

MINNESOTA

Preservation Planner



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



A stop at the August Schell Brewing Company, founded in New Ulm in 1860, proved popular with participants in the 2003 Statewide Historic Preservation Conference.

Stewardship: A shared responsibility

Each September as the federal and State Historic Preservation Office fiscal years come to a close, Minnesota preservationists gather for our annual statewide historic preservation conference. Last fall's conference, held in New Ulm, drew the largest crowd ever. It was gratifying to see you turn out in force, representing communities large and small from all over the state.

As I mingled, I was reminded once again of the vital role that citizens at the local level play in preserving Minnesota's historic properties. After all, a majority of the properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places are in the hands of private citizens and local communities, serving as homes

and schools, places of business and city halls. Their continued use contributes to the diverse built environment here in Minnesota that gives us our sense of place. Witness the successful efforts of residents of our host city, New Ulm, to preserve their own rich heritage.

Whatever our preservation perspective - local, regional, statewide or national - there's one thing we share: we are all stewards of the historic resources entrusted to our care by the generations that came before us. Through the shared responsibilities of this stewardship, we must ensure that those resources are preserved for future

Stewardship continued on page 3

CALENDAR

MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

March 30: State Review Board meeting, 7 p.m., Minnesota History Center, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul. For agenda information call Michele Decker, 651-296-5434.

CLG GRANT DEADLINES

Approximately \$70,000 in matching grants will be awarded this spring through the Certified Local Government program. See the Fall 2003 Preservation Planner for details.

Jan. 16: Pre-application due by 4:30 p.m.

Feb. 13: Grant application due by 4:30 p.m.

April 1: Grants Review Committee meets.

SHPO SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT

Over the past decade, the State Historic Preservation Office has hosted a series of public meetings to discuss historic preservation planning as it relates to the needs of the general public, government agencies and communities throughout Minnesota. Your input at these meetings has helped the SHPO identify various issues affecting preservation around the state.

We are now exploring alternate methods for gathering public input on preservation planning: a direct mailing, an insert in this newsletter and the Internet. Your continued participation in this process is important to us. To share your ideas about what means of input would work best for you, call Michael Koop at 651-296-5451 or e-mail michael.koop@mnhs.org.

SAVED

Chippewa County: Olof Swensson Farmstead Barn (1880s), Granite Falls Twp. This timber-frame bank barn, with a cut-granite and fieldstone foundation, was designed by Swensson, a farmer, teacher and political activist. Rehabilitation, funded in part with a grant from the State Capital Projects Grants-in-Aid program, included rebuilding the foundation, reconstructing two earthen ramps and repairing the windows.



Olof Swensson Farmstead Barn before (left) and after rehabilitation.

Nicollet County: Miller Meat Market/Saint Peter Herald Building (ca.1873), St. Peter. Through the initiative of Peggy Carlson, editor and publisher of the St. Peter Herald, this Federal-style, Kasota stone commercial building has been restored with a cleaned and repointed exterior, a new storefront, ironwork repairs, double-hung second-floor windows and a pressed metal ceiling.



Miller Meat Market/Saint Peter Herald Building before (left) and after rehabilitation.

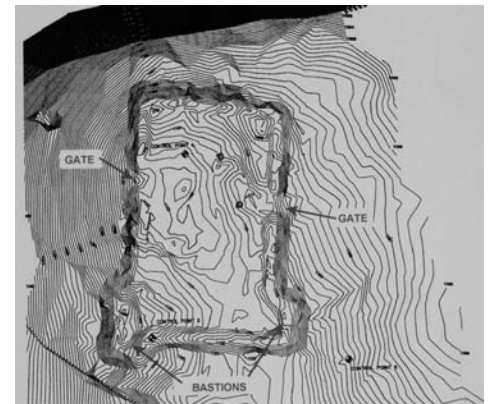
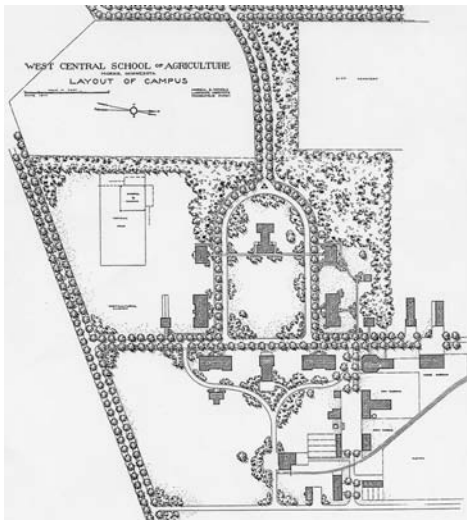
REGISTRATION

Recent additions to the National Register of Historic Places

Hennepin and Ramsey Counties: Lock and Dam No. 2 (1898–1908), Mississippi River north of Lake St./Marshall Ave. Prepared by John Anfinson and Jack Maloney.

