

**MERRIAM PARK**

**INTENSIVE LEVEL HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY**  
**SAINT PAUL, RAMSEY COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**Authorized and Sponsored by:**

**Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission**  
**and the Department of Planning and Economic Development**

**Submitted by:**

**Landscape Research LLC**  
**Saint Paul, Minnesota**

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**FINAL REPORT**  
**2019**



## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

In July 2018 the City of Saint Paul contracted with Landscape Research LLC (Landscape Research) to conduct an intensive-level architecture/history evaluation of the original plat of the Merriam Park neighborhood (Figure 1). The fieldwork was conducted between August and November 2018. City of Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) and staff in the Department of Planning and Economic Development (PED) provided support with database development and copies of building permits on file at the Ramsey County Historical Society. Amy M. Lucas and Carole Zellie of Landscape Research LLC conducted the fieldwork, research and evaluation.

The work was conducted in accordance with the *Guidelines for History/Architecture Projects in Minnesota* (SHPO 2010), *the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* (Federal Register 48(190):44716-44740, National Park Service [NPS] 1983).

The project area is located in the Merriam Park Neighborhood, in Section 33 of Township 29, Range 23. The survey area is bounded by St. Anthony Avenue and the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul (CM&StP) Short Line corridor and Interstate 94 to the north; the east side of Cleveland Avenue to the west, the alley immediately south of Marshall Avenue to the south, and the west side Fairview Avenue to the east. The project area includes more than thirty blocks platted as Merriam Park as well as Welshon Place and a portion of Lovering Park. Merriam Terrace Park (also known as Merriam Park) occupies a portion of the northwestern corner of the area.

The historic context, "Building Merriam Park, 1882-1930," describes the pattern of real estate, transportation, institutional, and social and cultural development at this edge of the Midway Transfer area. The historic context research provides a foundation for property evaluation. The study area's period of significance is 1882 to 1930, spanning from the original plat of Merriam Park to the general decline of construction at the beginning of the Great Depression. After 1930, most new development was apartment and institutional buildings. In the 1960s and 1970s, demolition of residential and commercial buildings for Interstate 94 construction and playground expansion cleared the northern edge of the neighborhood. The demolition included blocks of houses from the period of earliest development, ca. 1884-1890, and the heart of the Prior Avenue commercial center.

The 303 inventoried properties included 259 single- and double-family houses constructed between 1885 and 1979. The period between 1885 and 1889 is represented by 78 extant dwellings. A total of nineteen apartment buildings date from the period 1908-1971. Three churches, one park, one community center, one school, two private institutional buildings, one gymnasium-auditorium, one public library and a variety of commercial buildings comprise the other property types. Three bridges were previously recorded within the survey area.

The work of twenty-five architects and architectural firms was identified within the study area, including Augustus Gauger, Thomas Holyoke, Clarence H. Johnston, James H. Record and Louis F. Lockwood, as well as dozens of local builders including John Noble, Gustaf (Gust) A. Anderson, Victor Ingemann, Malcolm McKay, and William McKay. Predominant residential architectural styles from 1885 through 1908 are the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival, with Craftsman examples dating from ca. 1908-1916. High-styled as well as simple varieties of each were documented. Exterior alterations that may diminish historic integrity include porch and trim

removal, residing with vinyl and other materials, window replacement that alters window size and type, and certain types of additions.

A total of fifteen properties are recommended for further study for potential local heritage preservation designation under City of Saint Paul Criteria (Section 2.4; Tables 3, 4, Figure 63). Eight properties on Marshall Avenue and two on Iglehart Avenue appear to retain a high level of historic integrity that conveys their significance as the work of Saint Paul architects Louis F. Lockwood or Mark Fitzgerald. Two properties are significant for their association with Merriam Park builder Gustaf A. (Gust) Anderson. Two churches, Olivet Congregational and Trinity Methodist, are associated with the work of Clarence H. Johnston and Thomas Holyoke, respectively. Merriam Terrace Park (1883-) is recommended for further study for potential local heritage preservation designation as a designed historic landscape.

Within the study area there are many residential properties from the period 1885-1930 that retain good or excellent historic integrity. These properties include single-family and double houses and apartment buildings. However, most are typical of their style and type and do not appear to have individual significance at a level that meets local (or National Register of Historic Places) designation criteria. There are no blocks that appear to comprise potential historic district streetscapes because of the number of interspersed properties with poor or fair exterior integrity. Some properties that represent excellent examples of the Queen Anne or Colonial Revival or related styles may, however, have significance within a study of the buildings of the broader Merriam Park area, which would include the Merriam Park Second and Third Additions (1887) that extend south to Summit Avenue.

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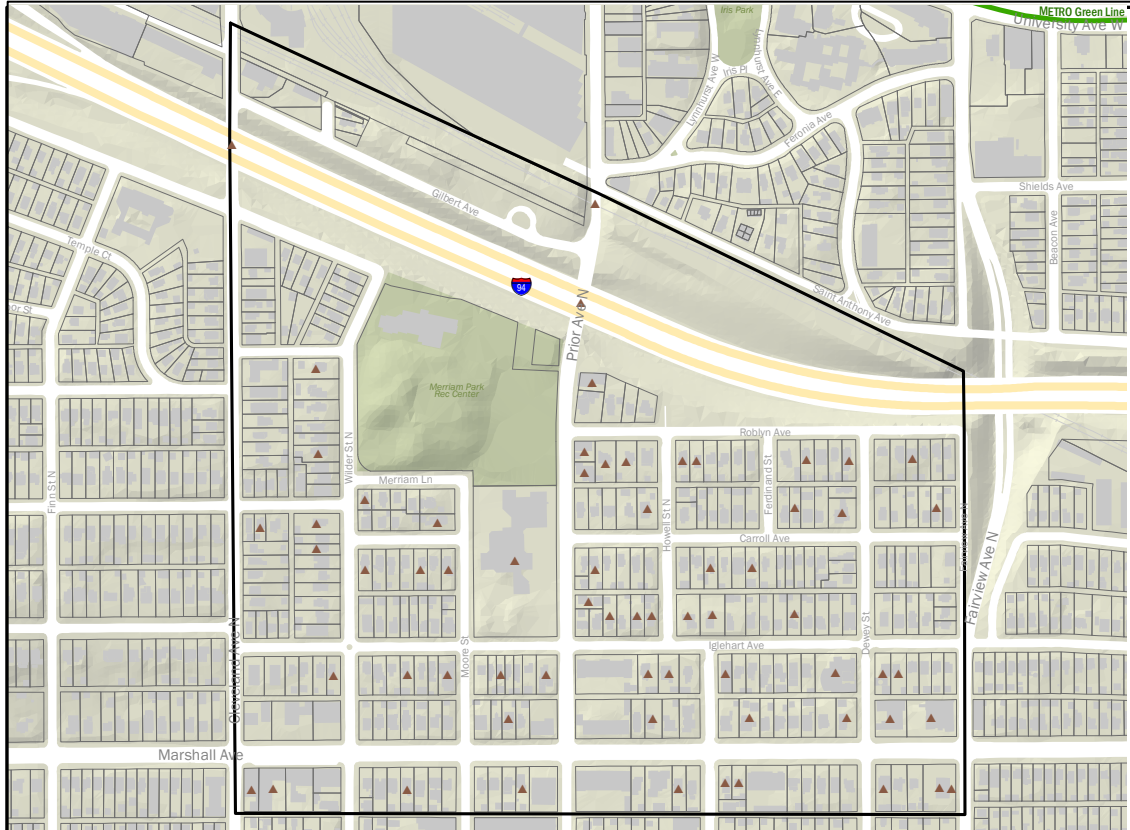
## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

In July 2018 the City of Saint Paul contracted with Landscape Research LLC (Landscape Research) to conduct an intensive-level architecture/history evaluation of the original plat of the Merriam Park neighborhood (Figure 1). The fieldwork was conducted between August and November 2018. City of Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) and staff in the Department of Planning and Economic Development (PED) provided support with database development and copies of building permits on file at the Ramsey County Historical Society. Amy M. Lucas and Carole Zellie of Landscape Research LLC conducted the fieldwork and research.

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This report includes the results of field survey, property research, and historic context development. Results of the evaluation of inventoried properties and recommendations are reported in Section 5.0.



**Figure 1**  
**Merriam Park Historic Resources Survey 2019**

Project Boundary □  
 Previously Inventoried Property ▲

Map Base: PED/HPC 2018

## **2.0 METHODS**

### **2.1 Research Design and Background Research**

In July through August 2018 the consultants conducted preliminary background research at the Ramsey County Historical Society, the Minnesota Historical Society and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (MnSHPO). General historical background material and information on previously inventoried properties was identified. Building permits and project area parcel information was also obtained from PED/HPC, the Ramsey County Historical Society, and the Ramsey County Assessor and Recorder.

The consultants prepared a Research Design for review and approval by the Saint Paul PED/HPC staff. The Research Design is included in the Appendix.

### **2.2 Field Methods**

During the field survey conducted in August through October 2018, all buildings, structures, and landscape features within project boundaries were viewed by pedestrian survey and photographed. Historic and contemporary aerial views, Ramsey County parcel records and City of Saint Paul building permits provided site information and assisted in determining construction dates.

### **2.3 Inventory Forms**

Each property was documented with field notes and digital photographs. The Arc GIS Collector supplied by PED/HPC was used for initial data collection. All properties were inventoried, regardless of their degree of exterior alteration. A Saint Paul Individual Property Inventory Form (based on the Minnesota Architecture-History Inventory form) for each property will be generated by PED/HPC from the database. These forms will be filed with PED/HPC and at MnSHPO.

### **2.4 Evaluation**

The field survey and background research provided the basis for the evaluation conducted for each inventoried property. The historic contexts prepared for the survey area, which included analysis of development patterns and building types and styles, informed each evaluation. Each property was described according to current appearance and determination of level of historic integrity. Few historic photographs were available. The standard sources consulted for each property included historic atlas maps (1886, 1887, 1908, 1916, 1928, 1959) and Rascher (1891) and Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps (1903, 1925). In some cases, the Rascher and Sanborn maps allowed identification of significant changes to the building outline. The building permit records on file at the Ramsey County Historical Society, provided to the project by the City of Saint Paul, allowed identification of owners, contractors, and architects. Some properties did not have building permit index cards or permits on file, however, and Ramsey County Assessor information was used. City directories, census records, and historic newspapers provided additional information. The compiled information was entered into the project database.

## **National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)**

Each property's potential eligibility for NRHP eligibility and local designation, based on significance and integrity, was assessed. NRHP evaluation criteria assisted in the assessment of eligibility:

### **Criterion A**

Association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history;

### **Criterion B**

Association with the lives of persons significant in our past;

### **Criterion C**

Embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; representation of the work of a master; possession of high artistic values; or representation of a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;

### **Criterion D**

Potential to yield information important to prehistory or history (NPS 1995).

## **City of Saint Paul Criteria**

The City of Saint Paul utilizes seven criteria for designation of properties as heritage preservation sites or districts. The Heritage Preservation Commission considers the following determining whether an individual building or district possesses significance:

1. The properties' character, interest, or value is part of the heritage or cultural characteristics of the City of Saint Paul, State of Minnesota, or the United States.
2. The properties' location was a site of a significant historical event.
3. The properties are identified with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the culture and development of the City of Saint Paul.
4. The properties exhibit a distinguished characteristic of an architectural or engineering specimen.
5. The properties are identifiable as the work of an architect, engineer, or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of the City of Saint Paul.
6. The properties embody elements of architectural or engineering design, detail, materials, and craftsmanship which represents a significant architectural or engineering innovation.
7. The properties' unique location or physical characteristic is established and familiar in the neighborhoods or communities of the City of Saint Paul.

## **Historic Integrity**

Each property was also assessed with regard to the seven aspects of integrity defined by the National Park Service to be considered when evaluating the ability of a property to convey its significance. They include location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The properties were also assessed to determine if they represent a property type to be evaluated within the NRHP Criteria Considerations (NPS 1995). This information is also used by the City of Saint Paul to assess integrity.

### 3.0 LITERATURE SEARCH

#### 3.1 Previous Architecture / History Studies

The literature search conducted at the City of Saint Paul and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office identified previous cultural resource surveys in the project area and suggested appropriate historic contexts for property evaluation. The primary previous survey work for this area was conducted in 1981-83 as part of the *Historic Sites Survey of Saint Paul and Ramsey County*. The study was prepared for the City of Saint Paul and the Ramsey County Historical Society. A total of 66 properties were identified within the present study area (Figure 1).

*The Historic Sites Survey of Saint Paul and Ramsey County* studied Merriam Park as part of District 13, which extended to Summit Avenue on the south and Lexington Avenue on the east. Among the findings were that some of the oldest houses in that broad area were concentrated in the current Merriam Park study area, and that the “block after block of simple, box-like, Colonial Revival style houses built close to one another in the eastern and central parts of this district were distinctive.” The study recommended two properties as eligible for local designation, and ten others as “additional sites of major significance.”

Table 1 includes previously inventoried Architecture-History properties within the study area. During the thirty-six-year period following the historic sites survey there have been a number of changes to the area. Major clearance of properties along St. Anthony and Prior Avenues was completed prior to the survey, however. Most notably, the Henry Hale Branch Library at 1831 Marshall (1930) was razed in 1992 and replaced with the current library, and several residential properties on Iglehart and Marshall Avenues have been razed or moved for multiple-family construction. Since the 1983 survey, many properties have been restored to their original appearance, and many others have been well maintained, while some have diminished historic integrity due to siding, window, and other alterations.

**Table 1. Previously Inventoried Architecture-History Properties in Merriam Park Study Area**

Inventory #	Name	Date	Address	Previous Rec'd (1983)
RA-SPC-0480	John and Ella Anderson House	1901	1829 Carroll Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-0481	J. J. McDonald House	1886	1857 Carroll Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-0482	Zelotus King	1894	1875 Carroll Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-0483	Alvah B. Bell House	1886	1888 Carroll Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-0485	Oscar P. and Anita Shepardson House	1887	1902 Carroll Ave W.	
RA-SPC-0486	George J. Pilkington House	1891	1940 Carroll Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-0487	Ida Levin House	1912	1984 Carroll Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-0485	Mark and Mary Fay House	1886	1921 Carroll Ave. W.	“Major Significance”
RA-SPC-0488	Michael and Louisa Yerxa House	1886	1996 Carroll Ave. W.	“Major Significance”
RA-SPC-0489	Wm and Annie Martin House	1885	2018 Carroll Ave. W.	“Major Significance”
RA-SPC-0490	House	1899	2052 Carroll Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-1259	Pete Schmitz House	1914	235 Fairview Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-1891	House	1907	1842 Iglehart Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-1892	House	1897	1844 Iglehart Ave. W.	

<b>Inventory #</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Previous Rec'd (1983)</b>
RA-SPC-1893	Olivet Congregational Church	1907, 1915	1850 Iglehart Ave. W.	"Site eligible for designation"
RA-SPC-1894	House	1896	1873 Iglehart Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-1895	Triune Masonic Temple	1910	1898 Iglehart Ave. W.	1980 NRHP (1985 local designation)
RA-SPC-1896	E. R. Moore House	1887	1905 Iglehart Ave W	"Site eligible for designation"
RA-SPC-1897	House	1886 (razed 2018)	1911 Iglehart Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-1898	Edward Drew House	1899	1914 Iglehart Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-1899	John and M. E. Collett House	1886	1919 Iglehart Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-1900	House	1885	1923 Iglehart Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-1901	James H. and Sarah Helson House	1901	1924 Iglehart Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-1902	Frank L. Austin House	1886	1935 Iglehart Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-1903	Oscar P. and Anita Shepardson House	1895	1954 Iglehart Ave. W.	"Major Significance"
RA-SPC-1904	House	1915	1972 Iglehart Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-1905	First Presbyterian (Merriam Park) Church	1890	1982 Iglehart Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-1906	Martin Ludolph House	1886	2002 Iglehart Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-1907	House	1886	2024 Iglehart Ave. W.	"Major Significance"
RA-SPC-4487	Charles Thompson Memorial Hall	1916	1824 Marshall Ave. W.	"Major Significance" (listed in NRHP, 2011; local designation 1995)
RA-SPC-4488	Henry Hale Memorial Library	1930	1831 Marshall Ave. W.	(razed)
RA-SPC-4490	Charles and Elizabeth Turner House	1904	1846 Marshall Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-4489	Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church	1913, 1961	1849 Marshall Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-4491	Frank and Plina Bedell House	1896	1853 Marshall Ave. W.	"Major Significance"
RA-SPC-4492	Robert H. and Lorelia Downing House	1901	1893 Marshall Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-4492	House	1901	1894 Marshall Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-4494	House	1901	1898 Marshall Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-4495	P. L and Mary Therien House	1889	1910 Marshall Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-44976	Thomas J. Campbell House	1887	1921 Marshall Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-4497	Edwin and Lillie Finck House	1892	1964 Marshall Ave. W.	

<b>Inventory #</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Previous Rec'd (1983)</b>
RA-SPC-4498	Arthur Charles Anderson House	1889	1969 Marshall Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-4499	Den E. and Cornelius Lane House	1910	2000 Marshall Ave. W.	“Site eligible for Designation”
RA-SPC-4500	Commercial Building	1922	2044 Marshall Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-4501	McIntosh Block	1911	2054 Marshall Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-4561	Elam D. Parker House	1885	2016 Merriam Ln W.	“Major Significance”
RA-SPC-4680	Samuel and Mary Boyer House	1890	315 Moore St. N.	
RA-SPC-4681	Longfellow School (All Seasons Elementary)	1975	318 Moore St. N.	
RA-SPC-3018	House	ca. 1889	286 Prior Ave. N.	
RA-SPC-3020	Physician’s Office / Parkview Professional Building	1912	348 Prior Ave. N.	“Major Significance”
RA-SPC-3021	Physician’s Office	1904	366 Prior Ave. N.	“Major Significance”
RA-SPC-3202	Double House	1926	1834 Roblyn Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-3203	Oscar F. Rexford House		1854 Roblyn Ave W.	
RA-SPC-3205	De Laskie Danforth House	1886	1908 Roblyn Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-3204	Evan H. and Elizabeth Edwards House	1906	1870 Roblyn Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-3206	Charles H. Baldwin House		1912 Roblyn Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-9988	House	1906	1920 Roblyn Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-3207	John W. and Mary Bell House	1885	1926 Roblyn Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-3202	Double House	1926	1834-36 Roblyn Av. W.	
RA-SPC-3208	House	1922	1938 Roblyn Ave. W.	
RA-SPC-5075	Dr. Robert H. and Idalia Harrison House	1912	309 Wilder St. N.	
RA-SPC-5077	George H. and Ruby Tiffany House	ca. 1887	319 Wilder St. N.	
RA-SPC-5078	House	1887	339 Wilder St. N.	
RA-SPC-5076	House	1899	371 Wilder St. N.	
RA-SPC-8085	Bridge 9457	1966	Cleveland Ave. 0.8 mi SE of Junc. of TH 280	
RA-SPC-8068	Bridge 62845	1966	Prior Ave. 1.1 mi S.E. of Junc. of TH 280	
RA-SPC-7111	Bridge No. 92258	2003	carries Soo Line RR tracks over Prior Ave.	

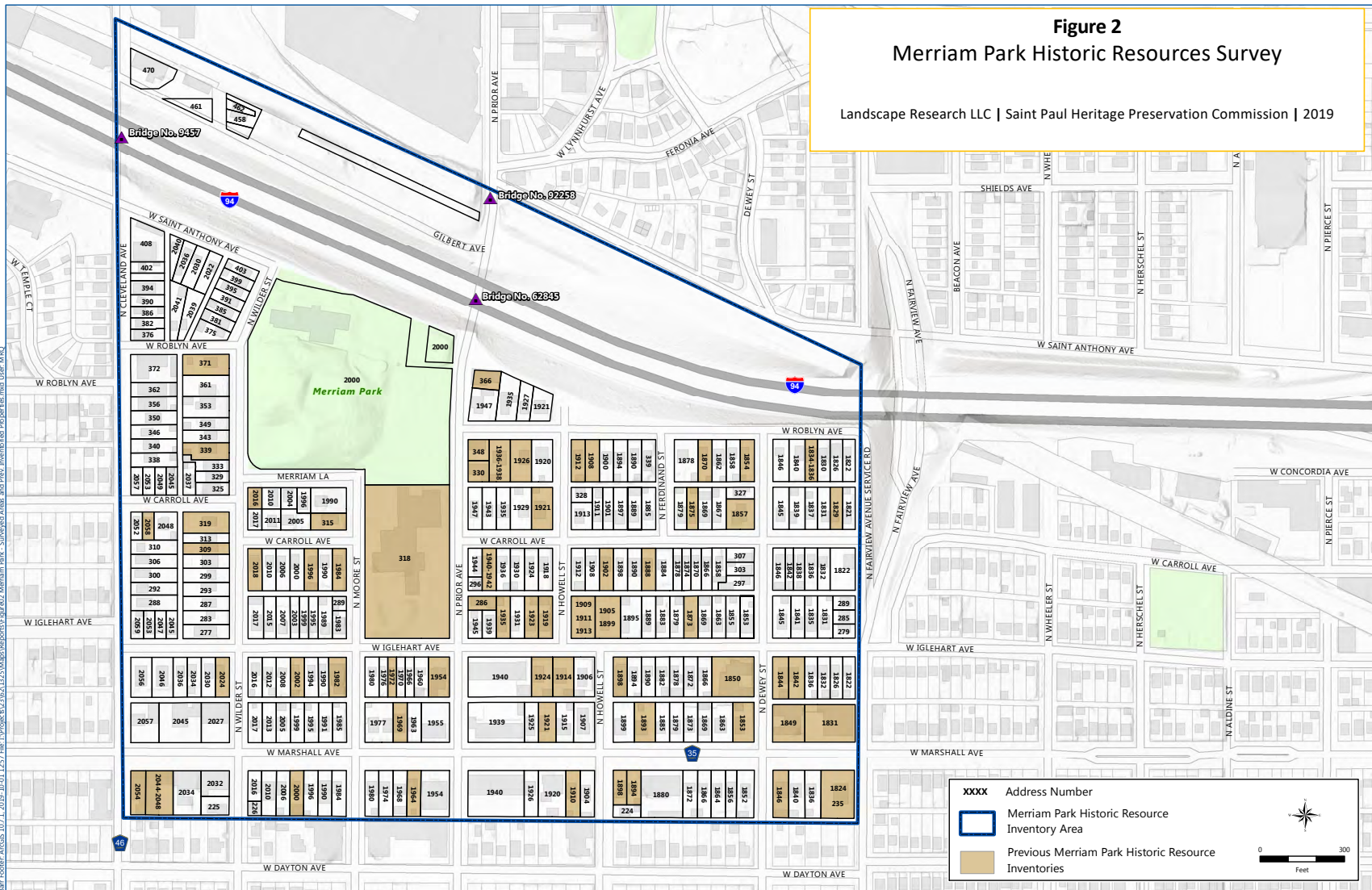
**Table 2. Properties Listed in the NRHP**

<b>Inventory No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Date of Listing</b>
RA-SPC-1895	Triune Masonic Temple	1910	1898 Iglehart Ave. W.	1980
RA-SPC-4487	Charles Thompson Memorial Hall	1916	1824 Marshall Ave. W.	2011

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**Figure 2**  
**Merriam Park Historic Resources Survey**  
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## 4.0 HISTORIC CONTEXTS

### 4.1 Background Research

The consultants researched unpublished and published sources including Ramsey County and Saint Paul histories. The *Saint Paul Globe*, *Saint Paul Pioneer Press*, *Minneapolis Tribune*, *Interurban Graphic*, and *Midway News* for the period ca. 1878 through 1980 were also consulted. Aerial photographs and historic maps (1867-1959) and historic photographs were obtained from the Minnesota Historical Society, the University of Minnesota's Borchert Map Library, and the Ramsey County Historical Society. Ramsey County and the City of Saint Paul provided current parcel data, including subdivision plats for Merriam Park and early additions. City directories (1883-1970) and the United States and Minnesota State Census schedules for the Merriam Park area (1880-1940) were used to research individuals and businesses.

### 4.2 Statewide Historic Contexts

Properties within the study area are broadly associated with the "Urban Centers, 1870-1940" and "Railroads and Agricultural Development, 1870-1940" historic contexts identified by the Minneapolis SHPO. Additionally the *Railroad Development in Minnesota, 1862-1956* Multiple Property Documentation Form provides a statewide context for Minnesota's railroad development.<sup>1</sup>

The late nineteenth-century agricultural settlement and market gardening economy of the former Rose Township is broadly addressed in the context "Euro-American Farms in Minnesota, 1820-1960," in the *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farms, 1820-1960* (Granger and Kelly 2005).

### 4.3 Local Historic Contexts

Four local historic contexts prepared in 2001 for the City of Saint Paul describe aspects of the development of the survey area. They include "Residential Real Estate Development: 1880-1950"; "Churches, Synagogues, and Religious Buildings: 1849-1950"; "Neighborhood Commercial Centers: 1874-1960," and "Transportation Corridors: 1857-1950." The statewide context "Urban Centers, 1870-1940" is also applicable to the Merriam Park historic contexts.<sup>2</sup> The historic contexts prepared for studies of the Central Corridor (1995-2004) and the "Hamline Midway Neighborhood Historic Resources Reconnaissance Survey" (2018) were also useful in providing background on certain areas adjacent to the Merriam Park study area.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Andrew A. Schmidt et al., "Railroads in Minnesota, 1862-1956." National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, 2007. Updated 2013. On file, Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office.

<sup>2</sup> Carole Zellie and Garneth O. Peterson, *Historic Context Study, Neighborhood Commercial Centers: 1874-1960*, prepared for St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission, 2001; Carole Zellie and Garneth O. Peterson, *Historic Context Study, Transportation Corridors: 1857-1950*, prepared for St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission, 2001.; Carole Zellie and Garneth O. Peterson, *St. Paul Historic Context Study: Residential Real Estate Development: 1880-1950*, prepared for St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission, 2001; Betsy Bradley, "The Midway Industrial District of St. Paul MPDF," 35-44, in *Phase II Architectural History Investigation for Central Transit Corridor*, 2004, prepared by the 106 Group for Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority and the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

<sup>3</sup> Marjorie Pearson, Sara J. Nelson, Brian McMahon, "Hamline Midway Neighborhood Historic Resources Reconnaissance Survey." Prepared for the Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission and the Department of Planning and Economic Development, 2018.

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#### 4.4 HISTORIC CONTEXT: BUILDING MERRIAM PARK 1882-1930

This context is associated with Merriam Park's initial growth as an interurban suburban residence park, and its rapid integration into the continuous residential fabric of the expanding Midway District. Merriam Park was the idea of John L. Merriam and his son, William R. Merriam, and was promoted by real estate dealers with the boosterism typical of the 1880s. During the period from 1885 to 1899, more than thirty percent of the study area's housing stock was completed, along with its first-generation churches, the Longfellow School, and a substantial business district at Prior and St. Anthony Avenues. Merriam Terrace Park was set aside as a public park and was the centerpiece of the thirty-block neighborhood at the edge of the Midway Transfer Yards. A nationwide financial panic in the mid-1890s generally slowed development throughout the city, but lots across much of this area were already built up. Like the rest of the original plat, Marshall Avenue development was generally completed between 1901 and 1930, encouraged by a rebounding economy, the development of electric streetcar service, and the continuing growth of nearby Midway employment.

The edges of the original plat (1882) soon blended with the development of adjacent residential areas, but for a short period Merriam Park appears to have embodied the idea—one communicated primarily by the developers in the real estate press—that a special neighborhood at the center of Saint Paul's new Midway was being created. The components of this neighborhood included stylish houses, a seven-acre park, four churches, numerous other institutions and community organizations, and a direct rail connection to downtown Minneapolis and Saint Paul. The early residents of the area were often characterized as wealthy businessmen and their families, but there was great occupational and income diversity. This diversity would increase during the early twentieth century with the settlement of many laborers, artisans, and other employees of the Minnesota Transfer Yard and its industries.

Properties may be potentially significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Community Planning and Development and Social History. They may also be significant under Criterion C for embodying the distinctive characteristics of an architectural type, period, or method of construction. They may also be significant under one or more of the seven Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Designation Criteria (see Section 2.4).

##### 4.4.1 Saint Paul's Early Residential Expansion

In 1849 the newly created Minnesota Territorial Legislature selected Saint Paul as capital of the Minnesota Territory. In 1854, Saint Paul incorporated as a city and at statehood in 1858 it became the capital of the State of Minnesota.<sup>4</sup> The city's early core remained densely built through the 1870s, with most residential building located within about a one-mile radius of the upper and lower landings along the Mississippi River levee. Saint Paul's population rose from 10,401 in 1860 to 20,030 in 1870, reflecting early railroad construction that connected the city to wheat and lumber resources and provided year-round market access. Many business owners and professionals and their families lived in and around the commercial and institutional core, near Smith, Lafayette Rice, or Irvine Parks. Clerks, artisans, and laborers settled near the levees, factories, along the railroad corridor along the Phalen Creek Valley, and along W. Seventh Street and Fort Road. Development of residential building lots at the edge of Dayton's Bluff and along the Saint Anthony Hill and Summit Avenue bluffs was limited because of a lack of road and bridge connections.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Henry A. Castle, *The History of St. Paul and Vicinity* (Chicago and New York: Lewis, 1912), 63-64.

