



MINNESOTA

Preservation Planner

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



Spectators watched as the Armstrong House inched along St. Paul's West Seventh Street. Now on a new foundation in the locally designated Irvine Park Historic District, the house will undergo rehabilitation by the city and conversion to condominiums.

Taking stock

Setting the stage for the year ahead

A year has passed since the latest statewide historic preservation plan was issued. It's now time for our annual review, as we assess our progress and seek input from our preservation partners across Minnesota to set priorities for the year ahead.

Fiscal year 2001 was marked by many notable accomplishments. Especially welcome after a number of lean years was the significant increase in the federal historic preservation fund (HPF) appropriation for the state. Here are just a few of the ways those resources were put to work. Some projects have been completed, others are ongoing.

- Certified Local Government (CLG) grants to 13 cities.
- Grants for two historic structures reports.
- Reuse studies for properties in Albert Lea, Fairmont and Duluth. HPF monies also leveraged other funds for studies in three additional communities.
- National Register nominations for eight properties, including a district nomination for historic properties on the University of Minnesota campus at Morris.
- Survey of Dodd Road.
- Education and training opportunities such as the annual statewide historic

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CALENDAR

March 19: 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 five-year statewide preservation plan and set priorities for our 2002-03 work plan.

All meetings begin at 7 p.m.; receptions at 6:30 p.m. No advance registration required. For more information call Michael Koop, 651-296-5451, or e-mail michael.koop@mnhs.org.

March 21: Shakopee, St. Mark's Catholic Church, 350 S. Atwood.

April 11: Waseca, Waseca County Historical Society, 315 Second Ave. N.E.

May 2: Fergus Falls, River Inn, 133 Mill St. S.

GRANT DEADLINES

During the 2002 winter grants cycle, applications will be accepted for federal Certified Local Government grants. For more information call the grants office, 651-296-5478.

Jan. 18: Pre-applications due by 4:30 p.m.

Feb. 22: Grant applications due by 4:30 p.m.

April 4: Grants Review Committee meets.

SAVED

Hennepin County: Kildall Fish Company Building (1914), Minneapolis. Built for Norwegian fish wholesaler Joseph Kildall, this Classical Revival-style warehouse has been rehabilitated using federal preservation tax incentives. Work included cleaning and repointing exterior masonry, replacing windows, removing interior partition walls, and installing new electrical and HVAC systems. The building now houses a restaurant, offices and warehouse.

Carver County: Wendelin Grimm Farmstead (ca. 1875), Laketown Twp. The Grimm Farmstead holds a place in the history of American

agriculture as the site where the country's first winter-hardy strain of alfalfa was developed. The property, built of Chaska brick, was rehabilitated in part with a grant from the State Capital Grants-in-Aid program. Work included grading the site and repairing the stone foundation; installing a new roof, gutters and downspouts; repairing three chimneys; repointing deteriorated mortar; and rebuilding the porch.



Grimm Farmstead, Carver County, before (top) and after (bottom) rehabilitation.

REGISTRATION

Recent additions to the National Register of Historic Places

Becker County: Holmes Block (1892, 1900), 710-718 Washington Ave., Detroit Lakes. Prepared by Hess, Roise and Co.

Fillmore County: Commercial House Hotel (1916), 146 S. Broadway, Spring Valley. Prepared by Hess, Roise and Co.

Hennepin County: Christ Church Lutheran (1948-49), 3244 34th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Prepared by Rolf Anderson.

Hennepin County: North East Neighborhood House (1919, 1927), 1929 Second St. N.E., Minneapolis. Prepared by Hess, Roise and Co.



Opened in 1919 and expanded in 1927, the North East Neighborhood House in northeast Minneapolis served as both an advocate for underprivileged residents and a portal into American society for arriving immigrants, then largely from Eastern Europe. Part of the settlement house movement in Minneapolis, it is a notable example of a social institution created solely for the betterment of the disadvantaged.



An outstanding example of modernist architecture, Christ Church Lutheran was designed by Eliel Saarinen, considered one of the most important architects and educators of the 20th century. Through his use of materials, proportion, scale and light, Saarinen created a building with great dramatic effect and architectural impact. The structure, pictured here in 1949, assumed a very human scale, giving it a feeling of serenity and repose.

Capital grants awarded

Funded by the Minnesota Legislature, 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 2002 fall grants cycle, 14 grants totaling \$266,583 were awarded.

