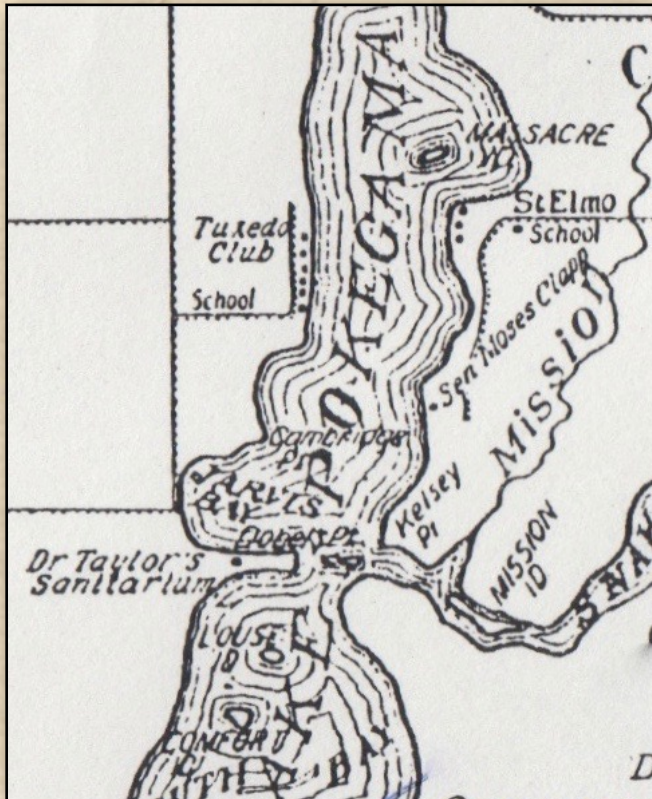




FROM OUR FILES: St. Elmo



St. Elmo was an area on the east side of Lake Pokegama where a number of Pine City families had summer cabins in the early 1900s.



(Photo by Juul) LOOKING SOUTH FROM ST. ELMO, LAKE POKEGAMA.

Pine County Pioneer
May 4, 1906

Beautiful "St. Elmo."

"St. Elmo" is the appellation given the site upon which stands the Harte, Greeley and Holbert cottages at Pokegama lake. The plat was purchased from Aug. Ausmus and embraces 1500 feet of lake front. The new name was taken from the abundance of elm trees upon the property.

Several cottages have already been built upon the land and it is expected that at least a dozen will be constructed there next summer. We understand that Attorney R. C. Saunders, and a gentleman from Winona are contemplating the erection of cottages upon the property and J. Y. Breckenridge is already having one erected. It is planned to have the "community" as exclusive as possible, that is, those having control of the land will not dispose of a lot unless the parties involved are desirable to all concerned.

Those who selected the location in question certainly used good judgment and were fortunate in procuring it, for it is an exceedingly beautiful place. Mr. Juul, official photographer for the N. P. railway Co. upon viewing the site while at the lake some weeks ago, said: "This is the most beautiful spot on the lake." Certainly a photographer with the high standing of Mr. Juul should be taken as authority, although there are so many beauty spots along the lake front that it would be hard for anyone to convince everybody just were the height of admiration should be centered.

The lake is certainly forging to the front as a summer resort and nearly every available spot along its banks has been selected for a health resort, a site of retirement, a place where only the ozone of good health and happiness can be admitted, and where the cares of the busy world can be largely eliminated.

On, on, to Pokegama!

Pine County Pioneer April 28, 1905

Initially there were four families with cottages at St. Elmo; the Greeleys, "Heart's Ease" owned by the Hartes, "Mission Cottage" owned by the Breckenridges, and a cottage owned by the Holberts from Hinckley.



COMPILED BY:
Pine City Area History Association



FROM OUR FILES: St. Elmo



St. Elmo was a popular place to entertain. Sometimes the crowds were large.

BEDE SPEAKS AT ST. ELMO

Our Noted Congressman "Makes Good" as a Preacher at Pokegama Lake, Sunday.