<sup>5</sup> Carole Zellie and Garneth O. Peterson. *Historic Context Study: Pioneer Houses: 1854-1880*. Prepared for the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission, 2001.

Prior to the arrival of the Saint Paul and Pacific Railroad in 1862, the city's economy was based on the fur trade and distribution of limited commodities including lumber and grain. Saint Paul became a railroad hub after the Civil War, and merchants and businessmen erected substantial dwellings that reflected their financial success based on railroads, warehousing and manufacturing enterprises.<sup>6</sup> By the late 1860s, following a pattern repeated in other United States cities, the rise of industrial capitalism gradually separated the workplace from the place of residence. Expanding railroad facilities, factories, and commercial development crowded out many in the most central areas.

Simple frame Greek Revival and Italianate style buildings, and many varieties of vernacular buildings had housed most of the population during the first decades of settlement, but the owners of costly brick and stone Italianate and French Second Empire style dwellings were also among those displaced by the expanding industrial and commercial district. In the early 1870s, real estate dealers opened up building lots on the bluffs above downtown, including plats such as Woodland Park (1870) and Summit Park (1871) that were intended for the city's expanding middle class. The success of these efforts, and those on Dayton's Bluff, however, awaited the construction of bridges and streetcar lines. These improvements would not be fully enjoyed until the late 1870s, after the economic recovery from the Panic of 1873.<sup>7</sup>

Saint Paul's population reached 41,473 in 1880, and investment in railroads, bridges and roads supported new many kinds of manufacturing enterprises and services. With a surge in European immigration and a new labor market underwriting an economic boom, the population rose to 111,397 in 1885 and 133,156 in 1890.<sup>8</sup> Real estate investors platted residential building lots in every direction, following the route of promised streetcar lines as well as the passenger rail lines that led from downtown Saint Paul.

#### 4.4.2 The Landscape of Early Merriam Park and the Midway District

Present-day Merriam Park is located at the southern edge of the former Rose Township, in Section 33, where observers in the 1880s would report on the stands of "enormous red and white oak."<sup>9</sup> In 1854, J. Wesley Bond's *Minnesota and its Resources* described the area between Minneapolis and Saint Paul as a "beautiful prairie," and noted that it was called Groveland.<sup>10</sup> This was in reference to the Groveland Nursery in Section 29 operated by Lyman A. Ford.<sup>11</sup> In 1857 Harriet Bishop (1817-1883) described a trip across the present-day Midway area and the "flowers of gold and crimson blooming along the way."<sup>12</sup>

By the time of permanent white settlement of the Minnesota Territory in the 1840s and 1850s, Minneapolis and Saint Paul were linked with a system of overland trails and territorial roads. Many followed the route of Indian trails. The upland prairie lying between the future cities was opened to land claims following the Treaty with the Dakota in 1837, and the General Land Office began land surveys in

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<sup>6</sup> Castle (1912), 218-19; 261-2; 274-82.

<sup>7</sup> Carole Zellie, "Dayton's Bluff Heritage Preservation District Phase II National Register Historic District Evaluation." Submitted to the Minnesota Department of Transportation by Landscape Research LLC (2017), 26-27.

<sup>8</sup> "Here's Your Census," *Saint Paul Globe* [hereafter SPG] 18 Aug 1885:4; "Wind up of Census" *SPG* 23 Sept 1890:8.

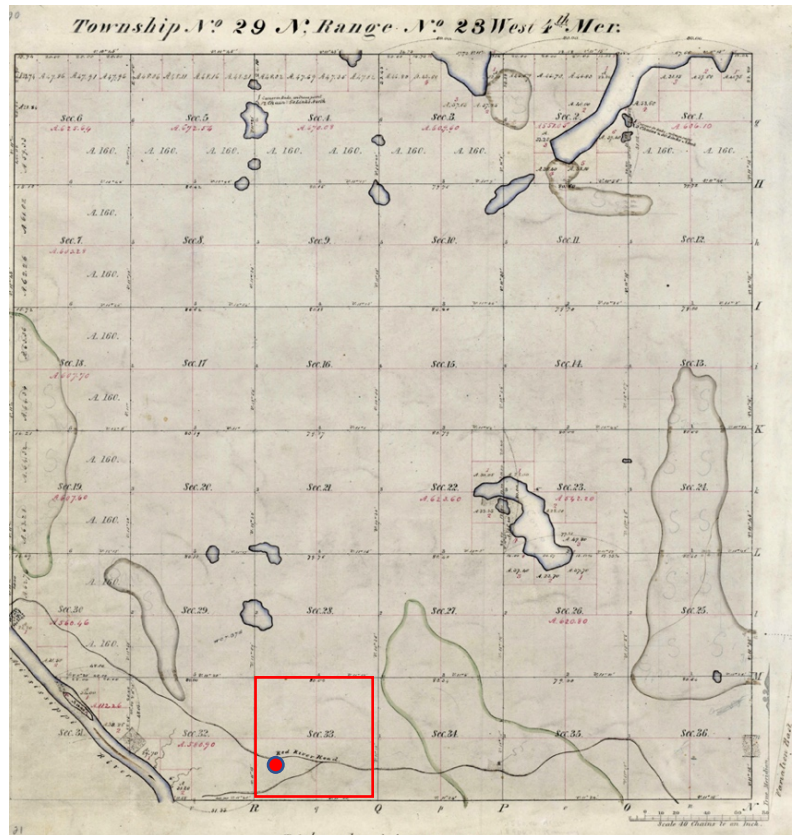
<sup>9</sup> "Midway between the Cities," *Minneapolis Tribune*, 2 Sept 1885:11.

<sup>10</sup> J. Wesley Bond, *Minnesota and its Resources* (New York: Redfield, 1865), 140-141.

<sup>11</sup> Marjorie Kriedberg, "The Up and Doing Editor of the Minnesota Farmer and Gardener," *Minnesota History* (Spring 1985):191-201.

<sup>12</sup> Harriet E. Bishop, *Floral Home or First Years of Minnesota: Early Sketches, Later Settlements, and Further Developments* (New York: Sheldon, Blakeman and Company, 1857), 152-153; Joseph A. Corrigan, *The History of St. Marks and the Midway District*, illustrated by Frank Kacmarcik, s.n. 1939, St. Paul, Minnesota (?), 26-27.

the late 1840s.<sup>13</sup> One branch of the Red River trail system, which brought early traders from the Red River Valley in southern Canada to Fort Snelling and Minneapolis and Saint Paul, edged portions of the present-day route of St. Anthony Avenue and the Interstate 94 alignment (Figure 3).<sup>14</sup> This road, known as the Saint Anthony Road, linked the Falls of Saint Anthony with the Lower Landing at Saint Paul. To the north, a stagecoach line that followed a route roughly parallel to today's University Avenue, also connected the falls with steamboat landings in St. Paul.<sup>15</sup> In the 1850s, regularly scheduled stagecoach service linked Minneapolis and Saint Paul. The Territorial Road, to the north, was surveyed in the 1850s as part of a route linking Point Douglas and Fort Ripley.<sup>16</sup>



**Figure 3. Ramsey County, Township 29, Range 23. (General Land Office, 1848). Approximate Merriam Park location shown at circle.**

<sup>13</sup> Township 29, Range 22. Ramsey County (1848). Isaac Higbee, Deputy Surveyor. Accessed at [https://glorerecords.blm.gov/details/survey/default.aspx?dm\\_id=94142&sid=kos4piof.y1f&surveyDetailsTabIndex=1](https://glorerecords.blm.gov/details/survey/default.aspx?dm_id=94142&sid=kos4piof.y1f&surveyDetailsTabIndex=1).

<sup>14</sup> Rhoda R. Gilman, Carolyn Gilman, Deborah M. Stultz. *The Red River Trails: Oxcart Routes Between St. Paul and the Selkirk Settlement, 1820-1870* (St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society, 1979), 84.

<sup>15</sup> See John Lauber, "A Trail of Two Cities; The Impact of Transportation on the Development of the Midway Area, 1847-1960," in BRW, Inc. Hess, Roise and Company, and Foth and Van Dyke, 1995, *Phase I and II Cultural Resources Investigations of the Central Corridor Minneapolis, Hennepin County and St. Paul, Ramsey County, Minnesota*. Prepared for the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority, and Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority, 1995.8:1.

<sup>16</sup> Gilman et al. (1979), 86.

#### 4.4.3 Rose Township and Area Development

Rose Township was organized in 1858. Present-day Marshall Avenue separated Rose and Reserve Townships. The township's northern boundary stretched to County Road D, with Rice Street to the east and the Minneapolis city limits at the west. In 1843, French Canadian fur trader and farmer Stephen Desnoyer (1805-77) acquired more than 320 acres of the area just west of present-day Merriam Park, including the present-day Town and Country Club, from Donald McDonald.<sup>17</sup> Desnoyer's property extended roughly between the Mississippi River on the west, Cleveland Avenue on the east, St. Anthony Avenue on the north, and Marshall Avenue on the south. Desnoyer operated a small hotel and tavern, known as the Halfway House, near the intersection of present-day Pelham Boulevard and St. Anthony Avenue.<sup>18</sup> The one-story building served stage and wagon travelers.<sup>19</sup>

In 1862, the Saint Paul and Pacific Railway was the first to connect Saint Paul and Minneapolis and promised to link Saint Paul's flour, lumber, commodities and manufactured goods to regional and national markets. The *Map of Ramsey County* (1867) illustrates the sparse settlement along the rail corridor following the Civil War, but in the 1860s and early 1870s this interurban area was eyed by institutions as well as few businessmen and real estate developers.<sup>20</sup> In 1872, to the northeast of the future Merriam Park, a group led by former Governor William R. Marshall (1825-1896) planned a convenient interurban suburb on the line which they named Saint Anthony Park. Chicago landscape architect H.W.S. Cleveland and his partner, William M. R. French, designed a picturesque residential quarter with curving streets adapted to the topography of wooded hills and small lakes.<sup>21</sup>

Advertised as a "suburban addition to St. Paul and Minneapolis" and extending into Hennepin County, few investors purchased land or lots after the Panic of 1873, an economic depression that was felt through the remaining years of the decade.<sup>22</sup> The Chicago, Milwaukee and Saint Paul Railway also completed an early intercity route, but it followed a long loop through Mendota before crossing the river to Saint Paul.

Small nodes between the cities developed slowly. In 1872, the Saint Paul Driving Park, featuring a half-mile racetrack, was established on St. Anthony Avenue just east of Snelling Avenue. The property was briefly used for some of the annual fairs held by the Minnesota State Agricultural Society and was later acquired and developed by Norman Kittson (1814-1888), a successful fur trader, investor in the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway, and racehorse owner.<sup>23</sup>

In 1876 the Archdiocese of Saint Paul built the three-story Catholic Industrial School on a portion of the former 452-acre Finn farm at the present-day northwest corner of Cleveland and Summit Avenues. The organization relocated after two years, and 1885 the building was enlarged as St. Thomas Aquinas

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<sup>17</sup> George E. Warner and Charles M. Foote, comps. *History of Ramsey County and the City of St. Paul, including the Explorers and Pioneers of Minnesota*, by Rev. Edward D. Neill, and *Outlines of the History of Minnesota*, by J. Fletcher Williams (Minneapolis: North Star Publishing Co., 1881), 259.

<sup>18</sup> Corrigan locates the Halfway House at Raymond and Glendale Avenues "under the spreading arms of an elm tree," Corrigan (1939), 31-32. Glendale Avenue no longer exists due to Interstate 94 construction.

<sup>19</sup> Gilman et al. (1979), 86; Warner and Foote (1881), 268.

<sup>20</sup> L. G. Bennett, *Map of Ramsey and Manomin Counties and Hennepin East*. Chicago, 1867.

<sup>21</sup> W. R. Marshall et al., *Plan of Saint Anthony Park*, 1873.

<sup>22</sup> David A. Lanegran and Judith F. Flinn, *St. Anthony Park: Portrait of a Community* (Saint Anthony Park and Saint Anthony Park Association, Saint Paul, 1987), 4.

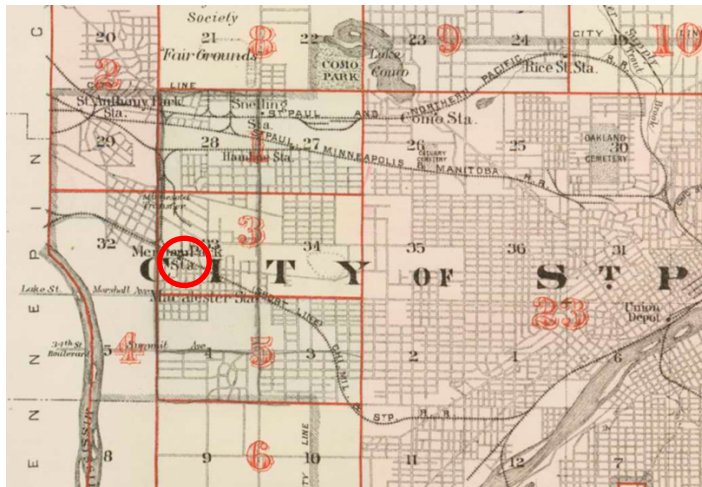
<sup>23</sup> Warner and Foote (1881), 265.



Seminary, the foundation of the College of St. Thomas.<sup>24</sup> The early building was a symbol of the Midway area’s potential as a location for educational institutions, which within a few years would include Hamline College (1880) near the Hamline Depot of the Saint Paul & Pacific Railroad line, and Macalester College, at Summit and Snelling Avenues, where the first building was completed in 1884 and the college opened in 1885.<sup>25</sup>

In 1879 the Saint Paul and Pacific Railway became the Saint Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway, and spurred a new attempt at development in Saint Anthony Park. To the south, the CM&StP Short Line was completed in 1880 and allowed a direct, ten-mile connection between downtown Saint Paul and Minneapolis (Figure 4). The trip took about twenty-five minutes. The tracks crossed Merriam’s property north of St. Anthony Avenue, and connected to the Short Line Bridge across the Mississippi River at the foot of Meeker Island between Franklin and Lake Streets. The line was opened in November 1880.<sup>26</sup>

The term Midway, used generally to denote the primarily agricultural area located between Minneapolis and Saint Paul in Rose Township, was in common use in local newspapers by 1880. Most notably, in 1881 fur trader, railroad entrepreneur and racehorse enthusiast Norman Kittson (1814-1888) purchased the Saint Paul Driving Park property and additional acreage for a stock farm, which he renamed the Midway Park Stud.<sup>27</sup>



**Figure 4. G. M. Hopkins, *Atlas of the Environs of St. Paul: including the Whole of Ramsey County* (1886). The Merriam Park Station of the CM&StP Short Line is circled in red.**



**Figure 5. Stone and concrete retaining wall, under CM& StP Railway Bridge No. 92258, at Prior Avenue N.**

<sup>24</sup> Corrigan (1939), 38-39; R.L. Polk & Co., *Saint Paul City Directory*, Saint Paul (1891), 1194; Warner and Foote (1881), 259; 263-65.

<sup>25</sup> Warner and Foote (1881), 264-65; Castle (1912), 422; Marjorie Pearson, Sara J. Nelson, and Brian McMahon, “Hamline-Midway Neighborhood Historic Resources Reconnaissance Survey, Saint Paul, Ramsey County, Minnesota,” Prepared for the Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission and the Department of Planning and Economic Development by Summit Envirosolutions, Inc., 2018.

<sup>26</sup> “Short Line to Minneapolis,” *SPG* 19 April 1879:4; John Weeks, Short Line Bridge, accessed at <https://www.johnweeks.com/bridges/pages/r05.html>; “St. Paul Review of 1880,” *SPG* 31 Dec 1880:1; “Midway Park Stud,” *SPG* 31 Dec 1881:3.

<sup>27</sup> Warner and Foote (1881), 265-66.

#### 4.4.4 Merriam Park (1882)

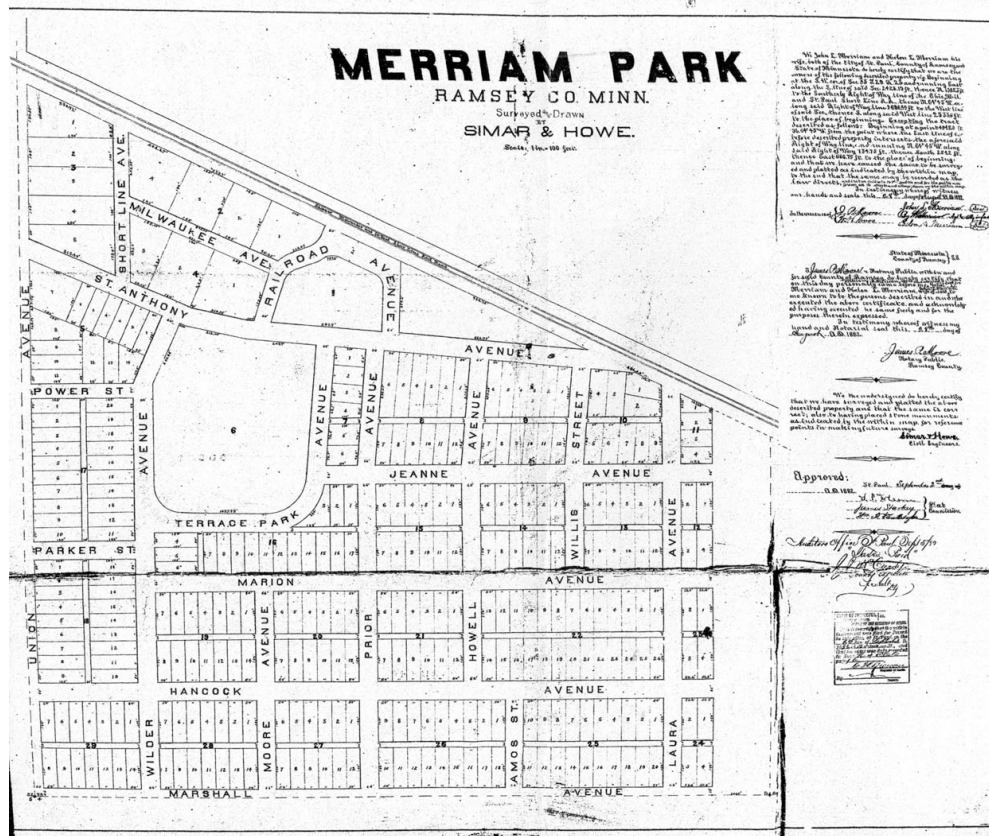


Figure 6. Plat of Merriam Park, Ramsey Co., Minn., 1882. (Ramsey County Recorder)

In 1862, John L Merriam acquired about 400 acres of the Daniel A. G. Baker Farm in Section 33 of Rose Township and in 1879 deeded a right-of-way to the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Company for the Short Line tracks between St. Paul and Minneapolis.<sup>28</sup> Merriam owned at least 265 acres to the south of St. Anthony Avenue, including the future Merriam Park.<sup>29</sup> The river bluffs and ravines that were at the western edge of Desnoyer’s property leveled out as prairie across Merriam’s property. One distinctive landscape feature was a steep hill lying just south of St. Anthony Avenue, at the center of the acreage.

Other early farmers to the southeast, in the southern half of Section 33, included Lyman Woodruff, a native of New York, whose homestead was near the intersection of St. Anthony Avenue and present-day Cleveland Avenue. Woodruff managed Merriam’s farm property.<sup>30</sup>

John L. Merriam (1825-1895) and his second wife, Helen Wilder Merriam (1830-1915), platted 140-acre Merriam Park in 1882 as the first of five adjoining plats that would be named Merriam Park (Figure 6). At this time, John L. Merriam had reportedly retired from active business pursuits. Merriam, a native of

<sup>28</sup> “Merriam Park,” *The Interurban*, 5 January 1899:2.

<sup>29</sup> L. G. Bennett (1867).

<sup>30</sup> U. S. Census Bureau, 1870, Ramsey, Rose Township, 4; “Merriam Park,” *The Interurban*, 5 January 1899:2 notes S. C. Woodruff, not Lyman Woodruff, as shown in some accounts, as the manager.

New York, was a prominent banker and Republican state legislator. He arrived in Saint Paul in 1860, and formed the firm of Burbank, Blakely and Merriam, owners of the Minnesota State Company and Northwestern Express Company.<sup>31</sup> Connected with many of Minnesota's largest and most successful enterprises, his investments included real estate, banks, railroads, and manufacturing. An influential Republican, he was elected as Speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1869 and 1871.<sup>32</sup> Helen Wilder Merriam, also a native of New York, was the sister of Amherst Wilder (1828-1894), the Saint Paul businessman and philanthropist.

During this decade, Merriam completed his own Richardsonian Romanesque mansion. Designed by Mould & McNicol, it overlooked downtown Saint Paul on Sherburne Avenue's Merriam Hill (1887, razed 1964). Merriam's son, William R. (1849-1931), also lived on Merriam Hill in a house designed by Clarence H. Johnston (1882).<sup>33</sup> William succeeded his father as president of the Merchants National Bank and served as the governor of Minnesota between 1889 and 1893. In 1883 he was part of the reorganized St. Paul Street Railway Company as its Vice President and Treasurer.<sup>34</sup> In 1899, after his appointment as director for the Twelfth Census of the United States, William permanently moved to Washington, D. C.<sup>35</sup>

Saint Paul's "Golden Age" of the 1880s was based on intensive railroad construction, many new manufacturers and wholesalers, several livestock industries at the Minnesota Transfer Yards, and increased retail trade.<sup>36</sup> The city's population rose from 41,473 in 1880 to 111,397 in 1885. The Northern Pacific, the first northern transcontinental railway, reached the Pacific coast in 1883 and was celebrated in Saint Paul and Minneapolis.<sup>37</sup> With a rising standard of living for some, the expansion of commercial and industrial uses in former downtown residential areas pushed residents from older neighborhoods. Improved streets and new bridges prepared the neighborhoods around downtown Saint Paul for rapid growth, including Saint Anthony Hill, Dayton's Bluff and the near East Side. All that was missing was reliable, inexpensive transit.

#### 4.4.5 Making the Midway District

##### *Minnesota Transfer Railroad*

John L. Merriam was an investor in the Minnesota Transfer Railroad (MTR), which was jointly owned by the eight rail companies it served (Figures 7, 11). At the Union Park station at the foot of the Transfer Yards, where they intersected with St. Anthony Avenue, Merriam reportedly saw that "each hour the Short Line trains met and passed at this point, he was convinced that here at this spot . . . was the place to build a town, midway in the Twin Cities."<sup>38</sup> A 1996 study noted that the "Transfer played a critical role in the development of the Twin Cities as a midwestern rail hub at the height of the economic boom of the 1880s."<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> *SPG* 13 June 1895:1.

<sup>32</sup> Castle (1912), 703-04.

<sup>33</sup> Larry Millett, *Once There Were Castles: Lost Mansions and Estates of the Twin Cities* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 2011), 61, 67.

<sup>34</sup> "Street Railway Reorganization," *SPG* 7 July 1883:2.

<sup>35</sup> "Ex-Governor Merriam Dies at Age of 82," *Saint Paul Dispatch*, 18 Feb 1931.

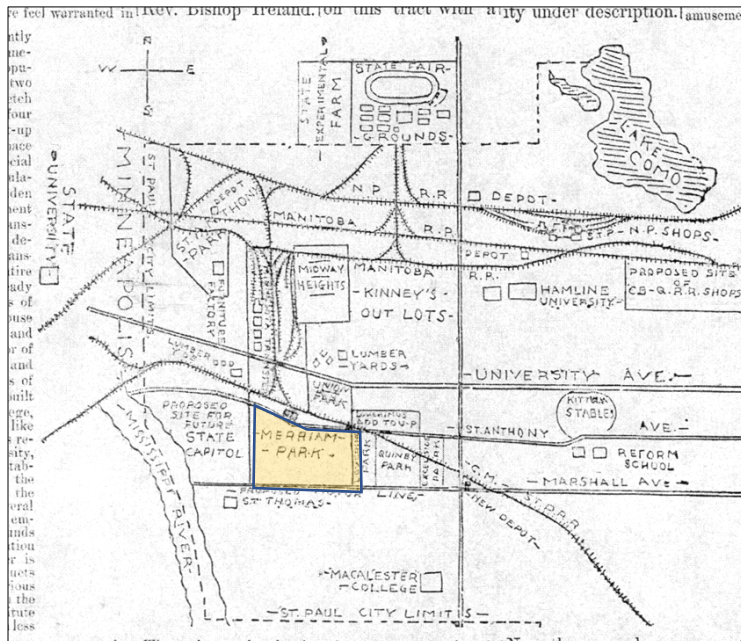
<sup>36</sup> Lucile Kane and Alan Ominsky, *Twin Cities A Pictorial History of Saint Paul and Minneapolis* (Saint Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1983), 81-86.

<sup>37</sup> "Our Celebration of the Completion of the Northern Pacific," *SPG* 4 Sept 1883:2.

<sup>38</sup> "A Great Metropolitan Center," *SPG* 27 July 1891:5.

<sup>39</sup> John Lauber, "A Trail of Two Cities: The Impact of Transportation on the Development of the Midway Area, 1847-1960," in BRW, Inc. et al, "Phase I and II Cultural Resource Investigations of the Central Corridor:

The Midway Transfer Railroad was founded in 1882 to consolidate the freight terminals scattered around the area. James J. Hill (1838-1916) developed the idea for the Midway Transfer Yards and assembled much of its real estate.<sup>40</sup> The yards handled freight for an initial eight lines, which expanded to twelve. The yards occupied more than 200 acres and included a transfer track system more than one mile long. Positioned to be “one of the largest freight distributing points on the continent,” the early facility included grain elevators, a 300-foot-long transfer depot, ice houses, the Union Stock Yard, sheep and hog sheds, and horse barns. Three slaughterhouses were in operation including the Luley Abattoir Company at 567 N. Cleveland, just north of Merriam Park’s new streets.<sup>41</sup>



**Figure 7. “Midway Between the Cities.” *Saint Paul Daily Globe*, October 18, 1885.**

A spur connected the Manitoba and CM&StP Short Lines. Many industries and businesses were established around the edges of the rail yards that stretched north from St. Anthony and University Avenues roughly between Raymond and Fairview Avenues. Within a decade, the yards would be edged by plants that processed and manufactured many types of goods, including lumber, food, and linseed oil products. Manufacturers of furnaces, furniture, agricultural implements, and pianos, and banks, hotels, and office buildings were also part of the transfer zone. The Minnesota Transfer Railway’s roundhouse and diesel shop were built near the northeast corner of St. Anthony and Cleveland Avenues, just outside the survey area at the edge of Merriam Park (508 N. Cleveland Avenue).<sup>42</sup> The extant, semi-circular

Minneapolis, Hennepin County and St. Paul, Ramsey County.” Prepared for the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority and Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority, 1995, 9-49.

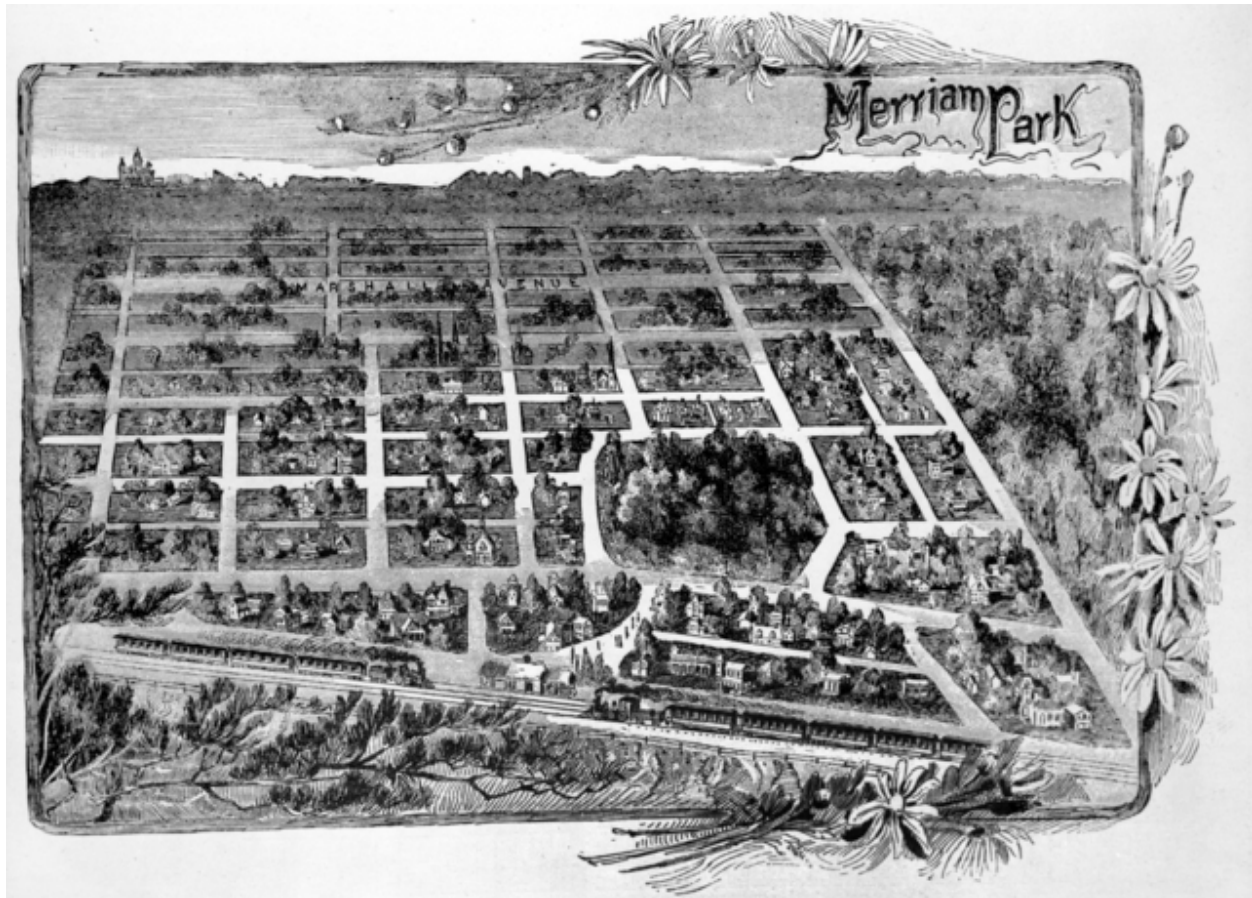
<sup>40</sup> Frank P. Donovan, Jr. *Gateway to the Northwest: The Story of the Minnesota Transfer Railway* (St. Paul, 1954), 23.

