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ON THE COVER: This somewhat romantic illustration, "The Beautiful Moonlight in Dakota Land," is from the equally romanticized, imaginative "history" of St. Paul by Col. Hankins described in the article beginning on page 16.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Pictures used with the St. Anthony Park article are from the Ramsey County Historical Society. Those with the stories on the old trolleys and John R. Irvine are from the Minnesota Historical Society. Pictures with the story on Col. Hankins' St. Paul history are from the book itself. The editor is indebted to Eugene Becker and Dorothy Gimestad of the Minnesota Historical Society's audiovisual library for their help, and also to Henry Hall, chairman of the Ramsey County Historical Society's Publications Committee, who reproduced the pictures from Hankins' book.



The "business district" of St. Anthony Park in 1891, looking west, past the railroad station, grocery store and post office. There was a boarding house upstairs, over the store.

St. Anthony Park: The History of a 'Small Town' Within a City

BY FREDRIC STEINHAUSER

Newsmen have graphically described St. Anthony Park: "Hinged to the northwestern edge of the city is a picturesque appendage of tree-shaded streets that bend and twist and are known collectively as St. Anthony Park. It is more nearly a complete community, perhaps, than any other in the city because of its geography and also the particular cast of personalities who live there. Como Avenue, looking east, and Raymond to the southwest are the thin cords that tie St. Anthony Park to the rest of St. Paul . . . And among the 1,500 families in the Park, a good majority have something to do with the University. As a matter of fact, even the most steadfast supporters of the main campus over in Minneapolis have leaned nostalgically toward St. Anthony Park . . . The moving force behind the Park's vigorous community spirit and neighborliness is the St. Anthony Park Association. . . The only reason we're mentioning all this is that perhaps you'd like to meander around the Park some nice day and see it yourself. Just a friendly tip. Take a compass. Some of those streets are continually running into themselves." — Gareth Hiebert of the St. Paul Dispatch in his St. Paul Is My Beat by Oliver Towne (North Central Publishing Company, St. Paul).

ST. Anthony Park, one of the older communities in St. Paul, has been characterized as unique. Nature's acts of glaciation have provided an interesting topography, one not duplicated anywhere else in St. Paul. Beautiful trees gave the area a strong appeal for early settlers and thus the community was developed as a residential area, originally designed by a nationally-known

architect. It early became the home of faculty members of the University of Minnesota, and three governors of Minnesota have lived there.

St. Anthony Park is somewhat isolated by railroads, industry, the University and the State Fairgrounds, and thus it has retained many small-town characteristics. The community once had its own railroad station, with connections to both Minneapolis and St. Paul. Today it is common for residents to congregate in small-town fashion on the post office corner or around the community bulletin board and pass the time of day.

With its winding streets and hilly terrain, St. Anthony Park is a mixture of old and new.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS: This article is adapted from a study of St. Anthony Park conducted under the auspices of the St. Anthony Park Association. Chief author of the published study was Fredric Steinhauer of the University of Minnesota. He was assisted by Nicholas J. Cords, of the University's department of history, and Noel Potter, Jr., and Herbert E. Wright, Jr., of the department of geology.

Side-by-side on nearly every avenue stand traditionally ornate homes reminiscent of the 1890's and starkly simple modern dwellings of the 1960's.

A CENTURY AGO the St. Anthony Park area was little more than an uninhabited wilderness. Although the first railroad connecting St. Paul and St. Anthony passed through it, about the only other trail that crossed the Park was the one used by Indians on their way from Lake Calhoun to Forest Lake. It followed the approximate route of Chelmsford Street, crossed what is now College Park, and continued north near Hythe Street.

Much of the land belonged to William R. Marshall, governor of Minnesota from 1866 to 1870. He began to buy it about 1850 with the idea of developing it into a residential area. During the 1870's others joined in this land speculation: Nathaniel Langford, Marshall's brother-in-law; John Knapp, president of the Knapp-Stout Lumber Company of Menomonie, Wisconsin; Henry Van Reed, Knapp's brother-in-law, and Andrew Tainter, a Menomonie attorney. Correspondence among Marshall, Knapp and Van Reed was discovered in the attic of the Knapp home in Menomonie and now is preserved in the documents collection of the Ramsey County Historical Society, presented to the Society by Hal McWethy, a longtime resident of the Park.

