

## Terrain and Geology

Many years ago, the glacier left an abundance of rocks and gravel on the land close to what is now the Black River. Outwash areas were filled with large and small boulders. When the Kuse family purchased their east fifteen acres from a member of the Billings family, the seller was told by her hired man, "Let um have the stones!" suggesting that that part of the former Billings farm was the least desirable. Rocks indeed were abundant on that land. Many were pried out of the ground, loaded onto a kind of sledge called a "stone boat", and hauled to the edge of the field where they were piled into stone fences. One long stone fence was eventually buried in a low spot in the roadbed when Allman Avenue was reconstructed. Everyone in the family helped with rock picking.



According to the diary of Eleonore Bolz Kuse, some of the largest rocks were buried in the field. On August 20, 1946, the Kuses hired a bulldozer owned by Melvin Miller to make large holes in the field to bury some of the biggest rocks. In two and three-quarter hours the large machine did what would have been an impossible task for a farmer to do with pick, shovel and stone boat. The family paid \$27.50 for the task. Wilhelm Resch operated the bulldozer. Those rocks now lie a short distance below the surface.