<sup>41</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>42</sup> Lauber (1995), 1995:9.49.

roundhouse dates from 1891, with additions in 1903 and 1907.<sup>43</sup> Previous studies have recommended it eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.<sup>44</sup>

The Minnesota Transfer Board of Trade was founded in 1889 to “organize and harmonize the industrial and commercial interests which surround the Minnesota Transfer.”<sup>45</sup> The Midway area rapidly grew into large commercial and industrial district, and before the railways began to handle reshipments at their own freight stations in about 1923, the MTR handled nearly all of the “less-than car-load” freight that arrived in the Twin Cities.<sup>46</sup>



**Figure 8. Merriam Park, *Northwest Magazine*, June 1886.**

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<sup>43</sup> Lauber (1995), 9.45.

<sup>44</sup> Lauber (1995), 9.49.

<sup>45</sup> “Midway Improvement,” *Minneapolis Tribune* 24 Nov 1889:3.

<sup>46</sup> Betsy Bradley, et. al. “Phase II Architectural History Investigation for the Proposed Central Transit Corridor, Hennepin and Ramsey Counties, Minnesota.” Submitted to the Ramsey County Railroad Authority by the 106 Group Ltd. 2004, 150.

#### 4.4.5 Making a Village

The Merriam Park plat recorded in August 1882 showed thirty blocks and one outlier. Laid out by surveyors Simar and Howe of Saint Paul, the standard blocks and lots edged the Short Line tracks at the north and were bounded by Cleveland Avenue at the west. Dewey Avenue was the eastern boundary, with additional lots extending toward the future Lovering Park Addition (1883) and Fairview Avenue. Merriam Terrace Park Avenue (now Merriam Lane) edged along the east and south of the 7.7 -acre tract later set off as Merriam Terrace Park. Most of the building lots were 50' x 150' and were placed on 66'-wide streets lined with maple, box elder, and elm. Realtor James P. Moore supervised installation of the improvements. In 1883 he contracted with Rose Township nurseryman W. E. Brimhall to plant about 1,000 trees.<sup>47</sup> In 1886, these early efforts were depicted in an artist's engraved view published in the *Northwest Magazine* (Figure 8).

Railroad Avenue, later named Montague Place, looped around Block 1, another undivided two-acre tract that faced the Merriam Park Short Line Depot. The parcel was owned by H. W. Topping, a business partner of William Merriam in the Saint Paul Foundry.<sup>48</sup> Described as "covered with large forest trees," in 1887 the block was divided into seventeen lots as Topping's Subdivision.<sup>49</sup> The adjacent Milwaukee and Short Line (Astoria) Avenues provided building lots that were located within a few hundred feet from the Minnesota Transfer Railroad Yards north of the railroad tracks. Many of the original streets were named for the Merriams' business associates (Power, Parker, Moore) or family members (Wilder, Hancock, Jeanne, Laura). Only the Moore and Wilder names survive. Rondo Avenue, originally Jeanne Avenue, was renamed Roblyn Avenue in 1913.<sup>50</sup>

St. Anthony Avenue was a primary east-west corridor south of the Short Line, and Marshall Avenue was not yet opened as far as Merriam Park. John Hinkle's Union Park (1884), to the north and northeast on Prior Avenue on the north side of the Short Line tracks, offered a compact residential quarter on the former amusement park grounds. The streets framed a landscaped ellipse around Lake Iris, with more buffering from industry than provided by Merriam Park.<sup>51</sup> The promoters assured the public that its interests were "identical with those of Merriam Park, and that the "two will rise together and soon be renowned as the most beautiful of the Park suburbs."<sup>52</sup>

Lot sales were underway in April 1883, and were initially promoted by Merriam's real estate partner, James P. Moore. Moore's office was downtown in the Merchant's National Bank at Jackson and Third Streets. The lots were sold by Merriam & Moore with deed restrictions specifying that each house cost at least \$1,500 and that construction be completed within the building season. This measure, as one newspaper article noted, "would guarantee to the first purchaser that the place would build up, and that they would not be left alone with their house on the prairie."<sup>53</sup> The 7½-cent rail fare to either city was a selling point. According to one account, in 1883, the Union Park Short Line depot, a frame structure erected in about 1880 for the small, short-lived amusement park to the north first known as Union Park,

<sup>47</sup> *Daily Minnesota Tribune* 20 May 1883:6; "Progress at Merriam Park," 15 April 1883:6.

<sup>48</sup> "Articles of Association," *SPG* 22 March 1887:7.

<sup>49</sup> "Topping Property" *SPG* 20 March 1887:14; "Toppings Subdivision of Block 1 Merriam Park," Ramsey County Recorder.

<sup>50</sup> Warren Upham, "Minnesota Geographic Names: Their Origin and Historic Significance," *Collections of the Minnesota Historical Society*, vol. 17 (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1920), 634.

<sup>51</sup> *Interurban Graphic*, "Union Park," 19 May 1888, 2.

<sup>52</sup> "A Great Metropolitan Center," *SPG* 27 July 1891:5.

<sup>53</sup> *Interurban Graphic*, 19 May 1888, 2; "Merriam Park," 5 January 1899:2. A land contract was offered, with a deed following after the house was completed.

was renamed Merriam Park.<sup>54</sup> Another account described “a beautiful and substantial depot . . . with guard rails and fences, and a good wagon and sidewalk crossing tunneled under the track for a road to be opened soon to University Avenue.”<sup>55</sup>

The *Daily Minnesota Tribune* was among Minneapolis newspapers reporting on the progress of Merriam Park in its earliest period. In March 1883 the *Tribune* announced, “A New Suburban Village,” noting that it had a wooded, beautiful location.<sup>56</sup> The outlying area ensured lower- priced lots than those in central Minneapolis or Saint Paul. In April, a headline announced that building sites were “being selected by well-known citizens.”<sup>57</sup> In May 1883 the newspaper observed, “some 15 to 20 houses, some to be very expensive ones, are promised for this season. Contractor Headley of Minneapolis is engaged to erect eight or ten residences.”<sup>58</sup> Headley, however, apparently left Minnesota before completing any houses and caused an initial hiccup in the progress of initial build-out.<sup>59</sup>

### *The Annexation Debate*

The people who come to Merriam Park don’t want to be in either city.  
“Extending the Limits,” *Saint Paul Globe* 11 Jan 1885:4.

By 1884, James P. Moore and others promoted incorporation as a village, but the proposal was opposed by the City of Saint Paul and was then appealed the Minnesota State Supreme Court.<sup>60</sup> In January 1885, a debate among county and city officials as well as interested business concerns demonstrated the lack of interest in Merriam Park being annexed to the City of Saint Paul. A. R. Robbins noted, “we feel at Merriam Park that annexation to Saint Paul would check our growth. A great many people from Minneapolis come out there to live, they would not come if they expected ever to become a part of Saint Paul. Now we ask for a separate incorporation, a separate existence. We had good and sufficient reasons for going there to live, among these being the desire to take our children away from the influences of the saloons.”<sup>61</sup> He noted that there were two or three miles of almost uninhabited territory between the present limits and Merriam Park.

Meanwhile, in 1885, despite the residents who joined the “Merriam Park Committee Against Annexation,” the City of St. Paul annexed the property as part of a larger territory.<sup>62</sup> The acts of incorporation included prohibition of saloons, and stipulated that Merriam Park property owners not be taxed for the bonded debt of St. Paul, then totaling about \$5,000,000. No saloons were allowed in Merriam Park and within an area of about four square miles, making Merriam Park “a small spot in Minnesota where actual prohibition exists by legislative enactment.”<sup>63</sup>

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<sup>54</sup> “Rail Notes,” *SPG* 9 Nov 1883:2.

<sup>55</sup> *SPG* 11 March 1883.

<sup>56</sup> *Daily Minnesota Tribune* 11 March 1883:7.

<sup>57</sup> *Daily Minnesota Tribune*, “Progress at Merriam Park,” 15 April 1883.

<sup>58</sup> *Daily Minnesota Tribune*, “Gift of a Park,” 20 May 1883:6.

<sup>59</sup> *Daily Minnesota Tribune*, “The Missing Contractor,” 23 Oct 1883:6.

<sup>60</sup> “Annexation goes Marching On,” *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune*, 15 Feb 1885:13.

<sup>61</sup> “Extending the Limits,” *SPG* 11 Jan 1884:4.

<sup>62</sup> *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune* 15 Feb 1885:13; “Annexation goes Marching On” 15 Feb 1885:13. See also “That Extension,” *Minneapolis Tribune*, 10 Feb 1885:5.

<sup>63</sup> “A Great Metropolitan Center,” *SPG* 27 July 1891:5.

### *James P. Moore and Real Estate Progress*

With its proximity to Minneapolis and Saint Paul and the growing Midway Transfer industrial district, Merriam Park seemed positioned for success. Nevertheless, "it was not all plain sailing and easy work to get the place started."<sup>64</sup> Realtor James P. Moore initially "brought hundreds of people" to the development "who looked over the plowed ground and stubble fields, shook their heads and went back to town, saying they were not yet ready to go to the frontier."<sup>65</sup> Moore and other real estate dealers advertised the benefits of the suburban location in the *Saint Paul Globe*, *Saint Paul Pioneer Press*, and *Minneapolis Tribune*. Articles and advertisements promised escape from the "dust and noise of the city."<sup>66</sup> The 12-minute rail commute to either city, and the potential for a streetcar line along the three-mile length of Marshall Avenue were also promoted. Moore was responsible for periodic updates with that reassurances that building was progressing, in May 1883 he noted that it was "it is looking fresh and green at Merriam Park."<sup>67</sup>

Through the 1880s, realtors Merriam & Moore and Curtis & Edwards specialized in the sale of Merriam Park property. Moore never lived in Merriam Park and within a few years many other realtors were involved in lot sales. He moved to Minneapolis in 1889 to become the manager of the Lake Harriet Residence Park Improvement Company. The company was organized by Moore, Thomas Lowry, William S. King and others to develop the 300-acre Linden Hills tract on the west side of Lake Harriet.<sup>68</sup> Moore next moved to California.

In the early 1880s, newspaper articles described Merriam Park as an isolated settlement on the prairie, but many nearby plats were recorded, and some lightly built up, prior to and around same time, especially near Hamline (1880). They included College Place West (1875), College Place East (1881), College Place Taylor's Addition (1882), Midway Heights (1885) and Woodlawn Park (1885). John Hinkel platted Union Park (1884) on the former amusement park grounds of the same name. To the west, the curvilinear plat of Macalester Park, also served by the CM&StP Short Line, was laid out in 1883.<sup>69</sup>

In 1885, Merriam recorded the 18-block Second Addition to Merriam Park, which extended south to Laurel Street (Figure 9).<sup>70</sup> The 18-block Third Addition to Merriam Park (1886) next extended south to the north side of Summit Avenue.<sup>71</sup> The five-block Fourth Addition (1887) extended from Cleveland Avenue at the east to Cretin at the west, between St Anthony Avenue at the north to Rondo (Roblyn) at the south. The Fifth Addition (1887) and various rearrangements followed. The additions, and those by other developers, continued Merriam Park's nearly continuous residential fabric between St. Anthony and Summit Avenues at the north and south, and between present-day Fairview and Cleveland Avenues at the east and west. These adjacent areas, however, had little development until after the turn of the early twentieth century, while much of the original Merriam Park was substantially built up by 1900.

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<sup>64</sup> "A Great Metropolitan Center," *SPG* 27 July 1891:5.

<sup>65</sup> "A Great Metropolitan Center," *SPG* 27 July 1891:5.

<sup>66</sup> *Daily Minnesota Tribune* 20 May 1883:6.

<sup>67</sup> *Daily Minnesota Tribune* 27 May 1883:7.

<sup>68</sup> "On Linden Hills," *Minneapolis Tribune* 8 Sept 1889:18.

<sup>69</sup> Ramsey County Recorder, "Macalester Park Addition." 1883.

<sup>70</sup> Ramsey County Recorder, "Second Addition Merriam Park to the City of Saint Paul." 1885.

<sup>71</sup> Ramsey County Recorder, "Merriam Park Third Addition." 1886.





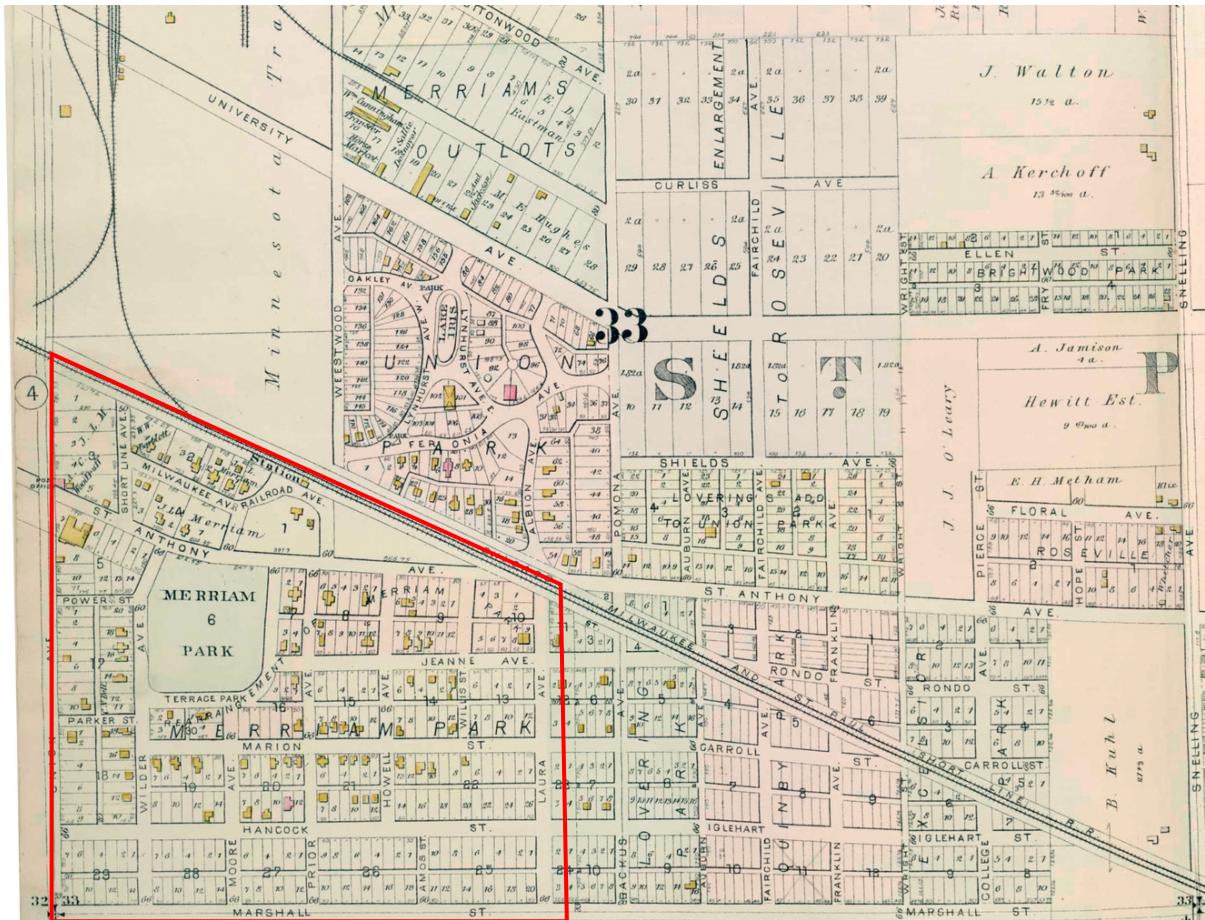


Figure 10. G. M. Hopkins, *Atlas of the Environs of St. Paul* (1886). The Merriam Park study area is outlined in red. Some street names were changed within a year.

The *Saint Paul Globe* closely followed lot sales and promised construction.<sup>73</sup> In addition to Topping, John W. Bell, Amos C. Merrill, and Stafford C. Lockwood were among other early builders.<sup>74</sup> John W. and Mary Bell appear to have built at 1926 Roblyn (formerly Rondo) Avenue by 1885 (see Figure 15). Bell was a partner in the Ryan Wholesale Drug Company. Merrill, the CM&StP freight depot clerk, built at 1001 Milwaukee Avenue (1885, razed). Merrill was later the secretary and treasurer of the Minnesota Transfer Packing Company. Lockwood, a coal dealer on St. Anthony Avenue, appears to have built at 1996 Terrace Park Avenue (now Merriam Lane) by 1886.

Marketed to Saint Paul and Minneapolis buyers, some promoters claimed that many buyers were from Minneapolis, but city directories suggest that most of the early builders appear to have previously been Saint Paul residents, or were formerly residents of places such as Willmar, Hastings, Lake City and Winona.<sup>75</sup>

<sup>73</sup> “Progress at Merriam Park.” *SPG* 29 April 1883:6.

<sup>74</sup> “Gossip about Town,” *Daily Minnesota Tribune*, 21 April 1883.

<sup>75</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

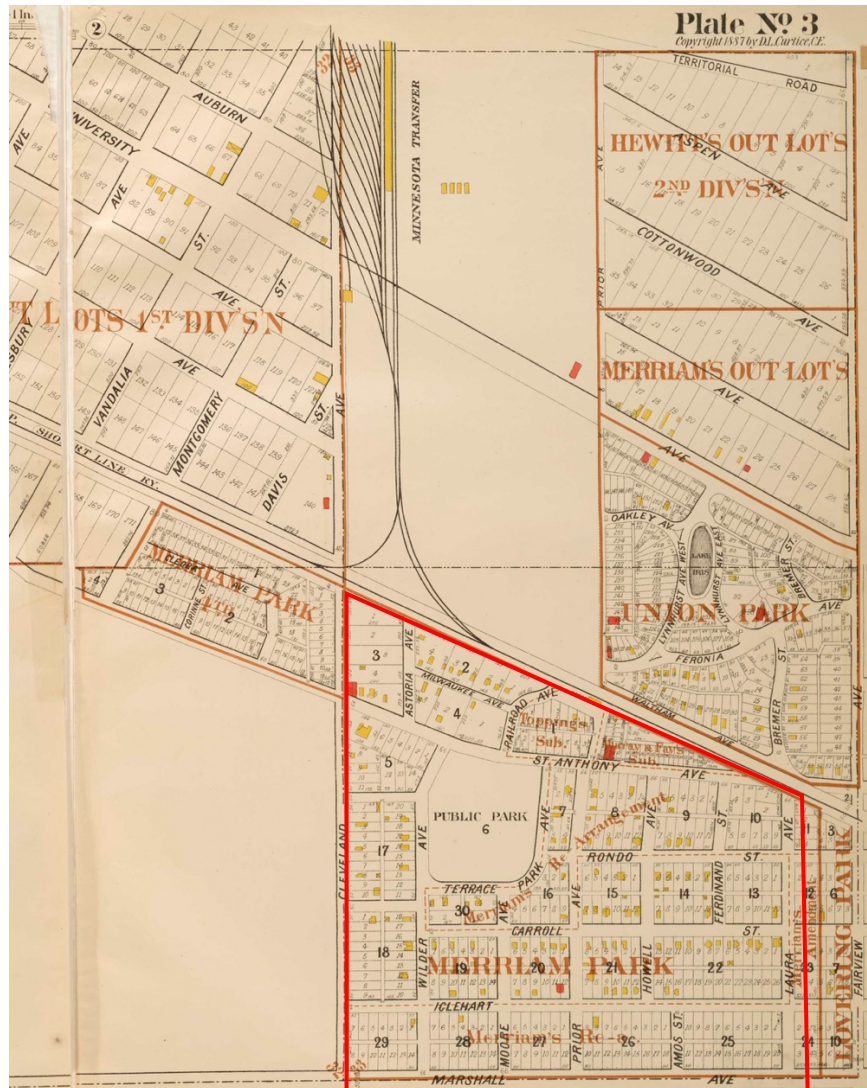


Figure 11. D. L. Curtice, *Standard Atlas of the City of Saint Paul, 1887*.  
 The Merriam Park study area is outlined in red. Curtice showed  
 additional new construction on Carroll and Igelhart Avenues.

Milwaukee Avenue was one of the most densely-built areas of early Merriam Park, and also adjoining St. Anthony Avenue around the open space of Topping's Block. By 1886, about ten houses around and near the depot space were complete<sup>76</sup> (Figure 10). David L. Kingsbury (1842-1912), at 1906 Milwaukee Avenue, was a partner in the St. Paul hardware firm Bennett and Kingsbury and the assistant librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society.<sup>77</sup> By 1890, residents in the depot area included teacher Amos Squire (1835-1904), at 2011 Milwaukee Avenue, and H. J. G. Crosswell, a miller and real estate dealer, at 1921 Rondo Avenue. Harry Lutz, at nearby 1911 St. Anthony Avenue, was a telegraph operator. By 1900 his household included his wife Emma, their one-year-old daughter, and his brother-in-law.

<sup>76</sup> G. M. Hopkins, *Atlas of the Environs of St. Paul* (Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1886), plate 3.

<sup>77</sup> Castle (1912), 1176.

Another family, that of Anne Jones, a native of Wales, her three adult children, and her son-in-law were also in residence at 1911.<sup>78</sup>

Based on the 1886 and 1887 maps (Figures 10, 11) and with the results of building permit research, it appears that by 1888, there were an estimated one hundred houses erected on the first plat of Merriam Park.<sup>79</sup> Many were built on lots nearest the Merriam Park Depot, along St. Anthony Avenue and Merriam Place, and on Milwaukee and Rondo (Roblyn) Avenues. The construction of Interstate 94 in the 1960s, however, removed nearly all traces of the early residential district on St. Anthony and Milwaukee Avenues, along with the north side of Roblyn Avenue and the Prior Avenue commercial district..

Concurrently, most lots on the south side of Carroll Avenues between Prior and Dewey Avenues were almost entirely built up, with scattered development on north-side lots (Figures 10, 11). There were no houses on the south side of Iglehart Avenue, and Marshall Avenue had little development during the first decade. Based on building permit information for extant properties, there are 89 remaining houses from the period 1885-1889. There are an additional 36 remaining houses that date from the period 1890-1899, 1899, reflecting a building slump that lasted until about 1900. Table 5 (Appendix) contains a table of construction dates for extant properties. By 1900, lots in other adjacent additions, including Merriam Park's Second Addition (1887), south of Marshall, and Lovering Park (1883), east of Fairview, became available. To the west, lot sales in Desnoyer Park (1887) and Roblyn Park (1906) would follow the development of the Town and Country Club (1890), west of Cretin Avenue.<sup>80</sup>

### *Early Community*

In 1889 the *Saint Paul Pioneer Press* reported on the "Suburbs of Saint Paul," noting that the "different line of roads that center here" resulted in many new suburban settlements. Although it was acknowledged that the outposts of places such as Macalester and Merriam Park would be part of a seamless city, it was noted that "the average businessman preferred a residence away from the city."<sup>81</sup>

In the mid-1880s, the *Northwest Magazine* featured a number of new suburban locations around Saint Paul, including Union and Macalester Parks. The promotional publication praised Merriam Park's "many really elegant residences," and noted that it was "one of the most favored localities in Minnesota." The magazine stressed that residents would enjoy all the comforts of an urban residence and described the "churches, the best of public schools, as well as hotels, street lamps, graded streets and sidewalks, a public park."<sup>82</sup>

Although there were many business owners, managers, clerks, teachers, salesmen, lawyers, doctors, and ministers among the early community, there were also many laborers, artisans, and skilled tradesmen, most likely employed in the growing Midway Transfer area. An overview of the 1900 U.S. Census suggests that few married women were employed.<sup>83</sup> The census also shows that relatively few Merriam Park heads of households were foreign-born, although a notable number were born in England. Many

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<sup>78</sup> U.S. Census 1900, E.D. 153, Sheet 7.

<sup>79</sup> G. M. Hopkins (1886); D. L. Curtice, *Standard Atlas of the City of Saint Paul* (Saint Paul: D. L. Curtice, 1887).

<sup>80</sup> "Town and Country Club of Saint Paul," *Golf*, v. 4 No 1. Jan 1899:7-10.

<sup>81</sup> "City Improvements," *Saint Paul Pioneer Press*, 1 Jan 1889:8.

<sup>82</sup> "Merriam Park; the Most Beautiful and Popular Interurban Residence Town," *Northwest Magazine* 4 (June 1886):10-11; 86.

<sup>83</sup> U.S. Census, 1900, Ward 11 schedules.

persons, however, were descendants of parents born in England Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Germany.<sup>84</sup>

After Merriam Park's chief promoter, James P. Moore, left for Minneapolis, his role was filled by a number of local Merriam Park real estate dealers who offered lot sales and loans. Some were also speculative builders. Depending on the economy, through the efforts of these dealers, as well as other builders, during the period ca. 1888-1910 there was likely a steady supply of new houses ready for sale or rent. Alvah Bell, who resided at 1888 Carroll Avenue (1886) with his wife, Isabel, was a native of New York and a former Hastings furniture manufacturer and realtor. His brother, John W., was also involved in real estate. Another investor was Robert Bell (1854-1921), at 23 Milwaukee Avenue (razed), who was apparently unrelated to Alvah Bell. In the 1870s and 1880s Robert developed houses in Dayton's Bluff and Merriam Park. A native of England, he arrived in St. Paul in 1869. During the 1870s and 1880s, he also worked for various railroad companies and eventually rose to Chief Clerk of the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad and Superintendent of the Duluth Union Depot and Transfer Company.<sup>85</sup> Later in his career he was Secretary of the George J. Grant Construction Company.<sup>86</sup>

Erastus H. Murray, a native of New York, arrived in Merriam Park in 1884, after having owned a boot and shoe business in Winona and flour mills in Lake City and Frontenac. He started out in Saint Paul selling real estate and loaning money as E. H. Murray and Co., from his office at 1935 St. Anthony Avenue and later at 367 Prior Avenue (both razed). He was among the incorporators of the Merriam Park Bank. He also built the two-story, brick Murray Block (1887) at the intersection of St. Anthony Avenue and Ferdinand Street. He was in partnership with Mark W. Fay, and after 1890, with Alvah B. Bell. In 1887 Murray built a house at 1959 Rondo (Roblyn), at the northeast corner of Terrace Park Avenue (razed). Mark Wesley Fay (1854-1930), a native of Massachusetts, was a banker who also worked in real estate and partnered with Erastus Murray. He built many rental properties and his own house at 1921 Carroll (1886).<sup>87</sup> Alanson C. Woodruff (1861-1942) was praised by the *Saint Paul Globe* in 1891 as the "largest realty owner in the Midway." The newspaper praised his real estate enterprises, which had "done much for the upbuilding of Merriam Park."<sup>88</sup> Alanson's father, Lyman, homesteaded at Cleveland and St. Anthony Avenues. Alanson's brother, Wallace W., operated (and apparently built) the Woodruff House on St. Anthony Avenue. Another real estate dealer, F. J. Minor, arrived in the late 1880s and lived at 1921 St. Anthony Avenue (razed). In 1890 his real estate and insurance office, advertised by a large wall sign, was at 440 Prior Avenue (Figure 47). Minor moved to Chicago in 1893.

Laborers, clerks, tradesmen, and others employed in the railroad and other businesses of the expanding Midway Transfer area were housed across Merriam Park, especially along and near St. Anthony Avenue. As documented by the 1900 U. S. Census and building permit research, real estate investors built many houses for the rental market. In 1889, for example, F. J. Minor built a row of seven identical frame houses (1911 through 1927) between Ferdinand and Prior Avenues (Figure 12). Located on the north side of St. Anthony Avenue, each 21' x 28' house had an estimated \$5,000 construction cost.<sup>89</sup> In addition to the household of Harry Lutz at 1911 described previously, in 1900, the buildings housed Edward

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<sup>84</sup> U.S. Census, 1900, Ward 11 schedules.

<sup>85</sup> Warner and Foote (1881), 417; Wilkinson 1894:132; R.L. Polk & Co., 1888.

<sup>86</sup> *Midway News* 9 July 1921:1.

<sup>87</sup> Corrigan (1939), 40.

<sup>88</sup> "Owns Real Estate." *SPG* 27 July 1891:5.

