



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Minnesota State Archives

## RAMSEY COUNTY: ST. PAUL: City Council:

### An Inventory of Its Miscellaneous Records

#### OVERVIEW

- Agency:** Saint Paul (Minn.). Common Council.
- Series Title:** Miscellaneous Records.
- Dates:** 1853-1941 (bulk 1853-1912).
- Abstract:** Reports, correspondence, and other documents generated by or submitted to the St. Paul Common Council (city council).
- Quantity:** 8.95 cubic feet (9 boxes and 1 partial box).
- Location:** See Detailed Description section for box locations.

#### SCOPE AND CONTENTS

Reports, correspondence, and other documents generated by or submitted to the St. Paul Common Council (city council). They include scattered council minutes, resolutions, and ordinances; petitions to the council, including bids for city contracts, claims against the city, business license requests, and petitions for the construction, improvement, or use of streets, sidewalks, bridges, gas lamps, sewers, and buildings; and reports and letters to the council from various committees, boards, and city offices, covering such areas as assessments, city attorney and engineer, Board of Control, fire and police departments, library, public works, taxes, water, wood inspector, and workhouse.

There are also subject files covering a wide variety of topics, including fire company membership records (1854-1878); liquor licenses and license bonds (1855-1877); reports from W. H. Nobles, L. B. Olmstead, and James Wickes Taylor concerning routes and provisions for an exploratory expedition to the Canadian Rockies (April 1859); a resolution adopted by the city condemning the conviction of Captain Alfred Dreyfus of France (1906); traffic photographs of the Robert Street Bridge (1910); and gas lamp reports (1911-1912).

## INDEX TERMS

*This collection is indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.*

### Topics:

Almshouses—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Bridges—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Buildings—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
City councils—Minnesota—Ramsey County.  
Fire departments—Minnesota—Ramsey County—Registers  
Gas street lamps—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Licenses—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Licensing.  
Liquor industry—Licenses—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Ordinances, Municipal—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Police—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Public contracts—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Public libraries—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Public works—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Sewerage—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Sidewalks—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Streets—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Tax assessment—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Traffic—Minnesota—Saint Paul.

### Places:

Canadian Rockies (B.C. and Alta.)—Discovery and exploration.  
Robert Street Bridge (Saint Paul, Minn.).  
Saint Paul (Minn.)—Politics and government.

### Persons:

Dreyfus, Albert, 1859-1935.  
Nobles, W. H.  
Olmstead, L. B.  
Taylor, James W. (James Wickes), 1819-1893.

### Organizations:

Minnesota. State Board of Control.  
Saint Paul (Minn.). City Council.  
Saint Paul (Minn.). Engineering Dept.  
Saint Paul (Minn.). Office of the City Attorney.  
Saint Paul (Minn.). Water Dept.

### Types of Documents:

Petitions—Minnesota—Saint Paul.  
Photographs—Minnesota—Saint Paul.



## Location

- 126.A.16.1B                    Petitions, undated, 1854-1912.  
                                      Arranged alphabetically by topic of petition and chronologically  
                                      thereunder.  
                                      General petitions and miscellaneous correspondence, undated, 1854-  
                                      1883. 4 folders.  
                                      Barbers request to shorten their work week, April 20, 1886.  
                                      Bids for city contracts, [1850s-1870s]. 3 folders.  
                                      Bridges, undated, 1858-1904. 6 folders.  
                                      Construction, use, waiver of fees, etc., undated, 1858-1902. 2  
                                      folders.
- 126.A.16.2F                    Bridge, request for reconstruction of High Bridge, 1904.  
                                      Bridge construction proposal, Wrought Iron Bridge Co., Canton,  
                                      Ohio, 1872.  
                                      Bridge construction proposal, Alonzo Spalding, 1877.  
                                      Bridge repair bids, 1853-1883.  
                                      Buildings, 1854-1911. 8 folders.  
                                      To construct, move, or destroy, 1854-1883. 3 folders.  
                                      Request for license to build new hospital, September 1886.  
                                      Protest against Azotine Manufacturing Co., 1891.  
                                      Protest against barn for destitute cattle and dogs, November  
                                      1910.  
                                      Protest hospital construction, June 1911.  
                                      Public, 1858-1882.  
                                      Use of, renovation, etc.
- Claims, 1855-1897. 8 folders.  
                                      Against city for damages, waiver of fines, etc., 1855-1897. 4  
                                      folders.  
                                      Petition of Wallace D. Dexter, 1890, 1897.  
                                      Request for reward for securing two suspected murderers, and  
                                      also for moneys spent while “boarding” them, 1885.  
                                      House of Hope Church, 1887.  
                                      Request from John Ireland regarding refund of moneys spent  
                                      during construction of Grand Avenue streetcar line, 1891.  
                                      Construction of garden structure by local property owners, [1885].  
                                      Fire Department, 1884-1886. 2 folders.  
                                      Request for additional equipment, 1884.  
                                      Request that the public not be allowed to strike gongs or bells in  
                                      the public streets, August 29, 1886.  
                                      Gas, undated, 1856-1883. 4 folders.  
                                      Repair or construction of gas street lamps.

