

*Exploring Historical Brickmaking in Minnesota*

# Minnesota Bricks

September 2018

## Minnesota Bricks

*Exploring Historical Brickmaking in Minnesota*

[www.mnbricks.com](http://www.mnbricks.com)

## Chaska Brick

Brickmaking in Chaska Minnesota



[www.chaskabrick.com](http://www.chaskabrick.com)

# 1. Contents

1. What's New?	3
2. Photo of the Month	4
3. For Sale	5
4. Word Search	6
5. A Look Back	7
6. Brick Structure of the Month	8



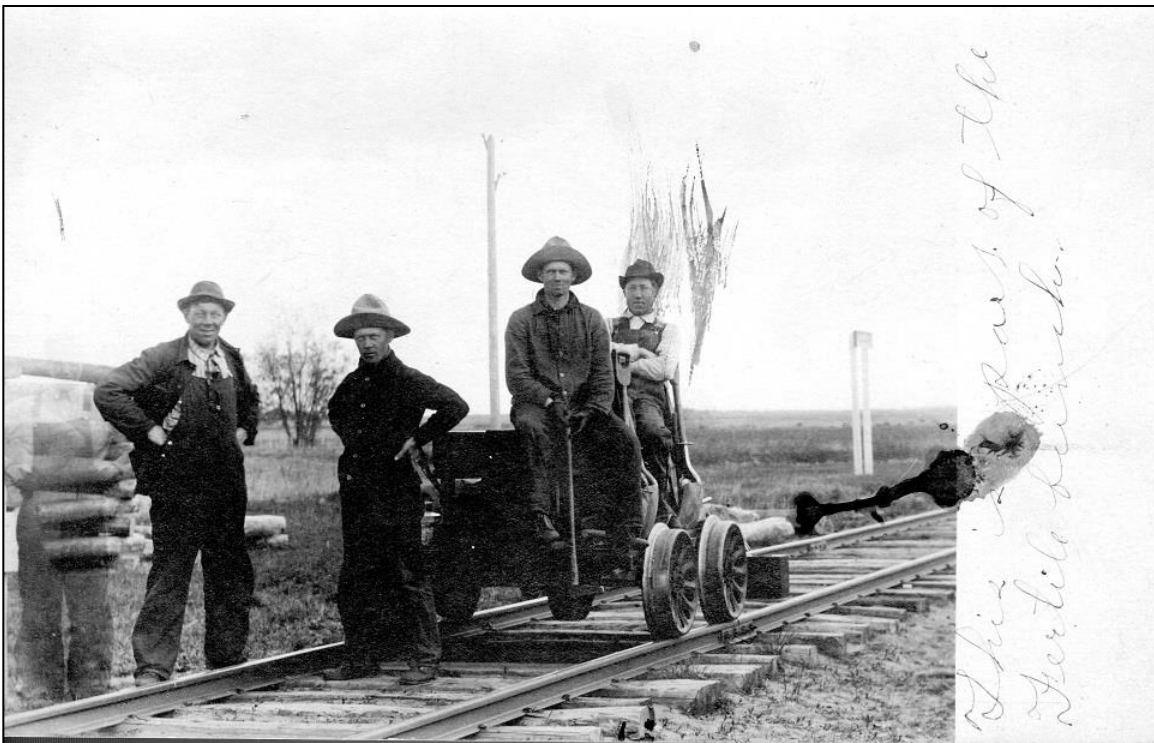
**Antique brick mason tool for carrying a load of bricks**

# 1. What's New?

- I get contacted regularly about whether I sell antique brick. I do not, antique brick is relatively hard to come by. Most of the time, when people tear down an old building, they haul it all to the landfill. However, there are people who salvage the brick and reuse it. The trick is finding those people.
- As I look through old newspapers for brick-related information, I come across a lot of interesting stories not related to brick at all. I have been including more of these stories recently, because they quickly show how different things were in the late 1800s.
- If you want to sign up to automatically receive this newsletter, you can do so at [www.mnbricks.com](http://www.mnbricks.com)



## 2. Photo of the Month



### RAILROAD HANDCART

#### Words on the Front:

"This is part of the Fertile bunch."

#### What is interesting?

If you look closely, there is a "ghost" image of a man in the lower left, which could be the photographer. Each man is wearing a distinctive hat. Looks like a tough bunch.

# 3. For Sale

There are still many brick-related remnants left from the old days.

Shown below is a 20 x 30 inch collage poster with many pictures of historic silo advertisements from Minnesota and Iowa. You can find it for purchase on the "shop" page of my website: [www.mnbricks.com/shop](http://www.mnbricks.com/shop)

On the same page mentioned above, there are other posters for sale on various brick towns, the historic Minnesota River Valley churches, and the Minnesota Winter of 1880-81.



# 4. Word Search

## ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA BRICK

S T A G E C O A C H S T O P W V I F A R L W D F K N S M O Y  
O Z L P N S O L K U K G M O N Q Z F G N R Q E W I W D U L C  
A S A S T E D M A N J H R X Z T U J L E O I N E E O X L M O  
I Y V K P I E W Y I O Z Y I Q R M C I V L K I I O R J Y S O  
M I L O O P Q K B E Y O R H X F K J C L O R A W T B Z S T K  
N I N E D O L L A R S P E R T H O U S A N D R Q H P L A E H  
D A O R L I A R R E T E P T S A N O N I W O D A I D K R D O  
X H V N G P A A R N U K C M L F L X R B F I S Q R R Y E C T  
J Z B V K K U D M L Z S C K X E P E L E Z A E M D A D T O E  
S R E H T O R B B M O C T I H W V T L I N Y K P L W A S U L  
V O Q L E C N Q J L C H M L R I D L K D R U A A A D G E N N  
E M J E O L I B W B G F Y A R B I L Y J F B L Z R E L H T K  
C U E W S E P F D Z K I K O Y V Y C N C W L Y S G Q F C Y B  
K J F S Q L F Q L H A G R O T O L E I V G P A J E O V O U G  
X Z Z X L B Z M A O B B W S K A C G N Q G D L P S K J R H S  
K C I R B D E R B J M C O A Y H U L W M U W C N T M A T W G  
M N H R H G A B Q U A P U A G V O M I X I U A B C N M L Q I  
P P L X C S O G Z D Q T Z K S D K O I N L H H V I A E W O B  
N G D R O C H E S T E R C Y C L O N E Z I C C Y T G M G S N  
N L I K A G N I N R U B L M P U Z U B O L C I D Y O D P Q J

ASA STEDMAN  
BURNING A KILN  
CHIMNEY BRICK  
CLAY LAKES DRAINED  
COOK HOTEL

EDWARD P BROWN  
MAYO CLINIC  
NINE DOLLARS PER THOUSAND  
NO LAKES  
OLMSTED COUNTY

POSTVILLE FOR WOOD  
RED BRICK  
ROCHESTER ASYLUM  
ROCHESTER CYCLONE  
SANDY CLAY

STAGECOACH STOP  
THIRD LARGEST CITY  
WHITCOMB BROTHERS  
WINONA ST PETER RAILROAD  
ZUMBRO RIVER

## 5. A Look Back

### LAKE HARRIET EXCURSION

#### MINNESOTA HISTORY SEGMENT

The Good Templars of St. Paul Lodge No. 38 and St. Anthony Lodge No. 35, had a delightful time at their picnic on Saturday at Lake Harriet, near Minneapolis. The Templars of this city left here at an early hour of the morning in carriages, and at St. Anthony were joined by their brethren and sisters, and the gay party proceeded together to the picnic grounds on the shore of Lake Harriet.

The preparations made by the gentlemen who keeps the place were excellent. Tables and other conveniences were all ready. There were four fine sail boats on the lake and all of them were speedily filled by parties of ladies and gentlemen, who enjoyed it highly, as a good breeze blew all day. There is a fine bathing house for ladies, on the beach, with dresses and other conveniences.

Several hundred fish were caught, and the utmost enjoyment and gay good humor prevailed. The dinner – which was served up by the ladies, was bountiful in the extreme – enough for thrice the number present. The party broke up at 6 o'clock, the St. Anthony folks retreating homeward, and the St. Paul members returning by Minnehaha Falls and Fort Snelling. The entire day was spent in the most pleasant manner, and was one long to be remembered by those fortunate enough to be present.

They are loud in their praises of the beautiful scenery on and near Lake Harriet, and declare it a more delightful spot for a picnic than any other lake near St. Paul. The gentleman who keeps the place knows how to please the public. The charge for the four boats all day was only \$5. At some other lakes \$5 per day is charged for a single boat. There is a beautiful grove by the lake, and the best of bathing and fishing to be had. It is only twelve miles from this city. (*The Saint Paul Press*, Tuesday, July 28, 1863, Page 4)

# 6. Brick Structure of the Month



## **OUTHOUSE CARVER, MINNESOTA**



This is the outhouse on the Gehl-Mittelsted farm, near Carver, Minnesota. To show how little people back then knew about hygiene or the environment, the house is literally built on the edge of the Minnesota River. The door in the picture is on the front. If there was a door in the back, you would fall into the river!

However, look at the detailing on this small brick structure. There was a lot of thought put into it, despite the fact that it was an outhouse. There is decorative brick around both the window and door. Even outhouses made of brick were beautiful!



## News Nuggets

A fine black bear, weighing about two hundred pounds, was brought down by the Antelope on her last trip. It was killed about fifteen miles northwest of Carver. (*The Saint Paul Press*, Thursday, June 11, 1863, Page 4)

We acknowledge the receipt of a fine apple grown on the farm of Hon. Lewis R. Hawkins of Maple Glen in Scott county. Mr. Hawkins moved from Philadelphia some six years since and selected a timber farm in the Big Woods, some ten miles south of Shakopee, which he immediately proceeded to clear and cultivate, turning his attention mainly to fruit growing. He is now beginning to enjoy the fruits of his labors. He has seventy-eight varieties of different fruits growing on his farm, embracing twenty-three varieties of apples besides pears, green gage and damson plums, cherries, &c., not including berries of all varieties, ad infinitum. Mr. Hawkins has successfully demonstrated that fruit can be grown in Minnesota. (*The Saint Paul Press*, Tuesday, September 8, 1863, Page 4)

Quails are becoming quite plenty now-a-days in the country. We saw three walk across the street on St. Anthony hill last evening, apparently as tame as chickens, and there was no one to molest them or make them afraid. (*The Saint Paul Press*, Saturday, September 26, 1863, Page 4)

The Fourth Ward people are suffering badly from a bold set of thieves. Last evening about dark a countryman had a fine buffalo robe stolen from his wagon in front of Eddy's Store. On Friday evening the clothes-lines of two gentlemen were robbed not later than 5 o'clock in the evening. Two wood piles were entirely carried away the same night. Such wholesale and bold depredations are really alarming, and if law will not deter the wretches, maybe shot guns and revolvers will. (*The Saint Paul Press*, Sunday, November 15, 1863, Page 4)

The ice is by no means in as good condition for skating as could be wished, yet lovers of this exhilarating sport are determined not to give it up so. The river is yet daily the resort of numbers of pleasure-seekers, though not to such an extent as before the late snow and thaw. (*The Saint Paul Press*, Wednesday, January 21, 1863, Page 4)