

A newsletter on
historic preservation
from the
State Historic Preservation Office
of the
Minnesota Historical Society

Preservation PLANNER

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A New Chapter in Historic Preservation

October marks the 30th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act, an occasion for celebration, reflection, and renewed determination. The anniversary coincides with the beginning of a new chapter in the national preservation program: 12 tribes have assumed a role parallel to that of state government in administering the national program on their reservations. Among the 12 are two Minnesota tribes, the Leech Lake and Mille Lacs Bands of Ojibwe.

Our office welcomes the expanded, full participation of the tribal preservation offices.

National Park Service Director Roger Kennedy called this a "new era" in the national historic preservation program in his recent announcement. He went on to say that this "marks a new beginning in the relationship between the Federal government and tribes in the protection of the nation's heritage" and to comment on the immeasurable value that tribal perspective will bring to the program.

The amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act passed by Congress in 1992 for the first time fully recognized tribes as partners in the federal historic preservation program. The amendments were built on the premise that enhancing the role of Indian tribes in the national preservation partnership will inevitably result in a better and stronger national effort to identify and protect historic and archaeological resources for future generations of all Americans.



In its new role, the Leech Lake Band assumes responsibility for identifying and protecting archaeological sites such as Battle Point, a multi-component Native American village, cemetery, and battle site. A survey conducted in 1988 by the Leech Lake Heritage Sites program determined the boundaries of the site. It was designated a heritage site by the Leech Lake Reservation Business Committee in commemoration of the 1898 battle between the Anishinabe Pillagers and the U.S. military that led directly to changes in federal policy regarding timber management. The site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1990. Pictured here are the cemetery and Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig monument. (National Register nomination form photos by Aaron Fairbanks)



In late July I was privileged to represent the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers at a meeting in Reno to discuss the training needs of the tribes that are assuming SHPO responsibilities. While our purpose for meeting was to discuss training needs, something very exciting

was happening: the first meeting of the recognized Tribal Preservation Offices. There was a strong sense of history in the making.

It was encouraging to witness the strength and breadth of the tribal programs and the collective wisdom and traditional perspective assembled. I returned to Minnesota, energized and convinced even more strongly that the national preservation program will benefit from the expanded participation of tribes.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER - JANUARY

MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS

Oct. 10-12: Conference: Shipwrecks of the Great Lakes, Radisson Hotel, Duluth. The conference is aimed at a wide audience of archaeologists, historians, sport divers and the interested public. Shipwreck investigations in the Great Lakes will be the focus of the conference, but other aspects of underwater archaeology and the history of water transportation in the midcontinent will also be featured. A principal goal of the conference is to explore methods of shipwreck preservation and interpretation. For information call Michele Decker, (612) 296-5434.

Oct. 12: Fall Tour: Society of Architectural Historians-Minnesota, Taylors Falls, 1:30-5 p.m. The walking tour will focus on the mid-19th-century buildings of the Angels' Hill Historic District. \$10 per person includes three walking tour guides and maps to historic Taylors Falls. For reservations call Dave Rasche, (612) 933-3233.

Oct. 16-20: 50th National Preservation Conference, Chicago, IL, titled "Preserving Community: City, Suburb and Countryside." Sixty educational sessions, local and regional mobile workshops, and a variety of tours highlighting the Chicago area's most significant historic landmarks. For information call the National Trust, 1-800-944-6847.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 22 & 29: "Beautiful Bungalows—Rediscovering the Ideal," University of Minnesota, Compleat Scholar, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Architecture Building, University of Minnesota. The bungalow's resurgence has been fueled in part by an appreciation of things associated with the American Arts and Crafts movement. What makes a house a bungalow? Learn about its characteristics, whether you are considering a bungalow purchase or want to make sensitive alterations to your home. For reservations call (612) 624-8880. Limited to 30.

Oct. 24 & 31: "Safelights: An Illuminating Look at America's Lighthouses," University of Minnesota, Compleat Scholar, 1-3 p.m., Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul. Whether guiding ships at night or signaling through dense fog, lighthouse beacons have provided an important service to ocean and lake-going vessels. Learn about lighthouses and the remote and hazardous lives of the people who worked in them. For reservations call (612) 624-8880.