## Location

- 126.A.16.2F
- Lamps, request for construction of arc light street lamps, 1911.
  - Licenses, undated, 1854-1883. 87 folders.
    - Liquor, sale of gunpowder, auctioneers, steamboat and railroad runners, etc.
  - Licenses, protest against liquor license, [1912].
  - Markets, 1857-1881.
  - Moving pictures, 1912. 2 folders.
    - Support and protest for Canada Avenue location, 1912.
    - Support for Chatsworth Avenue location, 1912.
  - Police, undated, 1857-1882.
    - From citizens and police officers concerning Police Department.
  - Police, Republicans protest against appointment of Democratic police officer, June 10, 1896.
  - Railroads, 1863-1882.
    - From railroad companies on rights of way, etc
  - Railway, undated, 1891. 2 folders.
    - Extension of St. Paul City Railway, undated.
    - Request for funds from City Railway, December 15, 1891.
  - Relief, 1861-1875.
    - By citizens claiming poverty.
  - Relief and support for Argyle Township after hailstorm, 1886.
  - Streets, sidewalks, and sewers, undated, 1853-1862. 8 folders.
    - For construction or repair.
- 126.A.16.3B
- Streets, sidewalks, and sewers, undated, 1863-1882. 29 folders.
  - Winter Carnival, 1885-1889. 3 folders.
    - Use of public streets, December 15, 1885.
    - \$20,000 appropriation request, 1889.
    - Claim for policeman injured in sledding incident at toboggan slide, March 6, 1886.
  - Reports and files of various committees, boards, and city offices, undated, 1853-1925.
    - Unpublished (handwritten or typed); arranged alphabetically by committee and chronologically thereunder.
  - Assessment Committee (Council), 1858-1878.
  - Assessments (streets), 1871-1873. 2 folders.
  - Assessor (city) annual reports, 1864-1867.
  - Attorney, annual reports, 1891, 1897. 2 folders.

**Location**

- 126.A.16.4F Attorney, correspondence with Council, 1856-1884. 12 folders.  
Auditorium, 1909.  
Board of Control, annual report, 1884.  
Board of Control, annual report, 1889. 5 folders.  
Includes reports of the City and County Hospital; Almshouse and Poor Farm; and city and county physician.
- Bridge Commissioner, 1887.  
Bridge Receiver (tolls), 1863, 1866, 1872-1874.  
Building Inspector, annual report, 1896, 1899. 2 folders.  
Clerk, 1897-1898.  
Disinfection, 1896.  
Education, Board of, 1857-1882.  
Engineer: Reports on Bridging the Mississippi River at Robert and Jackson, 1882.  
Engineer, 1896, 1899. 2 folders.  
Finance Committee, undated, 1853-1880.  
Fire Committee, 1855-1883. 2 folders.  
Fire Department, annual report, 1899. 3 folders.  
Grand Jury, 1905.  
Health Department, undated, 1855-1882.  
Lamp-lighters reports, 1873-1877.  
Library Committee, 1879.  
Market, 1910.  
Municipal Court, annual report, 1899.  
Ordinances Committee, undated, 1861-1883.  
Parks Committee, 1870-1882.  
Police Department, annual report, 1899:  
Part 1, pages 2-22. 1 folder.
- 105.D.2.1B-2 Part 2, pages 23-70. 1 folder.  
Includes reports of the Central station, Rondo Street station, Margaret Street sub-station, Ducas Street station, and the Prior Avenue Station.
- 126.A.16.4F Part 3, pages 71-82.  
Includes patrol box telegraph reports.
- Police, 1903.  
Poundmaster, 1892.  
Public Library, 1884-1885, 1907. 2 folders.  
Public Utilities, 1924-1925.

