



## Nicollet Island- East Bank Neighborhood

The Nicollet Island/East Bank neighborhood comprises Nicollet Island on the Mississippi River just east of downtown and the portion of the eastern riverbank located between Central Avenue and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad line. The island is part of the [St. Anthony Falls Heritage Zone](#) and is protected as a historical landmark of Minneapolis.

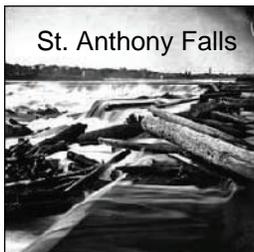


The neighborhood is at the geographical and historical center of Minneapolis. The island is named for Joseph Nicollet, a scientist, geographer and mathematician born in Savoy, France. He led three expeditions through Minnesota, and authored the influential book *Map of the Hydrographical Basin of the Upper Mississippi*.

Today, the neighborhood is still the center of revolutionary thinking. This is exemplified by Horst. M. Rechelbacher, the founder of Intelligent Nutrients, an organic retail store and educational center that uses unique methods and food and beauty products to keep consumers healthy.



Hennepin Avenue East and First Avenue Northeast are two of the main roads that connect the island to the rest of Minneapolis. The island spans 47 acres, and all but two of the houses on the island date from 1864 to 1898. Nicollet Island also is home to [De La Salle High School](#), a Catholic college-preparatory school educating students in grades 9-12. Also on the island are the historical [Nicollet Island Inn](#) and the [Nicollet Island Pavilion](#).



The East Bank of the Mississippi River has a close relationship with the [University of Minnesota](#) community. The area used to be the town of St. Anthony, becoming part of Minneapolis in 1872, so it is sometimes called "Old St. Anthony." In recent years, the East Bank has been home to many new upscale shopping, developments, and housing.



ON THE SOUTHEASTERN END OF NICOLLET ISLAND, BEHIND THE HENNEPIN AVENUE BRIDGE, STANDS THIS SCULPTURE. A GIFT FROM THE CITY OF IBARAKI, MINNEAPOLIS' SISTER CITY IN JAPAN, THE SCULPTURE IS SHAPED LIKE A 2,000-YEAR-OLD TERRA COTTA MOLD FOR BRONZE BELLS THAT WAS DISCOVERED IN IBARAKI.