



ST. PAUL & DULUTH R. R. SHOPS, GLADSTONE, MINN.



Gladstone School circa 1906

# Maplewood Area Historical Society

*and Bruentrup Heritage Farm*



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651-748-8645



Instagram

## A Brief History of Maplewood

With a special election on February 26, 1957, Maplewood became a city. The history of this area goes back much further than that. The first settlers to arrive in present-day Maplewood were the Bell's, Casey's, Vincent's, and Conlin's. They settled along County Road C, then known as Maple Street. They built the first log schoolhouse in 1861 on the high ground near Southlawn and County Road C.

The first community was started in 1887 when William and Mary Dawson platted land north and south of Frost Avenue. They called the new area Gladstone in honor of the British statesman, William Gladstone (1809-1898). The St Paul and Duluth Railroad and the Wisconsin Central Railroad intersected Gladstone and began to attract businesses. The Ramsey County Poor Farm moved from its old State Fairground site to Frost and White Bear Avenue in 1885. The St Paul and Duluth Railroad relocated its shops here in 1887. Also in that year, the St Paul Plow Works built a large factory nearby. An impressive four-room, brick schoolhouse was built in Gladstone in 1889.

Gladstone was never incorporated as a village and most of the Maplewood area was in New Canada Township. This form of government began in 1858 and remained as a political unit for 99 years. The first meetings were held in an old schoolhouse in Little Canada. A town hall was built on the north side of Lake Phalen in 1879, conveniently located close to a saloon. Around the turn of the century, the town hall was relocated to Frost Avenue. Slowly, the township was carved up into cities with North St Paul leaving in 1887, and Little Canada in 1953. What was left of the township in 1957, became Maplewood.

## Mission Statement

Where the Heritage and History of the Maplewood Area Lives  
Educating – Sharing - Preserving

## Membership

If you would like to become a member of the Society: Please fill out the application and return to us with your method of payment:  
MAHS: 2170 East County Road D, Maplewood MN 55109.

(Questions: 651-748-8645)

## Dues

- Annual Single (individual): \$12.00 per year
- Annual Household: \$20.00 per year

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Send check made out to MAHS, or credit card:

Credit card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ CCV: \_\_\_\_\_