In 1873, Marshall engaged Horace William Shaler Cleveland of Chicago, a nationally-known landscape architect and a partner of W. M. R. French (later president of the Chicago Art Institute) to map out a suburb of large country estates. Cleveland firmly believed in "adaptation of natural features to the necessities of human occupation and use." Thus, instead of marking out square blocks "in blind adherence to geometric rules," he divided the land with streets that curved gracefully to conform with the slopes and other irregularities of the terrain.

On his sketch map, also preserved in the Ramsey County Historical Society's collections, St. Anthony Park appears as a community of large estates. It was cut through the middle by what is now Como Avenue, which connected the "United Cities" of St. Paul and Minneapolis. In spite of many subsequent alterations in his design, Horace W. S. Cleveland left an indelible stamp on the appearance of St. Anthony Park.*

IT WAS NOT until after 1885 that St. Anthony Park began to take on the appearance of a settlement. In that year the railroad tracks separated St. Anthony Park into two parts — St. Anthony Park North and South. Thus St. Anthony Park North took on approximately its present boundaries; Territorial Road (now merged for most of its length with University Avenue) was the southern boundary of St. Anthony Park South.

Part of the northern section was platted for J. Royall McMurrin, an agent for Richmond, Virginia, investors. Commemorating those Southerners' association with St. Anthony Park North are such street names as Carter, Buford, Dooley (now Commonwealth), and Doswell. Other street names recall Charles H. Pratt, John H. Knapp, Anson Blake, and Walter Bourne, all involved in selling or developing Park property; J. Mage Eustis of Minneapolis; Dr. William W. Folwell, first president of the University of Minnesota; Bradford P. Raymond, graduate of Hamline University and later president of two colleges; Nathaniel P. Langford, first superintendent of Yellowstone Park and owner of St. Anthony Park land, and the Reverend John L. Scudder, a Minneapolis minister.

A definite contribution to the development of St. Anthony Park North was the establishment in the 1880's of what was to become the University of Minnesota's St. Paul Campus on Cleveland Avenue. (It is interesting to note that Cleveland Avenue was first named for Heman Gibbs, a pioneer settler. There is still much controversy concerning for whom or what the avenue later was named: President Grover Cleveland, Horace W. S. Cleveland, or someone or something else.)

Through the Morrill Act of 1862, which gave the states federal lands for establishment of agricultural and mechanical schools, Minnesota received 120,000 acres — 30,000 acres for each member of its delegation in Congress. Attempts then were made to implement the act in Minnesota. John S. Pillsbury, governor of Minnesota from 1876 to 1882, and William W. Folwell, president of the University from 1869 to 1884, never lost sight of their goal — the establishment of an agricultural school, under the Morrill

**St. Anthony Park most likely derives its name from its early close association with the village of St. Anthony which merged with Minneapolis in 1872.*



Langford Park, above, in 1885. At left is Governor William R. Marshall's residence.



Act, which would be within the University of Minnesota.

EARLY BEGINNINGS were frustrated by much wrangling, misunderstanding, naivete, and, in some cases, sheer apathy. In 1873 President Folwell stated that "not a single young man has come here to learn the science of farming." Yet the dream of such a school persisted.

In 1881, the University purchased the "Old Bass Farm" on the "Como Road," and in 1884 built its Farm House and Main Barn there. Professor Edward D. Porter was named director. The school initially drew 225 students, but it was to suffer one more failure, with its enrollment again dropping to zero. Only the farm work staff remained.

