

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

Preservation PLANNER

Spring 1999

Vol. X, No. 2

Requested: Your Participation

Hardly a day goes by in our office when someone doesn't ask the question: How can I get involved in historic preservation in Minnesota? Especially in spring, opportunities abound. And your participation is requested. I would urge you to attend some of the events that are planned, learn about what's happening in historic preservation around the state, and then find how to get involved in your own community.

Preservationists across the nation will celebrate National Historic Preservation Week in May this year. Some of the activities that are planned are outlined on page 3 of

this newsletter; many others are being planned in local communities all over the state. As in recent years, a focal event of the week is the annual statewide historic preservation conference. This year the conference will be held in St. Peter and will include a full two days of activities. The theme for the conference, "Thinking About the Unthinkable," will reflect on the recent experience following last year's tornado disaster, and the full range of program offerings will include something for everyone. You won't want to miss this statewide event!

This spring also kicks off the public participation component of the planning process that will result in a new statewide historic preservation plan for Minnesota, to be issued in the fall of 2000. The first of three public meetings was held in

March in Mankato, but there is still time to attend the meetings scheduled in April and May. (The times and locations for these meetings are provided in this newsletter's calendar.) Your input is needed as we review recent accomplishments against the goals established in the 1995



The Regional Treatment Center in St. Peter, formerly the St. Peter State Hospital for the Insane, as it looked around 1936. The center is the site of this year's statewide historic preservation conference.

MHS Collections

plan and begin to outline the work that lies ahead in the first years of the new century. A second round of six to eight regional meeting is being planned for later this summer and early fall. Wide participation throughout the planning process is important to the success of the new plan, and as the planning process unfolds, there will be other opportunities for your involvement. If your agency or community has developed a plan that includes a historic preservation component or is interested in participating with our office in this planning process, please contact us.

Two other historic preservation planning opportunities are underway this spring that will welcome your input. Under a contract with Robert Claybaugh

Continued on page 2

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PUBLIC MEETINGS ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

SHPO will host two public meetings to discuss planning for historic preservation as it relates to the needs of the general public, government agencies, and communities throughout Minnesota. Your thoughts are needed to help the Office review the goals of the statewide preservation plan issued in 1995 and revise the plan for 2000. We encourage you to attend one of the meetings listed below. No advance registration is required. Meetings begin at 7 p.m.; receptions are at 6 p.m. For more information, call Michael Koop, 651/296-5451.

Thursday, April 22: Morris, University of Minnesota-Morris campus

Thursday, May 20: Grand Rapids, Central School

MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS

Saturday, April 10: Dennis Hale, survivor of the shipwreck Daniel J. Morrell, which sank in 1966, will speak about his experience and show an underwater video of the wreck site at 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., Minnesota History Center, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul. The event is sponsored by the Great Lakes Shipwreck Preservation Society (GLSPS); tickets for either presentation are \$10 and available from GLSPS, 7348 Symphony St. NE, Fridley, MN 55432.

Monday, April 12: Roger Kennedy, former director of the National Park Service and the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History,

Continued on page 2

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

will discuss the historical significance of Redeemer Missionary Baptist Church, designed by Prairie School architects Purcell and Feick as Stewart Memorial Church. 7 p.m., Redeemer Missionary Baptist Church, 116 E. 32nd St., Minneapolis. Reservations recommended; \$5 contribution. For more information, call 612/823-1081.

Thursday, April 15: Grants Review Committee Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Minnesota History Center, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul. For agenda information, call Mandy Skypala, 651/296-5478.

May 1 - 9: Minnesota Archaeology Week. The 5th annual Minnesota Archaeology Week includes a range of events throughout the state. For more information, call 612/725-2729.

May 9 - 15: National Historic Preservation Week. "Protecting the Irreplaceable" is the theme of this week-long celebration. See other articles in this issue.

Tuesday, May 18: State Review Board meeting, 7 p.m., Minnesota History Center, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul. For agenda information, call Michele Decker at 651/296-5434.

Located on the bottom of Burntside Lake, the Bull-of-the-Woods (1893) is representative of a type of steam vessel constructed to handle and transport logs harvested in and around the lakes of northeastern Minnesota during the turn of the century.

The Bull-of-the-Woods illustrates an innovative adaptation of a flat or barge to accommodate steam hoisting machinery commonly available to the logging industry by the late 19th century.

