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**Itinerary**

**June 20, 2016: Of Ice & Melt – Creation of the Minnesota River Valley**

Introducing the Post Glacial History of the Minnesota River Valley

Stop 1.1: Minnemishinona Falls

Stop 1.2: Minneopa Bison Preserve

Stop 1.3: Minneopa Falls

**June 21, 2016: Secrets Revealed – Peeks at Precambrian Minnesota**

The Geologic History Revealed in the Minnesota River Valley

Stop 2.1: Sioux Quartzite, New Ulm

Stop 2.2: Mack County Park, Renville County

Stop 2.3: Anderson Lake County Park, Renville County

Stop 2.4: Ramsey Park Valley, Redwood Falls

Stop 2.5: Ramsey Park Falls, Redwood Falls

Stop 2.6: North Redwood, Redwood Falls

Stop 2.7: Morton Scientific Natural Area, Morton

Stop 2.8: Rush River Park, Henderson

**June 22, 2016: Building Society Amidst Mysteries of the Holocene**

How the aftermath of the Glacial River Warren left us landscape of mysteries and the resources needed to build modern society.

Stop 3.1 North Star Quarry, Kasota

Stop 3.2 SMC Quarry, Kasota

Stop 3.3 Rasmussen Woods, Mankato

Stop 3.4 Indian Lake, Mankato

Stop 3.5 Ft. Le Hillier, Mankato

Stop 3.6 Red Jacket Bridge, Mankato

Stop 3.7 Rapidan Dam, Rapidan

Stop 3.8 Jefferson Quarry, Mankato

Stop 3.9 Jordan Sands Dolomite Quarry, Mankato

Stop 3.10 Jordan Sands Processing Plant, Mankato

## MMEW 2016 Driving Directions

### Stop 3.11 Kasota Prairie, Kasota

**Tuesday June 21, 2016**

- 5:50 PM Bus ready for pick up outside SOUTHWEST HALL on the Gustavus Campus. (This is a change due to conditions on site at the moment.)
- 6:00 PM Bus Departs Gustavus for North Mankato following US 169 Detour Route  
Take MN 99 West to Nicollet County 13 South Toward North Mankato  
Take Nicollet County 13 South Until it becomes Look Out Drive.  
Go down hill to traffic lights with Lor Ray Drive.  
Make hairpin right turn onto Judson Bottom Road and head West.  
Instructor will make remarks along this stretch of road before Judson Bottom Road takes left on to Nicollet County Highway 41.  
Proceed slowly and stop after bridge at Nicollet County Wayside Rest (Parking lot may be difficult for bus to negotiate so may have to park along road)
- 6:20 PM Arrive Stop 1: Minnemishinona Falls
- 6:40 PM Depart Stop 1.  
Continue West on Nicollet County Highway 41 to Nicollet County 23 South Turn Left  
Take Nicollet County 23 South over Minnesota River/Judson to MN 68 East.  
Turn Left/ East toward Mankato. Travel several miles before entering Minneopa Park Campground/Bison Range Unit by turning Left.  
Take Driving Tour Through Bison Range as Instructor Gives Commentary  
WATCH FOR BISON  
Follow Loop Around to Seppman Mill
- 7:00 PM Arrive Stop 2: Bison Range  
Passengers disembark and examine view of the Bison Range/Prairie/Terrace from east of Seppman Mill
- 7:20 PM Depart Stop 2 by travelling out through Bison Range to MN 68 East.  
Take MN 68 East to Blue Earth County Highway 117. Turn Right toward Minneopa Falls Area.  
After crossing railroad tracks, turn right on Gadwall Road.  
Take Left into Minneopa Park and proceed to parking area
- 7:30 PM Stop 3: Minneopa Falls – Dinner At This Site
- 8:30 PM Depart Stop 3 via Right onto Gadwall Road  
Take Gadwall Road East to MN 68 East Toward Mankato.  
Take Left on US 169 toward Mankato

## MMEW 2016 Driving Directions

Exit US 169 on Riverfront Drive. Pass through downtown Mankato and take left on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue

Follow 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue north until it becomes Blue Earth County Road 5 and Nicollet County Road 21 through Kasota.

Turn left onto MN 22 and head into St. Peter.

