16 Acres To Campus

(Continued From Page 1)

every known variety of tree adaptable to the Duluth climate.

The University park development plan includes an observation platform both for scenic viewing and for study of migrating hawks, which are believed to travel in greater numbers over the park area than do hawks on more distant highways in other parts of the U.S.

A U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey sonograph station already has been established in small buildings on Rock hill, which was given to the University as part of a 12.8-acre gift in 1951, including one acre given by Charles K. and Gilbert G. Lunderman of the Lunderman Real Estate Co., Duluth, and 17 acres of tax-exempted property given by the city of Duluth and St. Louis county.

Rock hill serves as a year-round recreational and outing spot. In winter it is an excellent cross-country skiing site. In summer it is an excellent parking area.

The original 166-acre tract which established the site for the new campus was donated in 1949 by a group of civic-minded Duluthians who obtained title to various parcels of land to make up the 166-acre area. Regent George was instrumental in this gift.

The 166-acre campus now available compares with the 16-acre campus upon which Duluth State Teachers college was developed. A $300,000 science building was the first building erected on the new campus. Now being completed is a $680,000 health and physical education building, purchased or constructed by the 1953 legislature. New buildings authorized and appropriated for the 1953 legislature include a library and a student service center.

Dr. Bagley, Family Join in Gift

17-Acre Tract Donated to UMD

The University of Minnesota, Duluth branch, this week gained a major addition, bringing its total campus area to about 166 acres.

Dr. and Mrs. William R. Bagley and their daughter, Dr. Elizabeth C. Bagley, all of Duluth, have donated two parcels of wooded land adjoining the present campus of the university. The parcels, totaling approximately 17 acres, have been accepted by the university board of regents.

Dr. John E. King, UMD provost, noted that the additional acreage greatly facilitates plans for development of “University Park,” a long-term project which upon completion will give UMD an unique complement of outdoor facilities for both campus and public use.

“It is gratifying to note the interest the University has in maintaining and developing the physical and academic growth of the Duluth branch,” Dr. King said. “This gift of land will help to both campus and public use.

It is gratifying to note the interest of the Duluth branch in maintaining and developing the physical and academic growth of the Duluth branch,” Dr. King said. “This gift of land will help to both campus and public use.

Dr. Bagley has shown through his gift that he is convinced of the true promise of the Duluth branch and that he wants to be a part of the realization of that promise,” he said.

Mr. Griggs reported that his colleagues on the board were delighted with the gift, commending the city for its value to the Duluth branch and the surrounding region.

Long prominent in Minnesota medicine, Dr. Bagley has spent many years of his career as a nature lover. He indicated that this gift would be appreciated by the multitude of students and the general public.

Tentative plans call for development of an arboretum and nature trails on the Bagley tract. The arboretum will accommodate a gift, Page 2.

View Gift

The 16-acre Bagley tract adjoining the Duluth branch campus given to the University of Minnesota by Dr. William R. Bagley and his daughter, Dr. Elizabeth C. Bagley, is located out by northeast Minnesota regent, Richard L. Griggs, Duluth (right), as left to right. Dr. Raymond W. David, UMD's academic dean, Dr. William R. Bagley and Dr. John E. King, UMD provost, look on.
HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL OF DULUTH

Gentlemen:

The City Planning Commission returns, herewith, for your file, a report entitled "A Possible Winter Sports Area for the University of Minnesota, Duluth Branch Campus", by Donald H. Jackson, and also a letter dated March 12, 1951 in which Mr. Richard L. Griggs, University Regent, requests your consideration that the City take steps to aid in procuring title to a certain tract for U. M. D. It was upon the request of Dr. John E. King, Acting Provost, that Mr. Jackson's report was drawn.

It will be seen that the total acquisition as proposed would consist of five contiguous parcels of land, with a total area of approximately 13.8 acres. All but Parcel #3, having formerly become tax-forfeited, are now in "Conservation", due to action of the City Council upon recommendation from the Planning Commission in 1942, chiefly for the reason that this hill has been, from time to time, used for a ski slope, with various organizations having sponsored certain work toward improvement, such as clearing brush, rocks, stumps, etc. As explained in Mr. Griggs' letter, Parcel #3, containing an area of approximately one acre, is privately owned, but he has personally taken preliminary steps to request title to this parcel for U. M. D. If the University is to receive title to the other four parcels. A history of the use of this hill does not disclose where there has been any concerted continuing effort or program of either use or improvement.

The five parcels quite completely cover that hill which appears to be just to the right of St. Marie Street as one drives west from Woodland Avenue. The hill attains a rise of approximately 235 feet above that point where St. Marie Street terminates and the highway swings southerly over Buffalo Street. Its summit commands a grand panoramic view across the U.M.D. campus, which property lies southerly of St. Marie and Buffalo Streets. It will be found that Parcel #2 has a frontage of approximately 150 feet on St. Marie Street, which will provide access to the property directly across St. Marie from the University campus proper. The area is generally wooded and contains some fine specimens of deciduous and evergreen trees. While there is rock-outcropping at some points, our soil survey indicates that there are areas of good soil with a high humus content. This would indicate that this property may also furnish a reasonable site for tree planting and forest maintenance field-laboratory work for faculty and students of U.M.D., as visioned and proposed by John E. Verrill of the University staff.