Requested: Your Participation

Continued from page 1

of Claybaugh Preservation Architecture, Inc., the State Historic Preservation Office will be developing a Disaster Plan for Historic Properties over the next several months; one of the sessions at the statewide preservation conference in May will focus on this project. The office also is in the final phase of developing a Preservation Plan for Agricultural Historic Landscapes under contract with BRW, Inc., and a session for planners is scheduled for April 13 at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul. These specialized cultural resources preservation plans are to be integrated with the new

statewide preservation plan. If you're not able to participate in the scheduled events but are interested in knowing more about these initiatives, please contact our office.

We hope we'll see you at some of these events this spring! But remember that historic preservation begins at home. Find out what's happening in your own community and learn about the historic resources in your area. You'll be glad you did.

Britta L. Bloomberg
Deputy SHPO

REGISTRATION

Recent Additions to the National Register of Historic Places

Morrison County: Stanchfield Logging Camp, E. Boundary Rd., Camp Ripley Military Reservation, Little Falls. Part of the Commercial Logging in Minnesota Multiple Property Documentation Form. Prepared by Doug Birk.

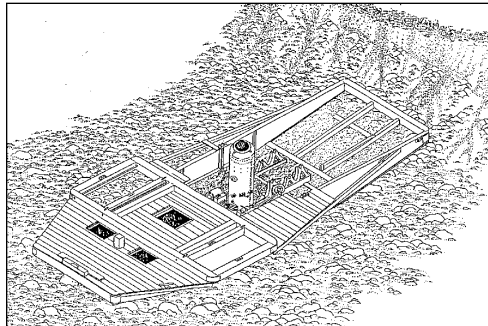
Polk County: Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, N. Ash St. at 2nd Ave., Crookston. Prepared by Daniel Hoisington.

Pope County: Lakeside Pavilion, S. Lakeshore Dr. and 1st Ave. S.W., Glenwood. Prepared by Susan Granger, Kay Grossman and Scott Kelly.

St. Louis County: Bridge No. 3589, U.S. Hwy. 61 over Stewart River, Silver Creek Twp. Prepared by Jeff Hess.

St. Louis County: *Bull-of-the-Woods* Logging Scow, off Co. Rd. 404 Morse Twp., Ely. Part of the Shipwrecks of Minnesota's Inland Lakes and Rivers Multiple Property Documentation Form. Prepared by Doug Birk and Wes Hall.

Wabasha County: Bridge No. 5827, Mn. Hwy. 60 Zumbro Falls. Prepared by Jeff Hess.



SHPO files

The triple-spired Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (1912) is an imposing Gothic Revival style edifice in Crookston. It represents the administrative and religious presence of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Crookston, serving the Catholic community in fourteen counties; as the "Bishop's church," the Cathedral was recognized as the preeminent church for Catholics in northwestern Minnesota. It is owned by Skyline Preservation Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.



SHPO files

“Protecting the Irreplaceable” is the theme of this year’s National Preservation Week, May 9–15. The Minnesota Historical Society as well as communities throughout the state have organized a variety of events to recognize Preservation Week. A sampling follows.

Sunday, May 9: “History HiJinx:

Building in Style,” 1– 4 p.m., Minnesota History Center, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul. Recognizing architectural styles helps us understand the history of our cities and communities. View images of historic homes and buildings in Minnesota and look at a variety of cast-iron decorative hardware and building materials from another era. Then, build your own miniature architectural masterpiece. Call 651/296-6126.

Tuesday, May 11: “Whose

House Was This?” 6–7 p.m. Find out the various ways to discover the history of your urban house and the resources at the Minnesota Historical

Society Library that can assist you. Tracey Baker, reference specialist, will describe the use of maps, city directories, photographs, manuscript collections, architectural periodicals and the State

Archives. MHS Library, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul. Fee: \$5 (\$3 for MHS members). Preregistration required; call 651/296-2143.

Wednesday, May 12: “Preserving Modern Buildings: Prospects and Dilemmas,” 5:30 p.m., Courtyard, University of Minnesota College of

notable buildings that are less than 50 years old, the age necessary for them to be considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. This panel discussion will consider both the compelling reasons to save modern buildings and the challenges their preservation poses. Panelists include John Burns, Head of the Historic American Buildings

Survey; Thomas Fisher, Dean, College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture; Jane Hession, co-curator of a new exhibit on Ralph Rapson; and Bob Roscoe, principal, Design for Preservation. Free and open to the public.

