THE WATER TOWER'S EVOLUTION

1848 Kichi Saga (Chisago) area is surveyed.

1880 Village of Lindström is platted on October 14.

1900 Voters approve a public waterworks system at a cost not to exceed $5,500. F.N. Benson to dig the city well for $1,000. Fairbanks Morse Company is the low bidder for waterworks system. O.W. Holcomb and F. W. Abrahamson are first to apply for city water.

1902 Village purchases a public drinking fountain for $66.50.

1905 Water rates of $7.50/year for dwellings, $10/year for saloons, $15/year for hotels and $10/year for livery stables and feed barns passed on a 3 to 2 vote. Water rates are adjusted for residents having indoor plumbing: bath and water closet $3/year, bath only $2/year in addition to regular rates. Those not satisfied with rates had the option of installing meters.

1908 Voters authorize $1,500 in bonds for a new water tower. Low bidder is Fairbanks Morse Co. at $2,490. The 1908 water tower had steel legs and a wooden tank at the top. The wooden tank was replaced with a steel tank in the 1940s.

1916 Petition for construction of water main on Maple Street.

1920 Council installs a new 500 candlepower light atop the water tank capable of being seen as far as North Branch and Forest Lake. Light is nicknamed "Star of Lindström."

1933 A fire alarm siren is mounted on the water tower.

1947 Village leases the Henrikson building for $40 a month and pays Leo Henrikson $200 a month to serve as the manager of the city's new on-sale and off-sale municipal liquor establishment (today's Municipal Bar).

1969 Lindström fluoridates its water.

1993 Old water tower converted to a Swedish coffee pot.

LINDSTRÖM'S ICONIC WATER TOWER

WELCOME TO KAFFE KANNA PARK

LINDSTROM, MINNESOTA.
The Gem of Chisago Lakes!
The Ideal Summer Resort!

THE VILLAGE OF LINDSTROM, MINN., IS SITUATED IN THE CENTER OF THE CHISAGO LAKES; TWO OF THE LAKES ARE WITHIN THE VILLAGE LIMITS. THE VILLAGE HAS A POPULATION OF 700 PEOPLE. THE SITE IS ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL AND HEALTHFUL IN THE UNITED STATES. THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE COME HERE EVERY YEAR FOR THE SUMMER. HOTELS, RESTAURANTS AND PRIVATE BOARDING HOUSES ABOUND HERE. THERE IS 78 MILES OF LAKE SHORE WITHIN 10 MILES OF LINDSTROM. BOATS, BATHING SUITS, LAUNDRY, SALOONS, BOWLING ALLEYS AND FISHING TACKLE CAN BE SECURED AT REASONABLE RATES. BELOW IS A LIST OF THE INDUSTRIES CONTAINED IN THE VILLAGE:

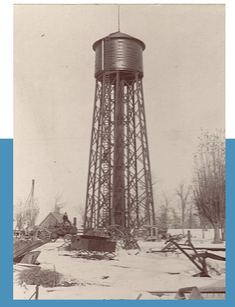
Village Warehouse	Confectionery Store
Saturday Mill	Real Estate Agency
Weekly Newspaper and	Lumber Yard
Job Printing Office	Saw Mill
Public Library	Creamery
Store Box	Two Barber Shops
Roller Mill and Elevator	Two Photographers
Two Grocers	Two Hotels
Two Churches and Public Schools	Dress Making Establishments
Physicians, Dentists and	Clothing Store and Tailoring
Drug Store	Coal and Wood Sheds
Flour Potato Warehouse	Concrete Block Plant
Three General Stores	Two Blacksmith Shops
Butcher Shop	Livery Barn
Two Harness Stores	Furniture Store
Hardware and Stove Store,	Boots and Poultry Farm
Boots and Shoes, Pianos and	Tailor
Bowling Alley	Opera House

SPEND YOUR SUMMERS, VACATIONS AND SUNDAYS AT LINDSTROM, MINN. TRAIN SERVICE UNEXCELLED. ONLY ONE HOUR FROM ST. PAUL. ONE HOUR FROM MINNEAPOLIS. THE WORLD'S FAMOUS INTER STATE PARK (SCALES OF THE ST. CROIX) IS SITUATED 10 MILES FROM LINDSTROM.

A SPLENDID LOCATION FOR FACTORIES OF ANY DESCRIPTION. TERMS REASONABLE.

ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:

Secretary of Business Men's Association.
Lindstrom, - - Minn.



An early postcard of Lindström's main street, St. Croix Avenue. The back of the postcard highlighted characteristics of the village as well as a list of industries located in Lindström at the time. The town's water tower can be seen in the background on the left side of the street.

The 1908 Lindström water tower.

A 1908 postcard of Lindström shows the newly-built water tower in the background on the left. Notice the wooden "boardwalks" behind the horses and carriages.

Advertisement from the Chisago County Press, 1910, featuring Henrikson Brothers bar, now known as "The Muni."

View of Lindström's main street from the top of the water tower, taken in 1920. South Lindstrom Lake can be seen in the background.

The City of Lindström has spectacular water quality! There was even an orange juice bottling plant that located here just because of the water quality; the water didn't need any treatment before being mixed with the orange juice concentrate that was trucked in from Florida.

Lindström's water system relies on two wells, both of which are about 700 feet deep and draw water from the Mt. Simon aquifer.

DID YOU KNOW?
For a time, the coffee pot released steam from its spout to add to the charm of the historic town!

CONVERSION TO A SWEDISH COFFEE POT

In 1992 the city built a new 500,000 gallon water tower and planned to tear down the town's original water tower. One of the city's business owners, Marlene Smith, had the idea and donated the necessary money to convert the old water tower into the world's largest "Swedish Coffee Pot." The City Council voted to accept the Smith contribution.

That initial conversion included:
1. Fabricating a handle, spout and knob for the top,
2. Removing the ladders from the reservoir portion (top) of the tower and cutting an access door,
3. Re-painting the reservoir (top) in a base white color,
4. Hand lettering "Välkommen till Lindström" and the Swedish rösemaling on two sides of the tower's reservoir.

City staff did the basic design, and the construction and painting was accomplished by H&H Water Tower of Sleepy Eye, Minnesota for $18,650. Other bids for the same work ran as high as $35,000. All renovation costs were paid for by Marlene Smith, the owner of Lindström's largest private employer, Plastic Product's Company. Plastic Products Company also pays for the historic water tower's repainting when needed. A statue of Marlene sits on the city's east plaza.