

MINNESOTA



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# Preservation Planner

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



Rebecca Kumar, National Park Service

Last summer, Minnesota hosted the National Historic Landmark Stewards Conference, bringing together preservation partners from across the country. Participants toured the Oliver H. Kelley Farmstead, one of the state's 21 National Historic Landmarks.

## 'Gaining Ground'

### New statewide historic preservation plan released

This month, the Minnesota SHPO releases the new statewide historic preservation plan, *Gaining Ground: A Preservation Plan for Minnesota's Historic Properties, 2006-10*. The plan is intended as a blueprint that will guide historic preservation activities in Minnesota over the next five years.

You can check out the plan on the newly revised SHPO section of the Minnesota Historical Society web site. Go to [www.mnhs.org/shpo](http://www.mnhs.org/shpo) and click on "Preservation Plan."

#### Core values

Since we put forth the first statewide preservation plan in 1995,

we have built on a set of values underlying our shared goals for Minnesota's preservation community. Those values remain constant:

- Commitment to preservation education – because greater public awareness and understanding are key to addressing the critical needs of preservation today.
- Partnerships – because our success depends on working together to advance a shared preservation agenda.

#### A role for everyone

The challenge of developing a

*Gaining Ground continued on page 4*

## CALENDAR

### MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

**Feb. 24-March 3, repeated March 20-24:** Midwest Preservation Institute's Winter Institute is a week-long experiential workshop on masonry conservation and wood construction. Topics include assessing masonry conditions, identifying historic mortars, repointing mortar joints, understanding wood conservation, and assessing and repairing historic windows. Tuition: \$1,200. To register call 763-422-3303 or go to [www.anokaramsey.edu/continuing/midwest\\_preservation\\_institute](http://www.anokaramsey.edu/continuing/midwest_preservation_institute).

**March 28:** 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

Matching grants are available through the Certified Local Government program for qualifying cities. Approximately \$70,000 will be awarded in this round. Funding comes from the U.S. Department of Interior's National Park Service. For information call the Grants Office, 651-296-5478, or go to [www.mnhs.org/shpo/grants/clg.htm](http://www.mnhs.org/shpo/grants/clg.htm).

**Jan. 13:** Pre-application due by 4:30 p.m.

**Feb. 17:** Application due by 4:30 p.m.

**March 30:** Grants Review Committee meets.

### PRESERVE AMERICA DEADLINES

The Preserve America Communities program recognizes communities that protect their historic assets. To apply for designation as a Preserve America community, submit an application by one of this year's quarterly deadlines: **March 1, June 1, Sept. 1 or Dec. 16.** For more information go to [www.preserveamerica.gov](http://www.preserveamerica.gov).

# SAVED

**Hennepin County: Franklin Branch Library (1914), Minneapolis.** This Renaissance Revival building is the oldest public library in Minneapolis and the first Carnegie-funded library in the city. Rehabilitation, funded in part with a grant from the State Capital Projects Grants-in-Aid program, included installing new mechanical systems and electrical and water service.



The brick-and-terra-cotta Franklin Branch Library in 1914 (left) and after rehabilitation.

**LeSueur County: Hilltop Hall (1892), Montgomery.** Built as the social center of Montgomery's downtown business district, Hilltop Hall was converted into retail and rental space using federal preservation tax incentives. Work included cleaning and repointing exterior masonry, installing new windows, painting the storefront, and installing a new roof and mechanical systems.



Hilltop Hall before (left) and after rehabilitation as retail and rental space.

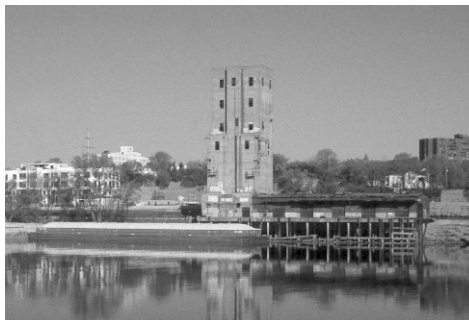
# REGISTRATION

## Recent additions to the National Register of Historic Places

**Olmsted County: Dr. Donald C. Balfour House (1910), 427 6th Ave. S.W., Rochester.** Prepared by Elizabeth Gales.

**Ramsey County: St. Paul Municipal Grain Terminal (1931), 266 Old Shepard Rd., St. Paul.** Prepared by John Anfinson.

**Winona County: Winona High School and Winona Junior High School (1917, 1926), 166 and 218 W. Broadway St., Winona.** Prepared by Elizabeth Gales.



Located on the Mississippi River in downtown St. Paul, the Municipal Grain Terminal consists of a concrete headhouse and sackhouse designed to facilitate the movement of bulk and sacked grain from the St. Paul Milling Company plant to river barges. The terminal is the only remaining structure of a grain storage and transfer facility that grew from the country's first farmer-owned cooperative terminal elevator.



