

## A Lesson about History

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) recently completed its review of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) Cultural Resource Assessment required for planning the reroute of Trunk Highway 55 in Hennepin County. The review affirms the significance of two historic districts designated since the earliest years of the National Register program—the Minnehaha Park and Fort Snelling Historic districts—which extend along Minnehaha Creek and along the Mississippi River to its confluence with the Minnesota River. The review also stresses the importance of protecting the natural flow of water to Coldwater Spring, a contributing feature to the Fort Snelling Historic District. (See photograph, above.) According to MnDOT's engineers, the highway will not affect Coldwater Spring.

While SHPO staff members review some 4,000 federal projects in the state each year, this project has received extraordinary public and media attention because citizens who opposed the reroute and who were concerned with cultural and environmental resources in the area raised many questions. SHPO staff mem-

bers thoroughly reviewed the MnDOT report and its supporting documents, including hundreds of pages of tran-



*This is the spring-fed reservoir at Camp Coldwater as it appeared in 1895, looking north. The house in the background is the water works supervisor's residence, which was destroyed by fire not long after this picture was taken. The pump house was located behind the photographer who took this picture. The reservoir was in active use as a source of water for Fort Snelling until the early 20th century, when city water became available. The site fell into disrepair and has not been used as a major source of water since then.* (MHS Collections)

scripts of oral testimony. In addition, they considered documents offered by the public and the staff's own expertise and research before responding to MnDOT's report.

One very positive aspect of the review of MnDOT's assessment is that the material gathered sheds new light on additional areas of significance of Coldwater Spring: It also may meet the National Register's criteria for having "traditional cultural significance." This information comes at a good time, because SHPO is advocating for the care-

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Sunday, July 25:** Tour of houses in the Healy Block, tentatively from 2-6 p.m., Minneapolis. Includes at least six Queen Anne style houses located in the Healy Block Residential Historic District, 31st St. and 2nd and 3rd Aves. Sponsored by the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota (PAM). For more information call PAM, 612/341-8140.

**Tuesday, Aug. 17:** "The New 36 CFR Part 800—Highlights of Changes," a briefing session sponsored by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Minnesota History Center (see article on p.4). For more information see [www.achp.gov/regsform.html](http://www.achp.gov/regsform.html) or call 651/296-5462.

**Tuesday, Aug. 24:** 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.

**Oct. 19-24:** 53rd National Preservation Conference, Washington, D.C.: "Saving America's Treasures." For details, call the National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1-800-944-6847.

## NOMINATION DEADLINE

**Monday, Aug. 16:** Preservation Honor Awards. To be presented by the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota in November. Categories include brick-and-mortar projects, individual contributions and community efforts. For details, call PAM, 612/341-8140.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## GRANTS

Two state-funded historic preservation grant programs are administered by the Historic Preservation, Field Services and Grants Department of MHS: the State Grants-in-Aid and the State Capital Projects programs. The State Grants-in-Aid program is open to non-profit organizations whose primary purpose is historic preservation or interpretation. There are 10 project categories; the maximum award is \$7,500. Local governments owning historic properties are also eligible to apply to the State Grants-in-Aid program, but are encouraged to apply to the State Capital Projects program. Awards in this program are \$10,000-\$75,000. Both programs require a minimum 50 percent match in cash, in-kind services, or donated materials.

For more information, visit [www.mnhs.org/about/grants/index.html](http://www.mnhs.org/about/grants/index.html).

## GRANTS WORKSHOPS

The Historic Preservation, Field Services and Grants Department of the Minnesota Historical Society is offering three grants workshops throughout the state during July. There is no charge for attending but reservations are required. To register, or for more information, please call Peggy Tolbert 651/287-4416 or David Nystuen 651/296-5460. Each meeting will be from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Monday, July 19:** Windom, Cottonwood County Historical Society, 812 4th Ave.

**Wednesday, July 21:** Bemidji, Beltrami County Historical Society, County Fairgrounds, T.H. 71.

**Thursday, July 22:** St. Cloud, Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S.

## GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINES

**Friday, Aug. 13:** Pre-applications due

**Friday, Sept. 10:** Applications due

**Thursday, Oct. 21:** Grants Review Committee meets

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ful management of the spring area as part of a plan for its disposition from federal ownership.

SHPO is conducting a second federal review involving Coldwater Spring with the U.S. Department of Interior in the Bureau of Mines closure. The draft memorandum of agreement requires additional evaluation of the spring and reservoir; appropriate designation dependent on the outcome of the evaluation; and the development and implementation of a Cultural Resource Management Plan for the Camp Coldwater spring/reservoir area (in consultation with SHPO, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council, the National Park Service, and other parties). The planning process that will begin to unfold over the next several months holds great promise for the future protection of this site.

There's an important lesson for Minnesota's preservation community in this recent review. It reminds us that history is not a static discipline: It demands continued research. Sometimes that research may lead to rich new sources, including the historic oral tradition of American Indian people who have lived in this region for centuries. The National Register documentation process accommodates new information as research continues to shed light on our rich and varied cultural heritage. It is important to continue to learn about and understand the places that are significant in our past if we are to be successful in preserving them for future generations.

Britta L. Bloomberg  
Deputy SHPO

## REGISTRATION

### Locally Designated Properties

Forty-three Minnesota communities now have adopted local preservation ordinances and 29 are participating in the Certified Local Government program. In Minneapolis in 1998, the following seven properties were designated locally for protection under the city's ordinance.

- Adath Jeshurun Synagogue, 3400 Dupont Ave. S.
- Sharei Zedeck Synagogue, 1119 Morgan Ave. N.
- Mikro Kodesh Synagogue, 1000 Oliver Ave. N.
- Theodore Wirth House, 3954 Bryant Ave. S.
- Minneapolis Woman's Club, 410 Oak Grove St.
- Keyes House, 2225 East Lake of the Isles Pkwy.
- Brooberg Residence, 727 E.24th St.



*Mikro Kodesh Synagogue (Disciples Ministry Church), Minneapolis. Built in 1926 to the design of architect Septimus J. Bowler, Mikro Kodesh was an Orthodox edifice that adhered to traditional synagogue elements such as the Byzantine-style domes atop twin stair towers.*

*Courtesy Landscape Research*

# Houston County Farm Wins BARN AGAIN! Award

Wayne and Gerald Feldmaier of Houston, Minn. received a 1999 BARN AGAIN! Recognition Award for their preservation efforts. The BARN AGAIN! Awards program honors farmers and ranchers from around the country; it is sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and *Successful Farming*.

The Feldmaier brothers' 1890 barn has not changed much in the past 100 years—it is still used for milking cows and storing hay. The barn has been updated with a few additions as well as a barn cleaner, stanchions, pipeline and hay conveyor. Today the barn is the centerpiece of the Feldmaiers' 41-cow, grade-A dairy operation.



*The Feldmaier Farm in Houston.*

The barn's stone foundation was built by a Norwegian mason who used stone from a small quarry on the farm for both the barn and the farmhouse. The original 60' by 32' barn was built into the hillside. Cows were milked in the lower

(basement) level, and the upper floor was used for boarding horses and storing hay. Later a 40' by 32' addition was built with additional hay storage and a loafing area for livestock below.

While the 1890 barn dominates the farmstead, the Feldmaier Farm has many other old buildings that are still in use, including two corn cribs, a granary, a hog barn (used for calves), a chicken coop, a buggy shed, and a summer kitchen. In

addition to milking cows, the Feldmaiers raise corn, hay and oats and feed Holsteins on their 452-acre farm. Gerald's children are the third generation of Feldmaiers to grow up working the farm.

For more information about the BARN AGAIN!

Program, call the National Trust for Historic Preservation, 303/623-1504 or visit their web site, [www.barnagain.org](http://www.barnagain.org).

*Courtesy National Trust for Historic Preservation*

## SAVED

The Sibley County Bank (1874) and Keller General Store (ca.1880) in the Henderson Commercial Historic District, before (left) and after (right) the buildings were rehabilitated using federal preservation tax incentives. The work included tuckpointing exterior brick, restoring original storefront windows, building a handicap accessible entry, and updating mechanical systems.



*SHPO file photo*



*SHPO file photo*

The Hamm Building (1920) in St. Paul (below, right) was designed by the St. Paul firm of Toltz King and Day in the Chicago commercial style. It features cast-iron storefront windows with prism-glass transoms and a highly decorative terra cotta facade depicting cherubs, floral urns, and festoons. Federal preservation tax incentives helped rehabilitate the ironwork and transoms along the storefronts, the terra cotta facade, and elements of the tile and marble lobby.



*SHPO file photo*



# NEW SECTION 106 REGULATIONS

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 651/296-5434.

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<http://www.mnhs.org>

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation has issued revised Section 106 regulations that replace the 1986 procedures. The new regulations significantly modify the Section 106 review process, which requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. The new regulations incorporate the statutory changes mandated by the 1992 amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

The major changes to the regulations include a greater deference by the Advisory Council to decision-making by federal agencies and state historic preservation offices (SHPO)—which means that on many reviews, less coordination will be required with the council. Other changes include strengthening the role of Native Americans; encouragement for early compliance; use of NHPA to meet 106 requirements (which eliminates duplication of effort); and new techniques and standard methods to deal with routine cases.

The Advisory Council is conducting a series of one-day briefing sessions to present the highlights of the changes over the coming months. The schedule includes a session at the Minnesota History Center on August 17 (see the Calendar of Events, p. 1). These briefings are intended for experienced Section 106 practitioners already familiar with the review process. As part of its overall training program, the Advisory Council also offers an introductory course throughout the country.

For more information on the regulations and register for the briefings, consult [www.achp.gov](http://www.achp.gov), or call SHPO at 651/296-5462.

Dennis Gimmestad  
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Officer, Minnesota Historical Society

## CORRECTION: Lake County Bridge

In the Spring 1999 issue of the Planner we identified Bridge No. 3589, U.S. Hwy. 61 over the Stewart River, Silver Creek Twp., as being in St. Louis County. It is in fact in Lake County. We apologize for any inconvenience caused by the mistake.



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