

Excerpt from Gilmanton, Wisconsin – see Gilmanton, New Hampshire info

## **What Bert Has To Say About St. Cloud Metro Area**

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St. Cloud is more of a “small town grown into a large town”, with a friendly Midwestern feel but an expanding role as a commercial and educational center and commuter suburb to the northwestern reaches of Minneapolis-St Paul.

The downtown is clean and in good shape if not especially exciting. Five small private colleges and the larger St. Cloud State University bring college town feel and cultural diversity. The area serves as a gateway to wilderness lakes and parks to the north. The city has a number of its own amenities and is close enough to share those of Minneapolis-St. Paul while being lower on the cost of living scale. Proximity to the Twin Cities area is a plus, and suburban development southeast of town is springing up to take advantage of it. There is talk of commuter rail service, which will work to further connect the two metro areas.

The terrain is flat to gently rolling with numerous lakes and wooded areas. The continental climate is highly variable with four distinct seasons. Spring, summer, and fall are pleasant, with moderate temperatures and low humidity. Thunderstorms are the principal source of rainfall and severe storms are common. Winters are cold with low humidity. On average in winter, 5 to 10 days reach temperatures between -20 and -30 degrees. Heavy snowfalls occur, but the location north of most storm tracks means they are less frequent than in cities to the south. Snow generally remains on the ground throughout winter. First freeze is late September, last is mid-May.

## Quick Facts About Gilmanton

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### **ECONOMY**

The unemployment rate in Gilmanton is 4.10 percent (U.S. avg. is 5.20%). Recent job growth is Positive. Gilmanton jobs have Increased by 1.05 percent. [Learn more...](#)

### **COST OF LIVING**

Compared to the rest of the country, Gilmanton's cost of living is 8.20% Higher than the U.S. average. [Learn more...](#) or [Compare Gilmanton's Cost of Living](#)

### **POPULATION**

Gilmanton's population is 826 people. Since 2000, it has had a population growth of 6.58 percent. [Learn more...](#)

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Average Commute time is 23 minutes. The National Average is 26 minutes. [Learn more...](#)

### **REAL ESTATE**

The median home cost in Gilmanton is \$225,900. Home appreciation the last 10 years has been -13.30%. [Check out the homes in the area.](#)

### **SCHOOLS**

Gilmanton public schools spend \$10,480 per student. The average school expenditure in the U.S. is \$12,383. There are about 16.7 students per teacher in Gilmanton. [Learn more...](#)

## CEMETERIES NEAR GILMANTON, MN

- [Riverside Cemetery](#), Benton County, MN
- [Saint Johns Cemetery](#), Benton County, MN

Gilmanton is in [Benton County](#). The county seat is [Foley](#).

Major ancestry groups reported by Gilmanton residents include:

#### RELATED TOPICS

- [German](#) - 34%
- [Polish](#) - 27%
- [Swedish](#) - 7%
- [Norwegian](#) - 6%
- [Irish](#) - 5%
- [English](#) - 3%
- [Danish](#) - 2%
- [French \(except Basque\)](#) - 2%
- Scandinavian - 2%
- [Dutch](#) - 1%
- [Swiss](#) - 1%
- Czechoslovakian - 1%
- Finnish - 1%
- [Czech](#) - 1%
- [Scottish](#) - 1%
- Slavic - 1%
- [Welsh](#) - 1%
- Mexican - 1%

steam-power saw, a planing mill, creameries, a grain elevator, and a pickle factory.

**FRUITVILLE** a village in Mayhew Lake Township, section 9.

**GILMAN** a city in Alberta Township, sections 33 and 34; incorporated as a village on February 11, 1959; its post office began in 1885, with George Pappenfus as first postmaster, in the general store and saloon owned by the Pappenfus brothers; it had a creamery and cheese factory.

**GILMANTON TOWNSHIP** organized in 1866, was named in honor of Charles Andrew Gilman, who was born in **Gilmanton**, N.H., February 9, 1833, came to Sauk Rapids, Minnesota, in 1855, and removed to St. Cloud in 1861. He was receiver and afterward register of the U.S. land office in St. Cloud for several years; was a member of the state senate, 1868-69, and of the house, 1875-79, being speaker the last two years, and again was a member of the house in 1915; was lieutenant governor, 1880-87; and state librarian, 1894-99. During about 30 years he was much engaged in lumbering in Benton and Morrison Counties, and he located many permanent settlers in this township.

