



Children of the Finnish Homesteads

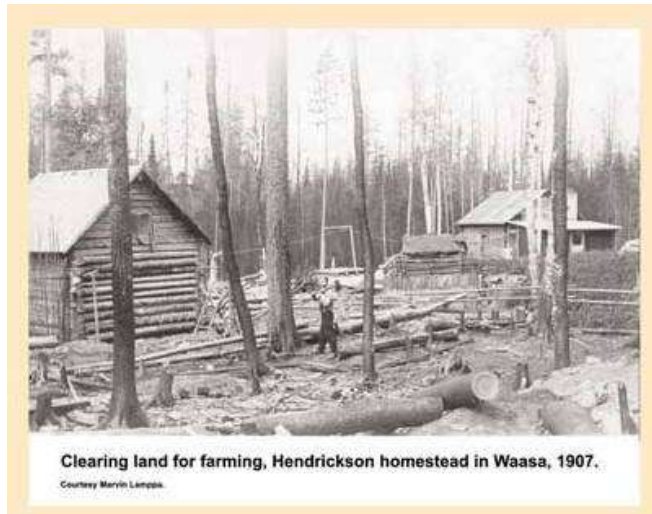
The first Finnish immigrants to Minnesota arrived in 1864, with the largest wave arriving between 1895-1910. They came to America to take advantage of the 1862 Federal Homestead Act and were drawn to northern Minnesota by the pine forests and mining jobs.

A balance of photos and short narratives tells the story of how many children of Finnish heritage came to be born and raised in the Brimson-Toimi area, northeast of Duluth, Minnesota. ***Children of the Finnish Homesteads: Growing up in Northern Minnesota, 1900-1945***, documents daily family and farm life, chores, hardships, and pastimes. The exhibit looks at aspects of a bygone era, such as cross-country skiing as basic transportation, plow animals, and felling trees by hand.

Dimensions:

12 panels – vary from 35"-37" w x 48" h x 2" thick
1 title panel – 68" w x 13¾" h x 1¼" thick

Finns of Western Lake Superior




Finns of Western Lake Superior was developed by well-known regional historian Marvin Lamma, and designed and fabricated by Venture Exhibits. It covers the socio-political and cultural aspects of Finnish immigrants' lives in this area, particularly during the largest wave, which arrived between 1895 and 1910. Each panel is accompanied by a supplemental flipbook, which contains additional detailed educational text.


Dimensions: 4 panels – 36" w x 84" h self-standing

THE MAKING OF THE REGION AND THE ARRIVAL OF THE FINNS


If there is a unifying factor to the experience of the Finns in the Western Lake Superior Region, it can be found in the institutions they established. Churches, temperance societies, workers' organizations, cooperatives, halls, theater groups, the Finnish press, the wasteland they turned into farms—all proclaimed a high ideal, something greater than individual gain; a foundation for a better tomorrow, whether it be the "Kingdom of Heaven," elimination of "Demon Rum," justice for the workers, consumers' cooperatives, intellectual and spiritual growth. All contributed to the life of these immigrants, and through them to life in America.




These Finns used every dollar, and more, to build a better life in America. They built churches, schools, and other institutions of society. They also worked hard to improve the lives of the workers, and to build a better life in America.



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FLIPBOOK

500 Days – Photographs



125th Field Artillery Photographs

500 days provides a look into some of the experiences of the 125th Field Artillery during WWII. The 125th had the longest continual combat deployment of any unit in WWII – just over 500 days. The 125th also had a disproportionate number of northeastern Minnesota men and boys (who lied about their age to sign up after Pearl Harbor) serving their entire tour together, because the 125th was not split up and deployed to various locations, as was common military practice. The exhibit is comprised of 14 identically framed black and white photos taken by local veterans of the 125th, plus introductory text, and sponsor panels.

Dimensions:

16 identical frames – 20" w x 16" h x 2"

Foam board backed text panels corresponding to each frame