<sup>89</sup> 1913 St. Anthony Avenue (St. Paul Building Permit #18308), for example, was built in two months, as were the other houses in the row.

Azomann, a machinist, his wife, and three children at 1913; Henry Risser, a Congregational minister, at 1921, and Louis Abberovsky, a stenographer, at 1921.<sup>90</sup>



**Figure 12. From left, 1927, 1925, and 1921-23 St. Anthony Avenue (1889), in ca. 1910 (razed).**

The U.S. Census for 1900 records a variety of professional and managerial occupations among early Merriam Park residents. Along the 1800 and 1900 blocks of Carroll Avenue, for example, a wholesale drug company manager, commercial traveler, railroad clerk, bookkeeper, minister, railroad contractor, and a dentist were among heads of households, along with many other clerks and salesmen of various types. As reported to the census taker, renters appear to have generally outnumbered owner-occupants.

Although it appears a number of the first business owners and other builders that Merriam and Moore sought to attract moved elsewhere within a few years, Horatio G. Coykendall (1840-1906) was representative of a core of long-term residents. A native of Illinois and a noted railroad contractor for many major lines including the Northern Pacific, he moved to Merriam Park in 1885 from Winnipeg, where he worked on the Canadian Pacific Railroad. He was a member of the Merriam Park Presbyterian Church and numerous masonic organizations.<sup>91</sup> After about 1891 Coykendall and his wife Marion moved to a house at 1857 Carroll Avenue built by John J. McDonald, an insurance agent, in 1886. The Coykendalls' son, Gustav A., built his own house at 1885 Marshall Avenue (1900) and hired architect Louis F. Lockwood and contractor J. J. Booth for the \$3,500 project.<sup>92</sup>

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<sup>90</sup> United States Census, Ward 11, 1900.

<sup>91</sup> "H. G. Coykendall," *Minneapolis Tribune*, 24 March 1906:7.

<sup>92</sup> *SPG* 17 August 1902; Saint Paul Building Permit #37585; 8-20-1900.

#### 4.4.7 Merriam Park and the Queen Anne Style



**Figure 13. Eaton B. Northrup House, 1847 Rondo (Roblyn) Avenue (1895, razed).<sup>93</sup> Northrop was a newspaper editor and realtor, and moved to Minneapolis in 1903.**

Milwaukee Avenue, which in 1939 historian Joseph Corrigan called “the fashionable street of its day,” had houses with “large, high-ceilinged rooms, crystal chandeliers, turreted roofs, and scalloped eaves.”<sup>94</sup> Corrigan noted that the houses then remained as “mute testaments of the pride of opulence of Merriam Park’s first families.”<sup>95</sup> The \$1,500 construction cost required of early lot purchasers may have been a factor in their appearance, although this sum was typically adequate for a serviceable but usually not exceptional house.

The now-razed house (ca. 1895) for real estate dealer Eaton B. Northrup (1846-1919) at 1847 Rondo (Roblyn) Avenue presented well- finished Queen Anne features, including a wrap-around porch, a finial-topped square tower, and decorated bargeboards and trusswork (Figure 13). One block to the north, St. Anthony Avenue was a collector for various types of businesses but it also had many high-styled Queen Anne style houses, including that of Arrington J. and Margaret Douglas at 2107 (1890, razed; Figure 14).

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<sup>93</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #31823; 3-22-95. “Eaton B. Northrop,” *Minneapolis Tribune* 22 June 1919:11. Eaton appears in the city directory in 1884 in Merriam Park with an unspecified address but it was likely not this house (R.L. Polk & Co.).

<sup>94</sup> Corrigan (1939), 40.

<sup>95</sup> Corrigan (1939), 40.



**Figure 14. Arrington J. and Margaret Douglas House, 2017 St. Anthony Avenue (1890, razed). Douglas was a salesman for a fur company. In 1900 there were nine residents, including the Douglas family of three and five boarders, and a domestic servant.<sup>96</sup>**

As is especially evident today by examples on Carroll and Iglehart Avenues as well as other streets in the survey area, some remaining houses from the period ca. 1885-1893 were exemplary of the two- and one-half-story, Queen Anne style then popular across prosperous Saint Paul neighborhoods. A high, gray or buff-colored limestone foundation is a distinctive feature. The Merriam Park Queen Anne style houses are typically of clapboard-covered frame construction with multiple gable or hip roofs. A full-width or wrap-around front porch with turned wood columns, and a variety of sawn and scroll-cut trim are standard features. Many houses had prominent finial-topped conical or pyramidal roofs, balconets, decorated vergeboards and shingled gable ends, and a variety of stained glass and other decorative window treatments. Builders could refer to the many pattern books of the period, including those of Palliser and Palliser. Although local builders, including John Noble, appear to have crafted most of the first generation of houses, architects hired by the first Merriam Park builders included William Willcox and Clarence H. Johnston, who designed 1857 Carroll (1886) for John J. McDonald, an insurance agent for the Continental Insurance Company,<sup>97</sup> and H. S. Treherne, who designed 1921 Carroll Avenue (1886) for real estate dealer Mark Fay (Figure 19).<sup>98</sup> Eastlake and Shingle style variants were evident, although many of their subtle details have been altered. The relatively level lots required few retaining walls, but there are remaining brownstone and limestone examples such as that at 1919 Iglehart Avenues (Figure 23a).

Real estate atlases and building permits show relatively few carriage houses, horse barns or rear sheds constructed by early Merriam Park builders. Before electric streetcar service along Marshall, Prior, and University Avenues, transit to either downtown was available on the Short Line, and many residents were within walking distance of Midway-area employment. By 1890, carriage owners were provided with livery services by William H. DeLancey on Ferdinand Street near the corner of Rondo Street, and by G. M. Hughes at University and Prior Avenues (R. L. Polk & Co.).

<sup>96</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit 22794; 5-26-90; estimated cost \$6000; U.S. Census, 1900, ED 152, Sheet 3B.

<sup>97</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit # 9197; 11-5-86.

<sup>98</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit # 9396; 11-30-86.



The history of a selection of houses dating from ca. 1885 to 1894 on Carroll, Iglehart and Roblyn Avenues and Merriam Lane provides a cross-section of the occupations of some of Merriam Park's early residents, and their architects and contractors. Although two-story, single-family houses were the primary building type, large double houses, typically with a side-by-side configuration, were popular with some builders, especially on Roblyn, Carroll and Iglehart Avenues.



**Figure 15. John W. and Mary Bell House,  
1926 Roblyn Ave. (1885).**

John W. Bell, a partner in the Ryan Wholesale Drug Company was the likely original owner of this recently-restored Queen Anne Style house (Figure 15).<sup>99</sup> In 1884 Bell acquired three lots on this block from John L. Merriam.<sup>100</sup> No building permit has been located for this or the adjacent houses, however. City directories and census records show that the Bells and their five children resided here from ca. 1885 to 1900. It next appears to have been in rental use.<sup>101</sup> Floyd W. Horton, a portrait artist and the proprietor of Horton Studios, and his wife Hattie, also an artist, were the occupants in 1903.<sup>102</sup>



**Figure 16. E. R. and Effie Moore House,  
1905 Iglehart Ave. (1885).**

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<sup>99</sup> St. Paul Foundry Company,” *SPG* 14 March 1887:9.

<sup>100</sup> “Real Estate and Building,” *SPG* 12 Feb 1884:3.

<sup>101</sup> R. L. Polk & Co., U.S. Census, 1900, ED 153, Sheet 13A.

<sup>102</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

The Eastlake variety of the Queen Anne style is well-represented by a single-family house at 1905 Iglehart Avenue, designed by St. Paul architect Augustus F. Gauger and built by Ludwig and Baumgardner (Figure 16).<sup>103</sup> Edwin R. Moore, the first owner, was a cashier and bookkeeper at the People's Bank of Saint Paul. In July 1885, he obtained a building permit for a two-story house estimated to cost \$2,000.<sup>104</sup> Three months later, in October 1885, he completed purchase of this lot and half of the adjoining lot to the west from John L. Merriam.<sup>105</sup> Moore was a native of Pennsylvania, and in 1900 the household included his wife, Effie, and two sons.<sup>106</sup> In 2018, the building was relocated (on the same lot) due to redevelopment of this and the adjacent parcel to the west. The facade retains its historic wood clapboard exterior, wood window sash, and a porch decorated with turned posts, scroll-sawn brackets, and a spindled frieze. The shingled gable end and vergeboards trimmed with wood rosettes are among other remaining distinctive features.



**Figure 17. Charles W. Southwick Rental House,  
2048 Carroll Ave. (1885)**

Once exemplary of a simple version of the Queen Anne style, 2048 Carroll (1885), was built by contractor J. H. Mc Clog for Charles W. Southwick (Figure 17).<sup>107</sup> Southwick (1839-1893), a Civil War veteran, was born in Massachusetts and previously resided in Winona and Minnesota City. He apparently built this house for rental use because he does not appear in city directories at this location. By 1895, the house was occupied by German immigrants, Benjamin F. Zahm and his wife, Catherine (1846-1927), and their seven children. Zahm was a clerk in a dry goods store.<sup>108</sup> By 1910, an addition was made to the rear of the house and the building was converted into a duplex. That year, Chris Voight and his wife, Mattie, rented the house with two sisters-in-law who were occupied as a laundress and a packer at a can company. Voight, a Danish immigrant, was employed as a lawyer for a basket factory. The second unit was rented by Hartwig Paulsen, a painter and his wife, Petra; both were natives of Denmark.<sup>109</sup> In 1920, the house was occupied by Patrick McKernan, a paper salesman, and his wife Jane; and their two sons. The second unit was occupied by William Kennedy, a hardware salesman, and his wife, Harriet, and their two sons.<sup>110</sup>

<sup>103</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #4388; 7-7-85.

<sup>104</sup> Ibid.

<sup>105</sup> "Yesterday's Transfers," *SPG* 14 Oct 1885:2.

<sup>106</sup> U.S. Census, 1900, 13, ED 153, Sheet 13A.

<sup>107</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #4646; 8-3-1885.

<sup>108</sup> Minnesota Territorial Census, 1895, 4, Schedule 13.

<sup>109</sup> U.S. Census, 1910, ED 148, Sheet 8.



**Figure 18. William and Annie Martin House,  
2018 Carroll Ave. (1885)**

Contractor Andrew Huff built this Queen Anne Style house in 1885 for William (b.1865) and Annie S. Martin (Figure 18).<sup>111</sup> William worked for the CM&StP Short Line Railroad. In 1895 the couple moved to 2033 St. Anthony Avenue.<sup>112</sup> Theophilus Bowman (1836-1929) and his wife, Adele (1853-1944), next owned the house.<sup>113</sup> Bowman, a native of Pennsylvania, arrived in Faribault in 1857. He moved to Hastings in 1858 and operated a sawmill before farming in Goodhue County.<sup>114</sup> He purchased the house on Carroll Avenue around 1895 and listed his occupation as a merchant.<sup>115</sup>



**Figure 19. Mark and Mary Fay House,  
1921 Carroll Ave. (1886)**

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<sup>110</sup> U.S. Census, 1920, ED 130, Sheet 12A.

<sup>111</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #3682; 5-5-1885.

<sup>112</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>113</sup> Minnesota Territorial Census, 1895, Page 3, Schedule 13.

<sup>114</sup> *Saint Paul Globe*, 12 Feb 1879:2.

<sup>115</sup> Minnesota Territorial Census, 1895, Ramsey, 3, Schedule 13; U.S. Census, 1900, E.D. 148, Sheet 13B; U.S. Census, 1910, E.D. 148, Sheet 6B; U.S. Census, 1920, E.D. 130, Sheet 12A.

Mark Wesley Fay (1854-1930), and Mary Brigham Fay, natives of Massachusetts, arrived in St. Paul by 1884 or 1885. They built a residence at 1921 Carroll Avenue in 1886 (Figure 19). H. S. Treherne was the architect, and Malcolm McKay (of 1855 Iglehart Street) was the contractor.<sup>116</sup> Fay was a banker and real estate dealer.<sup>117</sup> In about 1905 the Fays moved to Virginia Avenue in Saint Paul. Fay also built the house at 1918 Carroll Avenue in 1888 and a number of other rental properties. In 1888, with his real estate partner, Erastus M. Murray, he platted Fay's Subdivision of Merriam's Outlots, which were filled with brick commercial blocks that most of the comprised the Merriam Park commercial area on Prior Avenue.



**Figure 20. Alvah and Isabelle Bell House,  
1888 Carroll Ave. (1886).**

This Queen Anne style house was built by contractor Martin Webster (1830-1895) for Alvah Bell in 1886 at a cost of \$4,100 (Figure 20).<sup>118</sup> Webster may have known the Bells from Hastings, Minnesota where they both were living in the 1870s and 1880s. Alvah Bell (1842-1925) and his wife, Isabelle (1838-1917), were born in New York and moved to Hastings in ca. 1870, where Bell was a furniture dealer. In Saint Paul he operated a real estate office at 1932 St. Anthony Avenue. In 1901, Bell was one of the organizers of the Merriam Park Improvement Society.<sup>119</sup> Bell's brother, John Jessup Bell (1838-1908), also worked in real estate and the association was listed for a short time as Bell Bros. In 1900, John J. Bell lived with his brother at 1888 Carroll Avenue.<sup>120</sup> After Isabelle Bell's death in 1917, Alvah moved to 1810 Marshall Avenue and rented the house on Carroll Avenue until his death in 1925. In 1920, residents included Anthony Wilson (1876-1921), his wife Florence (b.1891), and their four children.<sup>121</sup> Wilson, a plumber, was the proprietor of a heating company in Merriam Park.

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<sup>116</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #9326; 11-30-86.

<sup>117</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>118</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #7243; 5-18-1886.

<sup>119</sup> *SPG*, 25 June 1901.

<sup>120</sup> U.S. Census, 1900, ED 153, Sheet 12B.

<sup>121</sup> U.S. Census, 1920, ED 130, Sheet 5A.



**Figure 21. Alvah and John Bell Double House,  
1890 Carroll Avenue (1890).**

In 1889, Alvah Bell (1842-1925) and his brother, John Jessup Bell (1838-1908), hired architect James Record (1857-1944) and contractor Martin Webster (1830-1895) to build a Queen Anne style double house at 1890 Carroll Avenue (Figure 21). The brothers apparently intended this as a rental property. The Bell brothers were real estate agents and lived at the neighboring house at 1888 Carroll Avenue, which Martin Webster had constructed in 1886. By 1895 Willis Burton Hawley (1850-1931), a merchant, and his wife, Emma (1854-1930), rented part of the house with their daughters, Catherine Hawley and Abbie Cropsey, as well as their son-in-law Fred Cropsey, a coal company manager.<sup>122</sup> In 1910 the Hawleys and Cropseys resided at 1884 Carroll Avenue.<sup>123</sup> In 1920, the renters included Fred Bernier and his wife, as well as William J. Hohn, a railroad clerk, Hohn's wife, Mary, and daughter, Margurite.<sup>124</sup> In 1887 the Bells built a Queen Anne style double house at 1889 Carroll Avenue, also designed by James Record.



**Figure 22. Mary Eastman Double House,  
1935 Carroll Ave. (ca. 1887).**

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<sup>122</sup> Minnesota Territorial Census 1895, 3, Schedule 12.

<sup>123</sup> U.S. Census, 1900, ED 153, Sheet 12B.

<sup>124</sup> U.S. Census, 1920, ED 130, Sheet 5A.

This Queen Anne style double house was erected by an unknown builder in ca. 1887 for Mary Goodrich Eastman (1847-1926), a widow (Figure 22). By 1900, Mary Eastman lived here with her mother, Mary, her brother, George Goodrich, and her son, Ralph Eastman and his wife, Leonora.<sup>125</sup> The other unit was rented by Charles Noble, a chemist, and his wife, Lillian, and their two sons.<sup>126</sup> A succession of family members remained in the house through the 1930s.<sup>127</sup> Although re-sided, it retains the porches and other features of the symmetrical double-house design.



**Figure 23. M. E. and John Collett House, 1919 Iglehart Ave. (1886).**

In 1886, architect Adam Dorr (1854-1928) designed this Queen Anne style house for John and M. E. Collett. The contractors were John S. Noble and Edward Munn (Figures 23, 23a).<sup>128</sup> The porch is a recent restoration. Collett was a broker for the Armour Packing Company.<sup>129</sup> In 1887, Annie Stebbins, the widow of Kellogg S., was the resident. In 1893, it was the home of B. P. Baker, a clerk at the Minnesota Transfer Railway, and his wife and daughter. The Bakers previously lived at 1947 Carroll Avenue.<sup>130</sup> In 1902, it was the residence of Louis Billau, a commercial traveler. Meanwhile, the Bakers had moved to 1915 Marshall Avenue.<sup>131</sup>



**Figure 23a. 1818 Iglehart, limestone wall detail.**

<sup>125</sup> U.S. Census, 1900, ED 153 Sheet 13A).

<sup>126</sup> U.S. Census, 1900, ED 153 Sheet 18B).

<sup>127</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>128</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #8898; 10-9-86.

<sup>129</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>130</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.; Dual City Blue Book.

<sup>131</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.; Dual City Blue Book.



**Figure 24. Zelotus N. King House,  
1875 Carroll Ave. (1894).**

This two-and-one-half story house combines Queen Anne style vertical massing with Colonial Revival style details (Figure 24). Architect James H. Record (1857-1944) designed the building for Zelotus N. King in 1894 at an estimated cost of \$2,500.<sup>132</sup> Charles A. King was the contractor. Zelotus King (1834-1902), formerly of West Liberty, Iowa, appears to have been a boarder at 1879 Carroll and 1884 Carroll Avenue while the house was under construction, but there is no record of him residing in the new house.<sup>133</sup> By 1895, the next owners appear to have been Allan Ter Bush (1858-1920), a commercial salesman, and his wife, Charlotte (1862-1938).<sup>134</sup> By 1910, the house was owned by Charles F. Arrol, a real estate agent, and his wife, Agnes.<sup>135</sup> In 1920, the house was owned by Thomas William Lynch, a miller, and his wife, Elizabeth.<sup>136</sup> James H. Record also designed the houses at 1890 Carroll Avenue (1889) and 1842 Carroll Avenue (1893) for Alvah and John Bell.

#### **4.4.8 Promoting the Midway**

In 1885, the *Saint Paul Globe* promised that the Midway District of Saint Paul would soon unite the “Twin Cities of the Northwest in one great metropolis.”<sup>137</sup> In addition to the Minnesota Transfer Yards and Merriam Park, the district was defined as including the residential plats of Union Park, Midway Heights, and Quinby and Excelsior Parks. Saint Anthony Park and the University of Minnesota’s Experimental Farm were northwest and north of the Transfer Yards, and Macalester Park and Hamline, each with a new college building, were more distant at the western and eastern edges of the district.<sup>138</sup> The “one great metropolis” message of the article was repeated many times and included promotion of the Town and County site as the ideal location for the Minnesota State Capitol. In 1891, the area was defined as including Merriam, Union, Macalester, and St. Anthony Parks, Hamline, and the Minnesota Transfer. For the next two decades, real estate promoters’ definitions of the Midway’s territory and attributes varied. The *Dual City Blue Book*, a social and business directory for both cities and published by

<sup>132</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #31589, 11-9-1894.

<sup>133</sup> Minnesota Territorial Census, 1895, Ramsey, 4 Schedule 12; *Muscatine Journal* 14 Oct 1902:4; R.L. Polk & Co.

<sup>134</sup> Minnesota Territorial Census, 1895, Ramsey, 4 Schedule 12.

<sup>135</sup> U. S. Census, 1910, ED 148, Sheet 10A.

<sup>136</sup> U. S. Census, 1920, ED 130, Sheet 3B.

<sup>137</sup> *SPG* 18 Oct 1885:11.

<sup>138</sup> Donovan (1954), 23.

R. L. Polk & Co., included Desnoyer Park, Howard Park and Warrendale.<sup>139</sup> Merriam Park, including the additions to the original plat, could also be defined to cover a broad territory. By the 1920s “Merriam Park” sometimes referred to areas well outside the Merriam Park plats.

### *The Woodruff Hotel*

Sleighrides to Merriam Park are all the rage now.  
*Saint Paul Globe* February 10, 1884:4

Summer Resort—A very select boarding resort; extensive lawn and shades; unlimited drive and rambles; close to Minnehaha, Shadow Falls and Bridal Veil, new and nicely-furnished rooms; twelve minutes ride from either city, board to taste. Open June 1. For particulars call on W.W. Woodruff, Merriam Park.  
*Saint Paul Globe*, June 13, 1886:15

During the period when Merriam Park was only a small collection of houses fanning out from the south side of the Short Line tracks, the Woodruff Hotel (or Woodruff House) was the scene of many early community events, especially before the completion of the area’s five churches and Longfellow School. The Woodruff property helped establish Merriam Park as a destination. Operated by Wallace W. Woodruff (1849-1939) and other members of the Woodruff family, the large, two-story establishment was located at 2050 St. Anthony Avenue at the southeast corner of Cleveland and St. Anthony Avenues (Figure 10). The property was part of the homestead of farmer Lyman Woodruff (1820-1883), and his wife, Laura Woodruff. The Woodruffs arrived in the Saint Paul area in about 1862 with at least eight children. The hotel was operated during the 1880s and early 1890s and advertised “extensive green lawns and shades, and “fine drives and rambles” and was a popular destination for dinners, parties, and wintertime sleighride and snowshoe parties. In 1886 it advertised as a “very select boarding resort.”<sup>140</sup> The property offered large suites of parlors, and a good-sized hall for dance and drama. In 1887, proprietor Wallace W. Woodruff advertised for “colored waiters,” but it is not known if any of the staff might have also lived on the premises.<sup>141</sup>

Woodruff sometimes used the title Dr. in reference to his medical training,<sup>142</sup> and was a promoter of the west-side State Capitol site.<sup>143</sup> The Woodruff property provided space for the first Merriam Park Post Office, with Wallace as postmaster, and the Woodruff coal and wood business. By 1886, however, the hotel was advertised for sale, rent or lease.<sup>144</sup> Woodruff appears to have moved on to the Bellview House at Lake Minnetonka.<sup>145</sup> Still for sale in 1890 but remaining in operation in 1893,<sup>146</sup> the site was later occupied by the Woodruff and Hudson Fuel dealers, a firm owned by Alanson Woodruff. The hotel parcel was part of the block replatted as Welshon Place in 1906. By the 1920s, the Woodruff Hotel site was redeveloped with fuel and lumber sheds, and in 1971 with a three-story apartment building.<sup>147</sup>

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<sup>139</sup> *Dual City Blue Book of St. Paul and Minneapolis* (St. Paul: R. L. Polk and Company), 1891-2.

<sup>140</sup> *SPG* 13 March 1886:15; 17 July 1888:7.

<sup>141</sup> *SPG* 15 July 1887:7.

<sup>142</sup> Woodruff attended Boston Medical College and the University of Michigan. “William Wallace Woodruff,” *Minneapolis Star* 18 Jan 1939:14.

<sup>143</sup> “A Capitol,” *Minneapolis Tribune* 30 Jan 1893:3.

<sup>144</sup> *SPG* 22 Dec 1886:14.

<sup>145</sup> “Merriam Park” *SPG* 26 May 1889:8.

<sup>146</sup> *SPG* 21 Aug 1890:7.

<sup>147</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #133774; 10-19-1971.



#### 4.4.9 Four Merriam Park Churches

In 1886 the promoters of Merriam Park published a view of the original plat in the Northwest Magazine. Facing south from the Minnesota Transfer Yards, the view showed a densely built area around Milwaukee Avenue and the depot, with clusters of houses on Iglehart and Carroll Avenues and at the edges of Merriam Terrace Park (Figure 8). Church steeples were more prominent than commercial buildings, which were almost nonexistent. Merriam Terrace Park was a central feature, although its public improvements remained nearly twenty years in the future.

The Saint Paul historic context, “Churches, Synagogues, and Religious Buildings: 1849-1950,” notes the interest of established downtown congregations in establishing missions and new churches.<sup>148</sup> Between 1884 and 1890 four Protestant congregations acquired lots in the original plat of Merriam Park. These congregations, each representing an English-speaking, mainline Protestant denomination, reflected the initial demographic character of the area, which had a limited number of first-generation European immigrants and apparently no African-American residents.

Catholics also established an early Merriam Park church, just outside the boundaries of the original plat. In 1889, the Archdiocese of Saint Paul purchased two lots at the northwest corner of Dayton and Moore Avenues, in Dayton’s Second Addition, for construction of the Church of St. Mark. Herman Kretz was the architect of the first frame church.<sup>149</sup> It was replaced in 1919 with a brick edifice designed by John Comes.<sup>150</sup>

About six months after Merriam Park was platted, in February 1884 the *Saint Paul Globe* reported that the Congregationalists were the first to purchase building lots. They had assured John L. Merriam that they would build a church “as soon as the season permits.”<sup>151</sup> However, the Congregationalists complained that “without notice, the Presbyterians appeared, bought lots, proposed to build, and have started to hold services.”<sup>152</sup> The *Globe* observed that the community would be divided by two competing churches.<sup>153</sup>

##### *Merriam Park Presbyterian Church*

Merriam Park Presbyterian Church was organized in 1884 and had 65 members by 1888, and 300 by 1912.<sup>154</sup> The first church was completed at the southeast corner of Moore and Carroll Avenues in 1884 and was followed in 1890 by a new wood-frame edifice at 1982 Iglehart Avenue.<sup>155</sup> The new \$7,000 building, designed by Mould and McNicol and built by \_\_King, featured a rose window in the east elevation corner tower and spire<sup>156</sup> (Figures 25, 26). The old structure was moved to the rear of the lot for

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<sup>148</sup> Carole Zellie and Garneth O. Peterson, *St. Paul Historic Context Study: Churches, Synagogues, and Religious Buildings: 1849-1950*, 2001, prepared for St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission.

<sup>149</sup> Connolly (1939), 52-54; Castle (1912), 619.

<sup>150</sup> Connolly (1939), 77-78.

<sup>151</sup> *SPG* 10 Feb 1884.

<sup>152</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>153</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>154</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.; Castle (1912), 537.

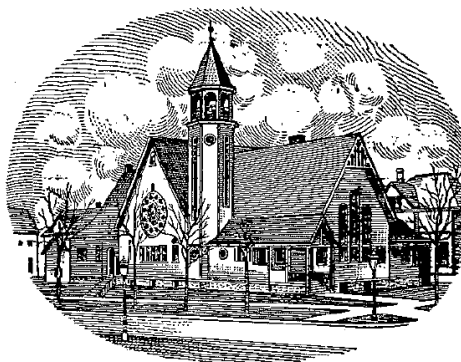
<sup>155</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>156</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #22834.

use as a Sunday School. The older building was later sold to St. Mark’s Catholic Church and moved to Dayton and Moore Streets.<sup>157</sup> In 1913, the congregation chose a new building site south of the original plat of Merriam Park, in the Second Addition, and built a \$55,000 church designed by Saint Paul architect Thomas Holyoke.<sup>158</sup> The building at 1982 Iglehart Avenue was next occupied by the Second Church of Christ Scientist and in 1913 by the Merriam Park Baptist Church. The Baptist congregation was organized in 1909, and first met in temporary locations including the Triune Masonic Temple.<sup>159</sup> The building, now remodeled, is now the home of the Evangelical Formosan Church (Figure 25).



**Figure 25. Merriam Park Presbyterian Church, 1982 Iglehart Avenue (1890).**



**Figure 26. Merriam Park Presbyterian Church, engraved view of ca. 1890.**

*St. Mary’s Episcopal Church (razed)*

In 1884, Merriam Park Episcopalians organized St. Mary’s Episcopal Church.<sup>160</sup> The congregation initially met in the Presbyterian Church. In 1886 they built a \$3,000 edifice designed by Willcox and Johnston at 286 Prior Avenue (Figure 27). Noble and Munns were the contractors. John L. Merriam donated one of the two lots.<sup>161</sup> In 1925 the congregation erected a new church at 1895 Laurel Avenue in the Second Addition of Merriam Park, south of Marshall Avenue. In 1923 the original building was moved to an unknown location.<sup>162</sup> The parsonage remains at 1939 Iglehart Avenue (1890).<sup>163</sup>



**Figure 27. St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, 286 Prior Avenue (1886; razed).**

<sup>157</sup> *Merriam Park Golden Anniversary 1884-1934* (St. Paul: Merriam Park Presbyterian Church, 1934), 4-5;

<sup>158</sup> *Ibid.*; “Splendid New House of Worship” *Saint Paul Pioneer Press* 17 Sept 1911:7.

<sup>159</sup> “Merriam Park Baptists Now Have Own Church,” *Minneapolis Tribune* 27 Sept 1913:26 .

<sup>160</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>161</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #7040 6-11-86; “Cornerstone Laid,” *SPG* 4 June 1886:2); St. Mary’s Episcopal Church (1912?).

<sup>162</sup> Saint Paul Moving Permit #5939, 10-29-23.

<sup>163</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #23500; 8/6/1890.