9:00 PM

Arrive Gustavus Adolphus

## MMEW 2016 Driving Directions

**Wednesday June 22, 2016**

- 7:45 AM Bus ready for pick up outside SOUTHWEST HALL on the Gustavus Campus. (This is a change due to conditions on site at the moment.)
- 8:00 AM Depart Gustavus for New Ulm Quartzite Quarry east of New Ulm  
Take surface streets from Gustavus to MN 99 West  
Follow MN 99 West to Nicollet.  
Turn Right to follow US 14 West toward New Ulm  
At 571 St Turn Left to Enter New Ulm Quartzite Quarry  
Travel down road to gate house/scale and meet company representatives.
- 8:30 AM Arrive Stop 2.1 New Ulm Quartzite Quarries  
Tour of Quarry Facilities
- 9:45 AM Depart New Ulm Quartzite Quarries turning left to continue West on US 14.  
At Junction of US 14 and MN 15 do NOT follow US 14 West into New Ulm.  
Continue straight west on Nicollet County Highway 21 which is the Scenic Route up the Minnesota River Valley along the north wall  
Road turns to gravel and becomes Renville County Highway 5.  
Continue west to Mack County Park. Park road is a left turn.
- 10:15 AM Arrive Stop 2.2.  
**Allow Chase vehicle to precede bus to insure road is dry enough for passage.**  
Drive into park and drop off passengers at the pioneer cabin. Once unloaded...bus should continue down park road to turn around at end and wait.  
Participants will walk from pioneer cabin past oxbow lake and river to bus.
- 10:45 AM Depart Mack County Park  
Continue West on Renville County Highway 5 for 4 miles to Anderson Lake Park
- 10:50 AM Arrive Stop 2.3.  
**Allow Chase vehicle to precede bus to insure road is dry enough for passage.**  
**Unlike Stop 2.2 this park does not have a large turn around. It may be necessary to pull bus over on main highway and have participants walk down the park road depending on the driver's thoughts on the park road.**

## MMEW 2016 Driving Directions

- 11:30 AM Depart Stop 2.3 for Ramsey County Park  
Continue west on Renville County Highway 5 until it connects with MN  
19 West  
Turn left and continue through Morton to US 71 South.  
Turn left and continue on US 71 South into Redwood Falls.  
Turn right at signs for Ramsey Park. Follow residential streets into  
Ramsey Park.  
After Hairpin turn and bridge over Redwood River park in small lot on left  
just across the bridge over Ramsey Creek before the road begins going  
back uphill.
- Noon: Arrive Stop 2.4 Ramsey Park Valley  
The bus can remain in this parking area while the participants explore 3  
locations within a 100 yards of this locale.
- 12:30 PM Depart Stop 2.4  
Drive up park road to parking area for Falls. Park by pavilion.
- 12:35 PM Arrive Stop 2.5 Ramsey Falls  
Break for Lunch at park pavilion before tour of Stop 2.5 by Ramsey Falls  
itself.
- 2:00 PM Depart Stop 2.5  
Follow Park road out of park and onto city streets to MN 19 East.  
Turn Left back into Redwood Falls.  
MN 19 East recombines with US 71 North.  
Continue east Redwood County 101 North. Turn Left  
Follow Redwood County 101 down into Minnesota River Valley  
Cross Minnesota River Slowly as instructor makes comments about rocks  
Redwood County 101 becomes Renville County Highway 1.  
Continue to Renville County Highway 15. Turn right. This is scenic  
hghwy again.  
Travel a short distance East on Renville County Highway 15 until directed  
to stop by granite outcrops to right.
- 2:20 PM Arrive Stop 2.6 North Redwood  
We will NOT disembark for this stop as there is no access but examine  
rocks from elevated platform of bus.
- 2:30 PM Depart Stop 2.6  
Continue East on Renville County Highway 15 to US 71 South.  
Turn right and follow US 71 South to MN 19 East toward Morton  
Turn into parking area of hotel east of BP gas station at edge of Morton

## MMEW 2016 Driving Directions

- 2:45 PM Arrive Stop 2.7  
Explore Morton SNA on foot
- 3:45 PM Depart Stop 2.7  
Follow MN 19 East to Henderson, MN (~ 1 hour)  
In Henderson Turn Right on 6<sup>th</sup> Street South  
Follow 2 blocks and turn right on Minnesota Street  
Turn Left of 9<sup>th</sup> Street south. This becomes 300<sup>th</sup> St.  
Follow 300<sup>th</sup> St out of town to Rush River Park Road  
Turn Left and follow to Rush River Park  
Stop just past bend along Rush River
- 5:00 PM Arrive Stop 2.8  
Keep Bus Pulled Over Along Roadside while participants explore river
- 5:30 PM Depart Stop 2.8  
Follow Rush River Park Road West out of the valley. It becomes 316<sup>th</sup> St.  
West  
Turn Left on 351<sup>st</sup> Ave South  
Turn Left on 336<sup>th</sup> St East Follow to US 169  
Take US 169 South back to St. Peter
- 6:00 PM Arrive Gustavus Southwest Hall

