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207 Lafayette Street
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January 2, 2014

Heritage Preservation Commissioners
Winona, Minnesota 55987

Dear Commissioner:

The next meeting of the Heritage Preservation Commission will be held on **Wednesday, January 8, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. in the Heritage Room** of the Winona City Hall.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Minutes – November 13, 2013**
3. **Update NR Nomination Form by Greg Gaut**
4. **Discussion – Proposed Programmatic Agreement related to the Bridge Project**
5. **CLG Grant – 2014 – Discuss Ideas for Grant Proposal**
6. **Other Business**
7. **Adjournment**

Sincerely,

Mark Moeller
City Planner

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

DATE: November 13, 2013

TIME: 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Lynn Englund, Mary Edel Beyer, Merle Hanson, Shaune Burke, Carolyn Larson, Kendall Larson and Wes Hamilton

ABSENT: Andy Bloedorn and Susan Briggs

STAFF PRESENT: Mark Moeller

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairperson Englund.

The minutes from the Commission's meeting of September 25, 2013, were reviewed and upon motion by Commissioner Edel Beyer and second by Commissioner Burke, were unanimously approved as submitted.

Update from Greg Gaut Relative to the National Register Nomination Process for 125 West Fifth Street

Chairperson Englund called on Greg Gaut, Historic Consultant, to provide an update of this nomination.

Mr. Gaut reminded the Commission that he had been retained by the City to prepare a National Register Nomination Form for 125 West Fifth Street, commonly referred to as the Winona Lumber Exchange Building. Given that research of this property had been initiated, Mr. Gaut presented a number of pictures he had taken of the interior. Generally, both the exterior and interior of the building have retained a majority of original features.

Mr. Gaut noted that the consideration of a property on the National Register requires two major steps. The first of these being a hearing by the Minnesota Historical Society State Review Board who makes a recommendation to the Parks Service for final approval. He stated that prior to the State's consideration of a nomination, notice is provided to a number of agencies and persons, one of which is the building owner. Following that, the owner is entitled to submit comment of a nomination and to formally object to a nomination if he or she so desires.

Mr. Gaut then presented a partially completed nomination form for the property. He stated that Landscape Research had completed an evaluation of the property a few years ago. From this evaluation, it had been recommended that the Winona Lumber Exchange Building be nominated for listing on the National Register. Generally, reasons for this recommendation pertain to both the architectural style of the building and the fact that, until recently, it had been occupied by Winona's oldest company. In further describing the form, he noted that it contains two general parts. The first being to describe the property and its integrity, the second to describe its historic significance.

Mr. Gaut stated that the Laird Norton Company has hired the custodian from the adjoining church to keep an eye on the building and that he had been fortunate in locating original plans for the structure. Interestingly, these plans assigned offices to specific individuals. Although these documents are very fragile, it was hoped that the County Historical Society would be able to stabilize them so they can be scanned and digitally preserved.

Chairperson Englund thanked Mr. Gaut for his presentation and noted that she looked forward to final results of the process.

Discussion-Design Guidelines

Chairperson Englund called on Mark Moeller, City Planner, to provide a summary of this agenda item. Mr. Moeller noted that although specific design guidelines do exist for downtown historic districts, such guidelines do not extend to individual, commercial, and residential properties located away from these districts. Given recent discussion with staff at SHPO, it was suggested that the City, at some point in the future, consider the establishment of guidelines that would address maintenance and rehabilitation standards of designated historic sites located outside of downtown historic districts. He further suggested that a Certified Local Government grant, with the possible assistance of a Legacy Grant, could be established for this purpose. He suggested that this was an issue that could be further discussed prior to the submittal of a preliminary Certified Local Government Grant application. The consensus of those present was that this would be appropriate.

Other Business

Chairperson Englund noted that the agenda cover sheet does include results of Design Review Committee meetings during the month of October. From this, Certificates of Appropriateness were issued for two projects. One was the construction of a new business sign at 207 East Third Street; the other was the replacement of doors and windows at 66 East Third Street.

