

MACALESTER COLLEGE

SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55105

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■ DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

Subject: The HERBARIUM at ORDWAY

How often we have wished we could capture "the look of Nature"! Many devices are used and no single one of them seems to do the complete job, for the face of Nature has many countenances and these appear to different viewers in different lights-and-shadows.

One attempt to provide an additional dimension for observers who are interested in plant-life is the gathering of a herbarium. This is a collection of dried, pressed plants and is of considerable help to the students. Needless to say, little justice is done to the actual vivid plant itself inasmuch as the desiccation process destroys almost all of the natural colors. Nevertheless, the general conformation of the stem, leaves, root and blossoms is retained and this is well worth the great effort involved in collecting a herbarium.

At Ordway the herbarium has been prepared on the basis of the flowering plants and thus there are many plants which are not included in it. Nevertheless, the existing herbarium does present rather well those plants which are most apt to catch the eye during a walk through the property. (A duplicate herbarium is on file at the Main Campus in the Biology Department for the convenience of classroom students.)



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