



## Historic Fort Snelling Trail

Start at the top of the Minnehaha Falls and work your way to the Fort using the questions and map as your guide. If you are also doing the Nature Trail, collect plant and rock specimens (rock specimens should be the size of an egg) as you go. Most of the rocks should be found in marked places around Historic Fort Snelling and the Tomas Savage Center.



The Fort Snelling Historic Trail has been established in the City of Minneapolis in Minnehaha Falls Park, the Minnesota Fort Snelling State Park, and along the Mississippi River. The trail is intended to familiarize hikers with the great important history of early Minnesota exploration by Europeans and the US Army.

The hike begins near the pavilion in Minnehaha Park, crosses Minnehaha Creek, and continues southeast following the bike trails on the bluffs along the creek. (Approximate total distance is 5 miles) Viewing the falls can be accomplished from the top or lower walkway, just as Father Louis Hennepin first saw them in 1680. Father Hennepin is credited as being the first European to see the falls.

**Start at Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's house:**

1. Outside the house find the bench; what date is on the bench?
2. How many feathers does the Native American Indian standing in the creek above the falls have?

Questions 1 to 22 can be found within the YELLOW square as indicated on the map.

Questions 23 to 54 can be found within the BLUE square as indicated on the map.

3. What is the date on the Minnehaha Falls footbridge?

4. How many steps are there to the bottom of the Falls?

5. Who does the Native American Mask on the Totem Pole represent?

6. What was the nickname of the Minnehaha Falls train depot?

7. What is written on the bricks on the floor outside the Minnehaha Falls train depot?

8. What was the name of the predecessor railroad to the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway?

9. In whose honor was a tree planted at the park? Looks for a marker on a rock by a tree.

10. What is the translation of "O GUD, SOM STRYKER FOLKEN ODEN" found on the statue of Gunnar Wennerberg?

11. What was Gunnar Wennerberg noted for?

12. When was the Gunnar Wennerberg statue presented to the City of Minneapolis?

13. Who made the statue of Gunnar Wennerberg?

14. How many buttons are on the statue of Gunnar Wennerberg?

15. What is the nickname of Col. John H. Stevens' house?

16. When did the Minneapolis Journal start a campaign to preserve the house?

17. Looking to the left, there is a building with a moon on it. What is this building?

18. Why was John H. Stevens and important person?

19. In what state was the statue of John H. Stevens made?

If you are able to take the tour of the John H. Stevens house, answer the following questions:

20. What was Minnehaha Creek previously called?

21. Where was the Stevens house originally located?

22. What is the origin of the word 'Minneapolis'?

As you exit the Stevens house, continue on the hiking and bike trails leading to Fort Snelling and Fort Snelling State Park. When you get to the bottom of the Fort

(intersection, an approximate distance of 2.0 miles) continue straight and veer left onto a dirt trail. About ½ mile down, cross a footbridge, you will see a marker on Pike Island.

23. What is the translation of "Ma-ko-cer Co-ka-ya Kin"

As you return from Pike Island and take a left at the intersection and walk up the hill towards the Visitor Center:

24. Count the number of Cannon openings:

25. Count the number of musket slots:

The Visitor Center has artifacts from the early days of the fort, a short movie on the fort, and a gift shop. Some of the questions asked here may have different answers depending on the current re-enactment and time period occurring during your visit.

26. What was Fort Snelling originally called?

27. How many stars are on the US flag flying over Fort Snelling?

28. What color are the front doors to the fort?

To answer these questions, you must enter all the buildings and listen to the presentations or demonstrations. Feel free to ask questions.

29. What famous person was brought to Fort Snelling as a slave in 1836?

30. What did this slave do in 1856 that received national attention?

31. What medical theory did the army use in the 1820s and 1830s?

32. As it relates to the relations with the Indian Nations, what was the role of the Fort and the Indian Agent?

33. Who is the fort named after?

34. What is the piece of black leather on the hand of the soldier in the cannon firing squad used for?

35. About how far does a six pound cannon recoil when fully loaded?

36. What was the most common ailment at Fort Snelling during the 1820s?

37. How many ounces of whiskey, brandy or rum was given to soldiers each day in 1830?

38. In what year did Fort Snelling finally close for good?

39. How many soldiers came through Fort Snelling during the Civil War?

40. What material was the stuffing in the soldier's mattress?

41. What was the motto of the 5<sup>th</sup> infantry?

42. What is the Boy Scout motto?

43. How long was the enlistment period?

44. What service did Fort Snelling provide the military during WWII?

45. How was Fort Snelling used during the US/Dakota War of 1862?

46. How much extra pay per month did the soldier's receive for constructing Fort Snelling?

47. What future United States President commanded Fort Snelling from 1829-1829?

48. The US military in the 1820s was based on what European nation's model?

49. What was the effective range of a smoothbore flintlock musket?

50. How many apartments were there in the original officer's quarters?

51. Name the architectural styles present in the Commandant's house.

52. Who cooked for the Snellings?

*Enter the hospital for a series of interesting exhibits on early medicine, meteorology and libraries.*

53. What was the name of the surgeon who served at the beginning of 1833?

54. What is the primary position of the weatherman of the army?

55. What other functions did the Suttler's Store have besides being the fort's only store?

56. How many days can novels and periodicals be taken out of the library per Article 5 of the Regulation for the Government Library?

Date Completed:

