



HISTORIC SAINT PAUL PRESENTS



TRIVIA NIGHT

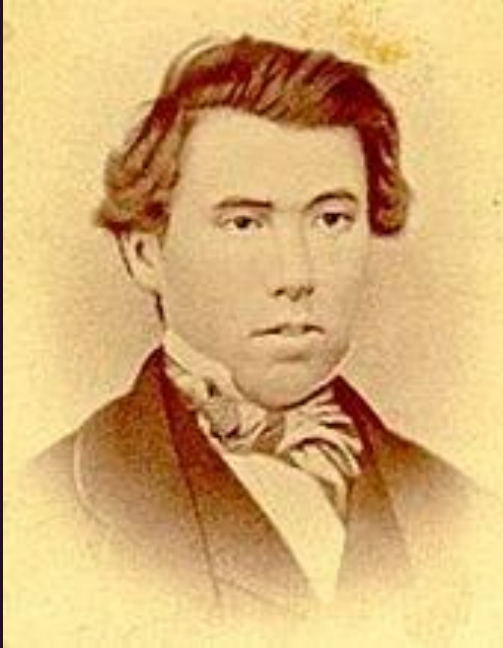


About Historic Saint Paul

Historic Saint Paul is a nonprofit working to **strengthen Saint Paul neighborhoods by preserving and promoting their cultural heritage and character**. We have been around more than twenty years .

We work in partnership with private property owners, community organizations, and public agencies to leverage Saint Paul's cultural and historic resources as assets in economic development and community building initiatives.

Round 1



1. James J. Hill's middle name was Jerome.
What was the origin of his middle name?
- A. Family name on his mother's side
 - B. A family name on his father's side
 - C. A name he gave himself as a teenager.
 - D. The name's origin is unknown.



2. For nearly 20 years, Mary Theresa Hill was pregnant or tending to a newborn and she raised 9 children. What else was she known for?
- A. Dress making
 - B. Charity work
 - C. Award winning jellies
 - D. Home Schooling



3. What was Hill's connection with the Saint Paul Seminary?

A. He donated the land.

B. One of his children studied there.

C. He paid for it.

D. He hired Cass Gilbert as the architect.



4. Unlike some other famous people, Hill had no interest in putting his name on his buildings. During his lifetime, only one building ever had Hill's name on it. Which one was it?

- A. The Hill House
- B. A warehouse
- C. A railroad office bldg
- D. A library



5. Identify the Hill son who followed his father as successor in his business empire.

- A. Son no. 1
- B. Son no. 2
- C. Son no. 3
- D. Son no. 4

Bonus: Name Hill's sons in birth order



6. Name the cause of James J. Hill's death as reported in the press at the time.

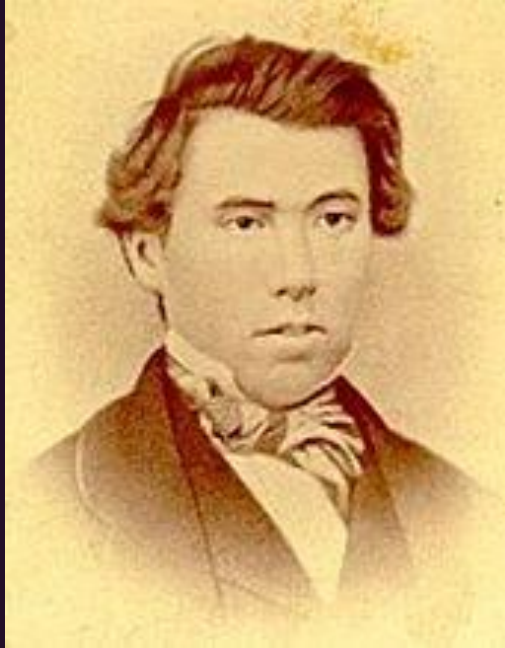
- A. Tuberculosis
- B. Pancreatic abscess
- C. Gangrenous hemorrhoids
- D. Diphtheria

Bonus 1: Name a notable physician who attended Hill while he was dying in his Summit Avenue home.

Bonus 2: Name the location(s) where Hill was buried, including his current burial place.

Check over your
answers...

Let's see how
you did...



