

Theresa Stasica

From: Jessica Bromelkamp
Sent: Thursday, July 18, 2013 12:55 PM
To: Staff
Subject: News to Me

During the recent logo debate we discussed the origin of the name, Rice Creek. The consensus seemed to be that it was named after Wild Rice found growing in the creek. I came across the following information about the origins of the name Rice Creek and thought I would share.

According to the Minnesota Historical Society, Rice Creek was named for Henry Mower Rice, one of the first pair of U.S. Senators sent to represent Minnesota upon its statehood, who acquired extensive lands near the lower course of the creek in 1849.

An interesting person...

In 1858 Rice was elected as a Democrat to the United States Senate. He served from Minnesota's admittance on May 11, 1858 to March 4, 1863 in the 35th, 36th, and 37th Congresses and was not a candidate for re-election; he was an unsuccessful candidate for governor in 1865.

Rice also served as a member of the board of regents of the University of Minnesota from 1851 to 1859, and was president of the Minnesota Historical Society. As a United States Commissioner during 1887 – 1888, he continued to negotiate treaties with the Indians. He died on January 15, 1894, while on a visit to San Antonio, Texas.

Best,
Jessica

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Please note the Rice Creek Watershed District's new logo below.

