 1879-1905. 1 volume.

Contest Docket, 1858-1867. partial volume.

Correspondence: Letters Received from GLO, 1854-1889. 7.6 cubic feet.

Correspondence: Receiver's Letters Sent, 1854-1883. 3 volumes.

Correspondence: Register's Letters Sent, 1854-1878. 6 volumes.

Docket of Cash Entries, [ca. 1855] – 1857. 1 folder.

Record of Patents Delivered, 1884-1889. 1 volume.

Register of Agricultural College Scrip Entries, 1863-1873. 1 volume.

Register of Certificates to Purchasers, 1866-1879. 2 volumes.

Register of Certificates to Purchasers of Sioux Land, 1869-1902. 5 volumes.

Register of Final Homestead Certificates, 1868-1889. 2 volumes.

Register of Homestead Entries, 1863-1889. 8 volumes.

Register of Military Bounty Land Warrant Entries, 1855-1880. 3 folders.

Register of Sioux Half-Breed Scrip Entries, 1857. 1 folder.

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; and citations to the type and number of certificates issued on various 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:

Agricultural college lands—Minnesota.
Betterments—Minnesota.
Bounties, Military—United States.
Cities and towns—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 titles—Registration and transfer—Minnesota.
Pioneers—Minnesota—Biography.
Pre-emption rights (United States).
Public land sales—Minnesota.
Public lands—Minnesota.
Railroad land grants—Minnesota.

Organizations:

United States.. Alexandria Land District (Minn.).
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.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation:

[Indicate the cited section and the volume and page or item and folder title here]. U.S. General Land Office: Minneapolis Land District (Minn.). Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.

See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

Accession Information:

Accession number(s): None; 2007-69

Processing Information:

Processed by: Gregory Kinney; Duane Swanson

Catalog ID Nos.: 900034312; 900034313; 900034314; 900034315; 900034316;
0900034317; 900034318; 900034319; 900034320; 900034321; 900034322; 900034323;
900034324; 900034325; 6500450

RLIN ID Nos.: MNHV2575-A; MNHV2576-A; MNHV2577-A; MNHV2579-A;
MNHV2580-A; MNHV2581-A; MNHV2582-A; MNHV2583-A; MNHV2584-A;
MNHV2585-A; MNHV2586-A; MNHV2587-A; MNHV87-A486

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, 1854-1889. 1.0 cu. ft. (3 volumes and 1 partial volume).

Abstracts of preemption declaratory statements filed in the Minneapolis 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.

Arrangement: Numbered chronologically by the date the statement was filed. Volumes 1-2 appear to be preemptions on land not yet open for settlement and volumes 3-4 seem to include preemptions on both "unoffered" and "offered" land.

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. *See also* Minneapolis Land District: Letters Received (cataloged separately), especially the commissioner's letter of October 1, 1859.

Location	Volume	
108.K.20.5B	1	Nos. 1-2067, October 1854 - March 1856. Also includes contest docket, 1858-1867 (see below).
114.H.1.1B-1	2	Nos. 1645½ -8299, October 1856 - October 1860. Nos. 1646-2067 are transcribed from Volume 1.

- 114.H.1.1B-1 3 Nos. 1-6430, December 1859 - July 1876; Nos. 124-488, July 1876 - November 1887; 1-123, July 1872 - July 1876.
Six entries are for 12/17/1859-8/13/1860; the main sequence begins November 5, 1860. Includes some entries noted as Sioux Indian land.
- 114.H.1.1B-1 4 Nos. 6431-8006, August 1876 - February 1889.

Abstract of Preemption Declaratory Statements on Sioux Land, 1879-1905 (bulk 1879-1892). 1 volume.

An incomplete series of abstracts of preemption declaratory statements filed in the Minneapolis Land District on land in the former Sioux reservation, under provisions of the General Preemption Act of 1841. The series includes statements filed in the Marshall office of the Winona Land District after March 1, 1889.

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

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.

Arrangement: Numbered chronologically by the date the statement was filed.

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. *See also* Minneapolis Land District: Letters Received (cataloged separately).

- | Location | Box | |
|-----------------|------------|--|
| 114.H.1.3B-2 | --- | Abstract of Preemption Declaratory Statements on Sioux Land, Nos. 1833-2811, February 6, 1879-March 7, 1905. 1 volume. |

Contest Docket, 1858-1867. partial volume.

