

Historic Irvine Park

A treasured green oasis and gathering space since 1849.



Your invitation to join the campaign.





The Campaign for *Historic Irvine Park*

From its founding on May 16, 1849, to today's nearly 10,000 annual visitors, Irvine Park is the heart of a vibrant neighborhood that is growing in density and diversity. Originally a grazing area for livestock, the park is unique for its pastoral setting. It is the largest of Saint Paul's three legacy downtown parks, encompassing five acres of sloping green lawns and a canopy of ancient oak trees. Hidden from the nearby bustle of West 7th, this romantic oasis is a popular venue for weddings and family events.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Irvine Park is home to numerous local landmarks, including the city's oldest surviving residence, The Charles Symonds House. The nearby Alexander Ramsey House, a Minnesota Historical Society property, used to be a bustling destination for school and visitor groups. Since its pandemic closure, it has reopened for just one day each month. The adjacent historic Forepaugh's Restaurant, once a thriving dining destination, has been shuttered since 2019.

Irvine Park's treasured charm is palpable despite chipped and heaving pavers, the rusted and broken central fountain, and derelict light fixtures. The park is destined to become the neighborhood nexus of more than \$200 million in pending recreational development. The proposed Summit Ave Regional trail will bring recreational cyclists to within one block of the park and River Balcony "big woods trail" will connect the larger park area to Saint Paul's Mississippi waterfront. **The park's revitalization can be a catalyst for nearby business development and the increasing return of tourism in an area that used to attract three million annual visitors.**

A successful campaign will restore the damage of the last 50 years and support the community vision for Irvine Park as an inclusive destination for wellness, celebration, and economic development.

"My daughter was married here 10 years ago, and it holds a special place in my heart. I love the stone stairs that my husband walked my daughter down to marry my son-in-law."



Ready for a New Century



"When my first born was a baby I hoofed it around downtown a lot with her in the carrier. I stumbled upon Irvine Park... It was as if I was dreaming; a fountain square surrounded by topiary blooms, park benches and the grandeur and charm of historic Saint Paul mansions."

"I work at United Hospital, and I like to visit the park to walk over my lunch break."

Meeting Community Needs

Our community vision is to enhance Irvine Park's sense of wonder and welcome for the diverse communities that surround it. Music and art programming will be enliven the park's distinctly intimate feeling and complement what is offered in Rice and Mears Parks.

The Campaign for Irvine Park will invest \$1.5 million to revive this vital community resource and assure its future with an endowed maintenance fund. Your support today is essential to revitalize and secure this critical community asset.

The Campaign is a partnership between the Historic Irvine Park Association and the Saint Paul Parks Conservancy.



Completed Improvements:

- Gazebo
- Landscaping and Tree Canopy

2024-2025:

- Fountain (restore finish, lighting, leveling, pump maintenance)
- Event infrastructure (power, utilities)

2026-2027:

- Restore staircase, paths, sidewalks
- Lighting



Ways to give

Revitalizing Irvine Park is essential to preserving its historical significance, creating a vibrant community space, and improving the health and well-being of residents and visitors.

By investing now in the park's restoration and future, you can assure that Irvine Park remains a cherished landmark for new generations of Saint Paulites.

In line with its mission to make strong parks superb, Saint Paul Parks Conservancy is partnering with Historic Irvine Park Association and serving as fiscal sponsor to raise \$1.5M to revitalize this treasured green space.

Gifts are fully tax-deductible.



SCAN ME

Gifts Can Come in Many Forms:

- Cash (checks or securely online)
- IRA Distributions, Donor Advised Funds
- Appreciated Stocks



Gift Amount	# of Gifts
\$375,000	1
\$250,000	1
\$150,000	2
\$100,000	2
\$50,000	3
\$25,000	4
\$15,000	4
\$10,000	5
\$5,000	5
\$2,500	10
\$1,500	10

Mail checks to:

Saint Paul Parks Conservancy, (check memo: Irvine Park),
401 Robert St N, Suite 150, Saint Paul, MN 55101

Gifts of Stock can be sent electronically to:

Broker: Andrew Joseph Vincelli, CFP | UBS Financial | (651) 298-1607 | Account: 7C33135, DTC Number: 0221

St Paul Parks Conservancy Federal Tax ID #: 26-2788415

Your Name on the Park

You and your family or company have the chance to be a part of Saint Paul's History with a naming gift to the Irvine Park Campaign. Naming gifts offer exclusive naming rights for a signature park element. This is a multi-year investment lasts no less than 10 consecutive years from date of payment with first right of refusal upon sunset of contract.



Fountain \$150,000



Gazebo \$50,000



Staircase \$100,000



Bench Seating \$5,000
(8 available)

Note that all donors of \$2,500+ will be recognized on a donor plaque in the park.

Are you a long-time lover of Irvine Park?

Help assure its future care with a planned gift to the Irvine Park Maintenance Endowment.

BEQUEST IN YOUR WILL



Can be for a specific amount or a percentage after providing for your family.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY



Receive a tax deduction now while receiving regular income payments for your lifetime.

RETIREMENT PLAN



Name the Endowment as a beneficiary and save future income and estate taxes.

CHARITABLE TRUSTS



A tax-wise trust can include generous gifts to charity and offer tax savings.

LIFE INSURANCE



Name the Endowment as a beneficiary or gift a policy. Your premiums may be tax deductible.

Contact Michael-jon Pease for more information | pease@stpaulparks.org