

## PINE COUNTY DATES and EVENTS

- 1836 Whites establish a trading post on Cross Lake
- 1837 Land was purchased from the Indians
- 1856 Pine County was organized March 31 (population less than 100)
- 1857 First road built
- 1868 First railroad called Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad completed to Snake River
- 1868 First school in Pine County
- 1869 Pine County was platted - Chenqwatonka was first county seat
- 1870 Population 648 in Pine County
- 1872 County seat moved to Pine City
- 1878 First church - Presbyterian
- 1879 Catholic Church built
- 1881 Village of Pine City incorporated
- 1885<sup>1885</sup> First newspaper, Pine County Pioneer
- 1886 Courthouse built
- 1887 Copper mining started
- 1887 300 men came to log on Snake River
- 1890 Population 11,546 - Pine City 993
- 1892 Mail service started
- 1894 Hinckley fire
- 1896 Sawmills close
- 1897 First flour mill built
- 1897 First fire engine purchased
- 1899 Fine new courthouse

*First newspaper in 1873.*  
*1881*  
*July Pine Co. Recorder*

Pine City has 4 general stores, drug store, shoe store, hardware store, clothing store, millinery establishment, 4 blacksmiths, 3 sawmills, feed mill, a first class hotel, 2 restaurants, a good local newspaper Pine County Pioneer, several small industries, 4 churches, 3 schools, a well qualified physician to cure the body's aches and pains. We are glad to add thus far his skill has led to frequent christenings and no funerals.

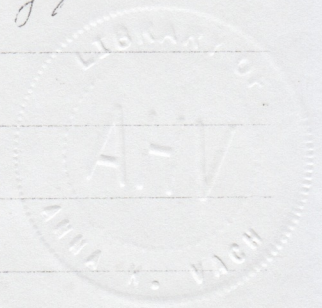
- 1900 Tourist trade is active. Steamer Victoria makes many trips between Pine City and Pokegama Park Hotel.
- 1900 Electricity comes to Pine City



Parts of area and dates remains a mystery:

- 1854 Chenguwatana was organized
- 1856 March 3 Pine County was organized
- 1856 Effort to change name of old Indian Town Chenguwatana to Alhambra
- 1854-1857 ? Chenguwatana become County Seat (Two dates)
- 1858 Pine County deorganized
- 1869 Oct 14 Pine City platted
- 1870 Jan. 16 Plat was filed in Chenguwatana, placed in book of town plats
- 1871 Jan 31 Town of Cross Lake was organized
- 1872-73 Town of Cross Lake elects officers and hold Town meeting
- 1872 Chenguwatana Courthouse. I moved <sup>new</sup> County Seat Pine City
- 1874 April 8 Pine City was organized
- 1871 Voted to divide Town of Cross Lake into 2 towns.
- 1874 Debt of old Town of Cross Lake was paid by Pine City
- 1874 April 8 An act of Legislation of State of Minn. entitled an act to the division of Pine County into 3 Commissioners districts and four towns.
- 1874 April 27. First election in Pine City

The history surrounding Town of Cross Lake is not clear, but the mystery contributes to what is an interesting history of the area.





# History of Pine County

Minnesota was organized as a Territory on March 4, 1849.

July 7, 1849 - Gov. Alexander Ramsey, by proclamation, fixed the following Council District for Territory which had not been divided into counties, Marine Falls of St. Croix, Rush Lake, Rice River and Snake River precincts and Little Canada settlement.

Prior to the organized Minnesota Territory, Pine County was included within limits of St. Croix County, Wisconsin 1849.

March 1856, Pine County was established as an independent county. Kanabec County was part of Pine County.

1854 - Chengwatana was organized; attempt was made to change the name of Chengwatana to Alhambra in 1856, but name Chengwatana remained and became Pine County seat.

August 12, 1858 - Pine County deorganized, attached to Chisago County.

October 12, 1858, part of Pine County was lost to Kanabec County.

1860 - Pine County was divided into two counties; Pine County and Buchanan County. The north, west and east borders of Buchanan County were the same as present Pine County borders. South border of Buchanan, running approximately one mile south of Friesland to Markville, would include the township Dell Grove, Sandstone, Wilma, Danforth and Arna.

October 8, 1861 - Pine County gained from Buchanan County lost to non-county area. The State of Minnesota approved to dissolve Buchanan County, population 12, and merge it with Pine County. Chengwatana officially became Pine County seat.

Fortuna was platted in 1857, by surveyor, W. A. Porter, as county seat for Buchanan County. Plat listed eight proprietors; great expectation of town growing, although Fortuna remained on County and State maps until 1881. Many believed it was town of Sandstone. Question remains if Fortuna was Sandstone?

October 14, 1869 - Pine City was platted.

January 16, 1870 - Pine City plat was filed at county seat Chengwatana, placed in book of town plats.

January 31, 1871 - Town of Cross Lake was organized.

1871 - Vote to divide Town of Cross Lake and lost.

1871-72-73 - Town of Cross Lake elected officers and held town meetings.

1872 - County seat was moved to Pine City by popular vote.

April 8, 1874 - Pine City was organized.



April 8, 1874 - An Act of Legislation of State of Minnesota entitled an act to division of Pine County into three commissioner's districts and four towns.

1874 - Debt of old Town of Cross Lake was paid by Pine City.

April 27, 1874 - First Pine City election.

The history surrounding Town of Cross Lake is not clear, but the mystery contributed to what is an interesting history of the area. Pine City was not organized when county seat was moved to Pine City??

**Reference:**

Minnesota Historical Society

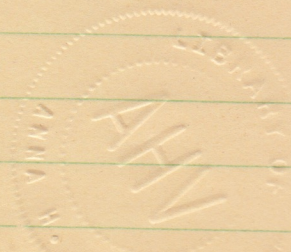
Pine City Township Records

Minnesota Legislative Manual

Agnes O'Donnells' Collection

1860 Mitchells New General Atlas

Short towns Chagwatawa - Banning - Mission Creek.  
Beroun 4 - stores - Hotel Barber 2 Potato House  
2 Recreation Halls - 2 Church Blacksmith Shop.  
Pine City - 1881 - Incorporated  
Henckley 1885  
Sandstone 1889  
Willow River 1891  
Sturgeon Lake 1893  
Foleyson 1905





# Census

4 +

1856 Minnesota Territorial Census, Part of Ramey County listed Snake River Precinct: 4 farmers + family, 2 lumbermen, 1 clerk 3 hunters + family, 1 Laborer and 1 Indian Trader. Population 39.

Aug 1849 census for Snake River + Chengwatona was 58 male 24 females total of 82. Census records varied.

Population of falls + Snake River area in 1832 was Indians 88 men, 88 women 123 children + 38 of mixed blood.

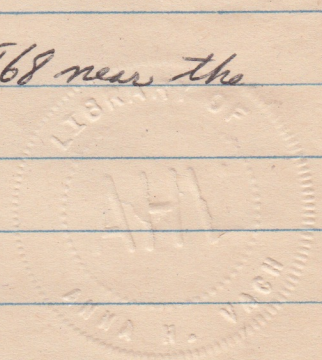
Pine Co was organized on March 31 - 1856.

first school district was organized in 1868 near the County Seat Chengwatona.

1910 - 1,125

1920 1,383

1985 - 1092





check on this. ??, June - 1966

Pine Co. - Prior to the organization of the Minn. Territory in 1849, Pine Co. was included within the limits of St. Croix Co., Wisconsin, in 1852, it was put within the limits of <sup>Chicago</sup> ~~Chicago~~ Co., Minn. Pine Co. was ~~at~~ established as an independent county on March 3 - 1856. It included the area of present day Carlton, Kanabec & Pine counties. The county was finally organized in 1872. In that year, the county seat was moved by popular vote from Chenois <sup>Village to present site</sup> to Pine City. At the original county organization its appointed commissioners were Herman Trott, George W. Staples & Royal C. Gray. Judge Crosby was the judge of district court, John D. Wilcox - clerk & Edward Jackson Sheriff. Attempts have failed over the years to change the county seat location to Hinckley & County name from Pine to Clover (Map at Keweenaw Museum, Cloer) Pine Co. was named for its extensive pines.



Compressed of white, Norway that graceful  
grew in this area. Out of Co. 906, 366 acres  
665,000 were forest. Co. River & Lake,  
(Pine River), flowed to St. Croix River which ~~and~~  
supported the logging industries. <sup>Antony's Town</sup> Every  
early community had its sawmills, operating  
Originally, there were 4 Townships organized  
on March 2 - 1874, by a special act of the  
State Legislature. Named for the villages which  
they contained at that time Chongwatone,  
Pine City, Henckley & Kettle River. Over the years  
these 4 were divided into 36. - 1st. Rock Creek from  
Pine City in 1874. Last one was Park which set off  
from Baraboo organized in 1922. No of townships  
was reduced from 36 to 34, when Keene, Belden &  
Dosey were ~~re~~ reorganized into New Dosey (year ??)  
Pine Co. pioneers were coaxed into its wilderness  
by the attraction of cheap land made available by  
Homestead Act and by land sales. Companies representing  
the railroad & others scheme, land agents.  
Hardship of many pioneers in letter or notes.  
Vash Coll. Co. Records.