

TO: Heritage Preservation Commission

FROM: Kim Clausen, Community Development Coordinator

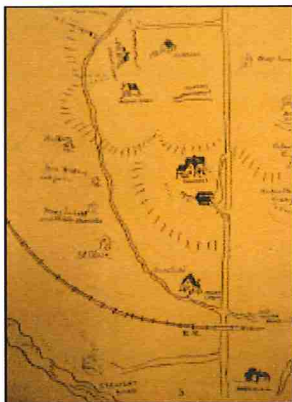
MEETING DATE: 20 April 2020

SUBJECT: Native American Map

Commissioner Vohs has asked for a discussion on the historical location of Native American camps as depicted on a map from the Rice County Historical Society. The map and historical description of the area was part of a Section 106 Review the HPC conducted for modifications to a telecommunications tower on the Faribault Prison. Vohs would like a discussion about ways to better commemorate this history so more people are aware of the historical use of this area.

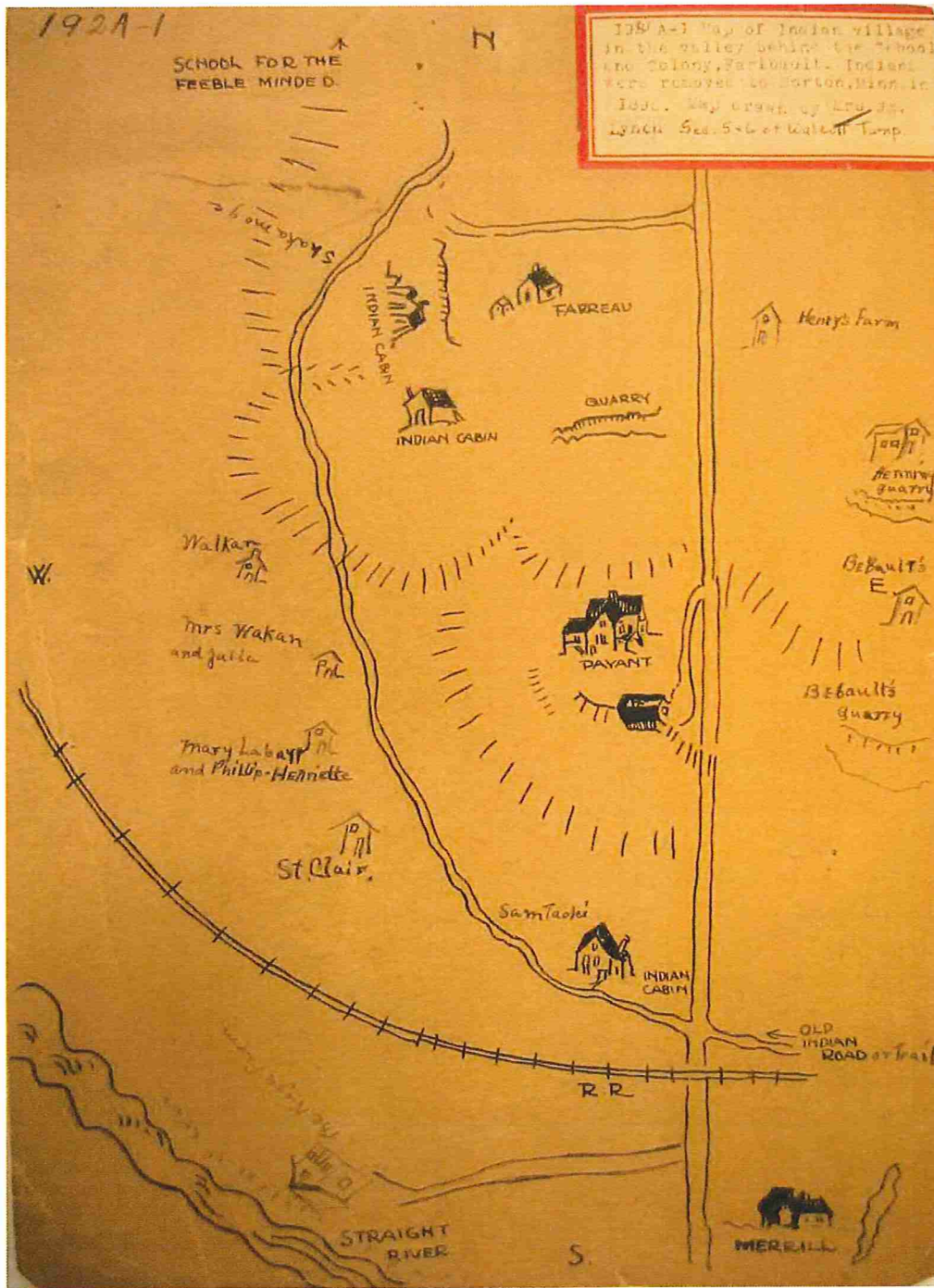
Native American Settlement in Faribault after the Dakota Conflict

