

One Minnesota: Its Roots, Its Branches & Its Corrupt Fruit

Written By Ron Brantsner on Aug 24, 2019

Minnesota – the land of sky blue waters and its picturesque four seasons, lays home to the Sioux Indians and much of the native history remains rooted deep within the fabric of the land itself. With scenic beauty and frigid winters, Minnesota became home for many Europeans who settled, cultivated and harvested the land. Today, much of the state's food supply stems from these traditions.

Federal land expansions to the west were abundant from 1880 to 1920. European immigrants found passage through New York's Ellis Island and the railways that transported them north to carve out a piece of land which most resembled the land from which they were accustomed too. With nothing but the clothes on their backs and a hard work ethic, their crafts, skills and trades became America's gift.

Immigrants faced many obstacles of extreme poverty, with harsh winters, language learning, and religious barriers. Yet, inequality and social equity were not part of their vernacular. Welfare and entitlement programs were unheard of. Immigrants came here to work hard for a piece of the American Dream. The new Americans had to adapt to their new environment quickly or starve. Life was difficult and education was shortened by fieldwork and family obligations.

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