Chairperson Englund stated that a letter had been submitted to MnDOT last month noting concerns of the process for the design of the new interstate bridge. In short, the letter highlighted Commission concerns that the process did not seek Commission input. Following receipt of that letter, she had received an email from Terry Ward (MnDOT Project Manager) asking if she would like to meet to discuss the issue. Although MnDOT representatives did offer to personally attend the Commission's December meeting, those in attendance did not feel this was necessary, and that a conference call between a representative sample of Commission members and MnDOT representatives would suffice. With this, it was suggested that MnDOT be contacted to determine when a conference call could be established. Mr. Moeller stated that he would contact MnDOT for some options and then provide those to the Commission. Although all would be certainly welcome to attend the meeting, once options are available, he would need an idea of who would be in attendance. If a majority of the Commission is in attendance, the meeting would have to be published as a public.

Following a question, Mr. Moeller replied that it was his understanding that fire damaged buildings at the corner of Third and Center Street would be removed starting on Thursday.

Again, the removal action was being required from the standpoint that fire damage was significant and that rehabilitation was not feasible in this case.

Following further discussion, it was suggested that a letter be provided to all property owners who were impacted as a result of the fire offering assistance where the Commission can provide it.

Adjournment
There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

_____
Mark Moeller
City Planner

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

AGENDA ITEM: NR Nomination – Lumber Exchange Building

DATE: January 8, 2014

Given recent submittal from Greg Gaut, a draft copy of the NR Nomination Form for the Lumber Exchange Building is attached. Mr. Gaut will be in attendance to present the form. It is emphasized that this form is in a draft state and is currently undergoing review by a number of outside sources. Although formal approval of the document is not being requested at this time, the Commission should provide comment or direction to Mr. Gaut as needed.

Attachment

NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Laird, Norton Co. Building
Other names/site number: Lumber Exchange Building
Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing

2. Location

Street & number: 125 West Fifth Street
City or town: Winona State: Minnesota County: Winona
Not For Publication: n/a Vicinity: n/a

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___**national** ___**statewide** ___**local**

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___**A** ___**B** ___**C** ___**D**

Signature of certifying official/Title: **Date**

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:	x
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	x
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

Laird, Norton Co. Building
Name of Property

Winona County, MN
County and State

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register NONE

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE/office building

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Italian Renaissance

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK AND LIMESTONE

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Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Laird, Norton Co., one of the lumber firms which dominated Winona's riverfront, built a headquarters at 125 W. Fifth Street in downtown Winona in 1917 to house its corporate leadership and the two subsidiaries which operated its retail lumber yards. Designed in Second Renaissance Revival style by the Chicago firm of Schmidt, Garden and Martin, the rectangular flat-roofed brick and stone building has two stories and a full basement. The most prominent exterior feature is the central entrance which has two bronze doors recessed in a two story coffered limestone barrel vault. Except for the last few years, the building has been continually occupied by Laird, Norton Co. or its successor companies and retains its essential integrity. The exterior facades, with the exception of the windows, are unchanged. The dramatic two story lobby with its central staircase, balconies, marbled walls, and stained glass skylight retains its original finishes and fixtures.

Narrative Description

Exterior

The Laird, Norton Co. building is a rectangular two-story reinforced concrete structure with full basement.[1] The elevations are clad in a dark brown brick laid in a Flemish bond pattern accented with Oneota Dolomite, a local limestone often referred to as "Winona travertine."

The front façade, facing generally north, runs parallel to Fifth Street for 121 feet set back about 15 feet from the sidewalk. The west façade runs for 91 feet along Johnson Street and is directly opposite the Winona Public Library (NRHP, 1977). The east façade is identical in length to the west façade and faces an alley which separates it from the rear façade of the Winona Masonic Temple (NRHP, 1998). The rear or south façade has 30-foot wide bays on the east and west ends which project out about 15 feet, framing a central alcove about 60 feet wide. The south façade opens unto a surface parking lot which connects with a larger parking lot owned by Central United Methodist Church which occupies the entire southern half of the block and has its main entrance on Broadway (Sixth Street).

