

QUAMBA

A sidetrack was built here in 1882, when the railroad came through but no buildings were built for many years. The only structure was a watertower for the railroad's steam locomotives. It was known as Mud Creek after the creek the tracks cross here.

In 1901, O.O. Whited* of Minneapolis platted the village. The name was changed to Quamba by the railroad officials. On March 11th of that year, it got its postoffice with Andrew J. Edstrom as postmaster. This postoffice was discontinued and re-established several times but has been in steady operation since March 2, 1917.

Quamba got its first bank, the Quamba State Bank, on May 25, 1917. This was in operation until March 21, 1932, when its interests were moved to Mora to become the prominent Kanabec State Bank. At one time Quamba had two general stores, a cheese factory, and in the early years of its existence, J.B. Sutton had a sawmill there.

In 1952, it was incorporated as a village with Emil Oslin as the first mayor.



A group waits at the Quamba Depot to greet the train.

"Quamba" is an Indian name for "Mudhole."

The trains that went through Quamba to Hinckley, at first got water for the engine through hoses laid out to pump from a nearby creek, just east of Carl Johnson's home, before the water tank was put up on the John Hagg farm (Black John Seline farm) on the upper side of the track at the northwest corner. Here was a small shack for the telegraph operator. Anyone wishing to board the train, let the telegrapher, operator, Huet, know and he would telegraph the train to stop and pick up passengers who wished to go along.

When the railroad through Brook Park, via Grasston & Braham, through to Minneapolis was laid in 1899, the water tank was then moved to Brook Park, where it remained for many years. Mrs. J.O. Lundquist

*Oric Ogilvie Whited, after whom the village of Ogilvie and Whited Township were named, was a large land holder in Kanabec County at that time.