Sunday afternoon J. Adam Bede addressed a large number of the citizens of Pokegama lake and this place. He made one of the best talks it has been our pleasure to listen to for some time. More than one expressed it, Mr. Bede has missed his calling, as he should have been a preacher. He spoke on a religious subject, and said when he commenced that he would only speak for fifteen minutes, but instead he spoke for over an hour, and when he got through his audience could scarcely realize where the time had gone, being so interested in the talk.

Mr. Bede spoke in the open air in front of "Heart's Ease" cottage, and his audience reclined on the ground or occupied benches and chairs furnished by Messrs. Harte, Holbert and Greeley. There were about one hundred in the audience, and all enjoyed the sermon—as it could be called by no other name—and said they were glad to have been able to have Congressman Bede as a parson.

Pine County Pioneer
August 11, 1905

E. C. Laird and wife, and Mrs. Laird's sister, arrived in town last Wednesday afternoon and took the boat for Pokegama lake where they will remain the balance of the week, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Harte, at St. Elmo.

Pine County Pioneer
July 19, 1907

Mrs. Kate Marsh, of Stillwater, arrived last Friday to spend a couple of weeks visiting with her brother, D. Greeley and family, at St. Elmo, Pokegama lake.

Pine County Pioneer
July 19, 1907

Miss Lottie Moore, of St. Paul, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Laird, of Skibo, were "Heart's Ease" visitors at St. Elmo over Sunday.

Pine County Pioneer
August 11, 1905

Frank Hurley, John Breckenridge, jr., and J. J. Folsom are leading "the simple life" at St. Elmo.

Pine County Pioneer
June 8, 1906

Progressive Supper at Pokegama.

A progressive supper was served at Mission Cottage and St. Elmo Wednesday evening. Soups were served at Breckenridge's, salads and pickles at Greeley's, meats and vegetables at Holbert's, and desserts at Harte's. We'll bet a carload of canned lobsters against an ounce of St. Elmo soil that some huge appetites were work up, an unusual amount of "chuck" was punished, and that the diversion was greatly enjoyed. The campers' beaming countenances bespoke the fact.

Pine County Pioneer
August 10, 1906

The ladies of the Presbyterian church, their husbands and gentlemen friends picnicked at Harte's cottage, Pokegama lake, yesterday afternoon and evening. The weather was ideal and the time was passed enjoyably.

Pine County Pioneer
August 10, 1906

The campers at St. Elmo and a few select guests enjoyed a dance at their "hang-out" Wednesday evening.

Pine County Pioneer
June 8, 1906

READING CLUB PICNIC

Members of Pine City's Literary Circle Make Merry as Guests of Mrs. H. W. Harte at St. Elmo.

The weather man gained a solid stand-in with the members of the Woman's Reading Club Tuesday.

On that day that meritorious organization picnicked at "Heart's Ease," St. Elmo, Pokegama lake, due to the hearty invitation tendered the club by Mrs. H. W. Harte. Mrs. Harte is president of the Club, and is naturally an ardent worker, but she was unfortunately called away on the day set, by the serious illness of her son-in-law at Duluth. The duty of "hostess," therefore, devolved upon Mesdames D. Greeley, J. D. Vaughan and J. G. Heywood, and they did themselves proud by their untiring efforts.

A majority of the Club members took their departure from Pine City at about 10 a. m., while others drove to the scene of mirth. These, together with the Nature students at the popular rendezvous, made a total of about forty in the picnic party of the Club.

The dinner for the hungry was prepared and served, and kept the guests full of beaming joy all through the afternoon's manoeuvres.

A literary program, consisting of readings by the talented readers of the Club were listened to with absorbing attention. Those participating in this entertaining feature were the Misses Kate Barnum and Bernice Huber and Mrs. J. G. Heywood.

Bathing was greatly enjoyed by the many who love aquatic sport, and during this interesting feature of all lake picnics photographs were taken and Club members are applying to the photographer for a reproduction of the scene.

A typical camp supper was served shortly after which the party concluded to close their day's mirth.

During all the joys held from publicity during the preceding paragraphs, we overlooked a goodly portion of the whole. Only four gentlemen were in attendance at the time. They were as follows: H. W. Harte, D. Greeley, J. H. Huber and W. P. Gottry. These practical entertainers never let slip an opportunity to get a word in edgewise on any other way and they were constantly in the dizzy whirl. After supper J. J. Folsom and J. Y. Breckenridge jr., joined the crowd.

