

## Reminiscences of Winona



### Winona, Minnesota

Both history and geography have generously blessed my hometown of Winona, Minnesota. It is a busy little port on the Mississippi, nestled in a valley surrounded by picturesque bluffs. Lumber and grain fueled its early economy, and when the lumber gave out, industry took its place. The river teems with fish, and the fields and forests with game. Churches and schools, jobs and bars are within walking distance of everyone, attesting to the hardworking, fun-loving nature of its faithful citizens. So when my great-grandparents arrived from Kashubia in Poland with their family and neighbors, they immediately knew they had found a new home. Perhaps as many as 4000 immigrants from Kashubia in the 1870s sailed from German ports to the United States to settle in Winona and nearby Wisconsin towns such as Pine Creek and Dodge.

This webpage is dedicated to the depiction of one family's participation in this history. For members of the Sieracki family who have never lived in the Winona area, here is a glimpse of the town the family called its own.