**Location**

- 126.A.16.5B Public Works, Board of:  
Annual report, 1874. 1 folder.
- 105.D.2.1B-2 Annual report, 1899. 1 oversize folder.  
Operations, receipts, disbursements, and accounts.
- 126.A.16.5B Miscellaneous reports, 1873-1882. 31 folders.  
School Inspectors, 1909-1911.  
School Inspector Board minutes, March-April 1911.  
Street Commissioners, undated, 1855-1879. 4 folders.
- 126.A.16.6F Streetcar, 1911.  
Tax Committee, 1854-1880.
- 105.D.2.1B-2 Tax Committee, tax roll abatements, 1870-1871. 1 folder.
- 126.A.16.6F Treasurer, annual report, 1899.  
Water Committee, 1862-1882.
- 126.A.16.7B Ways and Means Committee, undated, 1854-1883. 2 folders.  
Western Union Telegraph Company, 1924.  
Wood Inspector, 1855-1859, 1864-1880.  
Workhouse, 1896-1906, 1911. 2 folders.  
Various offices, [1888].  
Special committees, undated, 1856-1882.  
Requests, 1884-1893.  
Cholera prevention steps, 1884.  
Cisterns, Fire Department requests, 1885.  
Music in the parks, request for funding, 1893.  
State Fair related appropriation request of \$4000 from St. Paul  
Jobbers, 1887.  
Wabasha Street Bridge, repairs recommended, 1885.  
Street and house files, 1882-1889, 1901-1915, 1941.  
House number index, 1941. 7 folders.  
Record of vacations, 1882-1889, 1901-1915. 2 volumes.  
For streets and alleys.
- 105.D.2.2F-1 1882-1889.
- 105.D.2.2F-2 B, 1901-1915.

**Location**

- 126.A.16.6F                      Subject files, 1853-1923.  
   Alderman Fisher, charges against, 1875.  
   Bids, 1890-1901. 3 folders.  
   High Bridge, painting, 1901.  
   Night soil, garbage, and dead animal removal, 1890.  
   Miscellaneous, 1896.  
   Bridge at Robert Street, 23 (7 ¼ in. x 10 in.) black and white  
   photographs documenting traffic between 8:30 and 5:55pm. on  
   June 29 and July 29, 1910.  
   Butcher licenses, 1889-1890.  
   City contracts, 1855-1872.  
   Community events invitations, 1891, 1902.
- 126.A.16.7B                      Comptroller, 1886-1907. 3 folders.  
   Estimated expenses of the City of Saint Paul, 1896-1899, 1907.  
   Payroll issues: Police Department, 1898-1900.  
   Tax levy estimate for 1886.  
   Court records, 1856-1876.  
   Miscellaneous judgments, warrants, transcripts of dockets.  
   Court [Municipal]: Office of the Clerk of the Municipal Court,  
   Transcript of Fees and Fines, November 1897.  
   Court cases, 1853-1871. 4 folders.  
   Isaac Van Etten v Town of St. Paul, 1853.  
   Damages.  
   [John Sham?] v M. J. Connors, 1859.  
   Contested election.  
   D. W. Ingersoll v City of St. Paul, 1871.  
   Damages.  
   Judson v Reardon, 1871.  
   Refusal to obey fire regulation.  
   Dairyman license recommendations, 1911.  
   Dreyfus Resolution, July 19, 1906.  
   Resolution, adopted by the City of St. Paul, condemning the  
   conviction of Captain Alfred Dreyfus of France.  
   Election judges from People's Party, 1894.
- 105.D.2.1B-2                      Exploration of the Northwest: Communications from W. H. Nobles,  
   General L. B. Olmstead, and James W. Taylor, April 20, 22,  
   1859. 1 folder.  
   Two letters concerning expected routes, and estimates of  
   provisions for a 10 man, six month exploration of the  
   Canadian Rockies.



**Location**

- 126.A.16.7B Fire Department: Buying and selling of horses, 1894.  
Gas, 1899-1912. 5 folders.  
Lamps reports, May 1911, May 1912. 2 folders.  
Investigative report of St. Paul Gas Light Co., 1912.  
List of gas lights, November 1912.  
Specifications for lighting, 1899.  
Hook and Ladder Company membership lists and certificates, 1854-1878. 5 folders.  
Pioneer Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1, 1854-1876.  
Minnehaha Engine Co. No. 2, 1860-1878.  
Trout Brook Hose Co. No. 2, 1870-1875.  
St. Paul Hose Co. No. 1, 1870-1874.  
Hope Engine Co. No. 1, 1858-1874.  
Ice industry, proposed municipal control, 1913.  
Liquor license bonds, 1855-1876. 9 folders.
- 105.D.2.1B-2 Liquor licenses, 1874-1877. 1 folder.
- 126.A.16.7B Map of election district split, 1904.  
Map of city, 1910.
- 105.D.2.1B-2 Miscellaneous record book, 1920-1923. 1 volume.  
Record of applications for licenses, licenses revoked and denied, resolutions, ordinances and petitions.
- 126.A.16.7B Mortgages, release of chattel mortgages, 1860-1872.  
Prisoners received and discharged, 1884.  
Property owners, lists of , 1870-1880. 1 folder.  
Includes North side of Fourth Street, Blair to West limit, 1870; Third and Jackson streets, 1871; Fourth Street, Jackson to Broadway, 1871; Pearl Street, Jackson to Canada Street, 1871; owners of property taken in Jackson Street extension, 1879; and Maria Avenue, North to Cherry streets, 1880.  
St. Paul and Southern Railway Terminal location, 1926.  
*[0.7 cu. ft. full, legal]*