Every feature was heartily participated in by all, especially when it came to the delicate task of making victuals, generally known as camp chuck—disappear. Each member was invited to write a piece of poetry on the "Heart's Ease" register and the literary gems resulting are now on record, together with each poet's signature.

The day was ideal, the crowd congenial, the food excellent and the water was fine. The only source of regret was that Mrs. Harte was called away, and thereby missed

Pine County Pioneer
July 27, 1906



COMPILED BY:
Pine City Area History Association



FROM OUR FILES: St. Elmo

One St. Elmo visitor sent this post card after a week-long visit.



COMPILED BY:
Pine City Area History Association



FROM OUR FILES: St. Elmo



The popularity of St. Elmo continued bringing with it some change.

J. F. Stone and wife came up from Rush City to spend a week or so at the Breckenridge cottage at St. Elmo, Pokegama lake. The Colonel went down Monday to assist in getting out the Post. He will return the latter part of the week. When Mr. Stone went home he took a large armful of dill with him, with which he is going to make a barrel of dill pickles. When they are ready Col. we will expect an invitation down to sample them.

Pine County Pioneer
August 23, 1907

Lots were sold and more cottages were built.

Mr. Harte informs us that a party from Duluth has purchased nine lots on the east shore of Pokegama lake at St. Elmo and also two acres of land from August Ausmus, lying directly back of the lots. They will build cottages in the spring and also an automobile garage. They will make their home during the summer months. We are pleased to welcome such people to the lake and to Pine County.

Pine County Pioneer
November 12, 1909

—Dr. Brown, of St. Paul, who purchased the Harte cottage at St. Elmo last fall, and whose wife has been staying at the lake for the past month, came up last Saturday and spent Sunday. He was accompanied by his son. They returned home on the noon train Monday.

Pine County Pioneer
May 20, 1910

The bean bake given by Col. J. F. Stone at Breckenridge's cottage, St. Elmo, Pokegama lake, on the 24th, was a success in every particular. The beans were baked in a beanhole in the ravine south of the cottage, and all those who have eaten beans baked in this manner will not be surprised to learn that 25 people got away with four gallons of the luscious fruit. Among those present were a goodly number of Rush City people, Senator Clapp and U. S. District Attorney Haupt and daughter, who were visiting at the Senator's cottage.)

Pine County Pioneer
August 30, 1907

—Last week Messrs. Henry Nolte and C. E. Little, two wealthy real estate men, of Duluth, purchased land of Harte and Greeley at St. Elmo, Pokegama lake, and will immediately construct two of the largest summer cottages on the lake. Henry Blunck has been awarded the contract for the erection of the same. One will be 32x38, and the other will be 34x38. The gentlemen expect that a number of their friends from the Zenith city will also buy land at the same place and build cottages this summer. They will have launches and row boats and every luxury that wealth can buy. The Pioneer extends to them a hearty greeting, and congratulates them in securing such a lovely and historical spot for their summer homes.

Pine County Pioneer
February 2, 1910

Mrs. D. Greeley entertains the Degree of Honor at her cottage at St. Elmo. About seventy-five or eighty members of the Degree of Honor and their husbands chartered the 'Fritz' for a day at beautiful St. Elmo; the guest of Mrs. Greeley. The day was ideal and to say that all enjoyed themselves is putting it mildly. They returned home about 9 P.M.

Pine County Pioneer
July 30, 1909

It is evident from our final clipping that St. Elmo remained a popular destination.

The members of the Rush City Eastern Star lodge and all Masons and their ladies picniced at St. Elmo on Pokegama lake, yesterday, using the Breckenridge cottage as a rendezvous. There were upwards of 150 present and a delightful, all day picnic was enjoyed, local members of the orders providing entertainment for the occasion. Albert Ausmus was there with a couple of launches and there were other boating, fishing, bathing and lounging opportunities so that those present could partake of any part of the day's pleasures. This was the first time that the annual Eastern Star picnic has been held here in some years but it is a fact that the members had such a good time that they will remember it with pleasure and look forward to the time when it

Pine County Pioneer
August 1, 1918



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Pine City Area History Association