The construction of Winona Junior High School and the adjacent Winona High School with its attached auditorium-gymnasium reflects the aspirations of the Winona Board of Education to build modern facilities that applied progressive education theory. Designed to showcase educational trends of the time, the schools also provided the community with cultural experiences through the Community Concert Series, which brought professional musicians to small towns across the country.

# Capital grants awarded in 19 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 fall grants cycle of fiscal year 2006, 22 grants totaling \$1,012,000 were awarded.

**Beltrami County:** Beltrami County, \$60,000, Beltrami County Courthouse restoration.

**Big Stone County:** Big Stone County, \$51,250, Big Stone County Courthouse restoration.

**Clay County:** City of Barnesville, \$45,165, Barnesville City Hall window replacement and repointing.

**Fillmore County:** Preston Historical Society, \$22,500, Preston Milwaukee Elevator restoration.



The 1915 Northern Pacific Passenger Depot in Wadena will be restored with the aid of a capital grant.

**Goodhue County:** Roscoe Township, \$13,060, Roscoe Center School and Town Hall restoration.

**Hennepin County:** Municipal Building Commission, \$94,300, Minneapolis City Hall / Hennepin County Courthouse clock tower restoration.

**Hennepin County:** Friendship Ventures, \$79,300, Glen Lake Children's Camp dormitory and dining hall preservation.

**Hubbard County:** Hubbard County, \$45,000, Hubbard County Courthouse repointing.

**Jackson County:** Jackson County, \$70,000, Jackson County Courthouse dome and mural restoration.

**Martin County:** Martin County Preservation Association, \$27,050, First Church of Christ Scientist elevator and storm window project.

**Meeker County:** City of Litchfield, \$65,000, Litchfield Opera House restoration.

**Pipestone County:** Pipestone County, \$26,489, Pipestone County Courthouse entrance restoration.

**Renville County:** Renville County, \$65,000, Renville County Courthouse restoration.

**St. Louis County:** City of Aurora, \$14,900, Aurora City Hall accessibility project.



With funds from a capital grant, interior mold will be removed and exterior brick repaired on the Renaissance Revival-style Litchfield Opera House, built in 1900.

**Stearns County:** City of St. Cloud Parks Department, \$30,000, Barden Park Bandstand restoration.

**Stearns County:** City of Kimball, \$25,000, Kimball Prairie Village Hall restoration.

**Todd County:** Todd County, \$45,000, Todd County Courthouse repointing and window replacement.

**Wadena County:** Partners for a Healthy Wadena Region, \$79,300, Northern Pacific Passenger Depot restoration.

**Waseca County:** Waseca M&StL Depot Society, \$30,000, Minneapolis and St. Louis Depot restoration, phase III.

**Waseca County:** Byron Township, \$30,000, Matawan School preservation.

**Washington County:** Washington County, \$25,000, Washington County Courthouse window replacement.

**Winona County:** City of Winona, \$69,000, Winona Masonic Temple electrical/mechanical upgrade.

## New Preservation Briefs available

Two new publications from the National Park Service will be of interest to preservationists:

*Preservation Briefs 43: The Preparation and Use of Historic Structure Reports*, by Deborah Slaton, defines the HSR and describes its use. Topics include research steps, site inspection, evaluation and treatment

recommendations. The brief also explains how historic structure reports are applied to the development of design and construction documents.

*Preservation Briefs 44: The Use of Awnings on Historic Buildings: Repair, Replacement and New Design*, by Chad Randl, provides a comprehensive overview of the practical and aesthetic

uses of various types of awnings over time. In addition to guidance on awning maintenance, preservation, repair and replacement, the brief offers suggestions for new-awning designs compatible with historic buildings.

All 44 Preservation Briefs are available online at [www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/publications](http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/publications).

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## Gaining Ground *continued from page 1*

statewide plan is a big one: shaping a vision that motivates and mobilizes Minnesota's entire preservation community. Whether you are the owner of a historic property, a local elected official, a preservation professional or an interested citizen, we hope you will find your place in this plan. There is a role for everyone who wants to get involved. To encourage wider ownership of the plan, we have made the Preservation Community section of the plan as inclusive as possible.

And for the first time, the statewide plan includes suggestions for how to get involved if you are new to historic preservation or a newcomer to Minnesota.

### A bold vision

The plan casts a bold vision for the future of historic preservation in Minnesota: we see preservation thriving in *all* its dimensions. Despite a period of setbacks and unprecedented volatility

in historic preservation funding, recent gains for preservation have been considerable. Some of our many accomplishments are highlighted in the Progress Report section of the plan. And so our plan's title, "Gaining Ground," strikes a positive note. Minnesota's preservation community remains vigorous. We are indeed gaining ground.

### Share your successes

As with previous statewide preservation plans, the SHPO will monitor the progress of preservation activities across the state. Keep us informed as your communities and organizations carry out your important work of preserving Minnesota's historic properties. Together, we will accomplish our goals.

*- Britta L. Bloomberg, Deputy  
State Historic Preservation Officer*

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