

MINNESOTA

Preservation Planner



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



St. Cloud recently surveyed its Pan Town residential district, a neighborhood of worker housing to be visited during a Preservation Conference tour.

Celebrating local preservation

In just a few weeks Minnesota's preservation community will meet in St. Cloud for the 25th Annual Statewide Historic Preservation Conference. This year the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota hosts its preservation awards and annual meeting in conjunction with the conference. These combined occasions celebrate two important aspects of historic preservation: It's about people, and it happens largely at the local level.

The Preservation Alliance, founded in 1981, is the statewide nonprofit membership organization dedicated to the preservation, protection and promotion of the state's historic resources. The Alliance has cosponsored our annual preservation conference for

many years. This is the first time, however, that the group's annual awards event will coincide with the conference. The collaboration is fitting. Just as the work of the State Historic Preservation Office promotes advocacy and stewardship in historic preservation throughout Minnesota, so too do the Alliance awards, honoring the outstanding achievements of individuals and organizations across the state. What better occasion to celebrate the people behind the projects?

It's fitting, too, that we gather in St. Cloud for this year's conference. When city officials approached us about hosting the conference, we knew it was

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CALENDAR

MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

Sept. 23-24: Minnesota's 25th Annual Statewide Historic Preservation Conference, St. Cloud. For more information call 651-296-5434 or go to www.mnhs.org/presconf.

Oct. 19: State Review Board meeting, 7 p.m., Minnesota History Center, St. Paul. For agenda information call Michele Decker, 651-296-5434.

Nov. 6: 17th Annual Gales of November Shipwreck and Diving Program, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Duluth. Keynote address by James H. I. Weakley, president, Lake Carriers Association. For prices and tickets call 218-727-2497 or go to www.lsmma.com.

Nov. 17-18: "Integrating Cultural Resources in NEPA Compliance," St. Paul. Sponsored by the National Preservation Institute, this workshop covers environmental assessment and cultural resource management. Cost: \$375 (\$175 for students). Registration deadline: Oct. 18. For details call NPI, 703-765-0100, or register online at www.npi.org.

CLG GRANT DEADLINES

About \$70,000 in matching grants is available through the Certified Local Government program for cities with local historic preservation ordinances, commissions and programs certified by the State Historic Preservation Office and the National Park Service. See page 4 for details.

Jan. 14, 2005: Pre-application due.

Feb. 18: Grant application due.

April 7: Grants Review Committee meets.

SAVED

Marshall County: K. J. Taralseth Company Building (1911), Warren.

The vacant, flood-damaged and deteriorating Taralseth Building was rehabilitated using federal preservation tax incentives. Work included installing new windows, repairing the distinctive storefront, installing a new mechanical system and purging the interior of water and mold. The first floor now contains office and commercial space; apartments occupy the second floor.



K. J. Taralseth Company Building before (left) and after rehabilitation for mixed commercial and residential use.

Goodhue County: Dammon Round Barn (1914), near Red Wing.

Rehabilitated using federal preservation tax incentives, the Dammon Round Barn has been converted into a dance hall and reception area for a bed-and-breakfast establishment. Work included installing a cedar shingle roof, replacing rotted and blocked windows, repointing deteriorated mortar, installing sliding doors, repairing structural members and installing new electrical service.



Dammon Round Barn during (left) and after rehabilitation as a reception venue.

REGISTRATION

Recent additions to the National Register of Historic Places

Cook County: Cascade River Wayside (1934-36), 3481 Minn. Hwy. 61, near Grand Marais.

Prepared by Susan Granger, Scott Kelly and Kay Grossman.

Hennepin County: Calhoun Beach Club (1928, 1946), 2730 W. Lake St., Minneapolis.

Prepared by Diane Trout-Oertel.

Hennepin County: Station 13 Minneapolis Fire Department (1923), 4201 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis.

Prepared by Carole Zellie.



Constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Minnesota Department of Highways (MHD), the Cascade River Wayside (pictured ca.1950) includes a picnic area, overlook and extensive foot trails with an impressive view of Lake Superior. The site, among the largest roadside parks developed by MHD, illustrates many basic precepts of the Rustic Style popularized by the National Park Service.



Station 13 Minneapolis Fire Department (pictured in 1936) was built during a period of significant population growth, when fire protection assumed a critical role in city planning. The creation of a domestically scaled, Arts and Crafts-style fire station compatible with the housing stock of the surrounding neighborhood reflected a national trend and signaled progressive planning at the city's expanding edges.

Lake City completes historic context report

You may have heard that water-skiing was invented here in the land of 10,000 lakes. But did you know it was 18-year-old Lake City resident Ralph Samuelson who in 1922 cooked flat boards in his mother's wash boiler and bent them to make the skis that launched the sport?