**GLENDORADO TOWNSHIP** organized September 20, 1868, received this name (partly Spanish,

**MAYHEW LAKE TOWNSHIP** and also its lake and creek of this name, are in honor of George V. Mayhew, who was born in St. Lawrence County, N.Y., February 18, 1824; served in the Mexican War; came to Minnesota in 1854 and settled in the present Minden Township of this county beside the creek named for him; was a representative in the legislature in 1861; and served in the Seventh Minnesota Regiment in the Civil War, becoming a first lieutenant. A country post office was in section 8, 1898-1901; postmaster Louis Esselman operated the general store and farm implement dealership with his brother.

**MAYWOOD TOWNSHIP** organized in 1867, received this euphonious name on the request of its settlers. New Jersey, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, and Nebraska also have villages so named. The village of Maywood in section 31 had a sawmill, sled and wagon timber factory, and a post office, 1868-1901.

**MINDEN TOWNSHIP** organized in 1858, received its name from an eastern state, or more probably it was given by immigrants from Germany for the ancient city of Minden in Prussia; it had a post office, 1869-71.

**NORTH BENTON** a village in Alberta Township, section 21, also known as Tadych Store.

<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/CRONK/1999-12/0946599645>

Hester GILMAN (NEE CRONK)

Transcribed from the records of the Old Settlers Association, for the year 1910, and rec'd from the Stearns County, MN, Historical Society. The only changes I have made in the article are capitalizing the surnames. I find it helps me when someone else has done so.

"The second of the pioneer women to pass away during the year was Mrs. Hester GILMAN, member of this Association, who died soon after Mrs. WAITE. She was the wife of the Hon. Charles A. GILMAN of this city. Mrs. GILMAN had been an invalid for several years, but her abundant vitality and strong will carried her through several crisis, until the final summons came March 10, 1910. Originally a native of Canada, having been born at Big Island, in the Bay of Quinte, Province of Ontario, September 17, 1837, she resided there during her girlhood, attending the local schools. Her father, Enoch CRONK, was born March 6, 1799, and her mother, Sarah FERGUSON CRONK, March 6, 1806, both in Prince Edward County, Ontario, where they were married and where they lived until July 10, 1840, when Mr. CRONK died.

The CRONK family were natives of Holland, three brothers coming to America long before the Revolutionary War, in which two of them participated, one being killed in the Battle of Bennington. The grandfather of Mrs. GILMAN was Mathew CRONK and her Great Grandfather was Abram CRONK who removed from Amsterdam, Dutchess County, New York, to Ontario and settled on a farm two miles below Northport, on the shore of the Bay of Quinte, where he and many of his descendants are buried in the public cemetery adjacent to his farm. Mrs. GILMAN's ancestry on her mother's side was a combination mainly of Scotch and Dutch, and moved from New York to Prince Edward County about the close of the revolutionary War. Her mother's father, Ferrington FERGUSON, was a Captain in the British Army and each of his sixteen children received from the government on account of his military services, a grant of one hundred and sixty acres choice public land. Mrs. GILMAN was born on the tract thus granted to her mother.

After the death of her husband, Mrs. CRONK continued to live on the home farm until October 1856, when she came to Minnesota, locating at Sauk Rapids, where a sister of the late Mrs. George W. BENEDICT was residing. It was but a few months after Mrs. CRONK's arrival in Sauk Rapids that her daughter, Hester, became the wife of Charles A. GILMAN, the wedding ceremony taking place January 1, 1857. Four years afterwards, Mr. and Mrs. GILMAN with two children which had been born to them in Sauk Rapids, crossed the river and made St. Cloud their home and it was in her home where Mrs. GILMAN passed away.

Although a woman of domestic tastes, devoted to her family and home, she took an active interest in such affairs as related to the betterment of the social conditions and the uplifting of the general tone of the community. She was a charter member and for a time President of the Reading Room Society, and for years following and continuing until the time of her death, was a member of the Committee on Parks, to the duties of which she gave much attention. A member of the Episcopal Church she was consistent in her belief and in attendance at the house of worship. In these days when large families are felt to be a burden and when "race suicide" instead of being a mere phrase threatens to become a national menace, it should be recorded as a monument of the highest honor to Mrs. GILMAN that she was the mother of fourteen children. She was proud of her family and they were justly proud of her. Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. GILMAN seven were boys and seven were daughters, the complete record is worthy of permanent preservation being as follows: