

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

Meetings and Workshops

Oct. 2-6

60th National Preservation Conference, St. Paul. For information, go to www.nthpconference.org.

Oct. 16

State Review Board meeting, 7 p.m., Minnesota History Center, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul. For agenda information, call Michele Decker, 651-259-3450.

Nov. 2-3

20th Annual Gales of November Shipwreck and Diving Program, Duluth. For information, call 218-727-2497 or go to www.lsmma.com/gales.

Nov. 8-10

"Curtains Up! Restoring Historic Theatres and Revitalizing Communities," Milwaukee. Cost: \$80; scholarships available. For details and to register online, go to www.wisconsinhistory.org/hp/workshop.

Grants

CLG grants: Matching grants for cities with local historic preservation ordinances, commissions and programs certified by the Minnesota SHPO and the National Park Service. See p. 4 for details.

Transportation grants: Matching grants for counties and state-aid municipalities for projects that interpret the role of transportation in Minnesota history. See p. 1 for details. For application materials, call Mandy Skypala, 651-259-3458, or e-mail mandy.skypala@mnhs.org.

Deadlines for both grant programs:

Jan. 11, 2008: Pre-application due.

Feb. 22: Grant application due.

April 3: Grants Review Committee meets.

Long-awaited transportation grants program launched

by Britta L. Bloomberg, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Minnesota's transportation history evokes rich images, from oxcarts and steamboats to railroad depots and iron ore carriers. Those images tell stories of how transportation patterns influenced the state's development, determining where towns were founded, why some flourished and others failed, and how goods were shipped to market.

To promote a better public understanding of that history, the Minnesota Transportation History Network was established in 1998 with funding assistance from the federal Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century, known as TEA-21. Coordinated by the Minnesota Historical Society, the project has served to pull together myriad resources that illuminate transportation's crucial role in building Minnesota.

A one-time grants program, designed to help county and local organizations tell their transportation stories, is the last of three major components of the multiyear initiative. Earlier efforts included an exhibition on transportation history at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul and enhancements to transportation-related historic sites – Mill City Museum in Minneapolis, the Charles A. Lindbergh House in Little Falls, North West Company Fur Post in Pine City and



Developed by Carleton College in 1942, the Carleton Airport in Goodhue County provided students with flight training in preparation for military service. It was listed on the National Register in 2004.

Split Rock Lighthouse north of Two Harbors.

Funds available: A total of \$1,068,376 is available for transportation-themed grants, which will range in size from \$100,000 to \$250,000. A minimum cash match of 20 percent is required. Funded through the Federal Highway Administration, the grants program is administered jointly by the MHS and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT). MHS will promote the program and manage the grant application process; Mn/DOT will administer the grants awarded.

Transportation grants –
continued on page 2

Transportation grants – continued

Eligibility: Minnesota counties and state-aid municipalities are eligible to apply or may serve as sponsors for other local jurisdictions and nonprofit organizations.

Guidelines: Each proposed project must contribute to the interpretation of transportation's role in Minnesota history. Grants will be considered in two categories: preservation of historic properties and historic properties planning. Only properties listed or

eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places will be considered for funding. Eligible projects in the preservation category range from preserving a transportation-related property to making such a property ADA-compliant. In the planning category, projects might include development of a preservation plan for historic sites in a transportation corridor or a management plan for a property such as a railroad depot or historic gas station.

Application materials are now available; see the calendar on p. 1 for details and application deadlines.

Help us spread the word about this great opportunity for preserving Minnesota's transportation-related properties. After so many years in the planning, we're eager to see how Minnesota communities and local historical organizations will use this grant program to tell their own piece of the region's transportation story. ■

Minnesota awarded two Preserve America grants

New Ulm and the Minnesota SHPO have been awarded grants from the Preserve America program, a White House initiative to support communities that have demonstrated a commitment to recognizing, designating and protecting cultural resources.