While there is an abundance of scholarship focusing on the factors contributing to the Dakota Conflict, which broke out in 1862, there is significantly less focused on what happened afterwards. The City of Faribault had a unique experience following the Conflict. There were many Dakota in the area who did not participate, but instead helped the settlers in various ways, by delivering messages and digging protective trenches among other things. When the conflict concluded, it was eventually decided that the Dakota should be removed from the state. Bishop Henry Whipple did not



think it was fair to banish those who had helped the settlers. He worked with state officials and Alexander Faribault, who decided to donate his own land for the purpose. Faribault cared for the people on his land, paying for their schooling, clothing and food, eventually dying poor because of these additional expenses. Many of the Native Americans remained on Faribault's land until his death in 1882.

This map shows the location of the Native Americans living on Faribault's land in the time after the Dakota Conflict. The approximate location of these settlements today is believed to be near Riverbend Nature Center, South of the Faribault Regional Center and featuring Dairy Lane as the straight road running North and South along the right.



The "Faribault Indians"

Alexander Faribault's kindship relationship with the Dakota meant that the city was settled by both groups. Many Native Americans remained on Alexander Faribault's land even after their tribes had been relocated to reservations. After the Dakota Conflict in 1862, many settlers in Minnesota wanted all of the Native Americans removed from the state. Many were in support of complete extermination rather than just relocation. After a meeting with Taopi, a Dakota man who helped settlers during the conflict, Bishop Henry Whipple approached

General Henry H. Sibley to allow some Dakota families to move to Faribault. Alexander Faribault volunteered his land for the purpose.

(Fuller version of the above which was used for exhibit text)

In the Treaty of Mendota in 1851, the Dakota tribes of Minnesota relocated to a small tract of land on the Minnesota River in exchange for food, money and aid. However, most of the compensation promised to the reservation never arrived. When Minnesota became a state in 1858, the Dakota lost even more land, including the rights to the sacred pipestone quarries.

When the Civil War began in 1861, the United States became preoccupied and many of the payments were late or never arrived. The Southern Dakota tribes, the Mdewakanton and the Wahpekute, tried to negotiate with Andrew Myrick, a representative of Minnesota traders, and asked him to sell the Dakota food on credit. Myrick supposedly responded "If they are hungry, let them eat grass." He was later found dead with grass stuffed in his mouth.

The subsequent battles left more than 600 U.S. settlers and soldiers dead and 303 Dakota sentenced to death for their crimes. However, not all of the Dakota were united in the battles, and many of the captured Dakota were innocent. Bishop Henry Whipple, who had a very good relationship with the Dakota tribes near Faribault, appealed to president Abraham Lincoln to review the cases of the captured Dakota. Lincoln then reduced the number of convicted Dakota men from 306 to 39, and on Dec. 26, 1862, 38 men were hung in the largest mass execution in the United States history.

After the conflict, many settlers were terrified of the Dakota and wanted them gone. However, Bishop Whipple, knowing that many of the Dakota around Faribault were not involved in the carnage, such as Taopi, even helped protect settlers during the war, approached General Henry Sibley to allow some Dakota families to move to Faribault. Alexander Faribault, a half Dakota man himself, then volunteered his land for the purpose.

In 1880-1882, the Native Americans, who had become known as "the Faribault Indians", purchased land near the former site of the first Lower Sioux Agency, and started the Agency again. They had sold the land in Faribault given to them by Alexander Faribault, in order to afford the purchase.

<http://www.historicfortsnelling.org/history/us-dakota-war>

<http://anglicanhistory.org/usa/whipple/> <http://www.faribault.org/history2/index.html>

<http://usdakotawar.org/>

<http://collections.mnhs.org/MNHHistoryMagazine/articles/35/v35i07p320-324.pdf>

A Splendid Little Town, by Daniel Hoisington for the Faribault HPC

http://www.mankatofreepress.com/archives/from-reservation-to-community/article_69cdb599-ee82-5eb6-9c9c-ef9b679a8c2d.html

<http://www.bemidjipioneer.com/news/region/4106100-sioux-indian-ancestors-want-supreme-court-grant-them-promised-land-heart>