### *Olivet Congregational Church*

In 1888 Olivet Congregational Church organized with a membership of 32. The first church was completed in 1889 at 330 (336) Prior Avenue. Intended as a temporary home for the congregation, the small frame structure cost \$2,500.<sup>164</sup> In 1907 the congregation moved into a new building at 1850 Iglehart Avenue (Figure 28).<sup>165</sup> Clarence H. Johnston designed the \$25,000 building, and the addition of 1915, with Ingemann Brothers as contractors. The building remains the home of the Olivet Congregational Church. The original Prior Avenue building was next owned by the Church of God. A portion of the building survives as a dwelling.



**Figure 28. Olivet Congregational Church,  
1850 Iglehart Avenue (1907, 1915).**

### *Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church*

Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1886 and had 50 congregants by 1890.<sup>166</sup> The congregation met in Woodruff Hall and other quarters until completing a small frame church designed by Warren H. Hayes in 1887 (razed) at the southwest corner of Carroll Avenue and Dewey Street (Figure 29).<sup>167</sup> In 1913 the congregation completed a \$55,000 Kasota stone building at 1849 Marshall Avenue designed by Thomas Holyoke (Figure 30). A \$220,000 addition that accommodated a merger with First Methodist Church was completed in 1961.<sup>168</sup> The building is now the home of the Trinity City Church.

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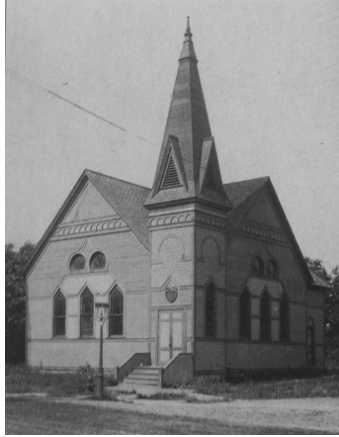
<sup>164</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #20542; 9-17-1889; “Dedicated a Church,” *Minneapolis Tribune* 6 Dec 1889:3.

<sup>165</sup> Paul C. Larson, *Minnesota Architect: the Life and Work of Clarence H. Johnston* (Afton, Minnesota: Afton Historical Society Press, 1996), 175.

<sup>166</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.; see also *A History of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Minneapolis and Saint Paul* (Minneapolis: Price Bros, 1895).

<sup>167</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #10014; 3/23/1887.

<sup>168</sup> Jane McClure, “History of Our Sister Congregations,” accessed at [www.hamlinechurch.org/uploads/3/2/9/2/.../p02\\_predecessor\\_mini\\_histories.pdf](http://www.hamlinechurch.org/uploads/3/2/9/2/.../p02_predecessor_mini_histories.pdf); “Two Midway Churches to Have New Homes.” *Minneapolis Tribune* 29 Mar 1913:10.



**Figure 29. Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, southwest corner of Dewey Street and Carroll Avenues (1887, razed).**



**Figure 30. Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, 1849 Marshall Avenue (1913).**

#### 4.4.10 Early Religious and Social Organizations and the Local Press

They are a lively, sociable community out at Merriam Park, and the air of quiet elegance which seems to envelope the place generally, finds its way into the numerous social gatherings which succeed each other rapidly during the social season, not, however at the expense of real fun.

*Saint Paul Daily Globe* January 30, 1886:2

Every effort has been made to secure first-class people, as well as first-class improvements, and the result is as select a social circle as may be found anywhere.<sup>169</sup>

*Saint Paul Globe*, October 18, 1895:11

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Bell and Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Topping, Merriam Park, will leave for Los Angeles Ca., this afternoon.

“Personal Paragraphs,” *Saint Paul Globe*, January 19, 1889:2

Each Merriam Park congregation established its own organizations, and Merriam Park residents also founded dozens of social organizations and clubs. The earliest of the clubs included the Dramatic, which produced “acts” before dances and other events, and the Radotto, which appears to have been devoted to cards and dances. The Cosmopolitan Club was organized in 1885 and was still holding meetings in the 1960s.<sup>170</sup> A program for March 1900 offered “the England of Today,” “English Economies” and “Social Transformation of the Victorian Age: Why is She No Longer Merrie England?”<sup>171</sup> The Merriam Park Chapter of the Chautauqua Literary Society was established in 1886, and had 26 members by 1890.<sup>172</sup>

The Woodruff House (Hotel) at 2050 St. Anthony Avenue was the early venue for many of these organizations because it provided a “good sized hall for dance and drama” as well as a dining room.<sup>173</sup> In

<sup>169</sup>“Midway between the Cities,” *SPG* 18 Oct 1885:11.

<sup>170</sup> See “Cosmopolitan Club of Merriam Park, Club records, 1887-1985,” Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul.

<sup>171</sup> “Merriam Park,” *Minneapolis Tribune* 11 March 1900:17.

<sup>172</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>173</sup> *SPG* 30 Jan 1886:2.

1890, Alanson Woodruff completed Woodruff's Hall, at Prior and St. Anthony Avenues, which also provided meeting space.<sup>174</sup>

Merriam Park, like other suburban locations such as Hamline and Macalester, was the subject of a column in the *Saint Paul Globe* and *Saint Paul Pioneer Press* that reported on daily events, including social and religious organization meetings, and information about residents' travels. Merriam Park activities were also regularly reported in the *Minneapolis Tribune*.

Historical pageants, a nationally popular form of entertainment in the early twentieth century, were staged by the Ladies' Aid Society of the Merriam Park Presbyterian Church. One, in November 1911, was held at the new Triune Masonic Temple at 1898 Iglehart Avenue (1910). It was described a "historical, educational and musical entertainment founded on the past, present and future history of Merriam Park."<sup>175</sup>

The Eleventh Ward Improvement Union had 33 members by 1888. The organization promoted street grading and the extension of water, sewer, and cable car service.<sup>176</sup> They also lobbied for improvement of Merriam Terrace Park. By this time, lots in all of the Merriam Park additions were on the market, and members would have included residents south of Marshall and east of Fairview. Reorganized as the Merriam Park Improvement Association in 1901, the organization lobbied for a central telephone exchange, free exchange service between Saint Paul and Minneapolis, and continued improvement of Merriam Terrace Park as well as the Longfellow School grounds.<sup>177</sup> This organization and other local groups were very involved with planning for Interstate Highway 94, particularly with regard to the location of the proposed Prior Avenue interchanges.<sup>178</sup>

The Prior Avenue commercial center at Prior and University provided buildings that housed several masonic organizations. The first was the Merriam Park Lodge No. 152 of Oddfellows. They held their first meeting in the Brainerd Block in 1889.<sup>179</sup> The Merriam Park Division 5 of the Ancient Order of Hibernians met in Brooks Hall at Prior and University. After 1910, the Neo Classical style Triune Masonic Temple at 1898 Iglehart (1910, listed in the NRHP 1980), provided a home for Triune Lodge No. 190. The building was designed by contractor Henry C. Struchen (1871-1947), a member of the Lodge, and remains in use by the Saint Paul Lodge Number Three A. F. & A. M (Saint Paul Lodge).<sup>180</sup>

### *Midway News*

The weekly *Midway News*, founded in 1888 by Edouard A. Paradis (1850-1924), a native of Quebec, was published in a building at 1945 St. Anthony Avenue, at the southwest corner of Prior Avenue.<sup>181</sup> The publication ceased in 1946. It followed the short-lived *Interurban Graphic*, described as a weekly devoted

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<sup>174</sup> "Merriam Park," *SPG* 15 June 1890:14.

<sup>175</sup> *Minneapolis Tribune*, 29 Oct 1911:22.

<sup>176</sup> "Has Done Good Work," *Midway News* 11 Jan 1888.

<sup>177</sup> "Improvement in Order," *Minneapolis Journal* 24 June 1901:7.

<sup>178</sup> "Interchange Plans Explained," *Minneapolis Tribune* 8 Sept 1961:24

<sup>179</sup> Castle (1912), 619.

<sup>180</sup> Harlan D. Kiima, "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form: Triune Masonic Temple." On file, Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office; see also Lodge information accessed at <http://www.saintpaulodge.org/>.

<sup>181</sup> Castle (1912), 943; "Edward A. Paradis Funeral Set Today in St. Paul," *Minneapolis Tribune* 27 Jan 1924:25.

to society and real estate news and also founded in 1888. Devoted to promoting the interests Merriam Park and the Midway, the early editions of the *Midway News* were focused on Merriam Park and the Midway Transfer area and were closely intertwined with the efforts of real estate promoters. Paradis was the secretary and treasurer of the Minnesota Transfer Board of Trade when it was organized in 1889.<sup>182</sup> The *Midway News* was lauded in 1912 as “supporting progressive movements.” In the 1920s, Paradis appears to have used the paper primarily as a platform for his views.<sup>183</sup> In addition to the *Midway News*, a number of other short-lived newspapers focused on the Midway. They included the *Midway Messenger* (1931-35) and the *Midway Advertiser* (1906-1933). The forerunner of the *Midway Monitor*, which remains in publication, appears to have started by 1947.<sup>184</sup>

#### 4.4.11 Merriam Terrace Park

It is nicely elevated ground, covered with full grown oaks at regular intervals, making a most perfect shading. . . . with a greensward and freedom from underbrush, the symmetrically rounded elevation presents a delightful picture.

*Saint Paul Globe* May 20, 1883:6

In May 1883, Merriam was traveling in Europe when he reportedly cabled from Paris to his son, W. R. Merriam, that Block 6 of the Merriam Park plat should be dedicated as a park.<sup>185</sup> The 7.7-acre site, shown as undivided on the original plat, included an oak-covered knob that offered views of the Mississippi River valley and Minneapolis to the west. It also provided a partial buffer from the Short Line rail tracks and the future Midway Transfer yards. St. Anthony Avenue bordered the park to the north, Merriam Lane (formerly Terrace Park Avenue) to the south and east, and Wilder Street to the west (Figure 10). The oaks were prized by neighborhood residents, and the lots around the park attracted builders of an early collection of attractive houses. The Merriam Park Addition was annexed to Saint Paul in 1885, and the Board of Park Commissioners was organized in 1887, so several years passed before any improvements were made. The *Midway News* reported in 1888 that Saint Paul civil engineer Thomas F. Nicholl had laid out the drives and walks through the parks and was “locating the improvements and ornamentations soon to be undertaken by the park commission.” Nicholl (1824-1906), a native of England, envisioned “walks and drives, an artificial lake, a music pavilion and such as other work as will make the park attractive and enjoyable.”<sup>186</sup> In 1891, the Board of Park Commissioners reported that “the trees will be trimmed, walks laid, rustic seats provided and a commodious pavilion erected. This will give Merriam Park one of the finest public parks in the two cities.”<sup>187</sup> In 1894 the park was named Merriam Terrace, and park superintendent Frederick Nussbaumer directed that work begin to complete a stone arch bridge, which spanned the “small and large lakes.” The artificial lakes, located at the northern end of the park near St. Anthony Avenue, initially had a clay and sand bottom, which was unsuccessfully sealed.<sup>188</sup> In 1897 the park board constructed an ornamental fountain on the north slope of the hill. The fountain had a twelve-foot basin and was used to fill the lakes constructed on the level surface north of the fountain.<sup>189</sup>

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<sup>182</sup> Castle (1912), 620.

<sup>183</sup> See for example, “The True Loyalty to St Paul versus Wild Real Estate Schemes,” *Midway News*, March 1920:1.

<sup>184</sup> List of newspapers and dates of publication based on Minnesota Historical Society catalog entries.

<sup>185</sup> “The Gift of a Park,” *Daily Minnesota Tribune* 20 1883:6.

<sup>186</sup> *Midway News* 11 August 1888:1.

<sup>187</sup> “A Great Metropolitan Center,” *SPG* 27 July 1891:5.

<sup>188</sup> “Park Board Annual Meeting and Routine Grind,” *SPG* 29 March 1894:8; 1897:28; *Annual Report of Saint Paul Park Commissioners for 1899-1900*:24.

<sup>189</sup> *Annual Report of Saint Paul Park Commissioners for 1897-1898*:28.

In 1909 an octagonal pavilion (razed) was placed on the highest point of the hill, overlooking Terrace Park Avenue. The cost was \$1,014 and featured a stone base and a flat roof supported by fluted wood columns (Figures 31, 33).<sup>190</sup> In 1910, the lakes were lined with concrete at a cost of \$2,352 (Figures 34, 35).<sup>191</sup> Graveled paths linked the lake and the pavilion.<sup>192</sup> In 1898, the board concluded that the park was a “delightful breathing spot,” in a “well settled and refined suburb of the city.” In noting that no further improvements were planned, the noted that “its natural effect and simplicity of beauty should not be marred by introducing so-called artistic features.”<sup>193</sup> More than 3,045 annual bedding plants were planted in 1899, however. With the exception of the 117,915 plants in Como Park, Merriam’s plantings were outranked only by the 3,630 planted in Irvine Park.<sup>194</sup>

In 1885 contractor A. C. Merrill completed 2016 Terrace Park Avenue (Merriam Lane), an early house in Merriam Park and one of the first built facing the park. The owners were Elam D. and Isabelle Parker.<sup>195</sup> Elam (1840-1919), a native of Ohio, was a general agent for the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault St. Marie Railroad. By 1891 there were ten large houses completed around the park on Wilder and Terrace Park Avenues. Their builders included business owners, engineers, and real estate dealers. By 1910, lots along the park were also developed with double houses including those at 333-335 Wilder (1909) and 327-329 Wilder Street (1908), and a four-plex at 325 Wilder Street named Wilder Terrace (1908). A number of houses had columned porches that overlooked the park, including 371 Wilder Street (1899).



Figure 31. Merriam Terrace Park, ca. 1910.



Figure 32. Merriam Lane and Wilder Avenue, looking northeast, 2019.



Figure 33. Pavilion, ca. 1909 (razed).



Figure 34. Bridge, lake, and fountain, ca. 1910 (razed).

<sup>190</sup> *Annual Report of Saint Paul Park Commissioners for 1909*, n.p.

<sup>191</sup> *Annual Report of Saint Paul Park Commissioners for 1909*, n.p.; *Annual Report of Saint Paul Park Commissioners for 1919*, 30.

<sup>192</sup> *Annual Report of Saint Paul Park Commissioners for 1909*, n.p.

<sup>193</sup> *Annual Report of Saint Paul Park Commissioners for 1898-1899*:29.

<sup>194</sup> *Annual Report of Saint Paul Park Commissioners for 1898-1899*:19. The number of bedding plants in Merriam Park fell to 1,515 by 1907.

<sup>195</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit # 4365; 7/8/1885.

By 1903, the *Annual Report of the Saint Paul Board of Park Commissioners* declared that Merriam Terrace Park, along with Langford Park in Saint Anthony Park, was “the largest and most important” of the city’s 24 neighborhood parks.<sup>196</sup> In the next year, however, the park lost an estimated fifty percent of its old oaks during an August storm.

Only fourteen neighborhood parks were improved at this time, including Rice, Smith, Irvine, Central, Lafayette and Summit and Carpenter Park (Summit Overlook). The city’s large scenic parks at Como, Phalen, and Indian Mounds, and Mississippi River Boulevard and Summit Avenue were under development. At their peak of ornamental design prior to World War I, and under the leadership of Frederick Nussbaumer, each of the best-tended neighborhood parks had a network of graveled paths, and were laid out with abundant bedding plants each spring from the park department nursery.

In 1919, Frederick Nussbaumer warned that the topography of Merriam Park did not allow for playground construction, and that the “people of this district” should act to acquire a playground “before it is too late.”<sup>197</sup> The park was the scene of many kinds of community events, including concerts provided by various bands. In 1909, for example, the First Regiment Band performed seven concerts.<sup>198</sup> Open-air religious services were also popular.<sup>199</sup> On July 5, 1896, for example, there was a “union patriotic service.” A choir and orchestra performed, and addresses by state officials included those by Attorney General Henry W. Childs and Rev. H. A. Risser of Olivet Congregational Church.<sup>200</sup>



**Figure 35.**  
Merriam Terrace Park, G.M. Hopkins,  
*Atlas of the City of Saint Paul* (1916).  
Lake, fountain and pavilion are shown.



**Figure 36.**  
Merriam Terrace Park, 1945. Lake (top)  
and fountain (small circle) are visible. (University  
of Minn. Borchert Map Library-MHAPO)

<sup>196</sup> *Annual Report of Saint Paul Park Commissioners for 1903:32. Annual Report of Saint Paul Park Commissioners for 1904:28.*

<sup>197</sup> *Report of Department of Parks, Playgrounds, and Public Buildings of the City of St. Paul for 1914-1919:3-4.*

<sup>198</sup> *Annual Report of Saint Paul Park Commissioners for 1909: 6-9.*

<sup>199</sup> “Merriam Park,” *SPG* 17 August 1890:10.

<sup>200</sup> *SPG* 4 July 1896:2.



In 1953, the City of Saint Paul built the Merriam Park Community Center (now the Merriam Park Community and Recreation Center) at 2000 St. Anthony Avenue. It was placed on the site formerly occupied by the small artificial lakes of Merriam Terrace Park. The building was enlarged with a gymnasium in 1958 and by additions in 1970 and 1978.<sup>201</sup> The circular concrete outline of the former park fountain remains on the hillside south of the building. In the early 1960s, the City of Saint Paul planned to enlarge the park, following the City's controversial sale of Dunning Field, about one mile to the east, to Concordia College. The proceeds from the sale were to have been used to create new playing fields and open space.<sup>202</sup> The planned sale was challenged by citizens and the field was not sold. By 1967, however, Merriam Park expansion plans were revived and the City demolished houses east of the park on Prior and Terrace Park Avenues, and south along Carroll Avenue. In 1978, following completion of the new Longfellow School (All Seasons Elementary), Carroll Avenue was permanently closed between Prior and Moore Avenues. The expanded park included playing fields on level ground and a tennis court that was built into the north slope of the hillside. The demolition of approximately 25 houses bordering the park coincided with the clearance of many other houses and commercial buildings on St. Anthony, Prior, and Roblyn Avenues for Interstate 94 construction (Figure 62). The residential streets remaining between the Short Line tracks and St. Anthony Avenue were also eliminated, leaving just two extant houses on the former Short Line Avenue (later Astoria Avenue; now 458, 462 Wilder Street).

#### 4.4.12 Public Transportation

Early Merriam Park residents were well served by mass transit to downtown centers, beginning with the Chicago Milwaukee and St. Paul (CM&StP) Railway Short Line service to downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul from the Merriam Park depot. By 1890, 75 passenger trains passed through Merriam each day.<sup>203</sup> The Merriam Park Improvement Association was among the backers of the extension of the Selby Avenue cable line to Merriam Park.<sup>204</sup> Archbishop John Ireland and Thomas Cochran, who platted Macalester and other Midway subdivisions, "conjointly underwrote a bond for the electrification and extension" of the Grand and Randolph Avenue streetcars, and their extension to Cretin Avenue. In 1890, the city's first electric streetcar ran along Grand Avenue as far as Fairview Avenue.<sup>205</sup>

With the construction of the Marshall Avenue-Lake Street Bridge in 1889, "the most important crosstown line" in the metropolitan system of the Twin Cities Rapid Transit Company (TCRT) crossed Merriam Park. The completion of the University Avenue Interurban electrified line along University Avenue in 1890 brought more direct competition to the Short Line service. The TCRT Snelling Shops were located at the southeast corner of Snelling and University. The University line was replaced with buses in 1953.<sup>206</sup>

When the Marshall Avenue-Lake Street Bridge was opened in 1889, real estate dealers promoted lots along the 100-foot-wide avenue as ideal building sites.<sup>207</sup> They thought it symbolized the unification of

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<sup>201</sup> Merriam Park Community Center Inc., "Agency History," November 1987. On file, Merriam Park Community Center. 1970 addition permit #11705; 8/25/1970; 1978 addition #55839; 7/27/1978.

<sup>202</sup> "College to Purchase Part of Dunning Field," *Minneapolis Star* 28 June 1963:5A.

<sup>203</sup> "Heart of the New Metropolis," *SPG* 15 June 1890:13.

<sup>204</sup> Castle (1912), 619.

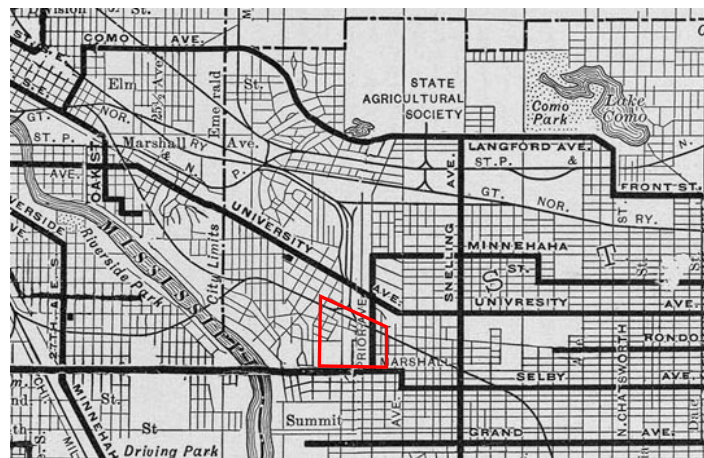
<sup>205</sup> Corrigan (1939), 39.

<sup>206</sup> Diers and Isaacs (2007), 197-8.

<sup>207</sup> Constructed entirely of wrought iron with a wooden deck, at the time of its construction the bridge was the second longest-span metal arch bridge in the United States. See "Lake Street Marshall Avenue Bridge," *Historic American Engineering Record*, n.d. Accessed at <http://loc.gov/pictures/item/mn0080/>, also "Erection of the Lake Street Arch Bridge, Minneapolis," *Engineering Record* 38 (September 24, 1898):356-7.

the cities and, as one advertiser noted, the Midway District would then be the “Center of One Grand City.” Marshall Avenue, described as the “Summit Avenue of Merriam Park,” provided a wide, tree-lined corridor stretching from Snelling Avenue to the Mississippi River.<sup>208</sup> In 1888, the Saint Paul City Railway completed a cable car line up steep Selby Hill, allowing the connection of the western end of Marshall Avenue with St. Anthony Hill, Summit Avenue, and downtown Saint Paul. The line was extended as far as Selby and Fairview Avenues in 1890. In 1891 the line reached Prior Avenue at the center of Merriam Park. In 1891, Marshall Avenue property owners protested the construction of the electric line as a “detriment to their property.” Dr. Sheridan Cobb (1852 Marshall); Silas H. Pratt (1890 Marshall) and Fernando W. Root (1894 Marshall) were among those who challenged the Saint Paul City Railway Company on construction of an electric line between Fairview and Prior Avenues. The did not succeed, but work was temporarily suspended in August 1891.<sup>209</sup>

The Marshall Avenue-Lake Street bridge was modified in 1905-06 to increase load-bearing capacity and widen the bridge roadway from 18 to 33 feet to accommodate streetcars weighing as much as 40 tons, and in 1906 the entire electrified line was joined with the Lake Street line when a new bridge was completed across the Mississippi.<sup>210</sup> As shown on a TCRT map of 1913, Merriam Park was served by a line that ran from downtown Saint Paul via Selby Avenue to University Avenue via Prior Avenue (Figure 37). Between 1920 and 1932, Merriam Park was part of the Merriam-Mississippi line, and then a shuttle car ran along prior to connect with the Selby Lake line at Marshall Avenue. Prior Avenue rail service was abandoned in 1938. Bus service also ran along Marshall, and the Twin City Rapid Transit Company acquired a private company in 1926.<sup>211</sup> Transit service spurred multiple-family housing construction; by the 1920s, builders cleared existing houses between Cleveland and Fairview for construction of a few apartment buildings and fourplexes. Beginning with the two-story McIntosh Block at 2057 Marshall Avenue (1911), the Cleveland and Marshall intersection developed into a small neighborhood shopping center.



**Figure 37. Map Showing the Lines of the Twin Cities Rapid Transit Co. (1913). Merriam Park study area is outlined in red.**

### *The Civic Center*

Transit improvements, especially the Marshall Avenue-Lake Street Bridge (1889) and the Grand Avenue streetcar that reached Fairview Avenue in 1890, further bolstered the mid-1880s idea of the united cities

<sup>208</sup> “Midway its Future is Bright,” *SPG* 29 April 1905:17.

<sup>209</sup> “Check on Lowry: Marshall Avenue Property Owners Assert their Rights” *SPG* 16 Aug 1891:3.

<sup>210</sup> Diers and Isaacs (2007), 192. The bridge was replaced in 1989.

<sup>211</sup> Diers and Isaacs (2007), 199.

of Minneapolis and St. Paul (Figure 7). In 1889 Archbishop John Ireland (1838-1918) underwrote the extension of the electric line along Grand Avenue to Cleveland Avenue, evidence of his support for the potential of the city's west end.<sup>212</sup> He especially saw the opportunity to locate a new Cathedral of Saint Paul, the State Capitol, and the Union Depot in the vicinity of Merriam Park. The Cathedral was projected for a site at Laurel and Cleveland Avenues, and other promoters fastened on the idea of "Federal City," with a new Saint Paul City Hall, hospitals, museums, and other civic buildings.<sup>213</sup> Supporters promoted the Midway Transfer Yards and Merriam Park as the center of where "the business heart of the Northwestern metropolis is to be developed."<sup>214</sup> In 1891, the enthusiasts of the united city movement gathered at the annual meeting of the Transfer Board of Trade, hosted by Wallace W. Woodruff at the Woodruff House. More than 75 prominent guests, including Archbishop Ireland and former Minnesota Governor William Marshall, celebrated the idea of a Midway civic center.<sup>215</sup> In 1893, the selection of the current Capitol site ended this speculation.

#### 4.4.13 Building Marshall Avenue and Merriam Park in the Twentieth Century

By 1906 and the extension of electric streetcar service along Marshall, University, and Prior Avenues, the edges of the original plat of Merriam Park were becoming indistinguishable from the fabric of the surrounding area. By this time, Merriam Park was described as the largest suburban residence park of the Midway, with "several thousand people having homes there." This would have included all five plats of Merriam Park, extending south to Summit Avenue. One writer described the greater Merriam Park area as consisting of "what used to be known as Merriam Park, Union Park and Howard Park."<sup>216</sup> Within the original plat of Merriam Park, however, there were only thirteen houses on each side of Marshall between Fairview and Cleveland Avenues in 1908. By 1916, however, most Marshall lots were filled, along with most of the lots to the north between Cleveland and Fairview Avenues.<sup>217</sup> By 1930, the area was almost completely built up. Within the Merriam Park survey area (2018) there are 86 extant properties that date from 1899 to 1909, and another 39 properties that date from 1910 to 1919. Marshall Avenue construction accounted for a good portion of this total.

Saint Paul's population reached 163,065 in 1900 and 214,744 in 1910. It reached 234,698 in 1920. The explosive growth evident in the previous decade—from 41,493 in 1880 to 133,156 in 1890—was tempered by the Panic of 1893 and a decline in European immigration. The *Saint Paul Globe* noted that the spaces between "the once-distinct residence parks were filling in," and that "before many years the different suburbs will be separate in name only."<sup>218</sup> Concurrently, the Midway manufacturing and shipping district round the Minnesota Transfer yards were poised to "make the Midway the main lumber distributing point of the Northwest." In addition to its manufacturing interests, the Midway was the home of the largest horse market in the west.<sup>219</sup>

Vacant Marshall Avenue lots were advertised by real estate dealers with headlines such as "Merriam Park a Desirable District: A City Within A City" and "Marshall District is Being Filled up Rapidly with

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<sup>212</sup> Castle (1912), 361.

<sup>213</sup> Castle (1912), 619; McClure (1994), 6.

<sup>214</sup> "Midway between the Cities!" *SPG* 18 Oct 1885:11.

<sup>215</sup> "He Argues for Union," *SPG* 16 June 1891:5.

<sup>216</sup> "Midway: its Future is Bright," *Minneapolis Journal* 29 April 1905:17, 20.

<sup>217</sup> D. L. Curtice, *Revised Atlas of the City of Saint Paul* (Saint Paul: D. L. Curtice, 1908); G. H. Hopkins (1916).

<sup>218</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>219</sup> *Ibid.*

Spacious and Modern Homes (Figure 38).”<sup>220</sup> Some early twentieth-century Marshall Avenue houses occupied a double or oversized lot and most were two- and one-half stories in height. Late Queen Anne and many varieties of Classical and Colonial Revival style houses were designed by Saint Paul and Minneapolis architects, including Charles W. Buechner, George H. Carsley, Frederick Corser, Thomas Holyoke, Louis F. Lockwood, Omeyer & Thori, Perry & Feustad, Mark Fitzpatrick, John C. Plaut, James H. Record, Reed & Stem and J. Walter Stevens. Louis F. Lockwood’s work is especially well represented within the study area on Marshall Avenue, with at least twelve residential commissions between Fairview and Cleveland Avenues, and others on Iglehart Avenue. Lockwood (1865-1907) trained as an architect in London and arrived in St. Paul in 1892. By 1899, his offices were in the Germania Block.<sup>221</sup> Noted for substantial and sometimes innovative Colonial Revival style houses,<sup>222</sup> many of his Saint Paul commissions were concentrated in the Historic Hill District and along the west end of Summit Avenue (West Summit Avenue Historic District).