As is typical of Renaissance Revival buildings, the primary facades are "organized into distinct horizontal divisions," each of which is articulated differently.[2] The north (front) façade is symmetrically organized around the central entrance (described below) but the window openings of the first and second floor differ (Photo #1). Above a limestone base there are six evenly spaced windows on the first floor level, three on each side of the main entrance. Each sits on a limestone spandrel and has a limestone hood with a capstone. As is true throughout the building, the original steel six-lite casement sash have been replaced with similar metal-clad casement sash with fixed transoms. On the second floor, there are five evenly spaced windows on each side of the central entrance. They share a single continuous limestone hood and limestone sills which are linked as a belt course. Above these windows is a stone cornice which separates the main façade from a brick parapet which has a stone cap. Above the central entrance, a carved limestone medallion adorns the parapet, and above the medallion, a stone crest and a flagpole rest on the top edge of the parapet.

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[1] Although many Winonans called it the "Lumber Exchange Building,'" the Laird, Norton Co. never used this term nor approved of it. In a January 11, 1956 letter to the Winona County Historical Society, Ward Lucas, president of one of the subsidiaries of Laird, Norton Co which occupied the building, wrote that the company couldn't prevent the public from using the name "Lumber Exchange," but the company had in fact never named the building. A sign was never erected, save for the "125" over the door, due to "the retiring nature of the Laird, Norton people." Laird-Norton files, Winona County Historical Society archives. Various documents, including those related to architects and contractors, refer to the property as the Laird, Norton Co. Building during the course of its history. For reasons noted in Section 8, after 1962 many referred to it as the United Building Centers headquarters.

[2] John Blumenson, *Identifying American Architecture,* 2nd ed. (Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1981), p. 40-41; Marcus Whiffin, *American Architecture since 1780: A Guide to the Styles*. Rev. Ed. (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1992). p. 75-79. This building is a restrained application of Second Renaissance Revival style. For example, in many buildings in this style a stone balustrade tops the primary façade, whereas the Laird, Norton Co. Building has a simple brick parapet with stone cap.

The prominent central entrance is recessed in a two story barrel vault made of coffered limestone (Photo #5). A scroll-shaped crown adorns the peak of the arch where the barrel vault meets the front façade. In front of the barrel vault entrance is a limestone platform reached by four steps from the street level. A bronze and glass light fixture hangs from the apex of the vault. The double bronze doors and bronze 21-lite transom have a limestone surround and an arched limestone pediment. A limestone shield and pineapple are placed within the pediment. Above the pediment and under the arch of the barrel vault is a multi-paned segmental arch window.

East and west façade are identical (Photos #2, 3). The first floor has six evenly spaced windows which are identical in size and ornament to the first floor windows on the front elevation. The second floor features nine windows of the same shape and size as the second floor windows on the front elevation. However, seven are grouped together and share one continuous limestone hood and sill, and the remaining two stand alone and flank this grouping on the north and south ends of the elevation. The limestone base and cornice, as well as the brick parapet, are the same as on the north façade.

The south (rear) façade is functional and unadorned (Photo #4). There are few windows, and they lack ornamental stone hoods or sills. However, in the center of the rear façade there are three large arched windows which illuminate the lobby. There is no stone cornice. At the center of the façade at grade level is the rear entrance, now enclosed by two aluminum and glass replacement doors. These doors and the front doors provide the only access to the building.

The building has a flat roof. Originally there was a large rectangular skylight in the center of the roof which allowed natural light to illuminate the stained glass described below. Because of leaking, this skylight was replaced by a roof in 2004. There are two brick chimneys, one servicing the original boiler, which is still in use, and one the fireplace in the second floor conference room described below.

