



MINNESOTA

Preservation Planner

WINTER 2001, Vol. XII, No. 1

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

CALENDAR



Good news for historic preservation

More federal funds available

Preservationists across the nation have reason to celebrate this year. The federal government's Historic Preservation Fund for the states received a \$15 million increase for 2001. Minnesota's share of the full \$46.6 million appropriation is \$948,084 - an increase of more than 50 percent over funding levels of the past decade. A vote of confidence from Washington, the increase reaffirms the value of our nation's historic resources and the unique partnership between state, local, tribal and federal governments that framers of the National Historic Preservation Act envisioned.

The Historic Preservation Fund supports the work of Minnesota's State

These residences along South Broadway in New Ulm were surveyed during a recent CLG grant project.

Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in many ways. Monies, which must be matched with nonfederal sources, are used for historic property surveys, nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, reuse studies for threatened or underused National Register properties, resource protection planning, local government preservation programs, technical assistance to private parties on preservation and protection matters, development of historic properties and the monitoring of compliance with federal historic preservation requirements.

A portion of Minnesota's appropriation each year is awarded in matching grants to local governments

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Feb. 13: "Whose House Was This?" 6 to 7 p.m. Learn how to use resources such as city directories and photographs to uncover your house history. Minnesota History Center, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul. \$3 for MHS members, \$7 for nonmembers. Registration required; call 651-296-2143.

March 27: 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.

PUBLIC MEETINGS ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The State Historic Preservation Office will host three public meetings to discuss historic preservation planning as it relates to the needs of the general public, government agencies and communities throughout Minnesota.

We seek your input as we review goals of the statewide preservation plan issued in 2000 and set priorities for our 2001-02 work plan.

All meetings begin at 7 p.m., receptions at 6 p.m. No advance registration required. For more information call Michael Koop, 651-296-5451, or e-mail michael.koop@mnhs.org.

March 29: Hutchinson, McLeod County Historical Society

April 19: Albert Lea, location to be announced

May 3: Duluth, St. Louis County Historical Society (Depot)

Calendar continued on page 2

CALENDAR

GRANTS DEADLINES

During the 2001 winter grants cycle, applications will be accepted for federal Certified Local Government grants and the State Grants-in-Aid program. For more information call the grants office, 651-296-5478.

Jan. 26: Pre-application due.

March 2: Final deadline for all grant applications.

April 5: Grants Review Committee meets.

SAVED

Roseau County: Canadian National Depot (1914), Warroad. Warroad's depot, now used for city offices, was rehabilitated in part with a grant from the State Capital Grants-in-Aid program. Work included reconnecting large wooden brackets at the eaves, cleaning exterior brick, repointing deteriorated mortar and installing drain tile to eliminate standing water in the basement.



Canadian National Depot, Warroad.

Goodhue County: District #20 School (1889), Hay Creek Township. Also the beneficiary of grant funds from the State Capital Grants-in-Aid program, the District #20 School received a new roof, fascia, windows and accessible entrance. Inside, wood floors were refinished, the false ceiling removed and the electrical system upgraded. No longer used as a school, the building now serves as a polling place and a meeting site for the township board, local planning commission and 4-H club.



District #20 School, Hay Creek Township, after the addition of an accessible entrance.

REGISTRATION

Recent additions to the National Register of Historic Places

Hennepin County: East Lake Branch Library (1924), 2916 E. Lake St., Minneapolis. Prepared by Sue Granger and Kay Grossman.

Hennepin County: Franklin Branch Library (1914), 1314 W. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis. Prepared by Sue Granger and Kay Grossman.

Hennepin County: Sumner Branch Library (1915), 611 Emerson Ave. N., Minneapolis. Prepared by Sue Granger and Kay Grossman.

The Italian Renaissance Revival-style Franklin Branch Library (right) and the Tudor Revival-style Sumner Branch Library (far right) are two of 14 Minneapolis Public Library branch

buildings built or acquired between 1894 and 1936. They are among four libraries in the city built with Carnegie funds. Both are closely associated with the career of Gratia Alta Countryman (1866-1953), a leading figure in the development of the public library movement nationwide.



Franklin Branch Library, Minneapolis.

Countryman served as head of the Minneapolis Public Library from 1904 to 1936, a period during which the institution established most of its



Sumner Branch Library, Minneapolis.

outreach services, including branch libraries. She was a founding member of the American Library Association and later served as its president.