Estimated costs shown on building permits are often unreliable, but these large, well-appointed houses of Marshall Avenue were among the costliest yet reported in Merriam Park. The G. W. Rodgers House at 1864 Marshall Avenue, for example, designed by George H. Carsley and built by A. G. Ericksen (1905), was permitted at an estimated cost of \$6,000, as was the Albert A. and Agnes Loudon Fry House (1905), at 1877 Marshall Avenue, designed by Charles W. Buechner and built by Baumeister Bros.<sup>223</sup> The *Minneapolis Journal* declared that Marshall Avenue represented the finest residence street in the Midway district, “commonly spoken of as the Summit Avenue of Merriam Park. All residences along Marshall Avenue are of pretentious size and architecture, brick, stone and frame homes, many of elegance.”<sup>224</sup> The popular Classical and Colonial Revival styles were adaptable to small and large budgets. Although many Marshall Avenue examples are high-styled, with architect-designed features, the standard of the area was a simple but spacious two or two-and-one-half story house. The cross-gable or hip-and-gable roof, often with dormers, had a deep raking cornice at each end, with a tripartite window. A full-width porch, supported by columns resting on stone piers spanned by a wood railing and balusters, rested above a ribbon of concrete that joined the city sidewalk. This type of house, as illustrated in newspaper features of the period, filled many remaining Marshall Avenue lots and infilled others on Carroll and Iglehart Avenues, and was a standard choice for builders in the new Merriam Park Additions to the south (Figure 38).



**Figure 38. *Saint Paul Pioneer Press*, April 30, 1905:9 (left); May 5, 1912:12 (right).**

<sup>220</sup> “Merriam Park a Desirable Residence District,” *Saint Paul Pioneer Press* 19 April 1905:9; “One of the Park-Like Blocks of Merriam Park,” *Saint Paul Pioneer Press* 30 April 1905:9.

<sup>221</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>222</sup> Jeffrey A. Hess and Paul Clifford Larson, *St. Paul’s Architecture: A History* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press 2006), 84.

<sup>223</sup> Saint Paul Building Permits.

<sup>224</sup> “Midway: its Future is Bright,” *Minneapolis Journal* 29 April 1905:17.

## *Twentieth-Century Progress*

Examples of the popular Craftsman bungalow and Period Revival style houses, including Tudor and Dutch Colonial variants, were built on remaining lots through the 1920s and 1930s, but apartment buildings, flats, and gasoline service stations also infilled many lots. Beginning in the 1920s, gasoline companies and independent operators built stations at Cleveland and St. Anthony Avenues, at Prior and St. Anthony Avenues, and at Cleveland and Marshall Avenues. At the northwest corner of Merriam Park in 1924, for example, E.A. Roeller built a filling station at 421 Avenue N. Cleveland (razed 1964).<sup>225</sup> Modern residential garages were added to rear lots in the 1920s and 1930s, with most accessed by the alleys provided in the 1882 plat. Clad in wood siding or stucco, with a hip or gable roof, the small buildings were typically designed as single-car.



**Figure 39. William and Dora Hunkins House,  
1907 Marshall Ave. (ca. 1887).**

1907 Marshall Avenue, at the northwest corner of Howell Avenue, appears to be among the earliest extant buildings on Marshall between Fairview and Cleveland Avenues (Figure 39). No original permit has been located for the Queen Anne style dwelling, but City of Saint Paul records suggest a date of 1887. By 1890, it was the residence of William S. and Dora Hunkins. Hunkins (1857-1939) was a salesman at Bayer Dry Goods. The family had previously lived at 1962 Rondo Avenue in 1887 and at 1962 Carroll Avenue in 1889.<sup>226</sup> When the Hunkins moved to Los Angeles around 1904, the house was sold to Charles Perry Howes (1859-1918).<sup>227</sup> Howes was the manager of the Saint Paul branch of Belding Brothers & Company, silk manufacturers.<sup>228</sup> Howes sold the house in 1917. The next owner, Reverend Henry Doermann (1860-1933), was dean of St. Paul Luther College.<sup>229</sup> Doermann's widow, Retta (1866-1942), remained on Marshall Avenue until ca. 1935 when she moved to Minneapolis.<sup>230</sup>

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<sup>225</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #12250; 10-29-24.

<sup>226</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>227</sup> R.L. Polk & Co.; Minnesota State Census 1905, ED 45, Sheet 18.

<sup>228</sup> "St. Paul Manufacturer Dies," *Minneapolis Tribune*, 26 July 1918:9.

<sup>229</sup> *Minneapolis Star*, 10 Feb 1933:7.

<sup>230</sup> U.S. Census, 1940, ED 89, Sheet 22.



**Figure 40. Peter L. and Mary Therien House,  
1910 Marshall Ave. (1889).**

The Queen Anne style Peter L. and Mary Therien House was built in 1889 at an estimated cost of \$ 5000 (Figure 40).<sup>231</sup> Designed by Omeyer and Thori, the contractor was John N. Noble. Therien (1849-1924) was born in New York and was living on Howell Street in 1885. He variously listed his occupation as a mason and contractor, and was also involved in real estate.<sup>232</sup> The Theriens remained in the house until 1896 when they moved to Minneapolis.<sup>233</sup> By 1907, Charles Augustus Payne (1845-1939) and his wife, Susan, were occupants.<sup>234</sup> Payne, a bank clerk, lived in the house until his death in 1939.<sup>235</sup>



**Figure 41. Sheridan and Melicent Cobb House,  
1852 Marshall Ave. (1890).**

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<sup>231</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #20007, 7-29-1889.

<sup>232</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.; *Saint Paul Globe*, 25 April 1889.

<sup>233</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>234</sup> Dual City Blue Book 1907-8, 1917-18, R.L. Polk & Co.

<sup>235</sup> U.S. Census, 1920, E.D. 130, Sheet 16A.

Dr. Sheridan G. Cobb (1863-1932) and his wife, Melicent Cobb (1863-1954) hired Ingemann Bros. to build a three-story house at an estimated cost of \$5,000 (Figure 41).<sup>236</sup> Cobb, a native of Cascade, Minnesota, graduated from Hahnemann Medical College in Chicago in 1884. The Cobbs were married in 1886 and arrived in Merriam Park in 1889. Their two children and Millicent's mother, Frances Cutter, were also part of the household.<sup>237</sup> Following Cutter's death 1923, the Cobbs moved to 336 Mississippi River Boulevard.<sup>238</sup> The next owner was Alfred R. Frahm (1884-1944), a superintendent at Northern States Power Company.<sup>239</sup> Cobb founded the 25-bed Cobb Hospital at the corner of Cleveland and Iglehart Avenues, which merged with the Midway Hospital in the 1920s. He was involved in many local organizations including the Triune Masonic Lodge.<sup>240</sup> In 1904 he built the extant one-story medical office building at 366 Prior Avenue. Louis F. Lockwood was the architect.



**Figure 42. Frank A. Bedell House,  
1853 Marshall Ave. (1896).**

Architect Louis F. Lockwood designed the Classical Revival style Frank A. Bedell House (1896) at 1853 Marshall Avenue. It was built by contractor C. N. Lovene (Figure 42).<sup>241</sup> Bedell (1860-1938) was a real estate investor and is also credited with building the house at 1866 Marshall in 1897. By 1899, Bedell sold the house to Newton R. Frost (1859-1926).<sup>242</sup> Frost was president of the St. Paul real estate board and ran twice as an unsuccessful candidate for mayor of St. Paul on the prohibition ticket.<sup>243</sup> Frost and his wife, Ella, remained in the house until Frost's death in 1926 when the house was sold to Albert G. Anderson. Anderson (1885-1935) was the property owner until 1935.

<sup>236</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #23439; 7-31-1890.

<sup>237</sup> U.S. Census, 1910, E.D. 144, Sheet 1.

<sup>238</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>239</sup> By 1940 Frahm lived at 1667 Highland Parkway; R.L. Polk & Co.; U.S. Census, 1940, E.D. 220, Sheet 15B.

<sup>240</sup> "Dr. S. G. Cobb," *Minneapolis Tribune*, 19 Nov 1932; "Mrs. C. Melicent Cobb," *Minneapolis Star* 28 Sept 1954:5.

<sup>241</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #33400; 7-9-1896.

<sup>242</sup> U.S. Census, 1910, ED 4, Sheet 1B.

<sup>243</sup> *Minneapolis Tribune* October 5, 1926. R. L. Polk & Co.



**Figure 43. George C. Waller House,  
1899 Marshall Ave. (1897).**

This two-and-one half story Queen Anne style house with Colonial Revival motifs was built in 1897 for George C. Waller and was designed by Louis F. Lockwood (Figure 43). It includes all the features of a well-finished, wood-frame house of the period. The south façade has a full-width porch that rests on limestone piers and wraps the southwest corner of the house. At the rear, the single-bay, wood-frame garage (ca. 1920s) has a hipped roof. Waller listed his occupation as “insurance” in 1905 and “capitalist” in 1910.<sup>244</sup> Waller and his wife, Elizabeth, moved to Yakima, Washington in 1914.<sup>245</sup> The next occupant, John H. Todd, a department store manager, rented the house from 1914 to 1920.<sup>246</sup> It appears he purchased the house from Harry and Hanna Haeger. Harry Haeger (1873-1919), a chemist, died in 1919, but Hanna (1873-1959) lived in the house until the 1930s.<sup>247</sup>



**Figure 44. Oscar P. and Anita Shepardson House,  
2013 Marshall Ave. (1902).**

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<sup>244</sup> Minnesota State Census 1905, ED 45, Sheet 18; U.S. Census, 1910, Ramsey, ED 148, Sheet 1A.

<sup>245</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>246</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.; U.S. Census, 1920, ED 130, Sheet 8A.

<sup>247</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.; Minnesota State Census, ED 39, Sheet 3.



In 1902 Oscar P. Shepardson (1854-1926) hired architect Louis F. Lockwood and contractor John Peterson to build a two-story Colonial Revival style house for an estimated \$5,000 (Figure 44).<sup>248</sup> Shepardson, a salesman, owned a number of residences in Merriam Park. In 1895, he resided at 1902 Carroll Avenue before starting construction that year on a new house on Iglehart between Prior and Moore Avenues.<sup>249</sup> Shepardson, and his wife, Anita (b. 1854), retired to Los Angeles ca. 1908. Mrs. Augusta Fliegler (1844-1921), a native of Germany, purchased the house following the death of her husband, Jacob (1837-1906).<sup>250</sup> Her son, Jacob Fliegler Jr., operated the Fliegler Company, a wholesale fruit company. Jacob and his siblings, Flora (b.1882) and Clara (b.1884), worked at the company and remained on Marshall Avenue into the 1940s.

### *Den E. Lane and the Craftsman Style*

The popular Craftsman style was adaptable to small bungalows as well as large two-story houses. The Craftsman house typically featured overhanging eaves with knee brackets and exposed rafters, and a stucco or wood-clad exterior. Described as the “dominant style for smaller houses built throughout the country during the period from about 1905 until the early 1920s,” plans were easily sourced from popular pattern books.<sup>251</sup> Such books may have been the source of a small number of simple bungalows in Merriam Park. Notable examples include the clapboard-clad Dr. Robert H. and Idalia Harrison House at 309 Wilder Street (1912) and the shingle-clad house at 284 Wilder Street (1911). An exceptional stucco-clad example at 2000 Marshall Avenue, featuring a recessed front porch supported by paired square columns and rubblestone piers, was designed by Saint Paul architect Mark Fitzpatrick (1866-1955), for Saint Paul’s leading realtor, Den. E. Lane (1881-1952), and his brother, Cornelius A. Lane (Figure 45).



**Figure 45. Den E. and Cornelius Lane House, 2000 Marshall Avenue (1910; Dean Nelson photo).**

A native of Ireland and a graduate of St. Thomas College, Lane was owner of the Den E. Lane Real Estate Company. His newspaper obituary claimed he “designed and named 50 per cent of St. Paul’s streets constructed in the 1920s.”<sup>252</sup> A master of newspaper promotion, he was involved in real estate projects across the city, and is especially associated with opening Highland Park. At the time of his death,

<sup>248</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #40076; 7-11-1902.

<sup>249</sup> Minnesota State Census, 1895; *St. Paul Globe* 29 June 1895, 4.

<sup>250</sup> U. S. Census, 1910, ED 148, Sheet 6A.

<sup>251</sup> Virginia S. McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2014).

<sup>252</sup> “Den E. Lane,” *Minneapolis Tribune*, 2 Dec 1952.

Lane lived at 1765 Bohland Avenue with his wife, Elsie. In 1930 the residents were Captain and Mrs. Andrew C. Tyschen.<sup>253</sup>

#### 4.4.14 Prior Avenue Commercial Area

Despite its proximity to the Minnesota Transfer yards, at first John Merriam apparently envisioned Merriam Park as an exclusively residential area, with limited commercial development within the limits of the original plat. St. Anthony Avenue and adjacent streets around the CM&StP Short Line depot served as the main collector of small businesses. By 1888, the provision business of W. H. De Savigny, for example, was run by a Connecticut native who purchased the business of A. P. Moss. His brick block at the intersection of Prior and Feronia Avenues, in Union Park, adjoined the CM&StP Short Line tracks.

In 1888, local real estate dealers Erastus H. Murray and Mark W. Fay conducted “prolonged negotiations” with Merriam to subdivide Lot 31 of Merriam’s Outlots for business blocks.<sup>254</sup> In 1886, Murray, formerly a grain dealer in Lake City, opened the first real estate office housed in Merriam Park, and sold lots for Merriam and John G. Hinkel.<sup>255</sup> He first operated out of his house at Terrace Park Avenue (Merriam Place) and Rondo Street (Roblyn Avenue), and reportedly wanted to develop a commercial area where he could relocate his own business. In 1888, with Mark W. Fay, he platted Murray & Fay’s Rearrangement, located between Prior and Dewey Avenues, into thirty lots.

Alanson Woodruff, the brother of W.W. Woodruff, the proprietor of the Woodruff Hotel, was the first to build in Murray & Fay’s Rearrangement. In 1889 he completed the Woodruff Block and Hall, a two-story, brick veneered block (Figure 46).<sup>256</sup> Located at the corner of St. Anthony and Prior Avenues, it offered twelve offices and businesses. Five storefronts were provided at the first story, and ten arched windows filled the second story.



Figure 46. Woodruff Block (1889), razed.



Figure 47. Prior Avenue construction, ca. 1900.

<sup>253</sup> U. S. Census, 1920, E.D. 130, Sheet 16B; Dual City Blue Book.

<sup>254</sup> *Interurban Graphic*, 2 June 1888:6.

<sup>255</sup> “A Great Metropolitan Center,” *SPG* 27 July 1891:5.

<sup>256</sup> “Merriam Park Society” *SPG* 4 Dec 1887:10; *Saint Paul Pioneer Press*, 1 Jan 1889:1.

The second floor of the new Woodruff Block was a main gathering spot for civic organizations. On August 11, 1890, for example, the Transfer Board of Trade met to discuss the extension of gas and electric lighting in the Midway residence parks.<sup>257</sup>

The two-story Fargo Block (1891) at 388-390 N. Prior Avenue (corner of Prior and St. Anthony Avenues), the Brainerd Block (1888) at 400-402 Prior Avenue, the Union Block, and several smaller brick blocks were also completed by 1891.<sup>258</sup> The Fargo Block housed shops and apartments. Meanwhile, in Union Park across the Short Line tracks at Prior and Feronia, an 1888 building at 1956 Feronia by hardware dealer and banker H. M. Crosby created a backdrop for the Short Line Depot. The two-story, red brick building housed a hardware store and offices. The stone-trimmed, red brick building cost \$12,000.<sup>259</sup> The relocated Merriam Park Post office, telephone exchange, and a plumbing, wallpaper and paint store were initially housed in the building, which was called one of the finest business blocks in the Midway.<sup>260</sup> By 1916, there were about twenty masonry commercial buildings at the intersection of Prior and St. Anthony Avenues.<sup>261</sup> The Woodruff Block and the rest of the commercial district were demolished in 1961 in preparation for the construction of Interstate 94.<sup>262</sup> The Crosby Block, to the north at the edge of Union Park, however, remains.

#### 4.4.15 Marshall Avenue Commercial Area

Following the opening of the Marshall Avenue-Lake Street Bridge, streetcar service along Marshall Avenue encouraged a strip of commercial buildings on both sides of the street between Cleveland Avenue and Wilder Street, along with a few filling stations, apartment buildings, and fourplexes. As noted in the Saint Paul Historic Context Study, “Neighborhood Commercial Centers, 1874-1960,” the neighborhood services offered in small commercial strips of such expanding neighborhoods around the turn of the century “catered to middle-class citizens whose heads of household commuted to downtown, as well as the residents of the new immigrant communities that formed around the lines, churches, and industries.” Many independent grocers, bakers, and jewelers developed the properties, sometimes with the assistance of real estate dealers. Many buildings provided quarters for the proprietor and his or her family on the second floor, or rental. For newly developing interurban areas like Merriam Park, the buildings represented “outposts of commerce” several miles from downtown Saint Paul.<sup>263</sup>

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<sup>257</sup> “Transfer Board of Trade,” *SPG* 17 Aug 1890:2.

<sup>258</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #22446; 4-29-90.

<sup>259</sup> *Interurban Graphic* 9 June 1888.

<sup>260</sup> “A Great Metropolitan Center,” *SPG* 27 July 1891:5.

<sup>261</sup> G. M. Hopkins, *Plat Book of the City of Saint Paul, Minn. and Suburbs* (G. M. Hopkins, Philadelphia, 1916).

<sup>262</sup> “St. Paul’s Woodruff Building to be Razed.” *Minneapolis Star* 6 July 1961:10.

<sup>263</sup> Carole Zellie and Garneth O. Peterson, *Historic Context Study, Neighborhood Commercial Centers: 1874-1960*, prepared for St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission, 2001.



**Figure 48. McIntosh Block, 2054 Marshall Avenue (1911) .**

The small commercial district east of the intersection of Marshall and Cleveland Avenues is anchored by the two-story tan brick commercial building at 2054 Marshall Avenue (Figure 48). Built in 1911 for Charles A. McIntosh at a cost of \$10,000 and designed by architect, Charles T. Pear, a one-story, brick addition at the rear (south) was built in 1915.<sup>264</sup> The bracketed, overhanging cornice of the original design remains intact. By 1920, Charles (b. 1850) and Catherine McIntosh (b.1865) and their family lived above the store.<sup>265</sup> Both were natives of Canada and arrived in the United States in 1888. By 1930, the grocery was operated by William Scanlan and the other half of the first-floor commercial space was occupied by the Iverson Drug Store.<sup>266</sup> The upper floor was occupied by dentist Leroy Peifer and his wife, Charlotte Stauffer, owner of a beauty shop. Harold J. Slawik (b.1902), the operator of the nearby auto garage, also lived at the second floor.<sup>267</sup> In the 1940s, the Burke Drug Store operated at this location. The building remains in commercial and residential use.

The adjoining, one-story commercial building at 2044 Marshall Avenue dates from 1922. Harold J. Slawik hired contractor Lovering & Longbotham Company for \$7,000.<sup>268</sup> Slawik (the future developer of the Har Mar shopping center in Roseville), operated a garage repair shop in this building and automobile dealerships at other locations. In 1930, a portion of the building was occupied by Century Dry Cleaners.<sup>269</sup> 2034 Marshall (1922) and 2032 Marshall (1936) comprise the rest of the one-story commercial buildings on the south side of the street between Cleveland Avenue and Wilder Street. By 1916, the north side of Marshall Avenue between Cleveland and Wilder Street was filled with single-family houses.<sup>270</sup> By 1936, however, redevelopment for automobile repair and gasoline filling stations, and then restaurant and retail uses. The current buildings include 2027 Marshall Avenue (1978), 2045 Marshall Avenue (1969), and 2057 Marshall Avenue (1957).

<sup>264</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #58153; 11-14-1911; #66317; 8-6-1915.

<sup>265</sup> U.S. Census, 1920, E.D. 130, Sheet 17a.

<sup>266</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>267</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>268</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #87758, 9-5-1922.

<sup>269</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>270</sup> G.M. Hopkins (1916).

*Apartment Buildings in Merriam Park*



**Figure 49. 1856 Marshall (1925).**



**Figure 50. Wakefield Apartments,  
(Marshall Villa) 1990 Marshall (1925).**

The two-story, brick-trimmed fourplex at 1856 Marshall (1925) is exemplary of the four-plexes and small apartment buildings that were popular with Merriam Park builders in the 1920s (Figure 49). In 1930, the residents of the building included Robert C. Dahl, a casket salesman, and Francis E. Critchett, a teacher.<sup>271</sup>

In 1925, contractor Edward N. Cookman built the Wakefield, a Renaissance Revival style, eleven-unit apartment building at 1990 Marshall Avenue for an estimated \$45,000 (Figure 50). The two- and one-half story building, now known as Marshall Villa, employs a dumbbell plan.<sup>272</sup> The extant garage was also built in 1925.<sup>273</sup> Cookman (1893-1962), a native of Minnesota, is listed in St. Paul directories as a carpenter and plumber. In 1930, he owned his own plumbing company and lived at 1913 Carroll Avenue.<sup>274</sup> In 1930, residents included Norman J. Nesheim, an insurance agent, Leo Hamilton, an automobile factory worker, Edwin H. Seuss, a railroad inspector; Vilos W. Schultz, a newspaper printer; John R. O'Brien, a sales manager; Raymond T. Ehlenz, a mechanic; Irene E. Dunn, a teacher; Carl H. Young, a secret service detective, and Herbert C. Meyer, a meatpacker.<sup>275</sup>



**Figure 51. The Cleveland, 372 Cleveland Avenue (1925), facing southeast in ca. 1930.**



**Figure 52. The Cleveland, 372 Cleveland Avenue (1925), facing east, in 2018.**

<sup>271</sup> U. S. Census, 1930, E.D. 62-146, Sheet 5A.

<sup>272</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #12548;11-17-1924.

<sup>273</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #13354;3-9-1925.

<sup>274</sup> R. L. Polk & Co.

<sup>275</sup> R. L. Polk & Co., U.S. Census, 1930, E.D. 62-147, Sheet 16B.

In the mid-1920s, N. Cleveland Avenue was also the focus of apartment developers' interest. Although supplied with good streetcar connections, the buildings also featured garages for automobile-owning tenants. In 1925, local contractor and building owner William F. McKay permitted three adjoining buildings. Maywood, a two-story flat building at 356 N. Cleveland, was estimated to cost \$28,000.<sup>276</sup> The two-story Woodland at 362 N. Cleveland Avenue had an estimated cost of 28,000.<sup>277</sup> The three-story Cleveland, at 372 N. Cleveland, trimmed in brick and tile, was estimated to cost 40,000 (Figures 51, 52).<sup>278</sup>

A post-World War II housing shortage refueled builders' interest in apartment construction. For example, the former Cobb Hospital had occupied two lots at the corner of Iglehart and Cleveland Avenues. In 1950 the T and T Realty Company replaced it with a pair of flat-roofed, two-and one-half story Modern style apartment units separated by a landscaped court. Teconico was the architect.<sup>279</sup> The replacement of a group of older houses with multi-story apartment buildings, especially along main arterial streets, was popular in Saint Paul in the mid-1960s, as evident by five large units on Marshall Avenue dating from 1964 to 1969. They were typically executed in Neo-Mansard, Traditional, or Modern styles. For example, the flat-roofed, 25-unit brick building at 1880 Marshall, completed in 1965 by Butler Construction for William Weitzman at an estimated cost of \$125,000, replaced three single-family dwellings.<sup>280</sup> In 1971, after a six-year effort, property owner and contractor Michael J. McDonough, who resided at 1939 Marshall Avenue, completed a 32-unit apartment building at 1940 Iglehart Avenue for an estimated \$225,000.<sup>281</sup> The half-block site occupied three lots formerly occupied by three double- or single-family houses. This controversial development project began with McDonough's attempted rezoning of the property in 1966. Merriam Park neighbors unsuccessfully opposed the project.<sup>282</sup>

#### 4.4.16 Merriam Park Institutional Buildings

In addition to the four churches established by 1890 and the Triune Masonic Temple, a variety of public and private institutional buildings were constructed within the first plat and at its northwestern edge.

The first Merriam Park Post Office was secured in 1883 and installed in the Woodruff Hotel at Cleveland and St. Anthony Avenues (razed).<sup>283</sup> Wallace W. Woodruff was named postmaster. It was relocated in the Crosby Block at Feronia and Prior Avenues, and then moved to 395 N. Prior Avenue (razed) in 1889. By 1906 the Merriam Park Post Office was one of five branch offices in Saint Paul.<sup>284</sup>

In 1887 the City of Saint Paul built the two- and one-half story Merriam Park Engine House No. 14 at 440 N. Cleveland Avenue, at the intersection with Milwaukee Avenue, between St. Anthony Avenue and the Short Line tracks. Designed by architect H. E. Hand and built by contractor J. S. Donohue, it had a distinctive design with an elaborate roofline that featured parapets, ornamental chimneys, and a cupola.

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<sup>276</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #14398; 4-14-1925.

<sup>277</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #14894; 5-6-1925.

<sup>278</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #19302; 2-25-1926.

<sup>279</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #217537, 217538; 5-11-1950.

<sup>280</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #38682; 10-23-1964.

<sup>281</sup> Permit #136202, 12/2/7/1971.

<sup>282</sup> *Minneapolis Star* 5 June 1969:108; 2 July 1971:13A.

<sup>283</sup> "Post Office," *SPG* 2 August 1883:2; *Daily Minnesota Tribune* 14 July 1883:6; Saint Paul Public Schools, *A Century of Service 1856-1956* (St. Paul: St. Paul Public Schools, 1956), ii.

<sup>284</sup> "The Post Office," R.L. Polk & Co. 1906, 43.

The station initially had a force of ten men, a hook and ladder, and a hose cart and chemical engine.<sup>285</sup> The building was flanked by the Pioneer Fuel Company to the north and by the Merriam Park Ice House to the south. It was razed in the mid-1960s for Interstate 94 construction.

### *Schools*

A two-story, three-room, brick-veneered frame building located at Prior and Iglehart Avenues was the first Rose Township School to serve Merriam Park. Opened in 1883, it had an enrollment of 46 students in 1885.<sup>286</sup> In ca. 1888 the building was moved to the corner of Iglehart and Cleveland Avenues and converted into a double house. It served as a rectory for St. Mark's Parish, and was later remodeled as the Cobb Hospital (razed).<sup>287</sup>

The Longfellow School was completed in 1889 and designed by architect H. E. Hand of 402 Drake Block (Figure 53). Hand also designed engine houses for Merriam Park and Hamline.<sup>288</sup> N. B. Rundle was the builder.<sup>289</sup> The original eight-classroom design was expanded to sixteen classrooms in 1901 and expanded again in 1924.<sup>290</sup>

In 1968, the expansion of Merriam Terrace Park and the Longfellow School grounds resulted in the clearance of nine houses from Block 16 including three on the west side of Prior Avenue (Figure 62). Longfellow School served the Merriam Park area as well as the west end of the Hamline Midway area until it was closed in 1974 for construction of a new building designed by McGuire Architects and Planners Inc. The new building, now the All Seasons A+ Elementary School (1975), was part of a \$25 million, city-wide elementary school building program (Figure 54).



**Figure 53. Longfellow School (1889) and additions, ca. 1910 (razed)**



**Figure 54. New Longfellow School (All Seasons; 1975)**

<sup>285</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #10973, 5-11-87; Richard A. Heath, *St. Paul Fire: A History 1856-1994* (Minneapolis: the Extra Alarm Association of the Twin Cities, 1998), 34; *SPG* 18 April 1887:5.

<sup>286</sup> "Manual Training," *SPG* 6 Oct 1885:2.

<sup>287</sup> Connolly (1939), 40.

<sup>288</sup> *SPG* 18 April 1887:5. Other school designers in this period, in addition to Hand, included Herman Kretz, Augustus F. Gauger, Omeyer & Thori, and J. W. Stevens.

<sup>289</sup> "Unfinished Business," *SPG* 8 June 1888:9.

<sup>290</sup> St. Paul Survey Commission, "Report of a Survey of the School System of Saint Paul, Minnesota: General Administration and School Building Survey," authorized by the City Council of Saint Paul, February 16, 1917, 54.

### *Merriam Park Community and Recreation Center*

Beginning in 1941, Saint Paul Community Service, Inc., a social service agency founded by the Saint Paul Junior League in 1939, operated a small facility at 1930 St. Anthony Avenue (razed) that offered programs for Merriam Park children. In 1952, the organization completed a new community center at 2000 St. Anthony Avenue (Figure 62). By this time, seven hundred children took part in the sponsored social, recreational, and educational programs.<sup>291</sup> In 1958, the Weyerhaeuser family donated a gymnasium, and the United Way funded a 1970 addition. Another addition was completed in 1978.<sup>292</sup> At that time, the Board of Directors included members from the Junior League, the Midway Council, and the Neighborhood House.<sup>293</sup> The organization is now Keystone Community Services, which also has its administrative headquarters in the building. The Merriam Park Recreation Center is operated by Saint Paul Parks and Recreation. The construction of Interstate 94 in the 1960s eliminated St. Anthony Avenue to the north of the facility.



**Figure 55. Charles Thompson Memorial Hall, 1824 Marshall Avenue (1916, NRHP).**



**Figure 56. Cobb Hospital, 2050-56 Iglehart Avenue, in ca. 1910 (razed).**

### *St. Mark's Gymnasium-Auditorium*

The Church of Saint Mark completed a two-story Moderne style Gymnasium-Auditorium at 1954 Marshall Avenue in 1956. It replaced a brick apartment building (1916) and a single-family dwelling (1907). The building is north of the three-story St. Marks School (1912-) complex at 1983 Dayton Avenue that spans the block between Moore and Prior Avenues and is adjacent to the Church of Saint Mark (2001 Dayton Avenue). Both of these properties, like the Gymnasium-Auditorium, are located in Merriam's Second Addition.