However, the school soon received a boost which finally launched it on a successful course. The Hatch Act of 1887 provided federal funds for the support of a full staff, some of whose time was to be dedicated to research. Porter now gathered a staff, among whom was Samuel B. Green, a horticulturist from New England who also was responsible

for much of the beauty of the campus. By 1910, the appearance of the campus "testified to the fact that sober thought can solve the most baffling of problems. It had an excellent plant and it was rich in men of energy and originality. Its enrollment in all branches and projects was close to fifteen hundred. After an uncertain start it had achieved stability as a well-launched enterprise."*

THE MAIN contribution of the University of Minnesota St. Paul Campus to the early growth and development of St. Anthony Park came through individuals. Once the school began its continuous growth during the late 1880's and early 1890's, staff, faculty and students came to the area, and many of them took up residence in St. Anthony Park. Leading figures at the school also became leaders and developers of the community. They included Samuel B. Green, head of the departments of forestry and horticulture; Willet M. Hays, professor at the experiment station and later assistant United States secretary of agriculture; Harry Snyder, head of the department of soils and chemistry; Andrew Boss, vice director of the experiment station; William Boss, head of the department of agricultural engineering, and Colonel William M. Liggett, first dean of the department of agriculture and a member of the Board of Regents.

*The University of Minnesota, 1851-1951, by James Gray. Minneapolis: The University of Minnesota Press, 1951.



The St. Anthony Park Company gave a strong impetus to the growth of St. Anthony Park North. It has been mentioned that in 1885 the community was divided by the railroad tracks into St. Anthony Park North and South. Today when one speaks of St. Anthony Park he usually is referring to St. Anthony Park North since St. Anthony Park South has been diffused into the Midway area. But for historical purposes it is necessary to consider briefly both sections, for much of St. Anthony Park North sprang from organizations, institutions and individuals based in the southern section of the Park. But before continuing, another more subtle and often misunderstood fact about the area's history must be cleared up.

St. Anthony Park North and South were divided by the railroad tracks; but which tracks — the Great Northern, (now the Burlington Northern but then the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba) or the Northern Pacific (now merged with the Burlington Northern)? Today, of course, the area between the Burlington Northern tracks to the south and those to the north, adjacent to Langford Park, is familiar to Park residents and others as being laced with innumerable railroad tracks, truck routes and terminals.

IT IS DIFFICULT now to realize that within this "island," bounded on the south, west and north by tracks, and on the east by Raymond Avenue, there existed during the 1880's a relatively full-blown community. It was here that the office of the St. Anthony Park Company was located. Organized in 1884, the company gained control of most of the land in St. Anthony Park North, which

Charles H. Pratt, one of the men involved in selling or developing St. Anthony Park property, and his family.

it began to develop (including building construction), sell and lease. Charles H. Pratt was the company's president; William Marshall was vice-president; Anson Blake, Pratt's uncle, was secretary-treasurer, and F. W. Pickard was land agent. Both Pratt, a former Congregational minister, and Blake were religious men; they refused to allow their construction employees to work on Sunday. The no-liquor tradition in St. Anthony Park dates back to the efforts of these two men.

The Great Northern Railroad station was vital to this now-forgotten community. It was called the "Short Line." Trains ran twice a day to St. Paul and Minneapolis, carrying men to and from work, as well as shoppers and sight-seers. The railroad even conveyed area residents to the annual Minnesota State Fair.

By the late 1880's the community sported a general store and post office. Dr. and Mrs. Gould operated a boarding house above the store, and many of the men employed by the St. Anthony Park Company stayed there. In 1886, the Congregational Church was organized in the general store building, with 13 charter members. The Reverend Herbert W. Gleason, a missionary pastor from southeast Minneapolis, first served the congregation. The Reverend Joseph Hayes Chandler was its first full-time minister. Almost from its beginning the church was the center of community life. Also located in this area was a Unitarian Chapel, known as Central Hall,

which later served as a kindergarten building. Dan Lindley, a policeman mounted on a chestnut horse, patrolled the community and carried mail.

In a sense, then, this "island" community provides a "missing link" in the history of St. Anthony Park North, as the development of St. Anthony Park was drawn northward by the St. Paul campus and the activities of the St. Anthony Park Company. Ruth Hall, a life-long resident, called this "island" community "St. Anthony Park Center." The Hall family's history demonstrates this northward surge.

In 1886, upon the advice of a Dr. Godfrey Walker, Edward Hall and his brother, Owen; Sears Brace and son, and Edward Burghardt, all of Rochester, New York, established a furniture factory near the Minnesota Transfer (a large terminal where goods from the east were stored to await shipment west) in St. Anthony Park South, near University Avenue. This plant is said to have been the first manufacturing company in the area. When the Hall family arrived in April of 1886, the community was in the midst of its first city election. St. Paul had recently annexed the St. Anthony Park area. The election was held in the office of the St. Anthony Park Company.