In addition to her library career, Countryman was active in many civic organizations, particularly those that addressed social welfare.

Capital grants awarded

Funded by the Minnesota Legislature, the capital grants program assists county and local jurisdictions with historic preservation projects of a capital nature. During the fiscal year 2001 fall grants cycle, sixteen grants totaling \$383,590 were awarded throughout the state.

Beltrami County: *Beltrami County, Bemidji.* \$30,000, east entrance restoration, phase 2, Beltrami County Courthouse.

Carlton County: *Carlton County Historical Society, Cloquet.* \$20,000, electrical system upgrade and HVAC installation, Shaw Memorial Library.

Carver County: *City of Carver.* \$18,758, restoration, Presbyterian Church.

Chippewa County: *Chippewa County Historical Society, Montevideo.* \$24,000, restoration, Olof Swensson Barn.



Split Rock Bridge, Eden Township, Pipestone County.

Hennepin County: *City of Robbinsdale.* \$18,000, mechanical/electrical upgrade, Hennepin County Library, Robbinsdale Branch.

Itasca County: *City of Coleraine.* \$10,550, stained glass restoration, Church of the Good Shepherd (Episcopal).

Lincoln County: *Lincoln County, Ivanhoe.* \$25,000, tuckpointing, Lincoln County Courthouse.



Dome restoration on the Sibley County Courthouse took the structure down to its steel supports (right).

Martin County: *City of Sberburn.* \$10,000, facade restoration, Community Hall.

Pennington County: *Red Lake Watershed District, Thief River Falls.* \$19,000, exterior restoration, Thief River Falls Public Library.

Pipestone County: *Pipestone County, Pipestone.* \$20,000, restoration, Split Rock Bridge.

Pope County: *City of Glenwood.* \$21,632, sprinkler system installation, Lakeside Pavilion Ballroom.

St. Louis County: *City of Duluth.* \$25,000, restoration, Lincoln Park Bandstand.

St. Louis County: *City of Buhl.* \$25,000, tuckpointing and exterior restoration, Buhl Public Library.

Sibley County: *Board of Commissioners for Sibley County, Gaylord.* \$50,000, dome restoration, Sibley County Courthouse.

Steele County: *City of Owatonna.* \$31,650, tuckpointing and exterior restoration, State School for Dependent and Neglected Children.

Washington County: *Washington County, Stillwater.* \$35,000, tuckpointing and brick repair, Washington County Courthouse.



Historic Preservation *continued from page 1*

and nonprofit organizations. This year these funds will be awarded during the winter grants cycle (see calendar, page 2). Federal regulations require that at least 10 percent of the annual allocation be awarded as pass-through grants to cities with Certified Local Government (CLG) status. For 2001, up to \$110,000 will be awarded to CLGs; eligible cities have already been notified of the increase. In addition, up to \$25,000 will be used to augment the winter-cycle State Grants-in-Aid program, funding historic structures reports for National Register properties. For more information call the grants office at 651-296-5478.

These increases couldn't have come at a better time for Minnesota. The funds will help jump-start initiatives of the statewide historic preservation plan issued last September. Be sure to let your congressional representatives know that this generous appropriation will make a big difference for historic preservation in Minnesota. We owe them our thanks.

- Britta L. Bloomberg, Deputy SHPO

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Funds available for reuse studies

Help for threatened properties

Each year the State Historic Preservation Office sets aside funds from its annual appropriation for reuse studies that examine potential uses for threatened historic properties. In 2001 approximately \$25,000 has been earmarked to assist up to 10 studies.

Projects meeting the following criteria are eligible:

- The property must be listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places and must be threatened, vacant or underused.
- The applicant must be a unit of government, public agency or nonprofit organization willing to host the reuse study team, facilitate the process and assist in preparation and presentation of the report. Matching funds and/or services for these activities are required.



The St. Louis County Jail (1924), part of Duluth's Civic Center complex, was the subject of a 1999 reuse study.

- The applicant must demonstrate an ability and commitment to implement recommendations made in the study.

Letters requesting this funding may be submitted at any time during the year. For more information call John Lauber, 651-297-4418, or Britta Bloomberg, 651-296-5471, or e-mail john.lauber@mnhs.org or britta.bloomberg@mnhs.org.



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