A summary record of official proceedings in contests brought against land entries in the Minneapolis 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.

The contest docket is in volume 1 of the abstract of preemption declaratory statements.

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

- | Location | Box | |
|-----------------|------------|--|
| 108.K.20.5B | --- | Contest Docket, 1858-1867. partial volume. |

Correspondence: Letters Received from GLO, 1854-1889. 7.6 cu. f. (7 boxes and 1 partial box).

Letters received by the register and receiver of the Minneapolis 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 warrants, and cash entries; railroad land grants; public land sales; the grasshopper plagues of the 1870s; 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.

Location	Box	
108.K.19.6F	1	June 1854 - May 1858: Minneapolis.
108.K.19.7B	2	April 1858 – 1863: Forest City. December 1862 – 1866: Minneapolis.
108.K.19.8F	3	July 1866 - May 1871: Greenleaf. 1870 - August 1872. Litchfield.
108.K.20.1B	4	September 1872 - December 1876: Litchfield.
108.K.20.2F	5	November 1876 - August 1880. Benson.
108.K.20.3B	6	September 1880 - December 1883: Benson.
108.K.20.4F	7	1884 – 1886: Benson.
108.K.20.5B	8	1887 – 1889: Benson.

Correspondence: Receiver's Letters Sent, 1854-1883. 0.75 cu. ft. (3 volumes).

Handwritten copies of letters sent by the receiver of the Minneapolis 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 in 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.1.5B-1	1	July 10, 1854 - June 30, 1876.
114.H.1.5B-1	2	July 6, 1876 - March 12, 1879.
108.K.20.5B	3	March 19, 1879 - May 31, 1883.

Correspondence: Register's Letters Sent, 1854-1878. 1.5 cu. ft. (6 volumes).

Handwritten and letterpress 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 (including St. Paul and Pacific), Sioux half-breed scrip entries, townsite locations, public land sales, and state land grants.

Arrangement: Arranged chronologically.

Location	Volume	
114.I.4.8F-1	1	1854 - June 9, 1858.
114.I.4.8F-1	2	June 18, 1858 - July 12, 1864.
114.I.4.8F-2	3	July 15, 1864 - July 20, 1868.

108.K.20.5B	4	July 20, 1868 - March 1869.
108.K.20.5B	5	April 1869 - August 23, 1873.
114.I.4.8F-2	6	August 25, 1873 - May 1878.

Docket of Cash Entries, [ca. 1855] – 1887. 1 folder.

Photocopy of the Forest City/Minneapolis Land District of the U.S. General Land Office docket of cash entries, a statistical record of receipt numbers [ca. nos. 33-4225] issued by the register and receiver of the district. It lists the dates each receipt was sent to the recorder; no personal names are included.

The original is held in the National Archives/Great Lakes Region, Chicago (Record Group 49/Bureau of Land Management/General Land Office/Records of Local Land Districts, Volume 118).

Location

108.K.20.5B [ca. 1855] – 1887. 1 folder.

Record of Patents Delivered, July 1884 – February 1889. 1 volume.

Record of patents delivered to patentees or their agents for land entered in the Minneapolis 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.

Location Box

114.H.1.5B-2 --- Record of Patents Delivered, 1884-1889. 1 volume.

Register of Agricultural College Scrip Entries, 1863-1873. 1 volume.

An abstract of land entries made in the Minneapolis 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 (2 pages, laid into front of 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 and acreage of the tract located with the scrip, date located, and by whom located, with occasional added remarks.

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

Related materials: See State Land Office: Approved Lists (SAM 45, Roll 33).

Location	Box	
114.H.1.3B-2	---	Register of Agricultural College Scrip Entries, Nos. 1-431, July 1863 - October 1873. 1 volume.

Register of Certificates to Purchasers, 1866-1879. 2 volumes.

An abstract of certificates issued by the register of the Minneapolis 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 set is incomplete, recording only certificates nos. 3326-4556.

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.

This is an incomplete set of certificates to purchasers. The General Land Office records in the U.S. National Archives include certificates nos. 1-8770 for the Minneapolis land district.

Arrangement: Arranged by chronologically assigned certificate number.

