



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minnesota State Archives

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT Parks and Recreation Division

An Inventory of Its Photographs

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Agency:** Minnesota. Division of Parks and Recreation.
- Series Title:** Photographs,
- Dates:** Undated, 1930-1936.
- Abstract:** Assorted sized black and white photographs, mainly documenting buildings, scenery, personnel, special events, and development, particularly road, dam, and trail construction in the state parks and related recreational and scenic areas.
- Quantity:** 1112 photographs in 1 card file box.
- Location:** See Detailed Description section for box location.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE RECORDS

Many of these projects probably also involved the federal Works Progress Administration and Civilian Conservation Corps programs. There are sizable groups of photographs for Camden, Cascade, Cottonwood, Ft. Ridgely, Gooseberry Falls, Itasca, Jay Cooke, Mille Lacs Kathio, Scenic, Sibley, and Whitewater state parks, and Leech Lake Scenic Wayside. There are also assorted small groups and single photographs from other parks and areas, from numbered, by unlocated, work projects, and of divisional personnel.

Of special interest are photographs of National Park Service and state personnel, including Division Director H. W. Lathrop, Minneapolis Park System superintendent Theodore Wirth, and Assistant Director, National Park Service, Conrad L. Wirth during National Conference on State Parks stops at Itasca, Gooseberry Falls, and Scenic state parks (1935); pageants at Ft. Ridgely, featuring the Fairfax High School band and glee club (1933), Governor Van Sant (1932), and Native American participants (1930); and forest fires at Lake Vadnais (1936?).

Forms part of the records of the Minnesota Department of Conservation.

RELATED MATERIALS

Minnesota Division of Parks and Recreation state parks project files, Minnesota Dept. of Conservation photographs of state parks, monuments, and recreational areas, Minnesota Dept. of Conservation photographs by Napoleon N. Nadeau, and Minnesota Dept. of Conservation photographs by Chester S. Wilson, all housed in the Minnesota Historical Society state archives collections (each cataloged separately).

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:

Bands (Music)--Minnesota--Fairfax--Photographs.
Dams--Minnesota--Design and construction--Photographs.
Forest fires--Minnesota--Lake Vadnais--Photographs.
Natural areas--Minnesota--Photographs.
Nature trails--Minnesota--Design and construction--Photographs.
Pageants--Minnesota--Fort Ridgely State Park--Photographs.
Park facilities--Minnesota--Photographs.
Parks--Minnesota--Employees--Photographs.
Recreation areas--Minnesota--Photographs.
Roads--Minnesota--Design and construction--Photographs.
School music--Minnesota--Fairfax--Photographs.

Places:

Camden State Park (Minn.)--Photographs.
Cascade River State Park (Minn.)--Photographs.
Fort Ridgely State Park (Minn.)--Photographs.
Gooseberry Falls State Park (Minn.)--Photographs.
Itasca State Park (Minn.)--Photographs.
Jay Cooke State Park (Minn.)--Photographs.
Leech Lake Scenic Wayside (Minn.)--Photographs.
Mille Lacs Kathio State Park (Minn.)--Photographs.
Scenic State Park (Minn.)--Photographs.
Sibley State Park (Minn.)--Photographs.
Whitewater State Park (Minn.)--Photographs.
Whitewater State Park (Minn.)--Photographs.

Persons:

Lathrop, Harold William, 1901-1961.
Van Sant, Samuel Rinnah, 1844-1936--Photographs.
Wirth, Conrad Louis, 1899-.
Wirth, Theodore, 1863-1949.

Organizations:

Civilian Conservation Corps (U.S.).
Minnesota. Dept. of Conservation.
Minnesota Works Progress Administration.
National Conference on State Parks.
United States. National Park Service.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation:

[Indicate the cited volume and page or item and folder title here]. Conservation Department. Parks and Recreation Division. Photographs. Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.

See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note both the location and box numbers shown below.