Therefore, though winter sports would undoubtedly constitute a major use of this tract, it is certain to have year-around popularity as an informal area offering generous recreational opportunities. Such an informal area provides many a college alumni with his fondest memories of college days. It is indeed fortunate that this tract is in such close proximity to the main campus.

The City Planning Commission has viewed this area, is aware of such problems as the fact that the University is apparently unable to participate in assessments for public street and utility improvements, and also recognizes the material benefits which will accrue to the City through the development of our University branch. It also believes that of primary importance to the success of this
School, in addition to the construction of suitable buildings and the acquisition of ample equipment, is the procurement at an early date of a campus site which will provide for future needs and allow for proper long-range planning. The City Planning Commission recommends that the City Council take the necessary steps to aid in procuring title to the four parcels of land described in the report which are presently tax-forfeited and in "Conservation," for the Duluth Branch of the University of Minnesota.

For the City Attorney's convenience, we submit the legal description of the four groups of parcels which the report shows are tax-forfeited and in "conservation" today:

Parcel #1
SW ¼ of the SW ¼ of SW ¼ of Section 11-50-24.

Parcel #2
Motor Line Park Division of Duluth
Lots 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 Block 10.

Parcel #3
Auditor's Plat No. 8 of Farrell's Addition to Duluth
Lots 1, 2, 3, 4.

Nortondale Development 1st and 2nd Divisions.
Lot 8, Block 41.

Parcel #5
Superior View 2nd Division
Lots A, 1, 3, 5, Block 20.

Respectfully submitted,
CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
By John C. Hunner, (Signed)
Director.

JCH:GEP

To Council April 4, 1951
Referred to Received
#38908.
Friebe. The closing was on April 17, 1962. The purchase price was $10,000. (See file I-H-53 and T-H-52) 1961 Legislative approp. funds were used.


Mr. Charles K. Dickerman and his brother G. G. Dickerman, donated the following described parcel to the University of Minnesota. This gift was accepted by the Regents at their July 6, 1951 meeting.

That part of Outlot G, University Heights Division, more fully described as follows: Beginning at Section corner common to Sections 10, 11, 14, and 15, Township 15, Range 14, thence North along the Section line common to Sections 10 and 11 for a distance of 250 feet, thence West parallel to the South line of Section 10 for a distance of 200 feet, thence Southerly parallel to the East line of Section 10 to the intersection of said line with the South line of Section 10, thence East to the point of beginning, (approximately 200 feet East and West by 250 feet North and South), excepting a 33-foot strip on the South reserved by the city for an easement for city street and including any part of any street or alley adjacent to said premises vacated or to be vacated and any easement owned by grantor over any lands adjacent to said premises.

Mr. Griggs had discussed this parcel with the Dickermans and was prepared to purchase it for the University if they were unwilling to donate it.

Together with the adjacent tax-forfeit property, it was hoped that a recreation area for winter sports and biology field work could be developed.

9. Transfer of Parcels in Conservation and Tax-forfeit status to the University of Minnesota, Duluth by the City of Duluth. Parcels 179, 180, 181 and 187.

In 1951, the City of Duluth transferred title of four parcels in the Rock Hill area to the University. The description of these parcels are as follows:
Part #1 of transfer, Parcel 181.
SW¼ of SW¼ of the SW¼ of Section 11-50-14
Part #2 of transfer, Parcel 187.
MOTOR LINE PARK DIVISION OF DULUTH, Lots 10 - 18, Block 10
Part #4 of transfer, Parcel 179.
AUDITORS PLAT #8 OF FARRELL'S ADDITION TO DULUTH, Lots 1, 2, 3, 4
NORTONDALE DEVELOPMENT, FIRST AND SECOND DIVISIONS, Lot 8, Block 41
Part #5 of transfer, Parcel 180.
SUPERIOR VIEW, SECOND DIVISION, Lots A, 1, 3, 5, Block 20

(See map #7709)

This donation was the result of work by Don Jackson, John Hammer (City Planner) and Dr. King. UMD Provost for a winter sports, recreation and nature area and biology field work. (See file I-H-6) Mr. R. L. Griggs paid the delinquent taxes.


Action of the Board of Regents taken at the meeting on July 10, 1953:

Voted to accept with appreciation a gift from Dr. and Mrs. William R. Bagley and Dr. Elizabeth C. Bagley of the following legally described land (correspondence filed supplement to the minutes, page __________):

Lots Five (5), Six (6), Seven (7), Eight (8), Nine (9), and Ten (10), AUDITOR'S PLAT NO. EIGHT (8), OF FARRELL'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF DULUTH, according to the recorded plat thereof on file and of record in the Office of the Register of Deeds in and for said County and State, except all minerals and mineral rights.