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

Location	Volume	
114.H.1.3B-2	1	Nos. 3326 - 4355, December 1866 - December 1877.
114.H.1.3B-2	2	Nos. 4270 - 4556, June 1876 - December 1879. Nos. 4270-4355 duplicate those in Volume 1.

Register of Certificates to Purchasers of Sioux Land, 1869-1902. 0.9 cu. ft. (5 volumes).

Abstracts of cash entries made in the Minneapolis land district for land in the former Sioux Indian reservation. This series includes entries recorded in the Marshall office of the Winona land district after March 1, 1889.

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.

The register records the following information for each entry: 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.

Included in this series is the receiver's register of receipts for cash entries, which essentially duplicates information in the register of certificates, except for occasional differences in the annotations.

Arrangement: Arranged chronologically by date of purchase.

Location	Box	
114.H.1.4F-1	[1]	Register of Certificates to Purchasers: Sioux Land: Volume 1. Nos. 1-532, February 17, 1869 - December 3, 1877. Volume 2. Nos. 387-855, September 27, 1875 - October 20, 1879. Nos.. 387-532 duplicate those in Volume 1. Volume 3. Nos. 856-1987, November 7, 1879 - May 27, 1902. Titled "Register of Receipts."
114.H.1.4F-2	[2]	Register of Receipts for Cash Entries: Sioux Land: Volume 1. Nos. 1-1969, February 17, 1869 - January 6, 1893. Volume 2. Nos. 1970-1987, March 1, 1893 - May 27, 1902.

Register of Final Homestead Certificates, 1868-1889. 1 volume.

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

The abstract for each final certificate gives final certificate number; date the certificate was filed; legal description of the tract homesteaded; name of the 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.

This series records final certificates for some homestead entries made in the Alexandria land district. Final certificates for homestead entries proved up after March 1, 1889, are recorded in the Winona register.

Arrangement: Chronological by date the final certificate was issued.

Location	Volume	
114.H.1.3B-1	1	Nos. 1 - 3830, January 1868 - June 1878.
114.H.1.3B-1	2	Nos. 2420 - 8216, December 1874 - February 1889.

Register of Homestead Entries, 1863-1889. 1.75 cu. ft. (8 volumes in 3 boxes).

An abstract of all applications to acquire land under the provisions of the Homestead Act of 1862 that were filed in the Minneapolis 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. Portions of some volumes contain duplicative entries, sometimes with additional details.

Arrangement: By chronologically assigned application (entry) number.

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

Location	Volume	
114.H.1.1B-2	[1]	Nos. 1-3315, January 1863 - June 1868.
	[none]	Nos. 1-5799: Duplicative entries. 2 volumes. Includes information on purchaser's residence and on purchase price and method of payment.
114.H.1.2F-1	[2]	Nos. 3316 - 5217, July 1868 - April 22, 1872.
	[3]	Nos. 5218 - 7187, April 23, 1872 - June 1876.
	[4]	Nos. 6572 - 9598, Jan. 1876 - April 1879. (duplicates part of Volume 3)
114.H.1.2F-2	[5]	Nos. 9599 - 12071, May 1879 - Feb. 1889.
	[6]	Nos. 7188 - 9187, June 1876 - October 1878. (apparently duplicates part of Volume 4)

Register of Military Bounty Land Warrant Entries, 1855-1880. 3 oversize folders.

Registers or abstracts of public land entries made with military bounty land warrants in the Minneapolis 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: By warrant law; thereunder numbered chronologically by date of land office entry.

Location	Box	
114.H.1.3B-2	---	Act of 1850: Nos. 1-108, October 1855 - January 1880. Act of 1852: Nos. 1-12, May 1855 - November 1860. Act of 1855: [Nos. 1-1227 missing] Nos. 1228-2220, August 1, 1857 - October 1860. The right-hand side of entries 2190-2220 is missing. [Nos. 2221-3428 missing] Nos. 3429-3434, November 1879 - October 1880. The right-hand side of this page is missing.

Register of Sioux Half-Breed Scrip Entries, 1857. 1 oversize folder.

An abstract of land entries made in the Minneapolis 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, acre value of the scrip, 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.

Arrangement: Chronological by date of entry.

Location	Box	
114.H.1.4F-2	---	Register of Sioux Half-Breed Scrip Entries, Nos. 1-172, May-December 1857. 1 oversize folder.