The City of New Ulm, together with New Ulm's Heritage Preservation Commission, will develop an overall plan for signage, markers and directional aids in New Ulm's commercial downtown district. The project will include recommendations for interpretation of historic resources and the use of other media to convey New Ulm's history, as well as assessment of the potential for living-history sites.

The Minnesota SHPO will complete a comprehensive survey and inventory of the 53-mile Grand Rounds parkway system in Minneapolis, which celebrates its centennial in 2008. The immediate goals: to systematically document the landscape elements and character-defining features within the parkway



Loring Park, shown here in 1905, will be surveyed as part of Minneapolis's 53-mile Grand Rounds parkway system.

system, and to assess the significance, within a national context, of this parkway inspired by landscape architect H.W.S. Cleveland. The long-term goal: to enhance the interpretation and protection of the historic Grand Rounds landscape.

For more information on the Preserve America program, go to www.preserveamerica.gov. ■

Minnesota Historical Society Collections

Saved

Morrison County: Rhodes-Tanner Block (1892), Little Falls. This two-story brick building in the Little Falls Commercial Historic District was rehabilitated through the initiative of the owner, Patricia Stewart, with financial assistance from the City of Little Falls. Work included restoring multiple storefronts complete with prismatic transom glass, repairing second-floor windows and cleaning exterior masonry.



The Rhodes-Tanner Block before (above) and after rehabilitation.



St. Louis County: Bridgeman-Russell Building (1905, 1907), Duluth. Designed by local architect John J. Wangenstein, this brick building in the Duluth Commercial Historic District has been rehabilitated into apartments using federal historic preservation tax incentives. Work included cleaning masonry, repointing mortar joints, restoring the storefront, replacing windows and installing a new roof and mechanical system.



The Bridgeman-Russell Building before (left) and after rehabilitation for apartments.



A & L Properties

Registration

Recent additions to the National Register of Historic Places:

Carlton County: Henry C. Oldenburg House (1894), 604 Chestnut St., Carlton. Prepared by Carmen Tschofen.



During a period that saw the development of a formal movement for forestry conservation and preservation in America, Henry Oldenburg was one of the first Minnesotans to embody the term "conservationist." A legal advisor for Weyerhaeuser lumber interests, Oldenburg helped found the Cloquet Forestry Station for scientific research in forest management. He also was instrumental in establishing Jay Cooke State Park.

Hennepin County: Hagel Family Farm (1890-1934), 11475 Tilton Trail S., Hassan Twp. Prepared by Susan Granger and Scott Kelly.

Todd County: Hewitt Public School (1911), 514 N. Wisconsin St., Hewitt. Prepared by Daniel Hoisington.



The Hewitt Public School served the community of Hewitt (pop. 268) as its only educational institution from 1911 to 1952. Generations of children from kindergarten through high school attended classes there. The building also provided space for numerous community organizations and cultural events and hosted an array of social services such as public health programs and agricultural extension training.

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CLG grants available

Begin planning now for a 2008 grant from the Certified Local Government (CLG) program. You are encouraged to submit a draft of your application by Jan. 11 so that Grants Office staff can offer comments and suggestions. Final applications are due Feb. 22.

Who is eligible?

Only cities with certified local historic preservation ordinances, commissions and programs are eligible to apply for these matching grants. Heritage preservation commissions interested in achieving CLG status for their city should call Michael Koop, historic preservation program specialist, 651-259-3452.

Priority is given to projects that:

- survey areas under development, in order to reduce project delays;

- generate data for planning use;
- result in local designations; and/or
- involve properties associated with the history of underdocumented groups or communities.

Available funds

Funds for the CLG program are provided through the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Park Service. It is anticipated that at least \$70,000 will be available for CLG grant awards in Minnesota (subject to change pending adoption of the 2008 federal budget).

The 2008 CLG Grants Manual, containing grant guidelines and application forms, will be mailed to eligible cities in early December. For information before then, call the Grants Office, 651-259-3458.



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