

Andrew Siverson (1866–1937)

One of the First Five Pupils of the Dakota Territorial School for the Deaf and Mute

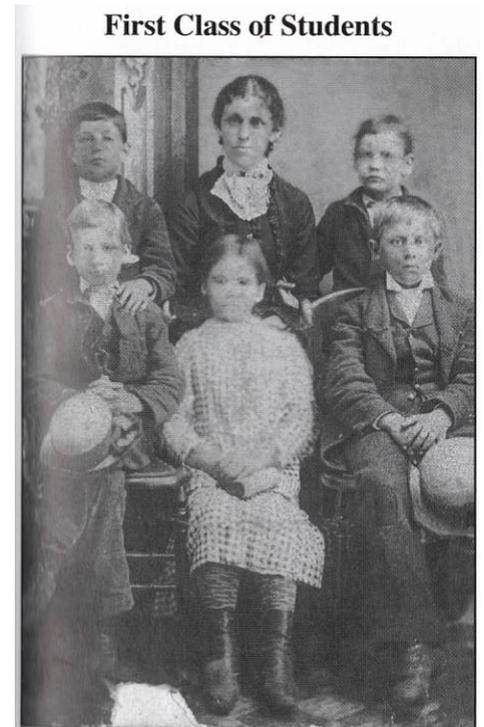
Andrew Siverson (born May 27, 1866 – died 1937) was one of the First Five Pupils of the Dakota Territorial School for the Deaf and Mute, now known as the South Dakota School for the Deaf.

Andrew was born in Trondhjem (modern Trondheim), Norway, and later immigrated to the United States. By the early 1880s, he was residing in Dell Rapids, Dakota Territory.

He enrolled at the Dakota Territorial School for the Deaf and Mute in the spring of 1881 and is pictured with the original group of five pupils in the early 1881 class photograph. Based on his birth year, he was approximately 14 to 15 years old at the time of enrollment. Andrew attended the school until 1886.

As an adult, Andrew settled in Idaho, where census records list his occupation as a farmer. He was married twice. His first wife, Katherine "Kate" Pederson, died in 1918. He later married Edna Starr in 1922, and together they had three children.

Andrew Siverson died in 1937 at the age of 71 and was buried at the Norwegian German Lutheran Cemetery in Idaho County, Idaho.



First class of students at the Dakota Territorial School for the Deaf and Mute, Sioux Falls, c.1881. Based on his age at enrollment (about 14–15 years old), Andrew Siverson is believed to be the student seated at the right front.