After living for a time on Long Avenue in St. Anthony Park South, the Halls moved to a house on Bayless Avenue in "St. Anthony Park Center" where Ruth Hall was born. Hall later established a real estate business with an office on Como Avenue in St. Anthony Park North. Eventually the family moved to the Park North. The Halls' oldest daughter, Ethel, later Mrs. C. H. Stewart, developed an intense interest in the history of the Park.

During the late 1880's and early 1890's, St. Anthony Park North began to lose its wilderness characteristics, although some of these characteristics continued into the Twentieth Century. The region north of Dudley Avenue was rich in its abundance of wild flowers; crocuses grew in the Grantham-Chelmsford vicinity. Mrs. Hazel Boss Cleland, daughter of Andrew Boss, recalls that at about the turn of the century she walked to kindergarten at Central Hall from her home at Raymond and Buford.

On the St. Anthony Park side of Cleveland Avenue, the first residences she passed were the Snyder and the Green houses on Com-

monwealth, both built on the same plan in 1887. The next residential cluster on her route included the homes of Andrew R. McGill, governor of Minnesota from 1887 to 1889, and Dean Liggett on Scudder Avenue; the Flagg residence on Raymond also attracted her attention.

LANGFORD PARK was once a small lake called "Rocky Lake." Pioneers recall that boats were used on it. A bridge crossed the lake approximately where the band shell now stands. The St. Anthony Park Company filled the lake for sanitary reasons. The fill was taken from a large hill just south of the lake. Legend has it that a small train used to carry the fill sank into the ground at the southern end of the Park. Only the engine is supposed to have been saved. Pioneers, however, vividly recall the colorful language of the mule-drivers as their animals sank to their bellies in ooze.

A slough-peat bog existed on the east side of Cleveland Avenue, near where Como and Raymond join, and college students participated in tugs-of-war over the bog with rather dire results for members of the losing side. Well into this century the area in the vicinity of Eustis, Commonwealth, Hillside and Gordon provided a hunting ground for men and boys, as ducks and blackbirds were available there. A beautiful spring existed near the corner of Commonwealth and Keston which provided refreshment and relief from a not-too-trustworthy water supply.

Throughout the history of the Park, institutions have played a dominant role. The University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus has been mentioned. Another significant institution was the Murray School, named after William Pitt Murray, an early St. Paul attorney and political figure. The school, near the corner of Commonwealth and Como, opened in January of 1888. Emma Cooper was the first teacher, and there were nine pupils.

At first the school had four rooms. Later, four more were added. When the junior high school was built in 1925, it was named Murray, and the elementary school was renamed for Gilbert Gutterson, an early community leader. In 1955, the St. Anthony Park Elementary School replaced the Gutterson School at a different location. Murray added a high school and graduated its first class in 1940.

THE STRYKER SEMINARY for girls was established in 1888 by Peter D. Stryker,

a Presbyterian minister. It was located on Doswell, but apparently it was defunct by 1900. The main building suffered from fires in 1903, 1904 and 1905. Stryker was a colorful man. It is said that every morning he ran from the seminary to the railroad station and back to keep fit. His son, Henry, was reputed to be very dapper in his silk hat and cutaway coat — at least the St. Anthony Park girls and those enrolled at the school seemed to think so. The local boys enjoyed the seminary, too. Walking back and forth in front of the school was a favorite evening pastime. One night two young “foreign” male visitors at the seminary found their buggies missing when they tried to leave. The conveyances were recovered, and the visitors left behind them a memento — a beautiful “shiner” on one of the local boy’s eyes.

Another institution was the Children’s Home Society of Minnesota (formerly the Children’s Aid Society), incorporated in 1889 and located in St. Anthony Park North. Its founder and first superintendent was the Reverend E. P. Savage, and its first president was Dr. Cyrus Northrop, president of the University of Minnesota.

Realizing the importance of a library to a community, residents led by Mrs. Francis Parker, a teacher at Murray School, and A. J. Franke, a real estate developer, pressed for one to be built. (Incidentally, it was Franke who built the English-style building complex at Carter and Como Avenues which still lends a distinctive air to the shopping area there. The building contained two relatively spacious halls — Fireside and Tamarack — where residents once gathered socially.)