Thursday, May 13: “Ralph Rapson and Yesterday’s Houses of Tomorrow,” 7 p.m., William G. Shepherd Room, Weisman Art Museum, University of Minnesota, 333 E. River Rd., Minneapolis. From Andrew Jackson Downing’s 19th century designs for American homes, through Frank Lloyd Wright’s Usonian houses, to model homes featured at world’s fairs and in *Life* magazine,

the design of American homes has drawn the intensive attention of architects. Their designs also have expressed a good deal about their visions for American society.

ANNUAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

Friday, May 14, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. & Saturday, May 15, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**REGIONAL TREATMENT CENTER, ST. PETER
Conference Headquarters: The Tomlinson Center**

As the City of St. Peter discovered last spring, history sometimes repeats itself. When that history involves a fire, a flood or a windstorm, even a landmark designation can do nothing to keep a historic property from being damaged or destroyed.

Drawing on the recent experience of St. Peter, this year’s statewide historic preservation conference will help architects, planners, public officials, historians, property owners and citizen advocates think about the unthinkable as a way to keep the next cataclysmic event from becoming an all-out disaster. Join us in St. Peter on May 14 – 15 as preservationists from every corner of the state gather for two days of guided tours, interesting and practical working sessions, good food, informal conversation and thought-provoking presentations. Featured speakers will include Pat Owens, mayor of Grand Forks, N.D., and John Burns, principal architect for the Historic American Buildings Survey. For more information and registration materials, call 651/296-5434. Registration fee: \$40.

Architecture and Landscape Architecture, 90 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. The recent demolition of the Ralph Rapson-designed Pillsbury house points to the vulnerability of

SAVED

The Excelsior Public School (left, 1899) has been converted into offices using federal preservation tax incentives. Work included installation of a new physical plant, removal of later additions and alterations, construction of a rear addition, and installation of appropriate windows.

With funds provided in part through the state bond-funded County and Local Preservation Project Grants-in-Aid program, the Winton Community Church (right, 1902) received a new foundation and front

steps. The project involved excavating and raising the building in order to replace original cedar posts with rein-

forced concrete footings and piers. The building is owned by the City of Winton.



SHPO files



SHPO files



Shubert Theatre Moved in Minneapolis

The **Minnesota Preservation Planner** is published and distributed in January, April, July and October by the State Historic Preservation Office of the Minnesota Historical Society. Information for each issue should be received by the editor no later than one month before the publication date at the Minnesota Historical Society, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul, MN 55102-1906. For further information call (612) 296-5434.

Material from this issue may be reprinted with the following credit line: Reprinted with permission from the **Minnesota Preservation Planner**, published by the Minnesota Historical Society, Vol. IX, No. 2, Spring 1998. Do not reprint material that has been reprinted from some other source.

Upon request, this publication can be made available in alternative formats: audiotape, large print or computer disk. Unless otherwise noted, photographic images in the **Planner** are from the State Historic Preservation Office, Minnesota Historical Society.

This newsletter has been financed in part with federal funds from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, through the Minnesota Historical Society under the provisions of the national Historic Preservation Act as amended. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendations by the Department of the Interior.

Regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in departmental federally assisted programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or disability. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility operated by a recipient of federal assistance should write to: Director, Equal Opportunity Program, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

Britta Bloomberg, Editor
Michael Koop, Assistant Editor
James Smith, Assistant Editor

<http://www.mnhs.org>

Supported by 560 rubber tires on 70 Volkswagen-sized dollies, the Shubert Theatre in downtown Minneapolis was rolled to its new home during a two-week period at the end of February. The 1910 theater was moved a quarter-mile from Block E, which is being cleared for a new retail and entertainment complex. The building is the largest ever to be

transported by dollies; its 2,900-ton mass is approximately equivalent to moving 75 three-bedroom homes. The Shubert was relocated adjacent to the Hennepin Center for the Arts, a rehabilitated Masonic Temple owned by Artspace, a nonprofit group that plans to raise \$24 million to renovate the theater.

It always is preferred to preserve the properties on their original location, but sometimes that is not possible. SHPO staff worked with the city to identify a suitable new location and received the necessary National Register approvals from the National Park Service prior to the move.



Upper left: The Shubert Theatre ca. 1912. Center: The Theatre at its original location in December, 1994. Left: The theater being moved on Feb. 23, 1999. The signs say "This End Up" and "Handle with Care." The Target Center is to the right. (All photos from SHPO files.)



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
345 KELLOGG BOULEVARD WEST
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102-1906

NonProfit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
St. Paul, MN
Permit No. 854