Oct. 27: Preservation Alliance of Minnesota Fall Festival, Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony: "Preservation Strengthens Communities," 11 a.m.-4 p.m., International Market Square, Minneapolis. Refreshments and tours of the former Northwestern Knitting Company (Munsingwear) will follow the meeting. For more information call (612) 338-6763.

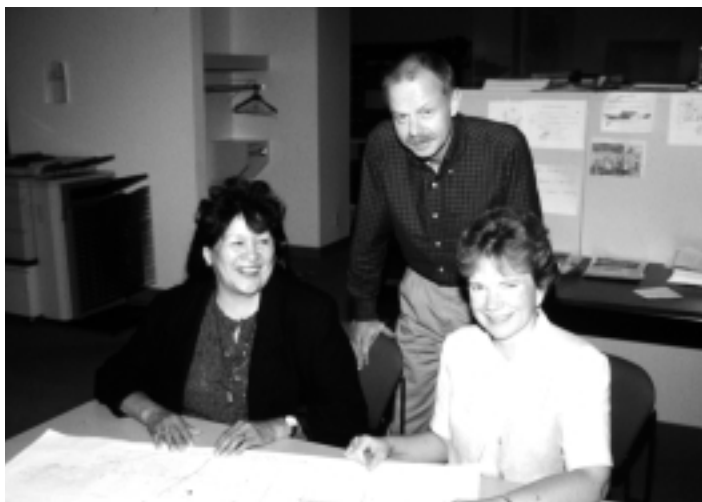
Nov. 13: SHPO Workshop for Federal/State Agencies, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Minnesota Historical Society, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul. A workshop for state and federal agency cultural resource staffs and for historical and archaeological consultants. Registration information will be mailed in early October. If you do not receive a notice, call Donna Bello at (612) 296-5462.

Nov. 21: State Review Board Meeting, 7 p.m., Minnesota Historical Society, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul. For agenda information call Michele Decker, (612) 296-5434.

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A New Chapter

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Elisse Aune (left), who, as cultural resource specialist for the Mille Lacs Band, guided the tribe's preservation plan in its early stages, meets with SHPO staff Britta Bloomberg and Dennis Gimmestad.

The seventies saw the empowerment of state programs, the eighties of local government programs, and now in the nineties, of tribal preservation programs.

The national preservation program has matured; it is a new chapter indeed that lies ahead.

*by Britta L. Bloomberg
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer*

REGISTRATION

Recent Additions to the National Register of Historic Places

- Clay County: Hanna C. and Peter E. Thompson House, 361 2nd St. N.E., Barnesville. Prepared by U.S. West Research and Susan Granger and Kay Grossman.
- Hennepin County: Hennepin Theatre, 910 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis. Prepared by Susan Granger and Kay Grossman.
- Meeker County: Universal Laboratories Building, 901 1st St. N., Dassel. Prepared by Cynthia de Miranda and Jeffrey Hess.



The Universal Laboratories Building (1937) in Dassel was built to manufacture yeast and process ergot, which is a highly toxic grain fungus found on rye kernels. Ergot is the active ingredient in medicines used to treat maladies ranging from hypertension to internal bleeding. During World War II, Universal Laboratories became the nation's foremost ergot processing center.



Built in 1903, the Johnson Blacksmith Shop is one of the most-nearly intact early 20th century blacksmith shops in Minnesota. It contains an unusually large collection of smithing tools and equipment, including this forge, anvil, and trip hammer.

- Meeker County: Litchfield Commercial Historic District, N. Sibley Ave. between Depot and 3rd Sts., Litchfield. Prepared by Susan Granger and Kay Grossman.
- Wilkin County: J. A. Johnson Blacksmith Shop, Main Ave. W. and 2nd St. W., Rothsay. Prepared by Susan Granger and Kay Grossman.



Hennepin County. The Andrews Building (ca. 1875) in Minneapolis, before (left) and after the building was rehabilitated using federal preservation tax incentives. It is one of five buildings in the same block of East Hennepin Avenue to be rehabilitated for commercial and residential space.