### *Charles Thompson Memorial Hall (NRHP)*

Charles Thompson Memorial Hall was built in 1916 in honor of Charles Thompson, the deaf son of Saint Paul banker Horace Thompson (Figure 55). It is significant as the nation's first clubhouse designed for the deaf. The Classical Revival style building was designed by architect Olof Hanson, a native of Sweden,

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<sup>291</sup> "Midway Center Drive to Start." *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune* 16 April 1950:2; Merriam Park Community Center Inc., "Agency History." On file, Merriam Park Community Center.

<sup>292</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit #55839, 7-27-78; Merriam Park Community Center Inc.

<sup>293</sup> Ibid.



who was also deaf. The building is “credited with helping foster Minnesota as a preferred location among deaf people.”<sup>294</sup> The property was listed in the NRHP in 2011.

#### *Cobb Hospital (razed)*

Sheridan G. Cobb (1863-1932), a native of Cascade, Minnesota, graduated from Hahnemann Medical College in Chicago and settled in Merriam Park in 1889. He served as the surgeon for the CM&StP Railway and Minnesota Transfer Railway. He founded the Cobb Hospital in 1898, also known as the Merriam Park Hospital.<sup>295</sup> The hospital was first operated in “the upper rooms of a private residence.”<sup>296</sup> In 1901 Cobb purchased and remodeled the former Merriam Park School. According to Connolly, the two-story, three-room, brick-veneered frame building was formerly at Prior and Iglehart Avenues.<sup>297</sup> In ca. 1888 the building was moved to the corner of Iglehart and Cleveland Avenues and converted into a double house, and next into a small hospital (Figure 56).<sup>298</sup> The hospital opened in 1902, and by 1912 Cobb planned a new building. Instead, the Cobb Hospital was absorbed by the Midway Hospital opened in 1926 at University and Aldine Avenues.<sup>299</sup> In 1890 Sheridan G. and Millicent Cutter Cobb (1863-1954) built a large Queen Anne style house at 1852 Marshall Avenue designed by James Record (1857-1944).<sup>300</sup> At the time of Cobb’s death in 1932, the Cutters resided at 366 North Mississippi River Boulevard.

#### *Henry Hale Branch Library (razed) and Merriam Park Branch Library*

The Henry Hale Branch Library was completed in 1930 at 1831 Marshall Avenue (Figure 53).<sup>301</sup> Architect James Niemeyer (1890-1957) designed the Collegiate Style building and the contractor was J. S. Schweitzer of Saint Paul. Local residents donated the building lot in 1916. Construction was completed in 1930 and used funds from the Henry Hale bequest, which also funded the Hamline Branch Library at 1558 W. Minnehaha Avenue (1930).<sup>302</sup> The Merriam Park design was similar to the Hamline library. The Merriam Park building was razed in 1992 and replaced with the present Merriam Park Branch Library, designed by the Minneapolis architectural firm Meyer Scherer Rockcastle.

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<sup>294</sup> William E. Stark, “National Register of Historic Places Registration Form: Charles Thompson Memorial Hall,” 2011. On file, Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office.

<sup>295</sup> Castle (1912), 745; “Dr. S.G. Cobb Dies in Midway,” *Minneapolis Star* 18 Nov 1932:8.

<sup>296</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>297</sup> “Manual Training,” *SPG* 6 Oct 1885:2.

<sup>298</sup> Connolly (1939), 40.

<sup>299</sup> Castle (1912), 746; Jane McClure, “The Midway Chamber and Its Community: The Colorful History of an ‘Unparalleled Feature’ of Saint Paul,” *Ramsey County History* (Fall 1994):10-11.

<sup>300</sup> *SPG* 27 July 1891:5.

<sup>301</sup> Robert Hybben and Charlene Roise, “Merriam Park Branch Library,” *Historic American Buildings Survey MN-123*, 1991. On file, Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office, Saint Paul.

<sup>302</sup> “Branch Library Plans Approved by City Council,” *Saint Paul Dispatch* 29 Jan 1930.



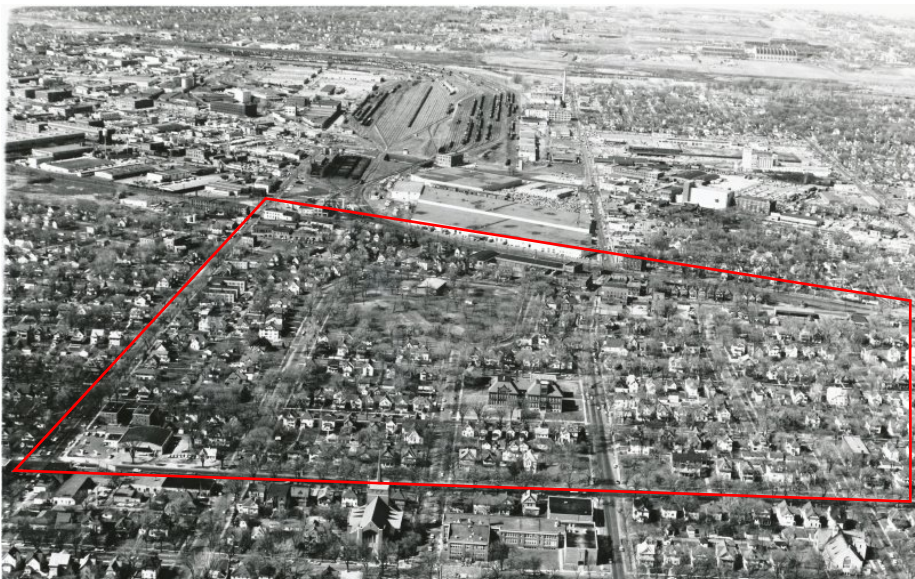
**Figure 57. Henry Hale Branch Library, 1831 Marshall Avenue, 1930 (razed).**



**Figure 58. Merriam Park Branch Library, 1831 Marshall Avenue (1992), in 2018.**

#### 4.4.17 Mid-Century Merriam Park

Building permit research indicates that only 21 properties were built between 1920 and 1929 within the survey area, with seven apartment buildings and two duplexes comprising almost half of the total. Although long nestled against the Midway Transfer Yards, until 1931, the north edge of Merriam Park retained a relatively unbuilt buffer against an undeveloped parcel of the Midway Transfer just east of the CM&StP roundhouse. In 1931 the CM&StP built a freight house at 413 Prior Avenue. C. F. Haglin was the contractor. The one- and two-story brick structure extended 300 feet along the tracks. It was later occupied by the Acme Freight Company and was razed in 1965.<sup>303</sup> By 1959, the northwest corner of Prior Avenue and the Short Line tracks was filled with the one-story St. Paul Terminal Warehouse (extant)). Ten apartment buildings erected between 1950 and 1971 were among the most significant part of total construction in the Merriam Park survey area prior to 1972. Only twenty extant properties were constructed in the survey area during that period (Figure 59).



**Figure 59. Aerial view, ca. 1959, looking north at the Midway Transfer Yards. Partial study area shown at red outline.**

<sup>303</sup> Saint Paul Building Permit # 44028 2-7-31; Wrecking Permit # 57372 10-27-65.

Planning for Interstate 94 was assisted by the Federal Aid Highway Act (FAHA) of 1956, and most plans were finalized by 1962. In 1961, Merriam Park residents organized the Merriam Park Residential Association in opposition to the freeway, and especially in protest of a proposed Prior Avenue interchange. They (unsuccessfully) lobbied state and local agencies for a north-only freeway exit at Cretin Avenue, but were successful obtaining a depressed roadway section at Fairview Avenue, and in securing an agreement that there would be no exits at Prior Avenue.<sup>304</sup>



**Figure 60. 335-337 N. Prior Avenue, razed for park expansion, ca. 1968. (RCHS)**



**Figure 61. 1942 Merriam Lane, razed for park expansion, ca. 1968. (RCHS)**

As noted previously, the clearance of properties for Interstate 94 construction and the enlargement of Merriam Terrace Park resulted in very significant changes to the north end of the original village-like neighborhood that John L. Merriam envisioned. Merriam Terrace Park remains an anchor of the original plat, as do the streets that retain their original alignment, but the entire commercial district was razed, along with the adjacent early residential quarter near the Short Line depot and the north side of Roblyn Avenue. Iglehart and Carroll Avenues, which also had early development, were spared, but the closure of Carroll Avenue in the mid-1970s (after the removal of houses on Prior and Terrace Park Avenues) interrupted a portion of the historic street grid. The one-story commercial buildings at 348 Prior Avenue N. (1912) and 366 Prior Avenue N. (1904) are the only commercial buildings remaining near the former commercial center at Prior and St. Anthony Avenues.

A variety of double houses, four-plexes, and apartment buildings have been part of Merriam Park's housing stock since its earliest development and their construction was encouraged by efficient rapid transit to employment in Saint Paul and Minneapolis. Conversion of large single-family houses to multi-family use began within the first decade of development. Many single-family houses were built by real estate inventors for rental use. As noted in Section 4.4.15, in 1950, after the Cobb Hospital was torn down at 2046-2056 Iglehart Avenue, a pair of brick apartment buildings designed by Tecnonico were constructed by T and T Realty Company. During the 1960s and early 1970s, developers erected large two and three-story buildings on Marshall and Iglehart Avenues that spanned two or more lots formerly occupied by single- and multiple-family houses.

<sup>304</sup> Tom O'Connell and Tom Beer, "Preserving a 'Fine Residential District': The Merriam Park Freeway Fight," *Ramsey County History* (Winter 2013):3, 6.



**Figure 62. Aerial view of the Merriam Park original plat (black outline) in 1966, showing clearance of Prior and St. Anthony Avenue business district for freeway construction. The area outlined in red was cleared in the mid-1970s for park and school ground enlargement. The Merriam Park Community Center is shown at arrow. (NETR)**

## 5.0 RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 5.1 Summary

Landscape Research conducted an intensive-level architecture-history survey of the study area shown on Figures 1 and 2. Amy M. Lucas directed the survey and property research and evaluation. Carole Zellie prepared the historic contexts and survey report and served as Principal Investigator. Fieldwork was completed in August through October 2018. A total of 303 properties were photographed with digital photographs uploaded to the Arc GIS Collector database supplied by the City of Saint Paul. Individual property descriptions and histories prepared for each property were entered into the project database.

About 85 dwellings and more than 20 commercial buildings were razed in the 1960s and 1970s for Interstate 94 construction and the expansion of the Merriam Terrace Park playground. These buildings included some of Merriam Park's earliest houses built on Milwaukee, St. Anthony, Roblyn, and Terrace Park Avenues, and nearly all of the Prior Avenue commercial district.

The survey of 303 properties included 259 single-family and double houses constructed between 1885 and 1979. A total of 19 apartment buildings date from the period 1908-1971. Three churches, one park, one community and recreation center, one school, two private institutional buildings, one gymnasium-auditorium, one public library, and a variety of small commercial buildings, including two physicians' offices, stores, and a gasoline service station, comprise the other property types. Three bridges were previously recorded within the survey area.

Architects recorded on Saint Paul building permits within the study area include Charles Bassford, Charles W. Buechner, George H. Carsley, Frederick Corser, Adam Dorr, Perry Feustad, Mark Fitzpatrick, Augustus Gauger, Olof Hanson, Thomas Holyoke, L. Jepson, Clarence H. Johnston and William H. Willcox, H. M. Jones, Peter Linhoff, Louis F. Lockwood, C. J. Mould, Omeyer & Thori, Charles T. Pear, John C. Plaut, James H. Record, Reed & Stem, J. Walter Stevens, Technico, and H. S. Treherne. Saint Paul builders include Gustaf (Gust) A. Anderson, Victor Ingemann, Malcolm McKay, William McKay, and John Noble.

#### *Period of Significance*

The historic context research and property inventory identified the Merriam Park study area's period of significance as 1882 to 1930, spanning from the original plat of Merriam Park to the general decline of construction at the beginning of the Great Depression. Most lots were built up by this time.

The earliest extant building identified in the survey area dates from 1885. Based on building permit information for extant properties, there are 78 remaining properties from the period 1885-1889. There are an additional 30 remaining properties that date from the period 1890 through 1899, reflecting a building slump that lasted until about 1900. The rebound is reflected in 86 properties built by 1909, and another 39 between 1910 and 1919, followed by 21 by 1929. Only 21 buildings were constructed between 1930 and 1971, including an apartment building dating from 1971, and four more extant buildings were constructed by 1979. A more recent development, the Marshall Suites at 1975 Marshall Avenue (2018), replaced two historic houses at the northeast corner of Marshall and Moore Avenues. Table 5 (Appendix) contains a table of construction dates for extant properties.

As identified in this report, the builders and early residents of the original plat of Merriam Park were pioneers of a new, inter-urban community. About ten years (ca. 1885-1895) passed before the edges of

Merriam Park blended into the new construction on surrounding additions and subdivisions of “Greater Merriam Park.” Some of the original group of houses, including Queen Anne pattern-book-inspired styles, are distinctive for their association with the early community, and for their representation of popular mid-1880s century Saint Paul architectural styles. The design of a few of the examples that date from ca. 1885-1900 have been attributed to architects such as H. S. Treherne and the partnership of William H. Willcox and Clarence H. Johnston, but most were the product of local builders. While some properties retain excellent integrity and represent the intentions of builders of personal residences as well as rental properties, they appear to be typical of turn-of-the-century work by the city’s leading residential designers. There appear to be no significant groupings that collectively retain a high enough level of exterior integrity to constitute a local historic district representative of Queen Anne or Colonial Revival style architecture.

## 5.2 Recommendations

A total of fifteen properties are recommended for further study for potential local heritage preservation designation under City of Saint Paul Criteria (Section 2.4; Table 3, Figure 36). Eight of these properties, located on Marshall Avenue, appear to retain a high level of historic integrity that conveys their significance as the work of Saint Paul architects Louis F. Lockwood or Mark Fitzgerald. Two are significant for their association with Merriam Park builder Gustaf A. Anderson. An additional two Lockwood properties on Iglehart Avenue are also recommended for further study for local designation.

Two churches, Olivet Congregational and Trinity Methodist, are associated with the work of Clarence H. Johnston and Thomas Holyoke, respectively, and are recommended for further study for local designation.

While a number of the other Marshall Avenue houses retain excellent integrity, they appear to be typical of turn-of-the-century work by the city’s leading residential designers. Overall, the relatively small number of buildings in the study area does not provide enough information to determine the architectural (or other) significance of most individual properties. Because of loss of integrity due to exterior alterations and intrusions such as modern apartment construction, there are no blocks or other groupings that have high enough level of integrity to constitute a district.

### *Merriam Terrace Park*

Merriam Terrace Park (1883-) is recommended for further study for potential local heritage preservation designation as a designed historic landscape. In addition to the street, block, and lot layout of the original Merriam Park Addition that dates from 1882, Merriam Terrace Park (1883) is the oldest improved property within the study area. About two acres of the original park area totaling about six acres are occupied by the Merriam Park Community Center (1953, 1958, 1970, 1978). With the exception of the remaining concrete outline of the park fountain (1897), there is no evidence of the improvements made by the Board of Park Commissioners prior to 1910, but the steep topographical character and old oak canopy of the remaining area are intact and retain a good level of integrity as a designed historic landscape. Beginning in the mid-1880s, the park was the focus of residential development on Wilder Street and Terrace Park Avenue (Merriam Lane), and several of the houses facing the park retain good integrity. Despite development at its northern and eastern edges between 1953 and 1975, the park retains its significance as one of Saint Paul’s earliest neighborhood parks and is a key component of the past and continuing development of the Merriam Park neighborhood.



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**Table 3. Merriam Park Intensive Survey Results: Recommendation Summary**

<b>Inventory No.</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Historic Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
RA-SPC-1893	1850 Iglehart Ave W.	Olivet Congregational Church	1907, 1915	Further study for local designation (Clarence H. Johnston, arch)
RA-SPC-10032	1840 Marshall Ave W.	Frederick L. and Myrtle Beckley House	1902	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-4489	1849 Marshall Ave W.	Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church	1913, 1961	Further study for local designation (Thomas Holyoke, arch)
RA-SPC-4491	1853 Marshall Ave W.	Frank A. and Plina Bedell House	1896	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-10069	1885 Marshall Ave W.	Oscar W. Swenson House	1900	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-4493	1894 Marshall Ave W.	House	1901	Further study for local designation (Gustaf A. Anderson, bldr)
RA-SPC-4494	1898 Marshall Ave W.	House	1901	Further study for local designation (Gustav A. Anderson, bldr)
RA-SPC-10070	1899 Marshall Ave W.	George C. and Elizabeth Waller House	1901	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-10038	1926 Marshall Ave W.	George Phipps House	1900	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-10025	1980 Marshall Ave W.	George and Florence Lawes House	1904	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-4499	2000 Marshall Ave W.	Den E. and Cornelius Lane House	1910	Further study for local designation (Mark Fitzpatrick, arch)
RA-SPC-10056	2013 Marshall Ave W.	Oscar P. and Anita Shepardson House	1902	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-1892	1844 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1897	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-1901	1924 Iglehart Ave W.	James and Sarah Helson House	1901	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-10103	St. Anthony Ave W.	Merriam Terrace Park	1883-	Further study for local designation (Designed Historic Landscape)

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**Table 4. Merriam Park Intensive Survey Results**

<b>Inventory No.</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Historic Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
RA-SPC-10004	1821 Carroll Ave W.	House	1906	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-9961	1822 Carroll Ave W.	House	1907	"
RA-SPC-0480	1829 Carroll Ave W.	John and Ella Anderson House	1901	"
RA-SPC-9963	1831 Carroll Ave W.	Frank and Emily West House	1912	"
RA-SPC-9962	1832 Carroll Ave W.	House	1910	"
RA-SPC-10085	1836 Carroll Ave W.	House	1903	"
RA-SPC-10081	1837 Carroll Ave W.	House	1893	"
RA-SPC-10084	1838 Carroll Ave W.	House	1893	"
RA-SPC-10083	1839 Carroll Ave W.	House	1900	"
RA-SPC-9908	1842 Carroll Ave W.	House	1893	"
RA-SPC-9926	1845 Carroll Ave W.	Harriet Dewart House	1900	"
RA-SPC-9992	1846 Carroll Ave W.	House	1893	"
RA-SPC-0481	1857 Carroll Ave W.	John J. McDonald House	1886	"
RA-SPC-9966	1858 Carroll Ave W.	House	1920	"
RA-SPC-9965	1866 Carroll Ave W.	House	1886	"
RA-SPC-9994	1867 Carroll Ave W.	House	1901	"
RA-SPC-9960	1869-71 Carroll Ave W.	Ferdindina W. Phister Double House	1907	"
RA-SPC-9918	1870 Carroll Ave W.	House	1905	"
RA-SPC-9920	1874 Carroll Ave W.	John Noble House	1887	"
RA-SPC-0482	1875 Carroll Ave W.	Zelotus King House	1894	"
RA-SPC-9905	1878 Carroll Ave W.	House	1886	"
RA-SPC-9985	1879 Carroll Ave W.	Ira and Anna Andrews House	1894	"
RA-SPC-9921	1884 Carroll Ave W.	House	1885	"
RA-SPC-9914	1885 Carroll Ave W.	William and Delia Jones House	1885	"
RA-SPC-0483	1888 Carroll Ave W.	Alvah B. and Isabelle Bell House	1886	"
RA-SPC-9924	1889 Carroll Ave W.	Double House	1887	"
RA-SPC-10015	1890 Carroll Ave W.	Bell Double House	1889	"
RA-SPC-9911	1897 Carroll Ave W.	House	1900	"
RA-SPC-10002	1898 Carroll Ave W.	George Reed House	1885	"
RA-SPC-9906	1901 Carroll Ave W.	House	1887	"
RA-SPC-0484	1902 Carroll Ave W.	Oscar P. and Anita Shepardson House	1887	" Loss of integrity since 1983 survey
RA-SPC-9987	1908 Carroll Ave W.	House	1912	"
RA-SPC-9993	1911 Carroll Ave W.	House	1887	"
RA-SPC-9996	1912 Carroll Ave W.	House	ca.1887	"
RA-SPC-10013	1913 Carroll Ave W.	Peter and Anna Simms House	ca.1886	"
RA-SPC-10014	1918 Carroll Ave W.	House	1888	"
RA-SPC-0485	1921 Carroll Ave W.	Mark & Mary Fay House	1886	" Loss of integrity since 1983 survey

<b>Inventory No.</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Historic Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
RA-SPC-9895	1924 Carroll Ave W.	Mathias and Mary Frisk House	ca.1887	“
RA-SPC-9947	1929 Carroll Ave W.	House	ca. 1887	“
RA-SPC-9935	1930 Carroll Ave W.	Burtis and Agnes S. Graves House	ca.1887	“
RA-SPC-9913	1935 Carroll Ave W.	Mary F. Eastman Double House	ca.1887	“
RA-SPC-9936	1936 Carroll Ave W.	Lyster and Florence Hayward House	1889	“
RA-SPC-0486	1940 Carroll Ave W.	George J. Pilkinton House	1891	“
RA-SPC-9904	1943 Carroll Ave W.	House	ca.1890	“
RA-SPC-9946	1944 Carroll Ave W.	Thomas and Esther Prince House	1887	“
RA-SPC-9989	1947 Carroll Ave W.	John and Helen Barwise House	ca.1899	“
RA-SPC-0487	1984 Carroll Ave W.	House	1912	“
RA-SPC-9877	1990 Carroll Ave W.	House	1911	“
RA-SPC-0488	1996 Carroll Ave	Michael W. and Louisa Yerxa House	1886	“ Loss of integrity since 1983 survey
RA-SPC-9893	2000 Carroll Ave W.	House	ca.1910	“
RA-SPC-9875	2005 Carroll Ave W.	House	1903	“
RA-SPC-9979	2006 Carroll Ave W.	Mary Partridge House	1885	“
RA-SPC-9999	2010 Carroll Ave W.	Peter and Sarah Nowlan House	1908	“
RA-SPC-9874	2011 Carroll Ave W.	House	1909	“
RA-SPC-9983	2017 Carroll Ave W.	M. E. Coan House	1916	“
RA-SPC-0489	2018 Carroll Ave W.	William and Annie Martin House	1885	“ Loss of integrity since 1983 survey
RA-SPC-9981	2037 Carroll Ave W.	Peter and Agnes Gydesen House	1907	“
RA-SPC-9867	2045 Carroll Ave W.	Charles Irving House	1888	“
RA-SPC-9997	2048 Carroll Ave W.	House	1885	“
RA-SPC-9868	2049 Carroll Ave W.	John and Elizabeth Hartigan House	ca.1895	“
RA-SPC-0490	2052 Carroll Ave W.	House	1899	“
RA-SPC-9870	2053 Carroll Ave W.	Francis and Margaret Cadwell House	1903	“
RA-SPC-9903	2057 Carroll Ave W.	Frank and Plina Bedell House	1903	“
RA-SPC-9888	2058 Carroll Ave W.	House	1899	“
RA-SPC-9871	288 Cleveland Ave N.	House	1923	“
RA-SPC-9878	292 Cleveland Ave N.	House	1923	“
RA-SPC-9892	300 Cleveland Ave N.	House	1910	“
RA-SPC-9980	306 Cleveland Ave N.	Charles S. and Oleana Lian House	1908	“
RA-SPC-9951	310 Cleveland Ave N.	House	1899	“
RA-SPC-9931	338 Cleveland Ave N.	House	1886	“
RA-SPC-9930	340 Cleveland Ave N.	House	1922	“

<b>Inventory No.</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Historic Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
RA-SPC-9929	346 Cleveland Ave N.	Alfred B. and Sarah Holt House	1908	“
RA-SPC-9928	350 Cleveland Ave N.	House	2012	“
RA-SPC-10006	356 Cleveland Ave N.	Maywood Apartments	1925	“
RA-SPC-9883	362 Cleveland Ave N.	Woodland Apartments	1925	“
RA-SPC-10008	372 Cleveland Ave N.	Cleveland Apartments	1925	“
RA-SPC-10010	376 Cleveland Ave N.	Apartment Building	1962	“
RA-SPC-9887	382 Cleveland Ave N.	House	1908	“
RA-SPC-9889	386 Cleveland Ave N.	House	1907	“
RA-SPC-9957	390 Cleveland Ave N.	Serena Troedson House	1917	“
RA-SPC-10017	394 Cleveland Ave N.	Apartment Building	1926	“
RA-SPC-9982	402 Cleveland Ave N.	House	1948	“
RA-SPC-10016	408 Cleveland Ave N.	Apartment Building	1971	“
RA-SPC-10090	470 Cleveland Ave N.	Northland Oil Co.	1926	“
RA-SPC-9967	297 Dewey St.	Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church Parsonage	1905	“
RA-SPC-9986	303 Dewey St.	House	1915	“
RA-SPC-9995	307 Dewey St.	House	1915	“
RA-SPC-9925	327 Dewey St.	House	ca. 1890	“
RA-SPC-9909	279 Fairview Ave N.	House	1914	“
RA-SPC-9907	285 Fairview Ave N.	George M. and Mary Reade House	1924	“
RA-SPC-10003	289 Fairview Ave N	House	1923	“
RA-SPC-9910	339-341 Ferdinand St.	Duplex	1979	“
RA-SPC-10039	224 Howell St N.	House	1902	“
RA-SPC-9923	328 Howell St N.	House	ca. 1905	“
RA-SPC-9940	1822 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1900	“
RA-SPC-9865	1826 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1916	“
RA-SPC-9964	1831 Iglehart Ave W.	J. Frank Collins House	1885	“
RA-SPC-9866	1832 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1920	“
RA-SPC-10087	1835 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1889	“
RA-SPC-10086	1836 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1910	“
RA-SPC-10084	1838 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1910	“
RA-SPC-10088	1841 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1907	“
RA-SPC-1891	1842 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1907	“
RA-SPC-1892	1844 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1897	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-9968	1845 Iglehart Ave W.	W. J. Reed House	1896	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-1893	1850 Iglehart Ave W.	Olivet Congregational Church	1907, 1915	Further study for local designation (Clarence H. Johnston, arch)
RA-SPC-10108	1853 Iglehart Ave W.	Apartment Building	1916	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-9949	1855 Iglehart Ave W.	Malcolm and Harriet McKay House	1892	“
RA-SPC-9939	1863 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1892	“
RA-SPC-10076	1866 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1902	“
RA-SPC-9950	1869 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1909	“
RA-SPC-10077	1872 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1915	“

<b>Inventory No.</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Historic Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
RA-SPC-1894	1873 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1896	“
RA-SPC-10073	1878 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1908	“
RA-SPC-9919	1879 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1904	“
RA-SPC-10071	1882 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1910	“
RA-SPC-9991	1883 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1907	“
RA-SPC-9897	1887-89 Iglehart Ave W.	Henry and Louise Levy Duplex	1926	“
RA-SPC-10074	1890 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1889	“
RA-SPC-10075	1894 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1889	“
RA-SPC-9915	1895 Iglehart Ave W.	Joseph C. and Margaret Henry House	1886	“
RA-SPC-1895	1898 Iglehart Ave W.	Triune Masonic Temple	1910	(NRHP [1980])
RA-SPC-10110	1905 Iglehart Ave W.	Edwin R. and Effie Moore House	1885	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-10068	1906 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1887	“
RA-SPC-1898	1914 Iglehart Ave W.	Edward Drew House	1899	“
RA-SPC-1899	1919 Iglehart Ave W.	John and M.E. Collett House	1886	“
RA-SPC-1900	1923 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1885	“
RA-SPC-1901	1924 Iglehart Ave W.	James H. and Sarah Helson House	1901	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-9917	1931 Iglehart Ave W.	John and Matilda Shepard House	1885	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-1902	1935 Iglehart Ave W.	Frank L. Austin House	1886	“
RA-SPC-9916	1939 Iglehart Ave W.	St. Mary's Episcopal Church Parsonage	1890	“
RA-SPC-10098	1940 Iglehart Ave W.	Apartment Building	1971	“
RA-SPC-9896	1945 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1953	“
RA-SPC-1903	1954 Iglehart Ave W.	Oscar P. and Anita Shepardson House	1895	“ Loss of integrity since 1983 survey
RA-SPC-10065	1960 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1955	“
RA-SPC-10066	1966 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1890	“
RA-SPC-10063	1970 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1890	“
RA-SPC-1904	1972 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1890	“
RA-SPC-10064	1976 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1890	“
RA-SPC-10062	1980 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1909	“
RA-SPC-1905	1982 Iglehart Ave W.	Merriam Park Presbyterian Church	1890	“
RA-SPC-10000	1983-85 Iglehart Ave W.	Double House	1887	“
RA-SPC-9932	1989 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1885	“
RA-SPC-10053	1990 Iglehart Ave W.	Merriam Park Presbyterian Church Parsonage	1887	“
RA-SPC-10058	1994 Iglehart Ave W.	Emmett and Eleanor Julien House	1887	“
RA-SPC-9933	1995 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1889	“
RA-SPC-9900	1999 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1889	“
RA-SPC-1906	2002 Iglehart Ave W.	Martin Ludolph House	1886	“
RA-SPC-9984	2003 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1889	“