The establishment of a permanent library followed a familiar pattern. In July of 1905, Fiesler’s Drug Store at Raymond and Hampden in St. Anthony Park South displayed a small number of books for loan. In 1917, this little library was replaced by a library station in Baker School, also in the southern section of St. Anthony Park. Staffed by a public library assistant, this station was open one afternoon a week.

EARLIER, on June 25, 1913, space was provided for a small library in the Wallace and Franke grocery store in St. Anthony Park North. The store’s bookkeeper acted as the librarian. A local committee, in the meantime, led by Mrs. Parker, secured the

present library site and presented it to the city. Funds for the building were provided by Andrew Carnegie. On July 28, 1917, the library opened with a collection of 5,000 books.

In the meantime, other institutions were establishing themselves in St. Anthony Park North. In 1902, the United Church Seminary, the seminary for the United Norwegian Lutheran Church, moved to St. Anthony Park from Minneapolis. After the union in 1917 of three Norwegian Lutheran Synods, Luther Theological Seminary was the American seminary for the Evangelical Lutheran Church. With the formation of the American Lutheran Church in 1961, Luther Theological Seminary became the church’s largest seminary.

ON THE SEMINARY grounds is an historic building, Old Muskego Church, which in 1904 was transported from Wisconsin, board by board, to the campus and reconstructed there. The church was built by early Norwegian immigrants on Indian Hill, Norway Township, Racine County, Wisconsin, in 1844. Except for the outside protective covering, the church has been completely and accurately reconstructed. Much of the interior also is original, including the pews, pulpit, stove, and altar.

In 1917, influenced by Dr. Edgar G. Haupt, rector of St. Matthews Episcopal Church, Breck School, a boys’ military academy established in 1886 at Wilder, Minnesota, by the Episcopal Church of Minnesota, moved to St. Anthony Park. The school, named for the Reverend James Lloyd Breck, a pioneer missionary, remained in the Park until 1956, when it moved to new quarters in Minneapolis. Luther Theological Seminary now owns the Breck buildings.

Northwestern Lutheran Theological Seminary, previously located in Minneapolis, began classes in 1967 in a new building adjacent to Luther Theological Seminary.

* * *

FROM THE EARLY activities of Marshall, Knapp and others, to the present, St. Anthony Park residents have displayed a penchant for organizing and planning. The St. Anthony Park Association (not to be confused with today’s organization bearing that name) was a women’s organization, established in 1897 to collect money to erect a memorial in St. Paul to Civil War veterans. The association continued as a

"Study Club interested in Civic Improvement." The founders saw their group as a "patriotic, civic, literary, and philanthropic organization," and set out "to do what our hands find to do and do it with our might." Mrs. Andrew R. McGill was the first president. The St. Anthony Park Association waxed and then waned, until, in 1926 its members voted it out of existence. The association's last act was philanthropic: its remaining money, \$3.78, was given to the Children's Home Society.



The St. Anthony Park School Union was organized in 1897 at the suggestion of the St. Anthony Park Association. Its purpose, according to its constitution, was "to promote the cause of education in the locality represented by the Union and to co-operate with the Central Union of St. Paul in promoting the educational interests of the city." Although it existed for only a short time, the Union and a Mother's Club, also established in the late 1890's, appear to have been the forerunners of the modern P.T.A.

THE ANCESTOR of the present St. Anthony Park Association was the North St. Anthony Park Improvement League established May 28, 1901. According to the late Coates P. Bull, former president of the Ramsey County Historical Society, the League was the brainchild of E. B. Hause, a St. Paul dentist living in St. Anthony Park.

The Congregational Chapel, left, in 1887. This was the first church building in St. Anthony Park and stood at the corner of Wheeler and Raymond Avenues. Below, an early view of St. Anthony Park.



According to its constitution, the League attempted to work for the beautification and betterment of the community, and provide the city of St. Paul with information on the needs of St. Anthony Park. It is interesting to note how closely the purposes and activities of the present St. Anthony Park Association resemble those of the old League. One of the League's most important activities was the sponsoring of an annual Fourth of July celebration.