All that part of the North one-half of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (NW¼ of SW¼ of SW¼), Section Eleven (11), Township Fifty (50), North of Range Fourteen (14), West of the Fourth Principal Meridian, which lies southerly of a line described as follows, to wit: Beginning at the point of intersection of the center line of Maryland Street in the City of Duluth with the
East line of said SW\% of SW\% which point is 178.62 feet South of the Northeast corner thereof, thence running Westerly for a distance of 1091.06 feet to a point 183.79 feet south of the North line of said SW\% of SW\%; thence running on the arc of a 4 degree curve to the left for a distance of approximately 222.07 feet to a point on the West line of said SW\% of SW\%; thence which point is 202.04 feet South of the Northwest corner of said SW\% of SW\%, EXCEPT all minerals and mineral rights reserved in prior deeds.

That part of North one-half of South West one-quarter of South West one-quarter (NW\% of SW\% of SW\%) of Section eleven (11), Township Fifty (50), Range Fourteen (14), lying south of Maryland Street, according to the Government study thereof, excepting and reserving to the said state, in trust for the taxing districts concerned, all minerals and mineral rights, as provided by law.

Mr. Bagley was particularly interested in the hawk migration and hoped the area would be to provide an observation area, an observatory, a nature area, a winter sports area and an Arboretum. (See correspondence in file I-H-6).


In 1969, the University traded property with the City of Duluth to provide for a curve in the alignment of St. Marie Street at Buffalo Street (See file I-H-103).


In 1956, on June 12, the University granted a 40 foot easement to the City of Duluth to construct a 36" interceptor sanitary sewer which crosses University property at the intersection of Elizabeth Street and Waverly Avenue to the Northwest corner of the Chester Park School property, then Southerly to College Street.

This sewer was laid under the eastern out-run of the running track.

The University retained the right to the use of the land and can construct buildings over the easement. The city has the right to come in and repair
905 Medical Arts Building
324 West Superior St.
Duluth 2, Minn.

June 22, 1953

To the Regents of the University of Minnesota.

Gentlemen:

It is with a great deal of satisfaction that Mrs. Bagley and myself have given deeds to the parcels of land just given to the Duluth Branch of the University. Lying as it does adjacent to the main University grounds and amplifying the setting of an "observation hill", it adds to the facility for amateur winter sports and a variety of native trees for the establishment of an Arboretum.

It has been found that this hill quite centers the fall hawk migration which avoids crossing Lake Superior and concentrates at this end of the lake on its way South.

This is a matter of considerable interest. Hawk Mountain in Pennsylvania is an excursion center for observers. In three days last fall, (the first time ever tried here) more hawks were counted than in any week in Pennsylvania.

We have two more varieties of hawks immigrating here than at Hawk Mountain. This will become a banding point.

The Darling Observatory it is hoped will be located on this hill where its convenience will greatly increase its source of worthwhile information.

I wish to acknowledge a financial donation from Dr. Elizabith C. Bagley in acquiring this property and the technical assistance of J. R. Fink and George M. Finch and legal advice of Attorneys James L. Montague and W. P. Van Evera.

Yours very sincerely,

Mrs. E. Bagley (signed)
May 15, 1963

Dear Ray;

In walking over the top of Rock Hill today I discovered that they are planting several exotic species of conifers back into a considerable area of the woods. These will of course not survive under the full canopy of a maple-oak-tasswood forest. The only alternative to their being completely wasted is even worse: cutting down areas of the natural woods on the hill top.

I believe you know my feelings about the undesirability of turning Rock Hill, with its natural forest and the many characteristic spring wildflower species that are found there, into a park-like arboretum of exotic species. In my opinion the more practical and logical place for an arboretum of exotics is on the campus proper, where conditions for survival are better and where more people can enjoy it. I realize that we are now getting many good plantings of these exotics down on the campus, and I appreciate it.

The top of Rock Hill is a place close to the campus where many of our attractive spring wildflowers can be found: Viola pubescens, Streptopus roseus, Uvularia grandiflora and U. sessilifolia, Malanthemum canadense, Aquilegia canadensis to mention a few. The ledges down the south line from the top and on across Buffalo St. are very attractive with their native plants; particularly in the next few weeks the shadbush (Amelanchier) several species of honeysuckle, Sambucus pubens, and Cirrus stolonifera, when they are all in bloom, make it a very pretty area.

I would like to think that there are some areas that can be left entirely alone, so that some natural vegetation can be enjoyed for its educational and aesthetic value. And I would like to see Rock Hill in this category.

Opinions certainly vary, and all we can do is express them, but I did think I should say that I'm opposed to "improvement" of Rock Hill and explain why. I believe Wodson and Carlson feel the same way.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Handwritten: FLACCUS]
Proposal for Master Plan Development and Recreation Area - University of Minnesota, Duluth

A. Concept and Purpose

The concept is to design a park and recreational facility taking advantage of location, scenic views, topography, forest vegetation, and other natural assets that will incorporate park and recreational features into a unique little-used 24-acre site adjacent to the University of Minnesota, Duluth campus and developing residential neighborhoods. The site is presently owned by the University.

Although the site has had limited use by University students, faculty and their guests, a major purpose is to develop a multiple-purpose recreational facility that will serve as a "model" or "demonstration" for Duluth and Northeastern Minnesota. This site, now used for skiing as well as hiking over a partially developed trail, is for the most part unused and undeveloped.

The site contains a variety of bog, upland and woodland areas, a flowing stream, a spring, rock outcroppings, and topographic features with elevations varying from 535 to 634 feet above the level of Lake Superior. These are significant natural, scientific and educational values for use by local citizens and students, as well as by secondary and primary schools in nearby communities.

Proposed development will include facilities providing for both passive and active recreation with special recreational opportunities available to children, the handicapped, elderly persons, students, and the general public. Bus service is presently available adjacent to the site. One consideration to be studied is the rerouting of Duluth's famed Skyline Parkway past the site (St. Marie and Buffalo Streets). This would reroute tourists, convention visitors, and other sight-seers from a congested portion of Woodland Avenue.

The project is felt to have a high priority for the use of Land and Water Funds for the following reasons:

1. The site has park and recreation potential as well as important natural, scientific, and educational values.
2. Development will provide recreational opportunity for a wide range of people and age groups, including the handicapped, elderly, and underprivileged.

3. High or medium intensity use is expected in sections of the park with much of the site being retained in its natural environment.

4. One of the proposed features, an arboretum, is currently lacking in the entire northern portion of the state.

5. The proposal will complement existing outdoor and indoor recreation facilities of the campus, the city, and the region.

6. Current funding is inadequate to do the proper job of professional planning; however, matching funds are available.

7. The project is expected to be implemented beginning immediately and staged for completion over the next few years.

B. Professional and Technical Services to be Furnished

1. Redraft topographic base map, 1" = 100' (Based upon aerial photography).

2. Arrange for and evaluate soils mapping.

3. Conduct detailed site inspection, reconnaissance and analysis.

4. Consult with, and coordinate design ideas, with personnel in the UMD Departments of Biology, Geology, Physical Education, and others.

5. Consult with, and coordinate design, with personnel in the City of Duluth Departments of Engineering, Planning, etc., regarding extension of Montrose Street and rerouting of Skyline Parkway.

6. Preparation of Master Plan and proposed development stages.

Items to be considered shall include the following:

a. Hiking and Snowmobile Trails

b. Expansion of Winter Sports Area

c. Picnic Areas and Lookouts

d. Vehicular Access and Auto Parking Areas
c. Arboretum - featuring existing plants and introduction of additional native trees, shrubs, ferns, and wildflowers.

d. Pond or small lake impoundment (if feasible).

g. Multi-purpose shelter building with water and sanitation facilities.

7. Preparation of an Exhibit Map and Preliminary Estimate of Development Costs.

C. Agreement, Costs and Duration

This proposal is to provide a master plan to develop the site, prepare preliminary cost estimates, and recommend a stage development for implementation of the plan and to provide detailed plans and specifications for construction of the first stage of the development. This first stage will include a parking area, an over-look, stairways, two bridges and approximately 1500 feet of trails.

The services above shall be completed for a fee of $2,475.00 for the Master Plan, and $2,000.00 for detailed plans and specifications for stage one, for a total of $4,475.00 payable in monthly installments as work progresses.

The services outlined above shall be completed within six months of the approval of this proposal.

For the Regents of the University of Minnesota

Recommended: Date JAN 23 1967

Submit: Date JAN 23 1967

Approved: Date JAN 23 1967

Approved: (Date)

Submitted: January 23, 1967

By: Aguar Jying Whitman Moser, Inc.

Approved: (Date)
SKI TOW BUILDING
(AND BAGLEY NATURE AREA)

NAME OF BUILDING:
Building #532

SOURCE OF FUNDS:
U.S. Department of The Interior: $ 57,237.50
University of Minnesota - Matching Funds Reserve: 57,237.50
TOTAL $115,475.00

NOTE:
Funding for the Ski Tow Power Building was part of a 50% Matching Grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation through their Land and Water Conservation Program (LAWCON). These funds were made available through the State of Minnesota Department of Conservation. Approval for the UMD Rock Hill Park and Recreation Area (later named the Bagley Nature Area in honor of Dr. and Mrs. William R. Bagley and Dr. Elizabeth C. Bagley who had donated a sizeable portion of the land involved) was granted in 1967. The funding provided for a schedule of improvement for each of the fiscal years 1967, 1968, and 1969. An extension of time was granted to permit construction to continue until December 31, 1971, to complete the project.

The cost of the actual Ski Tow Power House was $9,897.72.

ARCHITECTS:
No formal building committee was appointed, however Provost Raymond Darland, Dr. Paul Monson, Robert Bridges, Nathan Rick, Charles Augar, and Kent Worley developed the proposal, the program, and supervised or inspected the work.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITY:
Provost Darland learned in the fall of 1966 of the possibility of obtaining matching funds for the development of the Rock Hill Recreation Area. After studying the guidelines obtained from the Minnesota Department of Conservation, Dr. Darland, Mr. Bridges and Mr. Charles Augar, with advice from Dr. Paul Monson, developed a proposal which was submitted on January 22, 1967. The proposal called for planning funds for the fiscal year 1967 in the amount of $4,475 which would provide for: development and construction of arboretum, scenic overlooks, nature trails, bridges, steps, dam and pond in the fiscal year 1968 in the amount of $40,000; and a recreation area, additional arboretum and study areas, parking lot development, and a multiple use shelter in the fiscal year 1969 in the amount of $35,000. Approval was granted for 50% of fiscal 1967, $44,475, fiscal 1968, $35,000 and fiscal 1969, $35,000 for a total project cost of $114,475. The Federal share was $57,237.50

BIDS AND CONSTRUCTION
Bids were received on November 27, 1968, for the initial phase of the development. This included work on trails and bridges

- 52 -
in the arboretum, the winter sports area, the overlook structure, and moving an existing warming house which had been donated by the D. M. and I. R. Railway.

On December 10, 1968, a contract was issued to Older Construction Company in the amount of $36,818.00. The contract was decreased by change order to eliminate several items performed by the owner in the amount of $5,150.00. 

NET CONTRACT $31,668.00

Work in the following two years was bid to Nels Nelson and Sons for the ski slope and tow, pond development and dam, trails, picnic area, parking area, and some plantings for: $37,556.08

Crussendorf Nurseries for trails and the major plantings for: $19,515.00

Older Construction Company for the Ski Tow Power House for: $9,897.72

The UMD Plant Services Department installed utilities, aided in construction of the ski tow, and furthered work on trails and plantings for: $6,788.90

Non building costs:

TOTAL EXPENDITURES ON PROJECT $112,843.57

(The State Conservation Department charged a 2% fee for processing.)

The project was completed by December 31, 1971.

The multiple use shelter was deleted because it was too costly for the funds available.
On-Campus Nature Area

The University of Minnesota at Duluth finds many uses for its nature area, but with them some administrative concerns.

“We were given much more than 24 acres of undeveloped land; we were given the convenience of our own nature area,” says one University of Minnesota, Duluth official of Rock Hill, a natural forest area located within easy access to students, staff and the community. Depending on the season, activities there may include recreational skiing, limnological research on a man-made pond, biology tours of the natural arboretum or leisurely strolls through the woods. One section of the area features a 150-foot descent over a distance of about 750 feet, providing a natural ski hill.

Deer, fox, pheasant, grouse and numerous birds and small mammals make their homes in the area, which is a prime example of native northern Minnesota forest with small but good stands of balsam fir, spruce, maple and basswood trees as well as typical ground vegetation.

During the past five years, Rock Hill has been made more accessible and usable to the campus and the public, thanks to a $57,000 U.S. Department of Interior grant which matched money budgeted by the university for the project. With the resulting $114,000, the university contracted with the Duluth firm of Ayer, Jyring, Whiteman and Moser, Inc. (now known as Architectural Resources, Inc.) to draw up a master plan for the land, which was donated to the university over 20 years ago by a Duluth resident, and to begin recreational improvements on it.

The nature area provides students with an opportunity for a walk along the water.
The nature trail in Rock Hill is a good place for short hikes.

The firm designed a system of trails through the arboretum, with bridges, stairs, rest areas and a scenic overlook at the hill top; landscaped the ski slope with trees and shrubs to retain snow on the hill; relocated and improved the original rope tow installed in 1957; and constructed a 1.3-acre pond where a creek flows along the foot of the hill.

Because of the ski hill, it is not surprising that the most intensive use of the area is during the winter. Twelve sections of skiing classes are scheduled there for the winter quarter by the UMD department of physical education, and the department sponsors weekend recreational skiing, which is open to students, staff and the public for a nominal fee.

A scientist's delight

Since the recent improvements, the university's science classes have made increasing use of the area.

"Other universities have to make extensive use of field trips to visit areas similar to what we have on our own campus," says biology professor Paul Monson. "Because we use the Rock Hill area of the campus as a classroom, we are able to produce a kind of learning which would be impossible to simulate in the laboratory."

The major point of interest for the bi-
ology classes is the pond, developed by dredging a low swampy area. It will be the subject of continuing study by students in limnology. Students will be able to record the pond's development and changes over the years by taking regular samples of the bottom and specimens of the aquatic life, according to associate professor of biology Dr. Hollie Collins.

Robert Bridges, vice provost for business administration, reports that future developments of the area will include construction of a permanent shelter, which will be used as a ski chalet and warming area and as a starting point for guided tours of the arboretum. The shelter, which would be located in the vicinity of the pond, may also be used as the center of a picnic area.

The woes of popularity . . .

Monson also forecasts tours of the arboretum for the public and notes that Rock Hill is becoming increasingly popular for brief retreats by faculty and students during free time.

However, increasing use of Rock Hill by both the academic and general Duluth communities has introduced complications, centered around public use of the pond as a swimming facility. Bathing there, which is against university policy, not only threatens Rock Hill's fragile ecological balance but also raises the prospect of legal-insurance woes for the university. Presently, UMD's budget does not include salary for a lifeguard, and officials are concerned that if anyone drowned in the pond the university would be held responsible. UMD's present policy is to have security officers shoo away swimmers instead of detailing a guard fulltime to the pond facility.

. . . and of over-use

In addition, the university must face the fact that Rock Hill will be mined as a natural refuge and subject of scientific study unless strict control is exercised over its use. The Long Range Planning Committee for Physical Facilities, the university body charged with overseeing Rock Hill's design and operations, has considered possible influences of man on the area and has recommended that use be restricted to short-term visits by pedestrian traffic. The committee has expressly prohibited motorcycles, trailbikes, all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles and camping, sledding and tobogganing from the area. It may have to widen the curbs. Last spring the physical education department began two fishing classes at the pond, and plans to add to them in 1973.

"The simple pressure of legitimate use for classes, skiing and hiking will bring about some change in the area," Monson says. "We have to minimize the rate of change there as it is influenced by man."

As long as the university can maintain control over the area, Rock Hill will continue to provide educational and recreational convenience.
April 22, 1902

Mr. Bruce Dreon
315 Administration Building

Dear Mr. Dreon:

Regarding your inquiry as to the value of the gift of land made by Dr. and Mrs. William Bagley and Dr. Elizabeth Bagley, their daughter, in 1953, this land was comprised of 15.29 acres of wooded property between St. Marie Street and Arrowhead Road. We have never had an appraisal of the value of the property; however, in 1974 we purchased from Mr. George Hovland two adjacent parcels of the same type and nature as the Bagley gift. One of these parcels was 6.68 acres and had an estimated value of $75,000. We purchased this land through condemnation and the condemnation award was $65,000 or $9,730.54 per acre. At that rate the Bagley property would have been worth $148,780 in 1974. The other parcel was 1.139 acres and we paid $10,272 per acre for that parcel. At that rate the value of the Bagley property would have been $157,058 at 1974 prices. I do not know what the value would have been in 1953 when the gift was made.

Sincerely,

R. W. Bridges
Vice Provost
Business Affairs

RWB/eas
Enclosure
Bagley Nature Area
Dr. William R. Bagley
BAGLEY NATURE AREA

The Bagley Nature Area, a gift from Dr. and Mrs. William R. Bagley and Dr. Elizabeth Bagley, was accepted by the Regents of the University of Minnesota on July 10, 1953. This land in the Rock Hill area at the northwest corner of the UMD campus, when added to a parcel given to UMD by Charles K. and G. G. Dickerman on July 6, 1951, and parcels in conservation and tax-forfeit status acquired from the City of Duluth, provided a beautiful nature area, winter sports area and arboretum.

Name: Dr. William Richardson Bagley

Born: January 15, 1870, to Charles V. and Adeline (Kilmer) Bagley, in St. Charles, Illinois.

Died: July 28, 1965, in Duluth, Minnesota.

Married: In 1899 to Jessie Smith of Winebago, Illinois, who died in 1908.

Children: Kilmer E., Helen, Elizabeth C., Margaret and William R. Bagley, Jr.


Children: Charles M. and Mary Bagley.

Education: Attended public schools in Illinois. Graduated from the University of Michigan with M.D. degree in 1898.

Occupation: Private practice of medicine in Duluth, Minnesota, from 1898 to 1910. Moved to Oregon because of poor health in 1910. Developed the Bagley Pear Orchards in Oregon in 1910. Established the Bagley Canning Company in Ashland, Oregon, in 1911. Returned to Duluth and medical practice in 1915 and continued until his retirement in 1964. Was Chief of Staff at the Duluth Surgical Society and a staff member of all Duluth hospitals as were his daughter, Elizabeth, and his son, Charles.

Organizations and Honors:

Minnesota Medical Association
American Medical Association
Fellow of the American College of Surgeons
Interstate Medical Society
Duluth Surgical Society
50 Club of Minnesota State Medical Association
Duluth Chamber of Commerce Director
Mayor's Committee to Organize Duluth's Water and Sewage Disposal System
YMCA
Medical Advisory Committee, World War I
Duluth Rotary Club, President
Minnesota Society of Mayflower Descendants
State President, Izaak Walton League
Honorary Member, Duluth Kiwanis Club
In 1940 was chosen as the 17th member of the Duluth Hall of Fame
With his wife, Marion, received the first Americanism Award of the Greysolon du Luth Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution
Bagley Nature Area
Page Two

**Interests:**

Dr. Bagley's first interest after his family was the practice of medicine which he continued well into his nineties. His interest in wildlife and conservation ran a close second. He helped organize the Izaak Walton League of Duluth and was state president and a national director of the organization. He was noted in the area for the color motion pictures that he took of wildlife and showed to many organizations throughout the region.