Meeker County: Pipe Lake Fort (1863), near Cosmos. Prepared by Mark Dudzik and Bruce Koenen.

Stevens County: West Central School of Agriculture and Experiment Station Historic District (1910–52), Morris. Prepared by Susan Granger, Scott Kelly and Kay Grossman.



Pipe Lake Fort was one of a series of sod forts built by the U.S. Army during the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 to afford increased protection to settlers. The fort measures approximately 50 x 35 meters and had thick sod walls that stood 2.4 meters high, possibly with wooden pickets on top to add height. The archaeological remains are singular in the quality of their preserved form and structure.

The West Central School of Agriculture (WCSA) historic district (above) encompasses 42 acres on the campus of the University of Minnesota, Morris, site of the former Morris Industrial School for Indians, a federal boarding school. One year after the WCSA opened in 1910, the landscape architecture firm of Morell and Nichols developed a master plan for the new campus. Much of their plan remains today.

Capital grants awarded in 14 counties

Funded by the State of Minnesota through appropriations made by the legislature and approved by the governor, the State Historic Preservation Office's State Capital Project Grants-in-Aid program assists county and local jurisdictions with historic preservation projects of a capital nature. During the fiscal year 2004 fall grants cycle, 14 grants totaling \$321,413 were awarded.

Carver County: City of Chaska, \$19,000, Brinkhaus Saloon Livery Barn restoration.

Goodhue County: City of Pine Island, \$10,000, Pine Island City Hall restoration.

Hennepin County: City of Minneapolis, \$20,000, Franklin Branch Library HVAC replacement. Richfield Historical Society, \$12,100, Riley L. Bartholomew House restoration.

Koochiching County: Koochiching County, \$20,000, Koochiching County Courthouse entrance restoration.

Mahnomen County: City of Mahnomen, \$13,450, Mahnomen City Hall restoration.

Martin County: Martin County Preservation Association, \$30,000, First Church of Christ Scientist restoration.

Pipestone County: City of Pipestone, \$27,363, Pipestone Public Library restoration.

Pope County: Pope County,



Built in Luverne in 1915, the Classical Revival-style Palace Theater will get a new roof with funds from a capital grant.

\$30,000, Pope County Courthouse HVAC replacement.

Rice County: City of Faribault, \$12,500, Faribault City Hall repointing.

Rock County: Blue Mound Area Theater, Inc., \$35,000, Palace Theater restoration.

Stevens County: Stevens County Historical Society, \$40,000, Morris Carnegie Library restoration.

Todd County: Todd County, \$20,000, Todd County Courthouse roof replacement.

Washington County: Washington County Historic Courthouse, \$20,000, Washington County Historic Courthouse chimney restoration.

Yellow Medicine County: City of Granite Falls, \$12,000, Andrew Volstead House roof replacement.

Stewardship *continued from page 1*

generations.

At the preservation conference in New Ulm, we wrestled with difficult issues as we reassessed our priorities and sought solutions to the economic challenges of making preservation work in lean times. Then in October, Congress passed the federal Historic Preservation Fund appropriation for 2004. Minnesota's share is \$679,203,

down 29 percent from previous funding levels. So the challenges continue as the SHPO explores strategies for meeting our preservation goals in the year ahead.

Feedback received from conference participants last fall has been critical as the SHPO faces further reductions in services. Despite diminished financial resources, we remain steadfast in our

commitment to our preservation partners in communities throughout Minnesota. The SHPO's work is most effective when coupled with your tireless local efforts. Together we will carry our preservation stewardship forward.

- Britta L. Bloomberg, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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For address corrections call Michele Decker at 651-296-5434 or e-mail michele.decker@mnhs.org.

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Web site aids local preservation

Local designation. It's one of the best ways to protect the historic character of your community's buildings, streetscapes, neighborhoods and local landmarks.

To aid the process of establishing local historic districts, the National Park Service has developed a web site especially for historic property owners, new members of heritage preservation commissions and community officials. Titled "Working on the Past in Local Historic Districts," it can be found at www2.cr.nps.gov/workingonthepast.

The site offers step-by-step guidance in creating a historic preservation commission, writing local preservation ordinances and setting design guidelines. You'll also learn the differences between preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and reconstruction - and why it's important



The Pipestone Heritage Preservation Commission leads a tour of the Pipestone Commercial Historic District.

to choose the approach that's most appropriate to your situation. Model projects illustrate varied methods of working with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

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