1. James J. Hill's middle name was Jerome.
What was the origin of his middle name?

- A. Family name on his mother's side
- B. A family name on his father's side
- C. A name he gave himself as a teenager.
- D. The name's origin is unknown.

C. A name he gave himself as a teenager.
He did not have a middle name before that. He created the name in 1854 (he was born in 1838).



2. Mary Theresa Hill was also known for **B. Charity work**

Mary's charity work was privately directed, often through Catholic institutions such as Saint Mary's Church, the Good Shepherd Sisters, and the Little Sisters of the Poor. During World War I she participated in the war effort by purchasing Liberty Bonds in significant amounts, and knitting wool socks, sweaters, and helmet liners for the Red Cross and delivering these to Fort Snelling. (Source: MNHS)



3. What was Hill's connection with the Saint Paul Seminary?

C. He paid for it, about a half-million dollars at the time. Archbishop John Ireland donated the land and Cass Gilbert was the architect, but not necessarily because of Hill. It was constructed in 1892-94.



4. During his lifetime, only one building ever had Hill's name on it:

B. A warehouse

The wood-frame warehouse of James J. Hill & Company on the St. Paul river levee. The name, "Jas. J. Hill," appears on a sign on the end of the building, clearly visible in a historic photo, but is gone now.

J.J. Hill Reference Library was not officially opened until 1921, after his death in 1916 and wife Mary's death a month before the opening. The Hill House is a more recent name for the historic house and did not have an official name when he lived in it. No railroad office building had Hill's name, only the name or names of his railroad companies



5. Identify the Hill son who followed his father as successor in his business empire:

B. Son no. 2, Louis W. Hill

Bonus:

James Norman Hill

Louis Warren Hill

Walter Hill

Son #4 – Hill only had three sons



6. Cause of Hill's death as reported in the press at the time.

C. Gangrenous hemorrhoids, as reported in detail on the front pages on the local papers the day following his death on May 29, 1916. Today, he would have been treated and the infection likely would not have been fatal. He died in his bedroom in his Summit Ave. house.

Bonus 1: Drs. William & Charles Mayo, who came by train from their Rochester clinic to assist in attending to Hill, including an operation, in his last days and hours.

Bonus 2: Hill was first buried on his North Oaks Farm and later moved and reinterred in Resurrection Cemetery, where he remains today..

Questions, comments?

Round 2

7. A woman was elected to the Saint Paul School Board in 1991 and was the first Hmong person to be elected to public office. She later made history again becoming the first Hmong school principal. Who was she?

A. Cy Thao

B. Mee Moua

C. Choua Lee



8. She was born in St. Paul in 1946 and graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1968. She is best known for her essays and memoirs, most notably *A Romantic Education* and *The Florist's Daughter*. Who is she?



9. Who was the first woman to be elected to the Saint Paul City Council, serving from 1956 to 1962, and later was the first woman elected to become a Ramsey County commissioner in 1967 and retiring in 1974?

A. Rosalie Butler

B. Ruby Hunt

C. Elizabeth DeCourcy



10. Who was an African American raised in Saint Paul who graduated from the University of Minnesota and became an important leader of the national NAACP?

(hint: A St .Paul Auditorium is re-named in his honor in 1985.)



