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Seldon, Thomas (1858 -)

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Recommended Citation

Kruchten, Nick P., "Seldon, Thomas (1858 -)" (1936). *WPA Biographic Summaries*. 1176.
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Among the early settlers and pioneers of Stearns County is Thomas Seldon.

He was born in Meath, England, February 25, 1858. He is the son of Robert and Anna (Piper) Seldon who came from England and landed in Toronto, Canada, May 24, 1870 when Thomas was about twelve years old.

Thomas Seldon received his education in the country school in England and in Toronto, Canada. Thomas Seldon states that in England the school law required that the pupils be nine years old before they could attend school. He also states that he walked three miles to school, and paid two pence (about four cents in American money) every Monday morning for his tutition. He also attended school a few years in Toronto Canada.

After completing school Thomas Seldon worked for farmers in the vicinity of Toronto for about five years, then he went to Thorold and worked on the canal where his brother, Samuel Seldon, was foreman. In 1880 Thomas went to New York state and was employed by the Nickel Plate Railroad Company where he worked for one year, then he went back to Toronto, Canada, where he worked for the Canadian Pacific Railroad until 1886, at which time Thomas Seldon decided to come to Minnesota.

On August 20, 1886 Thomas Seldon and Robert Graham settled in Saint Cloud, Minnesota, where Thomas Seldon was employed by Drake and Stranton Granite Company. He worked for this company a number of years. When work was slow in this quarry, Mr. Seldon worked for some other granite company, in Saint Cloud, Minnesota. He followed the stone business all his life until his retirement in the fall of 1929.

Thomas Seldon was the youngest of five children born to Robert and Anna (Piper) Seldon, one brother, Samual is living in Toronto, Canada. Two brothers and a sister are dead. James Seldon, died in Los Angles, California in 1910; John Seldon, was killed in Toronto, Canada,

SELDON, THOMAS

in 1862; Mary Ann Seldon died in infancy; Robert Seldon died in 1880 and was buried in Oshawa, Canada. Anna (Piper) Seldon died in 1874 and was also buried in Oshawa, Canada.

Interviewed: Thomas Seldon
Morris Home
Date: July 28, 1936
By: N. P. Kruchten

Publication Granted