Lake Nokomis District Determined Eligible for National Register

A five-block historic district on the northwest shore of Lake Nokomis in Minneapolis has recently been found eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The determination of eligibility was made by the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC), the Federation Aviation Administration (FAA), and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The evaluation was done by Hess, Roise and Company as part of the Section 106 review for the MAC Sound Insulation Program.

The district, platted in 1922 as "Nokomis Knoll," is distinctive for several reasons. These include its curvilinear streets, varied topography and a lakeside setting, and the fact that many/some of its residences were designed in the Period Revival styles popular in the 1920s and 1930s.

The Sound Insulation Program will be implemented in the neighborhood over the coming year and will include such work as window and door repair/replace-ment, and wall and attic insulation. Residents inquired about how the district might impact the program, and were concerned about maintaining the historic character of the area. In response to these concerns, the FAA, MAC, and SHPO sponsored a neighborhood meeting on Aug. 22. This fall and winter, MAC representatives will be meeting with individual homeowners and SHPO staff to develop plans that provide both for the desired sound insulation and the protection of the historic integrity of the district's homes.

Other metropolitan areas are targeted for sound insulation; additional survey work of these areas continues.

GRANTS DEADLINES

Applications for CLG grants will be available in November. See also article on p. 4.

Jan. 10: Pre-application deadline for CLG grants.

Jan. 31: Final deadline for CLG grant applications.

ARCHtalk

Walls may not be able to talk, but architectural writers can—and they have some fascinating stories to tell. You'll have several opportunities to hear them this fall as the Minnesota Historical Society and The Friends of the Minneapolis Public Library present a series of illustrated lectures by three local authors who have recently published books exploring the rich history of Minnesota's built environment. The authors will be available after each presentation to discuss their projects and sign copies of their books. Register to win a free autographed copy of the featured book at each event. For information call (612) 296-6126 or (800) 657-3773.

Dale Mulfinger: "The Architecture of Edwin Lundie," Nov. 3, 1 p.m., Minnesota Historical Society, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul, and Nov. 7, 12 noon, Minneapolis Public Library.

Paul Larson: "Minnesota Architect: The Life and Work of Clarence H. Johnston," Nov. 17, 1 p.m., Minnesota Historical Society, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul, and Nov. 21, 12 noon, Minneapolis Public Library.

Larry Millett: "Twin Cities Then and Now," Dec. 8, 1 p.m., Minnesota Historical Society, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul, and Dec. 12, 12 noon, Minneapolis Public Library.



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CLG Grant Proposals Due in January

The deadline for grant applications in the next cycle of the Certified Local Government (CLG) program is Jan. 31, 1997. Applications must be received in the Grants Office at the Minnesota History Center by 4:30 p.m. on that date.

You are encouraged to submit a draft of your grant application by Jan. 10 so that the Grants Office can offer comments and suggestions for your final application.

Only cities with local historic preservation ordinances, commissions and programs certified by the State Historic Preservation Office are eligible to apply for these matching grants. Heritage preservation commissions interested in achieving CLG status for their city should call Michael Koop, MHS historic preservation program specialist, (612) 296-5451.

Special priority will be given to projects that:

- promote surveys in areas of known development activity, in order to reduce project delays;
- generate data for planning use;
- result in local designations; or
- involve properties associated with the history of under-documented groups or communities.



The Grants Review Committee will meet March 13, 1997, to make recommendations. Work on the projects that are recommended for funding can begin between July 1 and Oct. 1. In special circumstances earlier starting dates may be possible.

Funds for the CLG program are provided through the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Park Service. The Service expects to approve the 1997 Historic Preservation Fund Program for Minnesota in the near future. Federal regulations stipulate that at least 10 percent of that allocation be awarded as pass-through funds to cities with CLG status. It is anticipated that at least \$60,000 will be awarded in Minnesota (subject to change, pending adoption of the 1997 federal budget).

Grant guidelines, procedures, and application forms can be found in the 1997 Certified Local Government Grants Manual for Heritage Preservation Commissions, which will be mailed to eligible cities in late November, 1996. For information before that date, call Julie MacKenzie, (612) 296-5451.



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