### Thursday June 23, 2016

- 7:45 AM Bus ready for pick up outside SOUTHWEST HALL on the Gustavus Campus. (This is a change due to conditions on site at the moment.)
- 8:00 AM Depart Gustavus  
Follow city streets to MN 22 South toward Mankato  
Turn Right on Le Sueur County 21 toward Kasota  
Follow Le Sueur County 21 through Kasota.  
Turn on 470<sup>th</sup> St East to North Star Quarry Pit (on left)  
Wait at gate house/scale for escort
- 8:15 AM Arrive Stop 3.1  
Explore Quarry
- 8:45 AM With Escort Depart Stop 3.1 traveling back to Nicollet County Highway 21 South  
Turn Right into Vetter Quarry Entrance Just South of Railroad Crossing  
Arrive Stop 3.2 Vetter Stone SMC Quarry  
Continue with Escort into Quarry
- 9:45 AM Depart Stop 3.2

## MMEW 2016 Driving Directions

Travel South on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue (Blue Earth County Highway 5) toward  
Mankato  
At end of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Turn Right on Riverfront Drive. Follow through  
downtown  
By West High School Turn left on Stoltzman Road.  
Follow Stoltzman to the entrance to Rasmussen Woods Park (Right Turn)  
Park at turn around  
10:10 AM Arrive Stop 3.3 Rasmussen Woods  
Participants Hike into Park  
10:40 AM Depart Stop 3.3.  
Turn Right back onto Stoltzman Road and follow to Blue Earth County  
Highway 90.  
Turn Right and Follow Blue Earth County 90 West to Indian Lake Road.  
Turn Right and follow to Indian Lake Parking area  
10:50 AM Arrive Stop 3.4 Indian Lake  
Participants Explore Stop 3.4  
11:00 AM Depart Stop 3.4  
Continue North on Indian Lake Road with commentary by instructor  
Turn Left on MN 66 South  
Cross Blue Earth County Highway 90 and turn quickly into Fort LeHillier  
Park  
11:10 AM Arrive Stop 3.5  
Participants explore the river levee evulsion site  
11:30 AM Depart Stop 3.5  
Continue South on MN 66 to Red Jacket Bridge Parking Area  
11:35 AM Arrive Stop 3.6  
Participants explore base of bridge and ascend stairs to explore view  
11:50 AM Depart Stop 3.6  
Travel South on MN 66 to 190<sup>th</sup> Street West  
Turn Right and follow 190<sup>th</sup> Street West through Rapidan to the Rapidan  
Dam  
Park at Rapidan Dam across from the Dam Store.  
Noon: Arrive Stop 3.7  
Lunch Break at Pavilion across from Dam Store  
View Dam and rock outcrops at base of boat launch during lunch break.  
1:00 PM Depart Stop 3.7  
Follow 190<sup>th</sup> Street West to US 169

## MMEW 2016 Driving Directions

- Turn Right and follow US 169 back to Mankato  
Exit at Riverfront Drive & follow Riverfront back to 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Turn Left and follow 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to Cleveland Street.  
Turn Left...follow to Quarry entrance and scale for escort
- 1:15 PM Arrive Stop 3.8 Jefferson Quarry  
Disembark
- 1:45 PM Depart Stop 3.8  
With escort head back out Cleveland to 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Turn right and follow 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue back to Riverfront  
Turn Right and follow to Vine St.  
Turn Right and follow to end at Quarry entrance
- 1:55 PM Arrive Stop 3.9  
Disembark and explore quarry
- 2:15 PM Depart Stop 3.9  
With Escort head back to 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and follow north of US 14 to Jordan  
Sands  
Processing Plant just across from 231<sup>st</sup> Lane
- 2:30 PM Arrive Stop 3.10  
Visit Processing Plant
- 3:15 PM Depart Stop 3.10  
Turn Right and continue North Up 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to Nicollet County 21  
Turn Left on 480<sup>th</sup> Street toward Kasota Prairie  
At T, turn right and follow 367<sup>th</sup> Avenue north to Kasota Prairie
- 3:30 PM Arrive Stop 3.11  
Explore Kasota Prairie and reflect on lessons learned
- 4:00 PM Depart Stop 3.11  
Follow 367<sup>th</sup> Avenue south to 480<sup>th</sup> Street East  
Turn Left and follow 480<sup>th</sup> Street to Nicollet County 21 North  
Turn Left and follow Nicollet County 21 North to MN 22 North  
Turn Left and follow back to St. Peter and Gustavus
- 4:15 PM Arrive Gustavus Southwest Hall