The only part of the League's constitution which today seems archaic is this section: "To discourage the erection of front line fences, and to prevent by every possible means the free roaming of cattle, poultry and dogs."

THE LEAGUE became defunct in 1928. The present St. Anthony Park Association was incorporated in 1947, and since has assumed the lead in community planning and development.

Another organization which had its beginnings in St. Anthony Park is the Ramsey County Historical Society. Ethel Hall Stewart's long interest in the history of St. Anthony Park resulted in the establishment of the St. Anthony Park Area Historical Association in 1944. In 1949, the association became the Ramsey County Historical Society.

One achievement of the Association was the discovery of Horace W. S. Cleveland's burial site. During the 1940's, Mrs. Stewart became curious about Cleveland's later life. She learned that he had lived in the Twin Cities area until his death in 1900, and after much sleuthing, she found that he was buried in an unmarked grave in Lakewood Cemetery in Minneapolis.

Taking advantage of a monument company's offer to place a free marker on any unmarked grave of a pioneer, the Association, led by Mrs. Stewart and Dr. Theodore C. Blegen, then dean of the University of Minnesota Graduate School, arranged a ceremony held on October 17, 1948, at Lakewood Cemetery, to honor the early planner of St. Anthony Park.

It should be added here that Cleveland also planned the early Minneapolis campus of the University; he worked on park planning for Charles H. Loring in Minneapolis; he was the first to suggest the establishment of Como and Phalen Parks in St. Paul, and he contributed to the development of the twin roads along either side of the Mississippi River.

IN 1954, the Ramsey County Historical Society opened to the public the Gibbs Farm House, built by Heman Gibbs in 1854 at what is now the junction of Cleveland and Larpenteur Avenues. The society's headquarters also is located there.

* * *

THE RICH and varied historical background of St. Anthony Park includes the geology of the area. Although the bedrock beneath the St. Anthony Park area is about 400 million years old, most of the surface deposits are relatively recent. They were deposited on top of the bedrock by glaciers that covered the Twin Cities area several times until about 12,000 years ago.

Most of the bedrock is a formation called the Platteville Limestone. Where fresh, it is typically light gray, but near the surface it has oxidized to brown. It contains numerous fossils, including brachiopods, pelecypods (clams), trilobites, gastropods (snails), and corals. The northernmost part of St. Anthony Park, from about Hendon Avenue northward, is underlain by the greenish-gray Decorah Shale, which was deposited on top of the Platteville Limestone.

These two formations, as well as the underlying St. Peter Sandstone, were deposited in a shallow sea about 150 feet deep. The sand of the St. Peter Sandstone represents a beach deposit. The overlying Platteville Limestone and a thin shaly unit at its base represent deeper water, as indicated by the fossils in the limestone. The Decorah Shale represents shallow water again.

The Twin Cities area was covered at least twice by glaciers during the Ice Age. The first of the two glaciers that crossed the Twin Cities area relatively recently came from the Lake Superior basin, as indicated by the red glacial debris (called *till*) that is so common in the Twin Cities. This till contains pebbles of material that is found as bedrock only in northeastern Minnesota and across Lake Superior in Wisconsin. The red

color is mainly due to the incorporation of red sandstone and slate which form the bedrock in the area between Hinckley and Lake Superior.

AT ITS TERMINUS the glacier built a broad ridge of debris (a moraine) traceable from Taylor's Falls to St. Paul to Minneapolis and thence to the northwest. St. Anthony Park lies in the midst of this moraine.

The glacier began to melt in the Twin Cities area approximately 15,000 years ago, as determined by radioactive dating of carbon from wood found in the till. About 13,000 years ago, the second glacier or ice lobe advanced across the Twin Cities area from the southwest. It spread over the Minnesota River lowlands from its origin in the Red River lowland, and it carried debris from rocks in western Minnesota and Manitoba that are dominantly gray in color. The till has subsequently been oxidized to yellow.

The ice of this advance overrode the previously deposited red till, which may have contained some stagnant ice. Red till was incorporated in the ice by erosion, for today we find that in many places the tills are intermixed. As the ice advanced northeastward across the Twin Cities area, meltwater washed debris off the front of the glacier and deposited it as an apron of sand before it. This sand was overridden by the ice and later covered by the red and yellow tills when the glacier melted away. This sand is exposed in the pits west of the industrial site north of Hennepin Avenue and west of Highway 280.