His development of the canning process for fruit and his pear orchards in Oregon started between 1910 and 1915, and continued to be major interests, although his son, William, Jr., took over their operation.

Dr. Bagley believed strongly in abstinence from smoking and drinking alcohol and once started a no-smoking-or-drinking night club for teenagers in Duluth.

His gift of land to UMD, he hoped, would provide an area for recreation and nature study.

**Relationship with the University of Minnesota, Duluth:**

Dr. Bagley's interests in nature, young people, and the newly developing campus of the University of Minnesota, Duluth, led to the gift that Dr. and Mrs. Bagley and his daughter, Elizabeth, made to the University. The parcels of land were wild and varied from bog to wooded uplands and included a pond and small stream. Regent Richard L. Griggs and Provost John King were delighted that this addition would give UMD unique outdoor facilities for campus and public use.

**Naming of the Bagley Nature Area:**

In 1974 the UMD Building Naming Committee recommended to Associate Provost Robert L. Heller that the Rock Hill Park Area be renamed the William R. Bagley Nature Area. Dr. Heller forwarded the recommendation, with his support, to the All-University Committee on Honors and on March 12, 1975, the name was officially approved. Signs designating the area as the William R. Bagley Nature Area have been erected.
April 11, 1991

Mr. Greg Fox, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Operations
519 DAdB

Dear Greg,

I want to inform you of the results of the February 14, 1991 meeting of the Bagley Nature Area Management Committee (BNAMC). The mission and goals of the committee were approved as enclosed. In addition, the boundaries of the Bagley Nature Area (BNA) have been set as indicated on the enclosed map.

We agreed to include any person who has a working knowledge of the area. This includes people who have a commitment toward that area. Some examples are:

- Community representative
- Student representative
- Other departmental representatives such as Dr. Fred Witzig, Geography

The topic of land use was addressed in the following ways:

1) Development: Any development occurring within the boundaries of the Bagley Nature Area are to be directed to the BNAMC so we may advise you on wise land use pertaining to environmental quality as well as maintain a cohesive policy regarding how the area is used.

2) Land Use: The BNAMC will serve as advisors to maintain a land use that is appropriate and consistent to the quality of the area. For instance, the use of motorized vehicles and/or mountain bikes in the area are detrimental to the integrity of the land. Thus, the committee might suggest that this kind of activity be prohibited within the Bagley Nature Area. The BNAMC is comprised of personnel who are literate toward governmental/environmental land use policies and regulations. This will be beneficial in maintaining a wise land use/development plan.

In addition, the committee wishes to maintain a position that is neither self serving to individual members nor is politically influenced. Thus, we intend to query the university community of users as to their insights on how the area might be developed in the future. The committee will then serve to solicit responses and present you with suggestions that fit into a long range plan that can guide the management of the area. For example, should the overlook platform at the top of Rock
TO:  Ken Gilbertson, Chair  
     Hollie Collins  
     Kirk Johnson  
     John Kessler  
     Charles Matsch  
     Scott Sherin  
     Barb Teske

FROM:  Greg Fox

I have had the opportunity to review the work of the Bagley Nature Area Management Committee. I appreciate very much the work of the committee in identifying appropriate formal boundaries for the area, and your recommendations concerning development and land use. The boundaries you have proposed, which expand the area beyond the Bagley family gift, are clearly within the area the campus developed for that purpose, and traditionally thought of as the nature area. I consider your proposal appropriate and accepted.

I think it would be beneficial to continue to have a Bagley Nature Area Management Advisory Committee to review and make recommendations concerning all proposed changes in the development or land use within those boundaries prior to final administrative action.

To that end, I am asking the current committee members to accept two-year terms as members of that advisory committee.

GRFxx

c:  David Vose, Chair, Long-Range Physical Facilities Planning Committee  
    Lawrence Ianni  
    Sandra Featherman  
    Bruce Gildseth  
    Harry Michalicek
On a crisp fall day last year I took a walk with three young children. Our destination was a new beaver dam in the Bagely Nature Area, on the UMD campus. Our purpose was to enjoy the smell of leaves on the forest floor, to touch the earth with our feet, to hear woodpeckers pounding on a tree searching for insects and to see a beaver at work. The walk in was charged with excitement, the children were anxious to see a beaver and to discover a little more about this amazing thing we call nature.