<b>Inventory No.</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Historic Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
RA-SPC-9901	2007 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1885	“
RA-SPC-10054	2008 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1900	“
RA-SPC-10055	2012 Iglehart Ave W.	John and Lena Hogg House	1905	“
RA-SPC-9934	2015 Iglehart Ave W.	House	ca. 1904	“
RA-SPC-10060	2016 Iglehart Ave W.	Frank and Lavanche Rowe House	1907	“
RA-SPC-9876	2017 Iglehart Ave W.	Mrs. Elizabeth M. Shugard House	1904	“
RA-SPC-1907	2024 Iglehart Ave W.	Henry and Emma Lothman House	1886	“ Retains integrity since 1983 survey
RA-SPC-10020	2030 Iglehart Ave W.	Edward and Vera Bohanon House	1946	“
RA-SPC-10019	2034 Iglehart Ave W.	Frank and Nina Tuttle House	1903	“
RA-SPC-10018	2036 Iglehart Ave W.	Mary McEvoy House	1933	“
RA-SPC-9953	2045 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1887	“
RA-SPC-10092	2046 Iglehart Ave W.	Apartment Building	1950	“
RA-SPC-9952	2047 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1887	“
RA-SPC-9898	2053 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1899	“
RA-SPC-10091	2056 Iglehart Ave W.	Apartment Building	1950	“
RA-SPC-9974	2059 Iglehart Ave W.	House	1891	“
RA-SPC-4487	1824 Marshall Ave W.	Charles Thompson Memorial Hall	1916	(NRHP [2011])
RA-SPC-XXX	1831 Marshall Ave W.	Merriam Park Branch Library	1992	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-10031	1836 Marshall Ave W.	Clarence E. and Katherine Lothman House	1907	“
RA-SPC-10032	1840 Marshall Ave W.	Frederick L. and Myrtle Beckley House	1902	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-4490	1846 Marshall Ave W.	Charles and Elizabeth Turner House	1904	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-4489	1849 Marshall Ave W.	Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church	1913, 1961	Further study for local designation (Thomas Holyoke, arch)
RA-SPC-10033	1852 Marshall Ave W.	Sheridan G. and Milicent Cobb House	1890	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-4491	1853 Marshall Ave W.	Frank A. and Plina Bedell House	1896	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-10044	1856 Marshall Ave W.	Apartment Building	1925	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-10101	1863 Marshall Ave W.	Mathias and Mary Frisk House	1897	“
RA-SPC-10034	1864 Marshall Ave W.	George W. and Katie Rodgers House	1905	“
RA-SPC-10035	1866 Marshall Ave W.	House	1897	“
RA-SPC-10078	1869 Marshall Ave W.	Irving and Ruby Wallis House	1898	“
RA-SPC-10036	1872 Marshall Ave W.	House	1906	“

<b>Inventory No.</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Historic Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
RA-SPC-10102	1873 Marshall Ave W.	House	1905	“
RA-SPC-10072	1879 Marshall Ave W.	John and Mary Hertz House	1904	“
RA-SPC-10045	1880 Marshall Ave W.	Apartment Building	1965	“
RA-SPC-10069	1885 Marshall Ave. W.	Oscar W. Swenson House	1900	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-4492	1893 Marshall Ave. W.	Robert H. and Lorelia Downing House	1901	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-4493	1894 Marshall Ave. W.	House	1901	Further study for local designation (Gust Anderson, bldr)
RA-SPC-4494	1898 Marshall Ave. W.	House	1901	Further study for local designation (Gust Anderson, bldr)
RA-SPC-10070	1899 Marshall Ave W.	George C. and Elizabeth Waller House	1901	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-10037	1904 Marshall Ave W.	Fernando and Mabel Root House	1889	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-10100	1907 Marshall Ave W.	House	1887	“
RA-SPC-4495	1910 Marshall Ave W.	Peter L. and Mary Therien House	1889	“
RA-SPC-10099	1915 Marshall Ave W.	Byron P. and Ella Baker House	1901	“
RA-SPC-10046	1920 Marshall Ave W.	Colony Park Apartments	1969	“
RA-SPC-4496	1921 Marshall Ave W.	Thomas J. Campbell House	1887	“
RA-SPC-10067	1925 Marshall Ave W.	Charles E. Ray House	1904	“
RA-SPC-10038	1926 Marshall Ave W.	George Phipps House	1900	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-10097	1939 Marshall Ave W.	Apartment Building	1965	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-10047	1940 Marshall Ave W.	Apartment Building	1967	“
RA-SPC-10040	1954 Marshall Ave W.	St. Mark's Gymnasium Auditorium	ca.1956	“
RA-SPC-10096	1955 Marshall Ave W.	Apartment Building	1963	“
RA-SPC-10061	1963 Marshall Ave W.	Mark and Elizabeth Stokes House	1888	“
RA-SPC-4497/	1964 Marshall Ave W.	Edwin M. and Lillie Finck House	1892	“
RA-SPC-10023	1968 Marshall Ave W.	Matthew L. Towey House	1909	“
RA-SPC-4498	1969 Marshall Ave W.	Arthur C. Anderson House	1889	“
RA-SPC-10024	1974 Marshall Ave W.	Daniel and Lillian Eastman House	1903	“
RA-PC-10109	1977 Marshall Ave W.	Albert A. & Agnes Loudon Fry	1905	“
RA-SPC-10025	1980 Marshall Ave W.	George and Florence Lawes House	1904	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)



<b>Inventory No.</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Historic Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
RA-SPC-10026	1984 Marshall Ave W.	George and Emma Kessel House	1907	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-10059	1985 Marshall Ave W.	Edward and Mary Perry House	1907	“
RA-SPC-10041	1990 Marshall Ave W.	Wakefield Apartments	1925	“
RA-SPC-10095	1991 Marshall Ave W.	Edward G. Perry House	1906	“
RA-SPC-10052	1995 Marshall Ave W.	Frank L. Hall House	1910	“
RA-SPC-10027	1996 Marshall Ave W.	George and Mary Knoche House	1902	“
RA-SPC-10057	1999-2001 Marshall Ave W.	House	1904	“
RA-SPC-4499	2000 Marshall Ave W.	Den E. and Cornelius Lane House	1910	Further study for local designation (Mark Fitzpatrick, arch)
RA-SPC-10051	2005 Marshall Ave W.	James P. Adamson House	1904	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-10028	2006 Marshall Ave W.	George and Flora Oakes House	1913	“
RA-SPC-10042	2010 Marshall Ave W.	Apartment Building	1914	“
RA-SPC-10056	2013 Marshall Ave W.	Oscar P. and Anita Shepardson House	1902	Further study for local designation (L.F. Lockwood, arch)
RA-SPC-10029	2016 Marshall Ave W.	Gustav and Wendla Wenster House	1910	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-10050	2017 Marshall Ave W.	House	1902	“
RA-SPC-10021	2027 Marshall Ave W.	Marshall Liquor	1978	“
RA-SPC-10043	2032 Marshall Ave W.	Commercial Building	1936	“
RA-SPC-10049	2034 Marshall Ave W.	Commercial Building	1922	“
RA-SPC-4500	2044 Marshall Ave W.	Commercial Building	1922	“
RA-SPC-10093	2045 Marshall Ave W.	Commercial Building	1969	“
RA-SPC-4501	2054 Marshall Ave W.	McIntosh Block	1911	“
RA-SPC-10094	2057 Marshall Ave W.	Gasoline Service Station	1957	“
RA-SPC-9945	1990 Merriam Ln W.	Ziba P. Lockwood House	ca. 1887	“
RA-SPC-9873	1996 Merriam Ln W.	Stafford C. and Emily Lockwood House	1887	“
RA-SPC-9978	2004 Merriam Ln W.	Ella Shandrew House	1901	“
RA-SPC-9944	2010 Merriam Ln W.	Edward and Sophia Eddy House	1885	“
RA-SPC-4561	2016 Merriam Ln W.	Elam D. Parker House	1885	“
RA-SPC-9894	289 Moore St N	House	1887	“
RA-SPC-4680	315 Moore St N	Samuel and Mary Boyer House	1890	“
RA-SPC-4681	318 Moore St N	All Seasons A+ Elementary School (Longfellow School)	1975	“
RA-SPC-3018	286 Prior Ave N	House	ca.1889	“
RA-SPC-10001	296 Prior Ave N	House	1891	“
RA-SPC-3019	330 Prior Ave N	Olivet Congregational Church Chapel	1889	“
RA-SPC-3020	348 Prior Ave N	Physician's Office	1912	“
RA-SPC-3021	366 Prior Ave N	Physician's Office	1904	“
RA-SPC-9969	1822 Roblyn Ave W.	House	1908	“

<b>Inventory No.</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Historic Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
RA-SPC-9922	1826 Roblyn Ave W.	House	1885	“
RA-SPC-9937	1830 Roblyn Ave W.	House	ca. 1916	“
RA-SPC-3202	1834-36 Roblyn Ave W.	Double House	1926	“
RA-SPC-10082	1840 Roblyn Ave W.	F.D. Daggett House	1903	“
RA-SPC-9972	1846 Roblyn Ave W.	Oscar F. Rexford House / Minnesota Conference of Seventh Day Adventists Headquarters	1899	“
RA-SPC-3203	1854 Roblyn Ave W.	House	1899	“
RA-SPC-9990	1858 Roblyn Ave W.	William S. and Lillie Graves House	1908	“
RA-SPC-10011	1862 Roblyn Ave W.	F. C. Brockman Double House	1906	“
RA-SPC-3204	1870 Roblyn Ave W.	Evan H. and Elizabeth Edwards House	1906	“
RA-SPC-9959	1878 Roblyn Ave W.	George P. and Mary Jacob House	1889	“
RA-SPC-9938	1890 Roblyn Ave W.	Otto and Augusta Schnepmueller House	1924	“
RA-SPC-9958	1894 Roblyn Ave W.	Gustav P. Bergstad House	1887	“
RA-SPC-9912	1900 Roblyn Ave W.	Mrs. Willis Danforth House	1901	“
RA-SPC-3205	1908 Roblyn Ave W.	De Laskie Danforth House	1886	“
RA-SPC-3206	1912 Roblyn Ave W.	Charles H. and Mary Baldwin House	1886	“
RA-SPC-9988	1920 Roblyn Ave W.	Double House	1906	“
RA-SPC-10104	1921 Roblyn Ave W.	Henry L. and Harriet Crowwell House	1885	“
RA-SPC-3207	1926 Roblyn Ave W.	John W. and Mary Bell House	ca. 1885	“
RA-SPC-10080	1927 Roblyn Ave W.	James O. Johnson House	1903	“
RA-SPC-10079	1935 Roblyn Ave W.	William B. Martin House	1886	“
RA-SPC-3208	1936-38 Roblyn Ave W.	House	1885	“
RA-SPC-10105	1947 Roblyn Ave W.	House	1885	“
RA-SPC-9899	2039 Roblyn Ave W.	House	1909	“
RA-SPC-9998	2041 Roblyn Ave W.	House	1909	“
RA-SPC-10103	Bounded by St. Anthony Ave W., Wilder Avenue, Merriam Lane	Merriam Terrace Park	1883-	Further study for local designation (Designed Historic Landscape)
RA-SPC-1XXX	2000 St. Anthony Avenue W.	Merriam Park Community and Recreation Center	1953, 1958, 1970, 1978	No rec'd at this time
RA-SPC-9943	2022 St. Anthony Ave W.	House	1917	“
RA-SPC-9942	2030 St. Anthony Ave W.	House	1908	“
RA-SPC-9955	2036 St. Anthony Ave W.	House	1907	“
RA-SPC-9884	2040 St. Anthony Ave W.	House	1907	“
RA-SPC-10048	225 Wilder St N.	House	ca. 1887	“
RA-SPC-10030	226 Wilder St N.	Duplex	1916	“
RA-SPC-10005	277 Wilder St N.	Apartment Building	1920	“

<b>Inventory No.</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Historic Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
RA-SPC-9902	283 Wilder St N.	House	1911	“
RA-SPC-9973	287 Wilder St N.	House	1885	“
RA-SPC-9881	293 Wilder St N.	Newton and Emily Brown House	1887	“
RA-SPC-9976	299 Wilder St N.	William J. and Pauline Leahy House	1921	“
RA-SPC-10007	301-303 Wilder St N.	Mary E. Patrick Double House	1885	“
RA-SPC-5075	309 Wilder St N.	Dr. Robert H. and Idalia Harrison House	1912	“
RA-SPC-9891	313 Wilder St N.	Freeman S. and Mae Leavitt House	1911	“
RA-SPC-5077	319 Wilder St N.	George and Ruby Tiffany House	ca. 1887	“
RA-SPC-9882	325 Wilder St N.	Wilder Terrace Apartments	1908	“
RA-SPC-9869	327-329 Wilder St N.	Double House	1909	“
RA-SPC-9977	333-35 Wilder St N.	Double House	1908	“
RA-SPC-5078	339 Wilder St N.	House	1887	“
RA-SPC-9927	343 Wilder St N.	House	1920	“
RA-SPC-9941	349 Wilder St N.	Sampson D. and Emma Mason House	ca. 1886	“
RA-SPC-9880	353 Wilder St N.	George and Isabella Cunningham House	ca. 1886	“
RA-SPC-9879	361 Wilder St N.	Horatio Coykendall House	1887	“
RA-SPC-5076	371 Wilder St N.	House	1899	“
RA-SPC-9890	375 Wilder St N..	House	1906	“
RA-SPC-9975	381 Wilder St N.	House	1912	“
RA-SPC-9886	385 Wilder St N.	House	1910	“
RA-SPC-9956	391 Wilder St N.	Clarence Mitton House	1916	“
RA-SPC-9954	395 Wilder St N.	House	1910	“
RA-SPC-9885	399 Wilder St N.	F. J. Fowler House	1915	“
RA-SPC-9872	403 Wilder St N.	House	1908	“
RA-SPC-9948	458 Wilder St N.	House	ca. 1891	“
RA-SPC-10089	461 Wilder St N.	Automotive Building	1951	“
RA-SPC-9970	462 Wilder St N.	House	ca. 1900	“
RA-SPC-8085	Cleveland Ave 0.8 mi SE of Junction TH 280	Bridge 9457	1966	“
RA-SPC-8068	Prior Ave 1.1 mi SE of Junction TH 280	Bridge 62845	1966	“
RA-SPC-7111	Soo Line RR tracks over Prior Ave	Bridge No. 92258	2003	“

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*Minnesota Daily Tribune*

*Minneapolis Star*  
*Muscatine Journal (Muscatine, Iowa)*  
*Saint Paul Globe*  
*Saint Paul Pioneer Press*

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## 7.0 APPENDIX

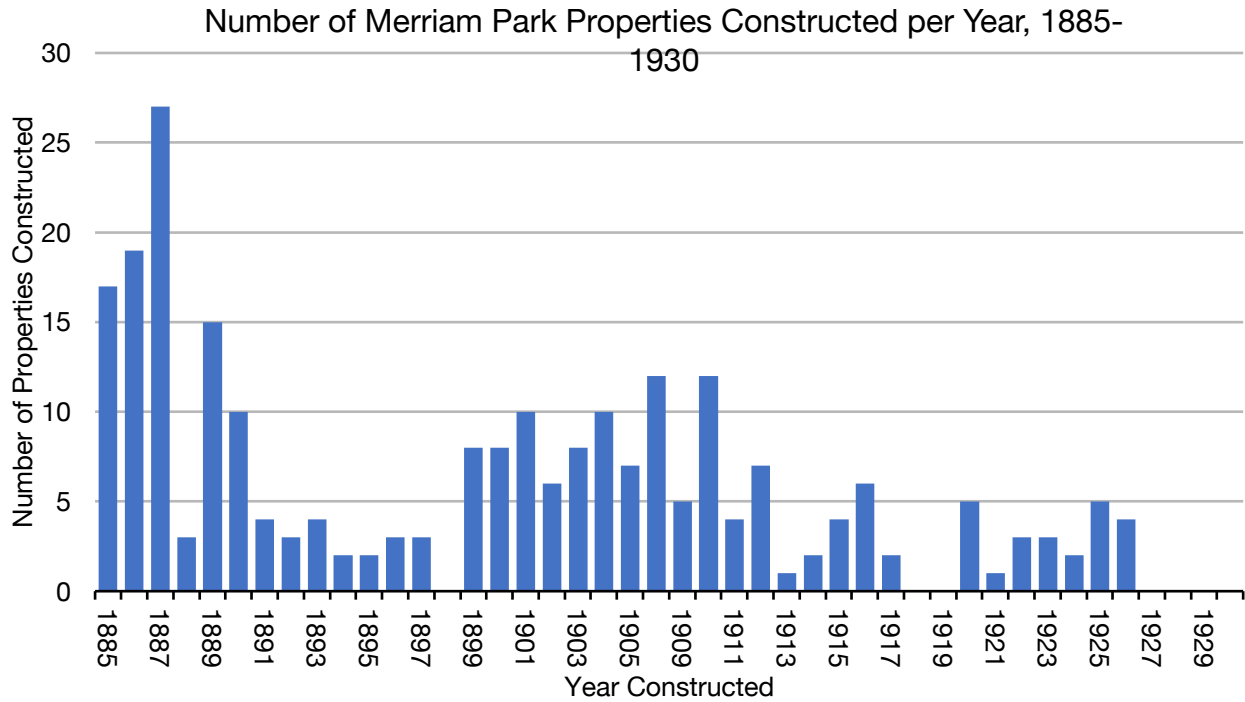


Table 5. Merriam Park Intensive Survey Area Construction Dates, 1885-1930 (Prepared by Jesse Kling)

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INTENSIVE LEVEL II SURVEY  
MERRIAM PARK, SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA**

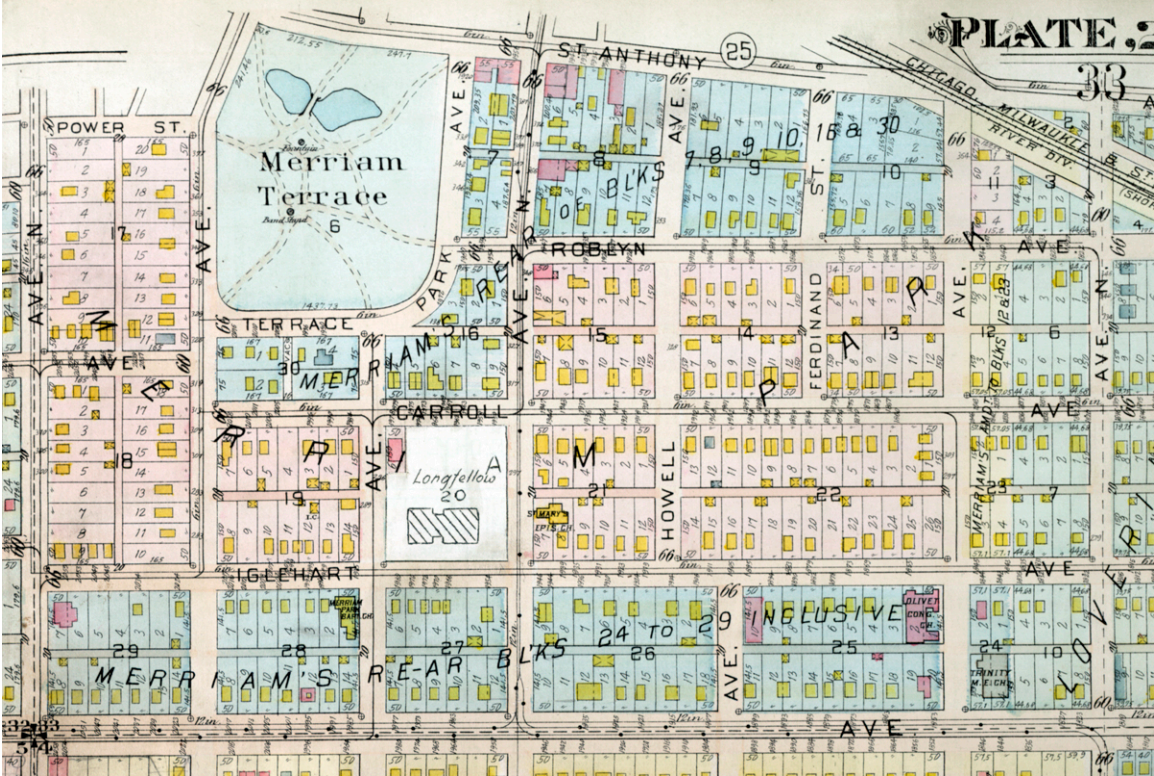
**RESEARCH DESIGN**

Submitted to the

**City of Saint Paul**

by

**Landscape Research LLC**  
Saint Paul, MN 55114  
August 10, 2018



G.N. Hopkins, 1916



## **Merriam Park Research Design**

### **Introduction**

The City of Saint Paul/Department of Planning and Economic Development (PED) intends to complete an Intensive Level II Survey for the Merriam Park Neighborhood of Saint Paul. The survey will document all historic buildings, structures, sites, objects, and potential districts for evaluation for potential listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and for local heritage preservation designation.

The survey area is bounded by St. Avenue and the CM&StP alignment at the north, Cleveland Avenue at the west, the alley immediately south of Marshall Avenue at the south, and Fairview Avenue at the east. It includes more than twenty-five blocks platted as the Merriam Park First Addition, as well as the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul (CM&StP) Shortline corridor and the Interstate 94 right-of-way. Oak-covered Merriam Park (formerly Merriam Terrace Park) occupies the northeastern corner of the area. There is a small commercial area at Marshall and Cleveland Avenues, and another on Prior Avenue between Roblyn and St. Anthony Avenues.

Landscape Research LLC is under contract with the City of Saint Paul to provide the following:

- A research design,
- Fieldwork to complete MnSHPO/Saint Paul individual property inventory forms, including photographs, compiled using the City's recommended ArcGIS Collector software, and completion of multiple property inventory forms for any historic and thematic districts,
- An illustrated survey report that includes historic contexts developed for this study and other pertinent context studies, and follows other content specifications outlined in the project contract,
- Participation in neighborhood meetings to discuss project goals and findings.

### **Research Design Components**

#### **1. Existing historic context studies**

Four historic context studies for the City of Saint Paul that are most applicable to the Merriam Park study are:

- "Residential Real Estate Development: 1880-1950"
- "Churches, Synagogues, and Religious Buildings: 1849-1950"
- "Neighborhood Commercial Centers: 1874-1960"
- "Transportation Corridors: 1857-1950."

The context studies note various properties located in or near the Merriam Park study area, or themes applicable to Merriam Park and the Midway area (Zellie and Peterson 2001). The Statewide Context, "Urban Centers 1870-1940," is also broadly applicable to the study area.

## 2. Research questions and issues to be addressed for the study area, with respect to existing and potential new historic contexts

The following research questions and issues will be addressed to examine existing historic contexts and develop new contexts:

- Within the context of “Residential Real Estate Development, 1880-1950,” what is the history and significance of the first period of residential development, ca. 1882 to 1900, and subsequent decades? Which building types, styles, and builders or architects are associated with each period? Who were the initial purchasers of lots and houses, and who were the owners and renters during subsequent periods of development?
- Within the context of “Neighborhood Commercial Centers: 1874-1960,” what is the history and significance of the Prior Avenue and Marshall Avenue commercial nodes? Which building types, styles, and builders or architects are associated with each period?
- Within the context of “Churches, Synagogues, and Religious Buildings: 1849-1950,” what is the history and significance of the churches (and other institutional buildings) within the survey area?
- Within the context of “Transportation Corridors: 1857-1950,” what is the history and significance of CM&StP passenger rail service and the Twin City Rapid Transit Co. streetcar network to the neighborhood’s early residential and commercial development?
- What is the significance of Merriam Terrace Park in the neighborhood’s history, and in Saint Paul’s early park development?
- Do the existing and potential new historic contexts, identified development patterns, resource types, and historic resources meet the criteria for local designation and/or listing on the National Register of Historic Places?

## 3. Previous research on the Merriam Park area

Merriam Park has been the subject of numerous newspaper articles and other descriptions, beginning with its initial real estate promotion in the *Saint Paul Pioneer Press* and *Saint Paul Globe*. This information is accessible by consulting the weekly real estate sections of the noted newspapers, ca. 1883-1914. The development of the adjacent Midway area was also detailed in various newspaper articles and special editions devoted to commerce and industry.

A total of 65 properties, including sixteen on Marshall Avenue, have been previously inventoried, and the development of Merriam Park within District 13 is described in the *Historic Sites Survey of Saint Paul and Ramsey County, 1980-1983* (Murphy and Granger 1983). Two properties, the Charles Thompson Memorial Hall (1824 Marshall Avenue, 1916), and the Triune Masonic Temple (1898 Iglehart, 1910-11), are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and as Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Sites. St. Anthony Avenue has been part of past cultural resource studies for Central Corridor planning.

## 4. General research approach

In addition to obtaining an initial understanding of the area’s pre-development topographical character, the pre-Civil War pattern of Merriam Park settlement and development, including the Red River oxcart route at the area’s northern perimeter, will be researched. To understand the post-Civil War agricultural and “suburban” neighborhood development pattern, the characteristics of the early plat (1882), railroad and bridge alignments, and the Merriam Terrace (park) layout will be investigated. Information on dwelling types and styles will be compiled as part of the inventory, and

related to information from existing and new, recommended historic contexts. The area's churches and institutional buildings, and commercial nodes on Prior and Marshall Avenues will be researched and related to existing as well as new, recommended historic contexts. A comprehensive study of architects and builders will accompany this information. Biographical information on early real estate developers, building owners, and residents from all walks of life will also be compiled.

## **5. Primary and secondary sources**

Historic maps and atlases covering the period ca. 1867 through 1959 will be consulted to document the area's overall development pattern. A variety of maps are available, including those published by the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, and those by Bennett, Foote, Hopkins, and the City of Saint Paul. Historic aerial photographs accessed through the University of Minnesota Borchert Library and other sources, historic photographs from the Minnesota Historical Society and Ramsey County Historical Society, and index card and building permit information from the Saint Paul Building Department are among other primary sources to be consulted. The United States Census schedules and city directories will be consulted to understand the general development of each block of the survey area for the period prior to ca. 1960. Ancestry.com and newspaper databases are also useful in this effort.

Secondary source information from the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society, Ramsey County Historical Society, and the Saint Paul Public Library Special Collections includes general works on Saint Paul history and architecture. The consultants will also be seeking neighborhood input and any research resources that local historians can provide.

## **6. Project personnel**

The survey will be conducted by Carole Zellie and Amy Lucas of Landscape Research. Both architectural historians have more than twenty-five years of experience, including many Saint Paul building studies and inventories, and meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards.

## **7. Intended use of the intensive survey**

The completed survey will be used by the City of Saint Paul to guide general land use planning within Merriam Park, and will also provide information for future local Heritage Preservation Commission, federal Section 106, and other reviews. The recommendations for future intensive survey, additional historic context development, and identification of properties potentially eligible for local designation and/or NRHP listing will be especially useful in future planning.

The study should also provide the Merriam Park community with a broad understanding of the neighborhood's historic resources within the survey area, and provide a framework for further community planning and education activities.

## **8. Merriam Park intensive survey goals**

As noted in the introduction, the intensive survey will provide a comprehensive overview of historic resources, including

- Completion of MnSHPO/Saint Paul individual property inventory forms, compiled using the City's recommended ArcGIS Collector software, and completion of multiple property inventory forms for any historic and/or thematic districts,
- Completion of an illustrated narrative survey report that includes historic contexts associated with the survey area, or developed for this study, and survey findings and recommendations.

As noted in item 7, this information will assist the City of Saint Paul in general planning for Merriam Park, and will also provide information for future preservation planning needs, including local designation. It will also provide useful educational and planning information for the Merriam Park community.

## **9. Goal identification**

The Saint Paul PED and Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC), initially identified the survey goals, in coordination with the District 13 Community Council.

## **10. Survey boundaries**

The survey area is bounded by Saint Anthony Avenue and the CM&StP alignment at the north, Cleveland Avenue at the west, the alley immediately south of Marshall Avenue at the south, and Fairview Avenue at the east. It includes more than twenty-five blocks platted as the Merriam Park First Addition, as well as the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul (CM&StP) Shortline corridor and the Interstate 94 right-of-way. Merriam Park (formerly Merriam Terrace Park) occupies the northeastern corner of the area.

## **11. Anticipated community involvement and participation**

There is a high level of community interest in Merriam Park's historic resources, and community involvement and participation during the course of the survey is anticipated to be strong. The participation of local residents through sharing historical information and research is welcomed.

## **12. Project timetable**

The project start date is July 9, 2018, with December 7, 2018 completion.

## **13. Expectations for what will be learned**

It is anticipated that the survey will provide an understanding of Merriam Park's broad development pattern, beginning as an early residential "suburb" adjacent to the railroad and industrial area of the Midway. The diversity of its residential, commercial, and institutional building types will be evident, as well as the significance of Merriam Terrace, its early landscaped park. As the first of four Merriam Park additions, this addition had a significant role in securing the western edge of Saint Paul as a dense residential district. Passenger rail, streetcar lines, and improved streets served the area, and resources associated with early and mid-twentieth-century land use change at the north edge of the neighborhood, including rail and highway construction, will be identified.