Interior

A visitor entering through the deeply recessed central entrance on the north façade passes through a barrel vaulted vestibule about 13 feet, 7 inches wide which is separated from the lobby by two wood framed doors with full glass panes, 12-lite sidelights, and a segmental arch with multi-paned transom. The lobby is a dramatic two story space which is 30 feet wide and runs the full depth of the building (Photo #6). Opposite the main entrance at the center of the south wall is an imposing double-return staircase with a 7 foot wide central flight reaching a landing from which side flights rise to landings at the southeast and southwest corners of the lobby from which final flights to the north reach the five-foot wide balcony which wraps around the east, north and west sides of the lobby and provides access to the second floor offices. The railings of the stairway and balconies have intricately patterned wrought iron balusters topped with wood trim.

The walls of the lobby are clad in grey marble panels on all four sides up to about seven feet. These marble panels rest on a black marble base, and above them are lath and plaster walls painted in a buttery beige. The floor is terrazzo in a diagonally-placed checkerboard pattern, with

alternating tan and black squares. The treads, risers and landings of the stairways are all in the tan terrazzo. The marble walls and terrazzo floor also continue into the vestibule. The lobby is lit by six large hexagonal fixtures which hang from the ceiling and by a series of sconces mounted in the marble walls. The ceiling features a large stained glass window divided into fifteen rectangular sections which originally was illuminated by a skylight (Photo #7). As noted above, the skylight has been replaced by a roof and the glass is now lit by electric lights. There is elaborate plaster molding featuring dentals and rosettes at the top the lobby where the plaster walls meet the ceiling. A Wells-Fargo clock in a walnut frame, now gone, was originally mounted at the center of the fascia below the balcony railing on the north side of the lobby.

The first floor of the lobby has four doors which provide access to the office areas. On the west wall near the stairway and in the northwest corner are doors which access offices in the building's west wing. On the east wall of the lobby and in the northeast corner there are doors that provide access to the east wing. In addition, there are two doors in the south wall of the first floor to the east and west of the central staircase. The door to the east opens unto a utility room. The door to the west leads down a short flight of stairs to the rear entrance and to the basement stairs. Finally, the original construction included a 5 x 6-foot elevator which is entered through a door in the east wall of the lobby near the northeast corner.

Each of the four doors on the first floor that lead to offices open into passageways which have a series of five small closets each enclosed by a quarter-sawn oak door and trim. The passageways on the south provide access to bathrooms (a women's room on the east, and a men's room on the west). Along the north exterior wall, there are three executive offices east of the main entrance, and three to the west. Both the east and west wings have large vaults along the load-bearing walls which separate the lobby from the office spaces. The rest of the space on the east and west wings are divided into offices of varying sizes, generally small offices around the perimeter and a large general space in the center.

The second floor generally follows the plan of the first with the same pattern of four doors on the balcony level giving access to the second floor offices. On the west side, where the Laird, Norton Co. corporate office was originally located, there is a men's toilet room, while on the east side the similar space is divided into a men's and women's room. There are large vaults on both the east and west wings. Like the first floor, the west wing has three large executive offices along the south façade and other private office around the perimeter with a general office space in the center. Above the main entrance and vestibule is a small room which was originally used by the stenographer of the Laird, Norton Co. president, but which recently has served as the library. Its east wall is completely filled with a built-in book case with glass doors. The office in the southwest corner, originally the conference room, features wood paneling, a large limestone fireplace, and bas-relief ornamental plasterwork in the ceiling (Photo #8). The east wing of the second floor was left unfinished in the original construction and although various interior partitions were added over the years, all exterior walls in the east wing remain exposed common brick.

The basement was originally unfinished and was intended for mechanicals and storage. There are three more vaults on this level, two directly below the first and second floor vaults, and one below the entrance vestibule. In recent, years, some of the basement has been remodeled for offices and an employee break room. There is also an attic space above the second floor which provides access to mechanicals and originally to the skylight. There is no evidence of the artesian well which reportedly was dug just south of the building but there appears to be an electrical pump from the period in a room in the southeast corner of the basement in the boiler room.