Location	Contents
116.A.3.5	<p>Camden State Park, undated, 1935-1936. 30 photographs. Mainly unidentified; includes photos of winter scenery, the bathing pool, road construction, outhouses, trails, and dams. One photograph is identified as Superintendent N. H. Peterson, E. V. Willard, and H. W. Lathrop (1935).</p> <p>Cascade State Park, undated, 1934. 34 photographs. A few are identified; mainly photos of scenery and road construction.</p> <p>Cottonwood State Park, undated, 1936. 54 photographs. Majority are of dam, road, and trail construction dated between July and September 1936.</p> <p>Ft. Ridgely State Park, undated, 1930-1933. 51 photographs and 14 negatives. Includes fourteen photographs (each with negative and duplicate photo) dated between 1930 and 1933, depicting the old commissary building, park entrance sign, powderhouse, and</p>

pageants. The latter include photographs of Governor Van S. R. Sant (1932), the Fairfax High School band and glee club (1933), and Native Americans (1930). There are also undated scenery photographs.

Gooseberry Falls State Park, undated, 1935-1936. 25 photographs, 1 postcard, and 1 negative.

Mainly taken in the winter of 1935-1936, the photographs include the refectory and custodian's cabin, the falls, and the Lake Superior shore. There is one photo of Conrad Wirth, Theodore Wirth, and Tom Hughes during the 1935 National Conference on State Parks visit.

Interstate State Park, undated. 2 photographs.
Picnic grounds and kitchen.

Itasca State Park, undated, 1935-1936. 99 photographs.

Mainly building, trail, and road construction and winter and summer scenery photographs. There are two numbered sets, both incomplete, one dated June - December 1936, the other undated. There are also nine photos of Theodore Wirth, H. W. Lathrop, and Inspectors E. P. Lacey and Ken L. Schellie at the park in 1935.

Jay Cooke State Park, undated, 1935-1936. 118 photographs.

Mainly landscaping and road, trail, dam, building, and bridge construction photographs, taken in both summer and winter.

Lake Bronson State Park, undated, 1936. 5 photographs.

Dam construction (July 1936) and scenery.

Lake Vadnais State Park, undated, 1936. 32 photographs.

Boathouse, dam and road construction, tree planting, inspection, and forest fires photographs. The latter includes one aerial photo.

Leech Lake Scenic Wayside, undated, 1935-1936. 40 photographs.

Mainly road construction and landscaping photographs.

Middle River Area, 1936. 10 photographs.

Mainly scenery photographs, showing trails and the river channel.

Mille Lakes State Park, undated, 1936. 50 photographs.

The majority are of road, dam, and building construction.

Minnesota Valley State Park, undated, 1936. 22 photographs.

Mainly photographs of road construction and park personnel.

Scenic State Park, undated, 1935. 226 photographs.

Includes photographs of Conrad L. Wirth, Harold W. Lathrop, and Theodore Wirth during the National Conference on State Parks visit (1935). Also campground, ski trail, picnic area, and both winter and summer scenery photographs. Many of these photographs appear to have been cut from an album; they still

have the album page material adhered to the back. Also, there may be some duplicates.

Sibley State Park, undated, 1936. 54 photographs.

Road and trail construction, bathhouse and concessions, fireplaces, benches and picnic tables, signs and markers, parking areas, septic tank, pump house and well, bathrooms, drinking fountains, and scenery photographs.

Spruce Creek Camp, undated. 14 photographs.

The majority are of signs, road construction, bridge, trails, and the Cascade River.

Whitewater State Park, undated, 1935-1936. 16 photographs.

Mainly photographs of personnel, trails, signs, buildings, bridges, and riprock work being done on the riverbanks.

Miscellaneous photographs, undated, 1935-1936. 270 photographs.

Includes individual photographs taken at the Victory Memorial Flagpole in Minneapolis, Lake Hiawatha, Lac Qui Parle, Marlin Creek in Pope County, Monson Lake State Park, Inspiration Peak, Minnehaha Falls, and Taylors Falls. Also several sets of numbered series, some undated, some dated 1935 and 1936, all without location identification. Some include work project numbers. Also some may duplicate photos found in those filed by park name.