11. What competitive high school team sport is dominated in St. Paul almost entirely by Hmong girls?

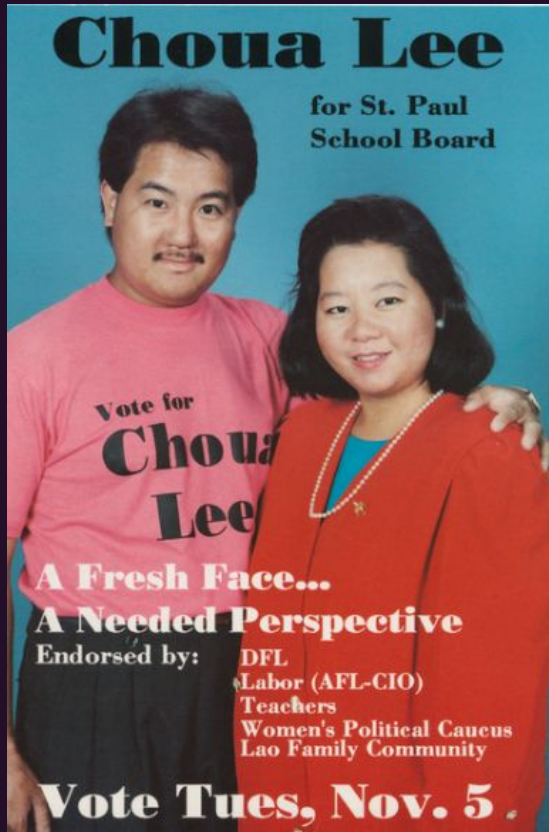


12. William T. Francis was an African American Saint Paul lawyer, diplomat and civil Rights activist, in 1927 President Calvin Coolidge appointed him to be Minister to what African country?

Bonus Question: Who was William Francis married to?

Check over your
answers...

Let's see how
you did...



7. Elected to the Saint Paul School Board in 1991 and first Hmong person to be elected to public office; later became first Hmong school principal.

C. Choua Lee

Drafted to run by DFL Lee was 23 at the time. Born in Laos, Lee came to the U.S. in 1976 when she was 5 years old. She was among the first Hmong to come to America.

“People were looking for something different,” she said. “I am somebody who is different in perspective, in color and in racial issues as well. That helped me. Also, being a woman was an advantage. There were not that many candidates who are women.”



8. She was born in St. Paul in 1946 and graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1968. She is best known for her essays and memoirs, most notably *A Romantic Education* and *The Florist's Daughter*. Who is she?

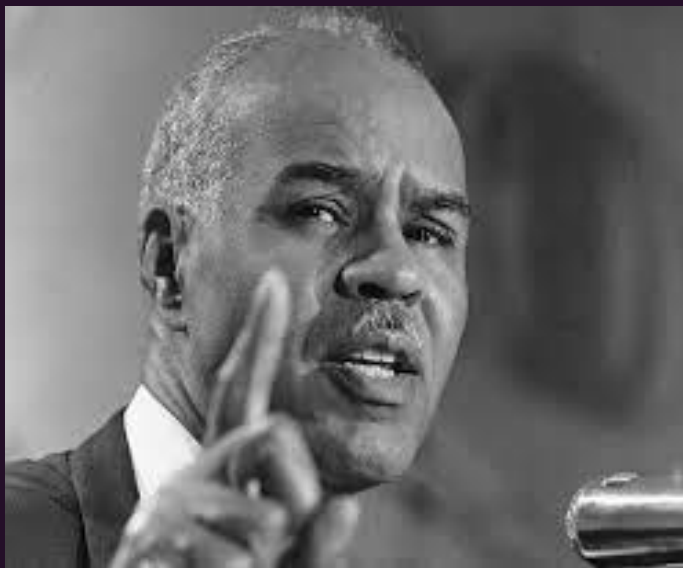
Patricia Hampl



9. First woman elected to the Saint Paul City Council?

C. Elizabeth DeCourcy

Born and raised in Saint Paul, DeCourcy attended the UofM. Soon after, she won the Ted Mack Amateur hour in Los Angeles which landed her a gig singing at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. Back in Minnesota as a widowed mother of two in 1949, she was the first woman elected to the Ramsey County Board. She ran after being belittled for complaining about a sign in her front yard. In 1956, she was the first woman elected to the Saint Paul City Council where she initially faced jokes about being the only woman and told her place was “at home.” She eventually developed a reputation of being “gentle but tough.” After two terms on the St. Paul Council, she lost a bid for Congress. But she was re-elected to the Ramsey Board in 1966 where she worked on fiscal policy and hospital issues for two terms. Feeling strongly that a woman’s age was unimportant, even her son did not know her real age: “We’d ask and she’d say ‘It’s none of your business.’” If a Minneapolis Star 1974 article was correct that her age then was 67, she was 97 when she died in 2004.