The building has a very high level of integrity because it exhibits the essential physical features that convey its historic identity, including design, materials, and workmanship. The stone and brick work which define the exterior design are completely unchanged. There are replacement windows, but they have been selected to resemble the originals. Various office spaces have been remodeled to meet changing needs over the years, but the two uniquely designed spaces, the lobby and the second floor conference room, are essentially the same as they were in 1917. The lobby retains its terrazzo floors, stairways, and balconies; the wrought iron railings; and the marble walls. Although the original skylight has been replaced by a roof, the dramatic fifteen-panel stained glass installation in lobby ceiling continues to command a visitor's attention. The conference room retains its large limestone fireplace and the white pine paneling selected by the owners.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [x] A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [ ] C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

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Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- [ ] A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- [ ] B. Removed from its original location
- [ ] C. A birthplace or grave
- [ ] D. A cemetery
- [ ] E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- [ ] F. A commemorative property
- [ ] G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE

Period of Significance

1917-1958

Significant Dates

1917

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Schmidt, Garden and Martin (Chicago, Illinois)
Seidlitz & Werner (Winona, Minnesota)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Laird, Norton Co. Building is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of commerce for its association with the lumber industry in Minnesota. The property is related to the statewide historic contexts of "St. Croix Triangle Lumbering 1830s-1900s," "Railroads and Agricultural Development, 1870-1940" and "Urban Centers, 1870-1940." The Laird, Norton Co. was the largest and most successful of the lumbering firms which developed sawmills on the Winona riverfront in the 1850s to turn the white pine of the St. Croix and Chippewa River valleys into the lumber needed to build homes and barns. Using Winona's strategic location as a river port and railroad hub, Laird, Norton Co. pioneered the use of "line yards," retail lumber outlets in towns which developed along the Winona & St. Peter Railroad as it extended its tracks into South Dakota. When the Wisconsin pineries were depleted, Laird, Norton Co. shifted its capital to the forests of Idaho and the Pacific Northwest but retained its retail system which evolved into the building materials supply stores of today. In 1917, the company built the Laird, Norton Co. Building to house its corporate headquarters and the offices of two subsidiaries which operated its line yards in Minnesota and South Dakota. The period of significance begins with the construction of the building in 1917 and continues until 1958 when the Laird Norton Co. moved its corporate office to Seattle. In 1962, it merged its retail subsidiaries into the United Building Centers (UBC) which became part of Pro-Build Holdings, Inc. in 2010.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Laird Norton Company and the Winona Lumber Industry

European-Americans first settled the land that became the city of Winona in 1851 shortly before the U.S. government and the Mdewakanton Dakota signed the Treaty of Mendota, which opened up the west bank of the Mississippi River for settlement. Winona was incorporated as a city in 1857, and thanks to lumber, grain, steamboats and railroads, this small settlement on a Mississippi sandbar grew quickly into a commercial center for the upper Midwest.

Shipping and milling wheat was the city's original economic motor, and by 1870, Winona ranked fourth behind Chicago, Milwaukee and Toledo as a primary grain market. In 1875, thirteen grain mills operated in Winona County. By the late 1880s, the wheat industry surrounding Winona had declined. Timber processing, however, was on the rise, and in the final analysis, was the most important factor in Winona's commercial development.[3] The first saw mill on Winona's riverfront went into operation in 1855 and was soon joined by several others, all of which were regularly expanded and upgraded. Winona's mills processed the timber

[3] William Crozier, "A Social History of Winona, Minnesota 1865-1895." Ph.D dissertation, University of Nebraska, 1975. P. 38.

cut in the great white pine forests of the "St. Croix Triangle" formed by the St. Croix and Chippewa rivers. Local lumbermen benefited greatly from Winona's strategic location just thirty miles downstream from where the Chippewa joins the Mississippi. By 1870, Winona was one of the nation's top lumber processing and marketing centers.