ABOUT 12,500 years ago, as this last glacier began to melt, a large amount of gravel was carried off the front of the ice by streams and deposited as relatively flat plains. The flat area on which the Minnesota State Fairgrounds stands is one of these outwash plains. The fine material on these plains was blown about by the wind, so that the area north of the University's St. Paul Campus is covered by two or three feet of this silty material, called loess.

Large blocks of the stagnant ice were buried by the sand and gravel washed from the surface of the glacier, and many of the blocks did not melt for perhaps hundreds of years after the glacier had receded. When the blocks did melt, depressions were formed, and the sand and gravel collapsed into them. Lake Como, College Park on Doswell Street, and the pond at Langford Park are located

"... a quiet, dignified St. Paul neighborhood where you need a Ph.D. to keep up with the Joneses . . . The proximity of the Park to the University's St. Paul and Minneapolis campuses, and its pleasant tree-shaded, rolling hills have attracted many of the University staff and faculty, giving rise to the claim that there are more Ph.D's living there than any other community in the U.S." — Albert Eisele, staff writer, in the St. Paul Sunday Pioneer Press.

in such depressions. Most of the hills and depressions in St. Anthony Park were formed by the melting of ice beneath an irregular cover of rock debris. The result was that debris slid off high areas of ice to lower areas, where it accumulated to greater thickness. Where the debris was thicker, we now have hills, and where thinner, we have depressions.

After the final retreat of the ice, the Mississippi River, which had been deflected eastward to Wisconsin and the St. Croix River, cut across the moraine in Minneapolis. The flat area from the west edge of St. Anthony Park to the present Mississippi River was formed as gravel carried by the river was deposited.

Studies of pollen grains in the sediments of several lakes near the Twin Cities have shown that the vegetation of the past was not the same as it is now. Until about 10,500 years ago, the dominant trees of the area were spruce and larch. Later, for a short time birch, alder, and pine were dominant. Between 7,000 and 5,000 years ago the Twin Cities area looked like the prairie of western Minnesota, with open grassland and a few oak trees on the north sides of some of the hills.

But for about the past 5,000 years, the Twin Cities area has looked much as it does today except, of course, for the major changes man has made. Many of the lakes have been filled in, including Rocky Lake in Langford Park.

St. Anthony Park is fortunate, however, in that much of the early woodland has been preserved in the many old trees which are firmly rooted in the ancient hilly glacial terrain.



Photo by Henry Hall

THE GIBBS HOUSE

Headquarters of the Ramsey County Historical Society, 2097 Larpenteur Avenue West, St. Paul, Minnesota.

THE Ramsey County Historical Society was founded in 1949. During the following years the Society, believing that a sense of history is of great importance in giving a new, mobile generation a knowledge of its roots in the past, acquired the 100-year-old farm home which had belonged to Heman R. Gibbs. The Society restored the Gibbs House and in 1954 opened it to the public as a museum which would depict the way of life of an early Minnesota settler.

In 1958, the Society erected a barn behind the farm house which is maintained as an agricultural museum to display the tools and other implements used by the men who broke up the prairie soil and farmed with horse and oxen. In 1966, the Society moved to its museum property a one-room rural schoolhouse, dating from the 1870's. The white frame school came from near Milan, Minnesota. Now restored to the period of the late 1890's, the school actually is used for classes and meetings. In the basement beneath the school building, the Society has its office, library and collections. In 1968, the Society acquired from the University of Minnesota the use of the white barn adjoining the Society's property. Here is housed a collection of carriages and sleighs which once belonged to James J. Hill.

Today, in addition to maintaining the Gibbs property, the Ramsey County Historical Society is active in the preservation of historic sites in Ramsey county, conducts tours, prepares pamphlets and other publications, organizes demonstrations of pioneer crafts and maintains a Speakers' Bureau for schools and organizations. It is the Society's hope that through its work the rich heritage of the sturdy men and women who were the pioneers of Ramsey County will be preserved for future generations.