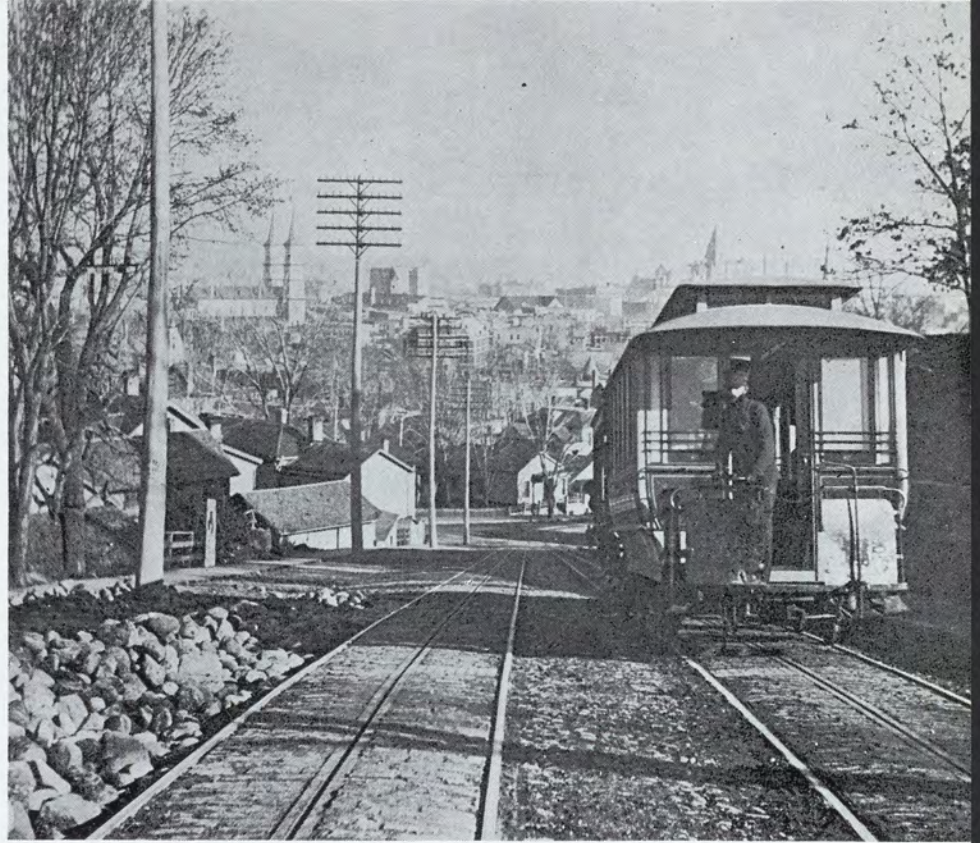
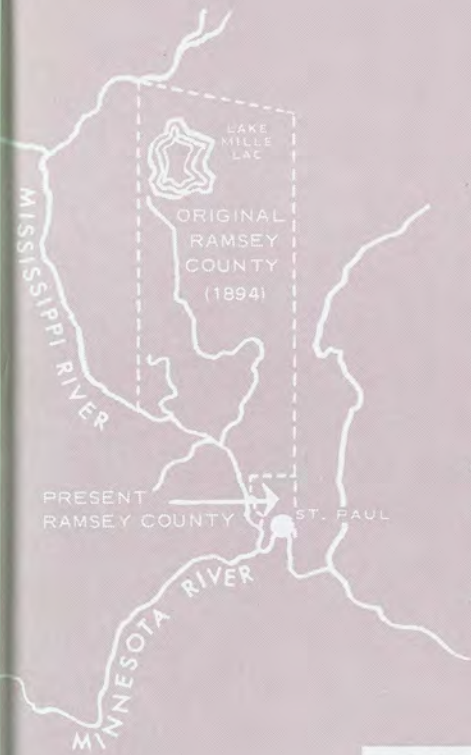


RAMSEY COUNTY HISTORY



Fall
1964

Volume 1
Number 2

Ramsey County History

Published by the RAMSEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Editor: Virginia Brainard Kunz

CONTENTS

- Fall
1964
Volume 1
Number 2
- Steamboats and Cable Cars
... St. Paul's Gaslight Era
George M. Brack Page 3
- Village In the Wilderness
... Little Canada—Heritage from the French
Margaret Whitney Wall Page 8
- 'We Was Ordered Out on the Double-quick . . .
They Skeedadled'
... Sergeant Ramer's Indian War
Virginia Brainard Kunz Page 16

RAMSEY COUNTY HISTORY is published semi-annually and copyrighted, 1964, by the Ramsey County Historical Society, 2097 Larpenteur Avenue West, St. Paul, Minn. Membership in the Society carries with it a subscription to Ramsey County History. Single issues sell for \$1.00. Correspondence concerning contributions should be addressed to the editor. The Society assumes no responsibility for statements made by contributors. Manuscripts and other editorial material are welcomed but, since the Society is an eleemosynary institution, no payment can be made for contributions. All articles and other editorial material submitted will be carefully read and published, if accepted, as space permits.

On the Cover: This 1895 photograph shows one of St. Paul's cable cars described in George M. Brack's article beginning on page 3. The car is ascending Selby Hill. This and other pictures illustrating Mr. Brack's reminiscences of a tranquil era are from the Minnesota Historical Society's collection.

The Ramsey County Historical Society

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

Arthur J. Holen
President

Robert M. Jordan
First Vice President

John H. Allison, Sr.
Second Vice President

Mrs. Grace M. Olson
Recording Secretary

Mrs. Fred Beisswenger
Corresponding Secretary

Mary C. Finley
Treasurer

HOSTS IN RESIDENCE at The Gibbs House

Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Lettermann

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Virginia Brainard Kunz

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Arthur J. Holen
Robert M. Jordan
John H. Allison, Sr.
Mrs. Grace M. Olson
Mrs. Fred Beisswenger
Mary C. Finley
Henry Hall, Jr.
George M. Brack
William L. Cavert
Russell W. Fridley
Fred Gorham
Mrs. Donald W. DeCoster, Jr.
Clarence W. Rife
Frank F. Paskewitz
Ralph E. Miller
Eugene A. Monick
Mrs. Alice Gibbs Nelson
Hal E. McWethy
Mrs. W. A. Mortenson
Hayden L. Stright
Jerome E. Franke

EDITORIAL BOARD

William L. Cavert, chairman
Henry Hall, Jr.
Clarence W. Rife

THE BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

George Vavoulis
Harold F. Goodrich
John E. Daubney
Edward K. Delaney
Arthur T. Gibbons

Roy P. Nadeau
Ed Salverda
Eugene A. Monick
James D. Swan
Thomas M. Quayle



THE GIBBS HOUSE

Headquarters of the Ramsey County Historical Society, 2097 Larpenteur Avenue W., St. Paul, Minn.

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 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.

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.