Transportation was the key to Winona's growth. During its first decade, Winona's commercial prominence was based on steamboat traffic. However, Winona's entrepreneurs recognized very early that their future depended on railroad development. In 1855, a group of Winona businessmen organized the Transit Railroad and managed to get a land grant of 1.7 million acres to finance a line to the west. A first attempt to begin laying track fizzled in 1858. In 1862 the investors reorganized the railroad as the Winona and St. Peter and managed to extend track west to St. Charles in 1863, Rochester in 1864, St. Peter in 1770, and Dakota Territory in 1872. As a result, Winona became a hub where logs floated down the river could be processed into lumber and then loaded onto trains for shipment westward.[4]

In 1851, John C. Laird emigrated from Pennsylvania and staked a claim in Winona.[5] When his brothers Matthew J. Laird and William H. Laird arrived in 1855 with a small amount of capital, they organized a partnership to retail lumber bought from the mills already established on the St. Croix and Chippewa rivers. This was Winona's first lumber yard. The following year their cousins James L. Norton and Matthew G. Norton moved from Pennsylvania and joined them in a partnership.[6] The new firm, christened Laird, Norton & Co., built a saw mill and began to mill logs coming from the St. Croix River valley. Unfortunately, their new saw mill debuted just as the economic depression known as the Panic of 1857 deflated demand for lumber. Probably because of the decline in the lumber business, John C. Laird and Matthew J. Laird left to pursue other interests, primarily farming, leaving William H. Laird, James L. Norton, and Mathew G. Norton to build their lumber business.[7] After a lean period, trade picked up, and the company became very profitable. When their business became more complex, the partners decided in 1883 to transform the partnership known as Laird, Norton & Co into the privately-held corporation called the Laird, Norton Co.[8]

Laird, Norton Co. shared the Winona riverfront with several other lumber firms. Their main competitors were the Youmans Bros. and Hodgins Lumber Company and the Empire Lumber Company. Earl and Addison Youmans put their first sawmill into operation in 1857 on the

[4] Franklin Curtis-Wedge, *History of Winona County,* 2 volumes (Chicago: H. C. Cooper, Jr. and Co., 1913), p. 177ff.
[5] Fred W. Kohlmeyer, *Timber Roots: The Laird, Norton Story, 1855-1905* (Winona, Minn.: Winona County Historical Society, 1972), p 27; Patricia Latourette Lucas, *Branching Out: The History of the Laird Norton Family* (Novato, CA: Presidio, 1989) p. 41ff.
[6] Kohlmeyer, p. 39. The Lairds and Nortons were Scots whose grandfathers had migrated to Pennsylvania from northern Ireland. Kohlmeyer, p 3-20. Lucas, p. 7-11.
[7] Kohlmeyer, p. 50. As a result, William H. Laird, James L. Norton and Mathew G. Norton are commonly referred to as the "founders" of the Laird, Norton Co. However, as noted below, relatives of John C. and Mathew J. Laird played significant roles in the development of the Laird, Norton Co.
[8] Kohlmeyer, p 202.

riverfront west of downtown. In 1870 they tore down their original mill and replaced it with a larger and more advanced operation. The following year, they formed a partnership with Abner Hodgins to form Youmans Brothers and Hodgins Lumber Company. A third lumbering business was formed in the 1860s by Charles Horton and Andrew Hamilton. In 1880, Andrew Hamilton sold his interests to Horton who then merged his company with an Eau Claire firm to become Empire Lumber Company. The following year, Laird Norton created the Winona Lumber Company with Andrew Hamilton. This firm was actually a subsidiary rather than a competitor, and in any case, Andrew Hamilton sold his interests to Laird, Norton Co. in 1894. All four companies had sawmills, millwork shops, and offices along the riverfront.[9]

All the lumbering companies faced similar challenges. They needed a stable supply of timber, efficient mills to manufacture lumber, and access to wholesale and retail markets for their product. The three partners of Laird, Norton Co. worked together in one large office and shared all major decisions. However, each specialized in one aspect of the business: Mathew Norton was in charge of procuring logs and overall finances, James Norton was in charge of saw mill operations, and William Laird was responsible for marketing.[10]