10. African American raised in Saint Paul who graduated from the University of Minnesota and became an important leader of the national NAACP? The St. Paul Auditorium was re-named in his honor in 1985: **Roy Wilkins**

After graduating from the U of M in 1923, Wilkins worked as a journalist for the Northwest Bulletin in Saint Paul and The Call in Kansas City, before being recruited to work for the NAACP as editor of The Crisis. Wilkins served as the Executive Director of the NAACP from 1955 to 1977, and advocated for key legislation, including the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the 1965 Voting Rights Act, and the 1968 Fair Housing Act. In addition to serving as Director of the NAACP, Wilkins served as advisor to several U.S. presidents. He was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Lyndon B. Johnson.



11. What competitive high school team sport is dominated in St. Paul almost entirely by Hmong girls?

Badminton



12. William T. Francis was an African American Saint Paul lawyer, diplomat and civil Rights activist, in 1927 President Calvin Coolidge appointed him to be Minister to what African country?

Answer: Liberia

Bonus Answer: Nellie Griswold Francis



The harmful effects of restrictive housing covenants were brought to the wider public's attention in 1924, when William T. Francis and his wife, Nellie Griswold Francis, a civil rights activist and suffragist, purchased a home at 2092 Sargent Avenue, in the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood. Their move into this white neighborhood was met with destruction and threats of violence, including two separate cross-burning incidents at their home. Unable to rely on the protection of local authorities, the Francises were forced to hire private security for their protection. The Francises remained at the home until 1927, when William was appointed consul general to Liberia, where they relocated.

Questions, comments?

Round 3



13. May 12, 1994: Folks were at Como Zoo for leisurely strolls. Suddenly there were screams and zoo staffers were guiding visitors into buildings. The city police had showed up. What was happening?

- A. A nude streaker had entered the conservatory**
- B. Casey the gorilla got out of his enclosure and had an hour stroll of his own until returning home.**
- C. The security guard had taken a visitor hostage**



14. Long a mainstay of industrial employment on St. Paul's Arcade Street, Seeger Refrigerator Company eventually merged with what famous Michigan appliance maker?



15. A famous trail, pioneered in part by one-time mayor of St. Paul Norman Kittson, carried furs in oxcarts from northwestern Minnesota to downtown St. Paul, in the mid 19th century. What was that trail's name?

- A. Kittson Trail
- B. Oregon Trail
- C. Red River Trail

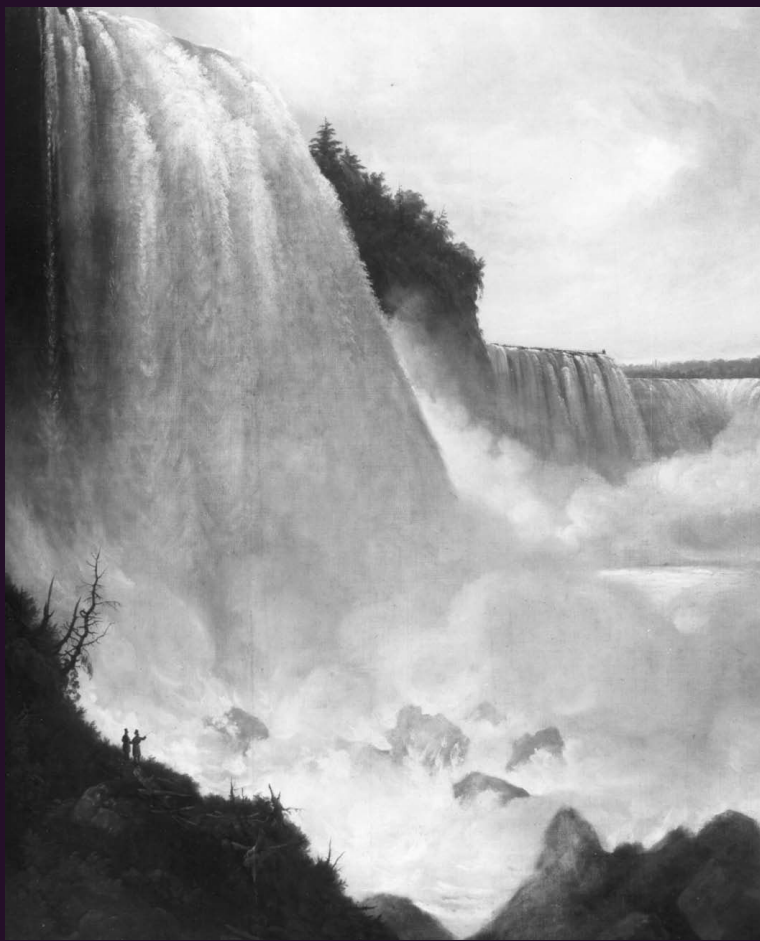


16. The Fort Snelling round tower is often thought of as the oldest human-made structure in the Twin Cities . . . but that's not true. The oldest human construction in the state stands within the city limits of St. Paul. Where?



17. The 1915 Victoria Theater on University Ave is a locally designated heritage preservation site. What was the building's previous use:

- A. Tea & Mahjong Parlour
- B. Silent movie theater
- C. Dance hall / Night Club
- D. All the Above

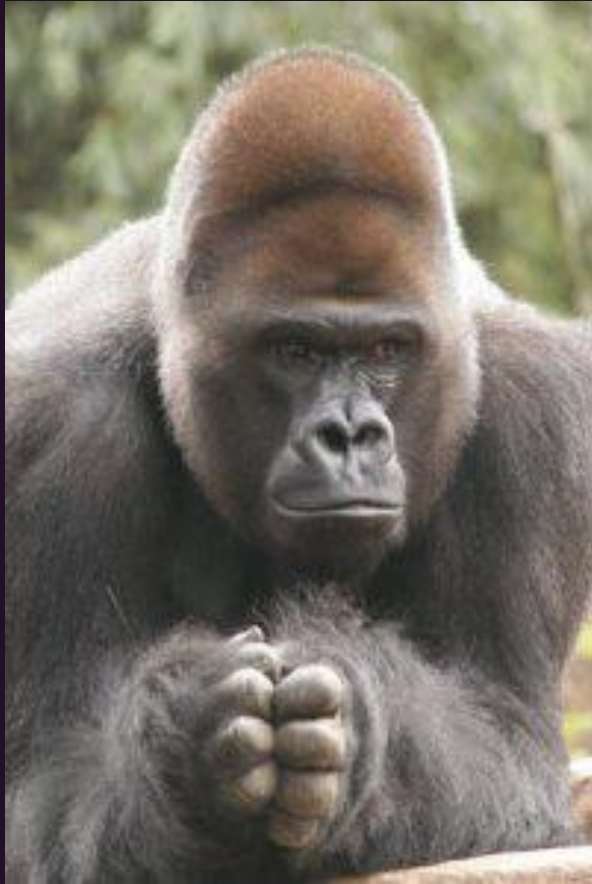


18. Imagine standing on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi valley near downtown St. Paul about 12,000 years ago. You would be drenched by the spray and deafened by the roar of an immense waterfall. The falls, in their former position at the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers, would eventually recede into what is now Minneapolis and become known as Saint Anthony Falls.

What are the falls called when referring to them in their former position?

Check over your
answers...

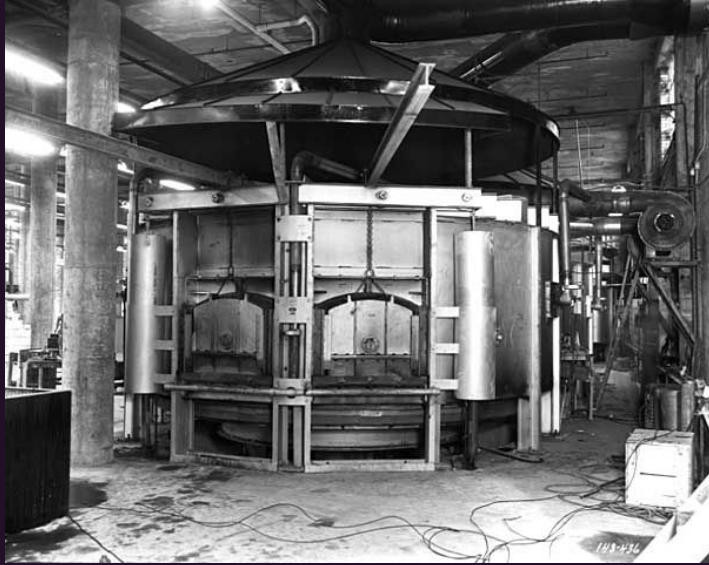
Let's see how
you did...



13. May 12, 1994 at Como Zoo:

B. Casey the gorilla got out of his enclosure and had an hour stroll of his own until returning home.

During his walkabout, the 400-lb gorilla left his giant footprints in fresh pavement near the exhibit— which helped pave the way for Gorilla Forest, the largest mesh-covered primate habitat in North America, which is home to 9 gorillas today.



14. Long a mainstay of industrial employment on St. Paul's Arcade Street, Seeger Refrigerator Company eventually merged with what famous Michigan appliance maker?

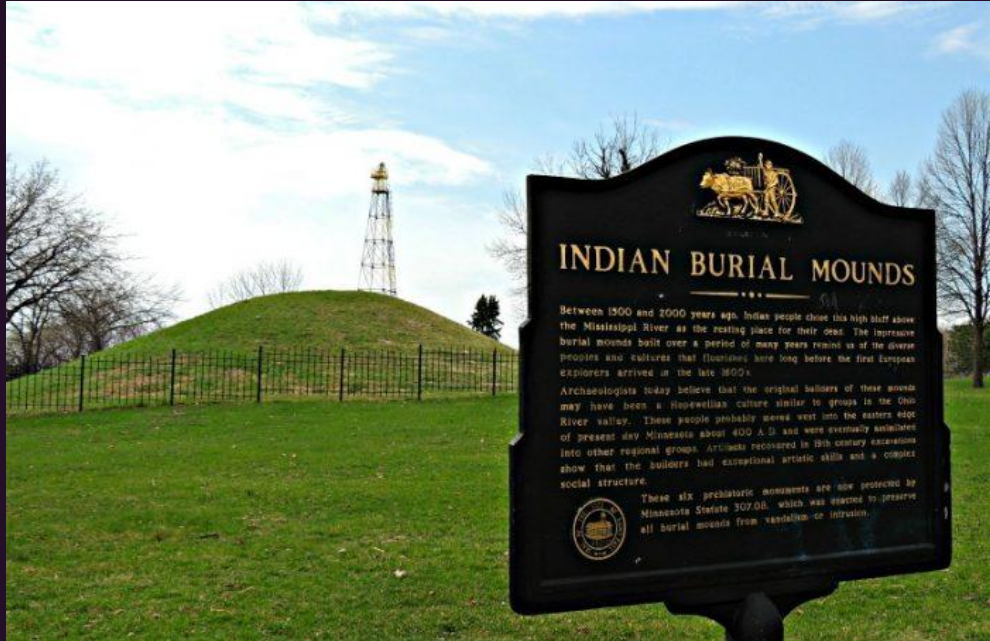
Whirlpool



15. A famous trail, pioneered in part by one-time mayor of St. Paul Norman Kittson, carried furs in oxcarts from northwestern Minnesota to downtown St. Paul, in the mid 19th century.

What was that trail's name?

C. Red River Trail



16. The oldest human construction in the state is...

**Indian Mounds Park
(the oldest of the mounds
is believed to be about
2000 years old.)**

17. Victoria Theater was originally:
D. All the Above



First a silent movie theater and then became a Prohibition-era cafe and nightclub in the 1920s. Slated for demolition, the surrounding community rose up with a dream to reclaim and reuse this historic, neglected structure. The Victoria Theater Arts Center will be a much-needed, community arts hub for youth & adults in Frogtown, Rondo, and the larger community.



18. What are Saint Anthony Falls called when referring to them in their former position at the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers?

Glacial River Warren Falls

The falls measured some 2,700 feet across and stood 175 feet high. Meltwaters from the colossal glacial Lake Agassiz, poured over them eroding the soft sandstone, undermining the limestone riverbed, and causing the falls to recede. By 1680, when Father Hennepin became the first European to see the falls, it lay roughly 1,500 feet downstream from its present location.

What the Glacial River Warren Falls might have looked like in St. Paul 12,000 years ago.

Questions, comments?

All done ~ congrats!

Thank you to our contributors...

Steve Trimble

Paul Nelson

Bob Frame

Kate Pearce

Barry Madore

You can help!

Please send your Trivia questions & ideas to:
info@historicsaintpaul.org

And, as always, we appreciate your financial support!
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And thanks to you for joining us!