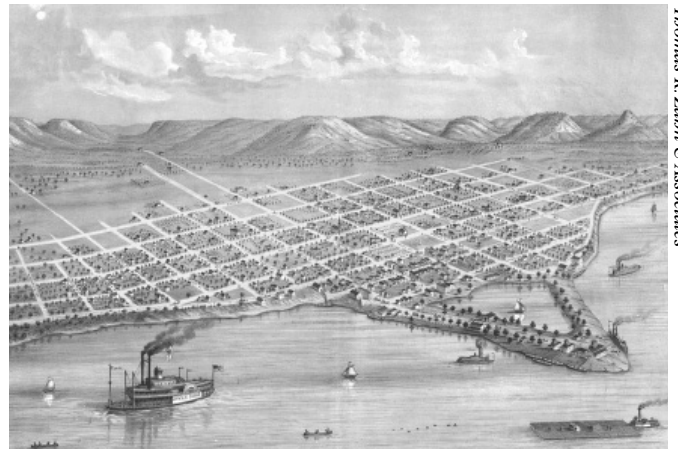
The history of recreation and tourism is one of the themes identified in a historic context study of the city of Lake City, written by Thomas R. Zahn & Associates for the Lake City Heritage Preservation Commission and the State Historic Preservation Office. The study was funded by a Certified Local Government grant.

Historic contexts are defined as "broad patterns of historical development in a community or its region that may be represented by historic resources." They serve as an organizational tool for defining a

community's history and provide a framework for evaluating the relative significance of cultural resources.

In Lake City eight contexts were identified that most clearly demonstrate the city's history as a Minnesota river town. For example, "Civic Life and Government" defines the importance of the town's municipal history and its fine buildings, including the city hall, post office, schools and public parks. "Commerce and Industry" considers the wide range of businesses prevalent in the town, from industries such as foundries, mills and ice houses to an abundance of retail establishments.

The recommendations and actions



Bird's-eye view of Lake City, 1867.

called for in the context report will help the Lake City Heritage Preservation Commission and the city council increase public awareness about the city's history and built environment. In addition, the report will guide future surveys, preservation planning and public education projects.

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a winning match. St. Cloud provides a rich laboratory in which to explore the conference theme, "Improving Community Life with Historic Preservation." In establishing and implementing its historic preservation plan, the city has demonstrated foresight and purpose. St. Cloud adopted its local preservation ordinance in 1990 and a year later became Minnesota's 17th Certified Local Government (CLG). Today there are 35 CLGs in the state; St. Cloud continues to be one the most active.

In the years since its certification, the city - under strong local leadership - has developed and updated its historic preservation plan, conducted a systematic survey of the city in seven installments, and developed design guidelines to help property owners and

commission members promote good stewardship and appropriate treatment of historic properties. Along the way, many individual buildings and historic districts, both commercial and residential, have been documented and given local designation. Altogether, St. Cloud has received 17 matching grants through the CLG grant program (see page 4 for information about the 2005 grants cycle). This is an impressive record for the "Busy, Gritty, Granite City," as the saying goes.

For this year's preservation conference - in partnership with our office and with grant assistance from both the CLG program and the National Trust for Historic Preservation - the city is bringing in the Commission Assistance and Mentoring Program (CAMP), which provides specialized

training for members of heritage preservation commissions. That training and other sessions on the agenda will take place at conference headquarters in the historic Paramount Theatre, recipient of a Preservation Alliance Honor Award several years ago.

None of these accomplishments would have been possible without the hard work and support of a dedicated local community.

As we gather in St. Cloud this month, we have many reasons to celebrate. In particular, we'll honor the countless individuals who make preservation happen in communities all around the state. Come and join the celebration!

- Britta L. Bloomberg, Deputy
State Historic Preservation Officer

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CLG grant pre-applications due Jan. 14

Now is the time to begin planning for a 2005 grant from the Certified Local Government (CLG) program (see "CLG grant deadlines" in the Planner calendar, page 1). You are encouraged to submit a draft of your application by Jan. 14 so that Grants Office staff can offer comments and suggestions. Final applications are due Feb. 18 by 4:30 p.m.

Who is eligible?

Only cities with local historic preservation ordinances, commissions and programs certified by the State Historic Preservation Office and the National Park Service 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, 651-296-5451.

Priority is 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; 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 2005 federal budget).

Grant guidelines, procedures and application forms can be found in the 2005 CLG grants manual, to be mailed to eligible cities in early December. For information before then, call the Grants Office, 651-296-5478.

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