Logs, sawmills, and lineyards

In the early days the Winona lumbermen relied on timber grown in the Chippewa River watershed.[11] The logs were gathered, sorted and formed into rafts at Beef Slough, a branch of the Chippewa near its confluence with the Mississippi. The rafts could then be moved down the big river to Winona. To resolve the technical problems of dealing with thousands of floating logs and to reduce the squabbling among the various companies who owned them, Frederick Weyerhaeuser, a lumberman based in Rock Island, Illinois, organized the various Mississippi lumbermen into a cooperative venture called the Mississippi River Logging Company in 1871. Laird, Norton Co was a major part of this endeavor, which marked the beginning of a long and profitable association between the Weyerhaeuser, Laird and Norton families.[12]

At first, Laird, Norton Co. bought logs cut by companies which owned timberland. Gradually they began buying land in the Chippewa Valley, first on their own, and later in partnership with Weyerhaeuser and others. When Chippewa timber began to decline, they purchased land in the St. Croix Valley and then increasingly land farther north in Wisconsin and northern Minnesota. When the Northern Pacific Railroad put enormous acreage in the Pacific Northwest on the market in 1900, Weyerhaeuser persuaded Laird, Norton Co. to join him in this investment. The 900,000 acres they bought formed the basis of the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company of Tacoma. Frederick Weyerhaeuser was the first president and William Laird the first vice-president of this

[9] Curtiss-Wedge, pp. 177-184
[10] Kohlmeyer, p 182-185.
[11] Ralph W. Hidy, and Frank E. Hill, Allan Nevins. *Timber and Men; the Weyerhaeuser Story:1888-1969* (New York, Macmillan, 1963), pp 43.
[12] William Laird was the first secretary of the company. Kohlmeyer, p. 82ff; Hidy, p 50-53; Anges M. Larson, *History of the White Pine Industry in Minnesota* Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1949), p 138ff.

enterprise, which exists today as Weyerhaeuser Co.[13] They were also involved with Weyerhaeuser in the formation of what became the Potlatch Lumber Company and Boise-Payette Company in Idaho.[14] Eventually Allison White Laird, a nephew of William Laird, became general manager of the Potlatch operation, which at that time was the largest sawmill in the world.[15]

Once logs were cut down and floated down the river to Winona, they had to be turned into marketable lumber. Whereas various lumber companies often bought timberland in partnership with each other, each company built and managed its own saw mills. Under the direction of James Norton, the Laird, Norton Co. replaced its original saw mill in 1878 with a much larger steam driven saw mill with an elevated railway to move timber through the yard and to the company's warehouses. By this time the company employed 250 men and manufactured every kind of lumber needed for homebuilding, including fancy trim. When a fire destroyed this mill in 1887, the company built a larger, more modern mill which eventually employed 400 men (Figure #1). Norton also oversaw the construction of a large mill for the Winona Lumber Company when that company was created by Laird, Norton Co. in 1880.[16]

The third challenge was to get the lumber to market. This was the era of massive settlement of the mostly treeless prairies of Minnesota, Iowa and the Dakotas, and everything on the prairies would at first be built of wood. Farmers needed wood for houses, barns, sheds, wagons, tubs, water tanks, hayracks, and the like, and towns needed wood for houses, shops, hotels, carriages, boardwalks, and most everything else. As noted, lumber companies in Winona were well placed to meet this need. Their saw mills along the Mississippi would supply the product and the railroads would haul it west to the settlers.

Although Winona was eventually served by five railroads, the Laird, Norton Co. shipped its lumber primarily on the Winona and St. Peter (later owed by the Chicago and Northwestern), the pioneering railroad which eventually stretched 500 miles west across the prairie.[17] Perhaps because Laird and the Norton brothers had retailed lumber even before they built their first sawmill, they acted quickly when the Winona and St. Peter began laying tracks west. In 1864, they opened their first retail lumber yard at St. Charles in western Winona County. This was the first "line yard" established by a Winona firm, and in that same year they added line yards at

[13] Kohlmeyer, p. 286-7. The Weyerhaeuser group invested $1.8 million and the Laird, Norton Co. contributed $1.2 million to the original capital. Hidy, p. 213.
[14] Kohlmeyer, p. 294ff.
[15] Allison Laird was the son of John C. Laird, one of William Laird's brothers who had been involved with the company at its origins. Kohlmeyer, p. 296ff.
[16] Kohlmeyer, pp 182ff. Through this period James Norton struggled with declining vision. He began going blind in 1868 at age 42. He was completely blind by the mid-1890s.
[17] Although they were not involved in the development of the Winona and St. Peter, the Laird, Norton Co. partners did invest in the ill-fated Winona and South Western Railway Co which never made money and was eventually bought by the Chicago and Great Western. Kohlmeyer, p. 63-65.