Goodhue County: City of Pine Island, \$14,000; Pine Island Creamery restoration, phase two.

Jackson County: Jackson County, \$30,000; Jackson County Courthouse window replacement.

Kanabec County: City of Ogilvie, \$14,875; Ogilvie Water Tower restoration.

Koochiching County: Koochiching County, \$25,000; Koochiching County Courthouse courtroom restoration.

Lake County: Lake County, \$15,000; HVAC installation in Lake County Courthouse.

Pope County: Pope County, \$20,000; Pope County Courthouse

roof replacement.

Ramsey County: City of Shoreview, \$10,000; Lepak/Larson House restoration.

Rice County: City of Faribault, \$20,000; Thomas Scott Buckham Memorial Library masonry restoration.

Sherburne County: Independent School District 728, Elk River, \$10,000; Elk River High School stadium restoration.

St. Louis County: Embarrass Township, \$10,000; Pyhala Farmstead restoration.

Waseca County: City of Janesville, \$12,431; Janesville Free Public Library window restoration.

Washington County: Washington



This horse stable is one of several buildings on the Pyhala Farmstead in St. Louis County to be restored with a capital grant.

County Historic Courthouse, \$15,000; Washington County Courthouse masonry restoration.

Winona County: Winona County, \$50,000; Winona County Courthouse tuckpointing and exterior restoration.

Wright County: City of Howard Lake, \$20,277; Howard Lake City Hall roof and window replacement.

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preservation conference, held in Glenwood last fall.

- Technical assistance to communities, property owners, local citizens and organizations throughout the state.

One other preservation project got rolling last fall – literally. That was the five-block move of the J. M. Armstrong House to its new resting-place near downtown St. Paul – a process that took months of preparation and brought closure to the protracted debate about the property's future. Placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983, the house had been threatened with demolition to

make way for construction of the Smith Avenue Transit Hub. Fulfilling their responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Federal Highway Administration and the City of St. Paul worked with Minnesota's State Historic Preservation Office to find a way to preserve the house. A memorandum of agreement outlined the process for moving and rehabbing the property.

Not unexpectedly, federal funding levels for 2002 will fall. Minnesota's share of this year's HPF appropriation is \$787,684, roughly a 17-percent decrease from 2001. Nevertheless, these

resources will enable us to continue implementing the statewide preservation plan, our framework for future initiatives. Now it's a matter of clarifying priorities.

That's where you, our preservation partners, come in. Please join us for one of the planning sessions scheduled this spring (see calendar, page 1). It's up to each of us with a stake in preserving our historic resources to work together to accomplish our shared agenda.

– Britta L. Bloomberg, Deputy
State Historic Preservation Officer

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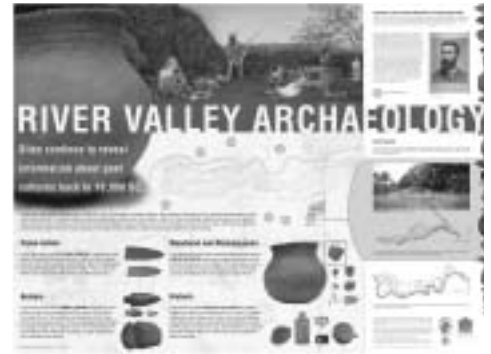
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Eden Prairie unveils interpretive project

History, archaeology and conservation share the spotlight in Eden Prairie thanks to a series of interpretive panels installed at five of the city's historic sites and environmental areas.

The collaborative project began with staff from the city's Community Development and Parks and Recreation departments, who selected the sites and defined the project's parameters. The sites they chose, all accessible to the public, represent a spectrum of Eden Prairie's historic and natural resources.

Historic photographs, plat maps and general research were supplied by the Eden Prairie Historical Society. Staff from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and Fort Snelling State Park reviewed interpretive materials on environmental topics. The city's Heritage Preservation Commission received a Certified Local



Three-by-four-foot fiberglass-embedded interpretive panels, like this one in Eden Prairie's Richard T. Anderson Conservation Area, help visitors appreciate the community's past.

Government grant to cover the cost of panel fabrication.

The project recently won an Award of Excellence from the Minnesota Recreation and Parks Association. For more information call John Gertz, City of Eden Prairie, 952-949-8454.



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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