As we walked we saw evidence of grouse, a deer track, bear droppings and several hawks flying overhead. We marveled that all this wildlife could be so close to our homes and so accessible to us. As we neared the beaver pond a hush came over the children and I. We crept up silently to the pond and were rewarded for our efforts. There in the middle of the pond was a beaver swimming towards his dam with a branch in his mouth. We watched in silence for nearly a half an hour as the beaver and his mate swam up and down the pond gathering food and materials for strengthening the dam. David, one of the children was so excited that the others had to hold him back from falling into the pond.

After we had watched for a while we talked quietly about the beaver, we discussed how many trees they had cut down for food. We talked about the beaver's teeth and how it had to keep chewing on trees or its teeth would grow too long. We walked closer to the dam and discovered just what a master engineer a beaver is. We talked about how the beaver changes his environment, yet how beneficial that was to other animals such as wood ducks and king fishers. In the hour that we spent there we got to know the beaver a little better and began to appreciate what an interesting creature he is.

It was hard to leave the pond to return to our homes for our supper. The children and I felt as if we had spent time in a holy place, a place that was more than just woods and water. We were silent on the walk out of the woods and really did not say much until we were at home with the children's parents. There it was excitement as each of the children related what they had saw to their parents.

I had the opportunity to return many times to the beaver's pond with friends, young and old, and by myself. Each time I learned a little more about the beaver and his work, as they prepared for winter. I was well aware of some peoples feelings that beavers were too destructive and should be destroyed, yet I felt that these beavers were safe since they were in a nature area, on a campus that represents learning. I felt that the beaver dam and surrounding area was as much of a classroom as any lecture hall on campus. The learning that could take place there would be
worth far more than some of what is learned in the formal classroom.

This winter I found out just how wrong my feelings were. After the ground had frozen enough to support a backhoe tractor, UMD Plant Services moved in to wreck the beaver dam. They cut down several trees to gain access to the dam and then proceeded to destroy the dam releasing the water that meant life to the beavers. For with out the pond the beavers would slowly starve to death, they cannot swim to the areas of the pond where they had stored branches for the long winter ahead.

Destroyed were the beavers, the beaver dam, and an excellent teaching area for classes in biology and outdoor education. Destroyed was an area that had brought joy and learning to children and adults. Destroyed was the feeling that this was a holy place, a place where one could escape to and learn something about this thing we call nature.

I am sure that Plant Services and the person who made the decision to destroy the beavers had a "good" reason. Maybe the pond was affecting a storm sewer on a nearby road. Maybe a worried neighbor had called to complain about reduced water flow in the stream behind their house.

It is also a possibility that no good reason was needed for destroying the beavers. Some insensitive person in charge might have just decided that he/she did not see the value in a beaver dam, even if it was in a nature area. I question if the proper channels were followed in making this decision. Was the Bagley Nature Area committee consulted? Were any of the people who use the area for recreation and enjoyment consulted?

I only wish that the person who made the decision to destroy the beavers had considered the people and animals who use the Bagley Nature Area. I wish he/she would have been with me that fall day and watched the three children's faces light up when they saw the beaver swimming down the middle of the pond. Where will that person be when I have to tell the children that there will be no beavers to watch in the spring?

Written by Dave Johnson, UMD Rock Hill Nordic Ski Trail groomer.

cc
L. Ianni
G. Fox
K. Johnson
K. Gilbertson
UMD Statesman
S. Schilling
Mr. Greg Fox  
UMD  
Duluth, MN  

Dear Mr. Fox,

I want to thank you for having the beaver removed that were destroying the trees near the creek on Naverly Avenue.

I was told that in a short period of time they would have destroyed all the trees that have taken so many years to grow. These trees are needed to provide food and shelter for all the wildlife that make this area their home.

The trees in the residential areas and around UMD are part of what makes Duluth such a unique and beautiful city.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Xavier F. Mattei
November 22, 1991

To: Greg Fox

From: Ken Gilbertson

I am writing to accept the continued position of Chair for the Bagley Nature Area Management Committee.

An overview of our accomplishments, to date, are:

*Geographical boundaries have been established.
*A positive working relationship has been established with local residents whose property lines lie adjacent to or near UMD property.
*A positive working relationship has been developing among the primary users/managers of the area, especially between Plant Services and the Outdoor Program.
*Perhaps hardest to measure, yet no less important, is the importance placed upon the Bagley Area as an important natural area for the campus. This, in addition to the growing recognition of the BNAMC, is evidenced by the extent that I field questions and work on “small” problems on a frequent basis. Most of the work I do in responding to isolated events/problems/questions don’t merit a full meeting nor approval from you, yet require attention to the Bagley area. This will be a major on-going task for me.

Some additional goals that have been identified by our committee are:

*Make a recommendation on future developments toward land use and management of the area. This will be accomplished through a needs assessment survey that will be sent to faculty and staff users/managers of the area.
*Continue to develop a positive working relationship among the users of the area. Because the users are diverse and involve differing perceptions of how the Bagley area should be managed, this will be a task requiring foresight, diplomacy, and a solid view of the campus mission. My task, then, is to guide this committee toward a purpose that protects the integrity of the Bagley Nature Area as it represents UMD.