Rochester and Kasson. After the war they added more yards, and by 1878 they were operating 27 line yards in Minnesota and South Dakota, and a few even in North Dakota.[18] When the Winona and St. Peter built branch lines to Chatfield and Plainview, more line yards were established, and by 1882 they had 36 in operation.[19]

In 1900, Laird, Norton Co. reorganized its line yards as a separate corporation called the Laird Norton Yards under the management of Otis Botsford, who had worked his way up in the company from line yard manager to traveling auditor of the Laird, Norton Co. line yards. In 1912, they were reorganized again as the Botsford Lumber Company, a subsidiary of Laird, Norton Co. partially owned by Botsford, who served as its president. This company operated 38 line yards in Minnesota and South Dakota.[20]

The line yards of the Winona Lumber Company went through a similar transformation. That company's 35 line yards were reorganized as the Hayes-Lucas Lumber Company, a Laird Norton subsidiary, with William Hayes as president and John Lucas as vice-president. Hayes, a brother-in-law to Mathew Norton, started with Laird, Norton Co. as the bookkeeper for the Beef Sough operation. He became the traveling auditor for the Laird, Norton line yards and later an officer in the Winona Lumber Company. John Lucas joined Laird, Norton Co. as a line yard manager and eventually became an executive at Winona Lumber Company. His son Ward Lucas married a granddaughter of William Laird and eventually became president of Hayes-Lucas Lumber.[21]

A new phase, a new generation, a new headquarters

The last log came through the saw mill of the Laird, Norton Co. in 1905 and of the Winona Lumber Company in 1907. Empire Lumber milling operations lasted till 1909 while Youman Bros and Hodgins Lumber had shut down their operations on the riverfront in 1898. The Laird, Norton Co. timber investments were now primarily in the extensive Idaho and Pacific Northwest operations they had developed with Frederick Weyerhaeuser.

Although the upstream timberlands were depleted, Laird, Norton Co. continued to operate the Botsford Lumber Company and the Hayes-Lucas Lumber Company with their growing networks of lumber yards. The retailing of lumber and building supplies became the lasting legacy of the Laird, Norton Co in the upper Midwest. As noted below, these "line yards" eventually evolved into the modern building supply centers of today. From the beginning, however, the Laird, Norton Co. sold a full range of building materials at their line yards, providing everything necessary to build a farmstead, a school, a house, or a church. The firm's millwork plant provided shingles, flooring, sash, doors, and all kinds of trim work, not only in pine but also in

[18] For the spread of Laird, Norton yards into the Dakotas, see John N. Vogel, *Great Lakes Lumber on the Great Plains: The Laird, Norton Lumber Company in South Dakota* (Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1992).
[19] Kohlmeyer, p. 206ff; Larson, p. 374ff.
[20] An insider's view of the development of Botsford Lumber was provided by Guy F. Streater, an executive of the firm, in a typed manuscript entitled "Botsford Lumber Company" on Laird, Norton Co. Stationery on January 25, 1951. WCHS Archives: Laird, Norton Co files.
[21] Curtiss-Wedge, p. 184

oak, ash, cherry, and maple (Figure #2). The line yards also stocked glass, plaster, cement, tarpaper, putty, glue, and nails. In the 1890s, the company even prepared blueprints which provided customers with plans for such things as stairways, porches and bay windows.[22]

The end of the era of timber processing in Winona coincided with the passing of the Laird, Norton Co. founders. James Norton died in 1904, William Laird in 1910, and Mathew Norton in 1917.[23] Although none of the founders had sons who could assume leadership roles, a second generation of leaders emerged from family circles to lead the Laird, Norton Co. in this second phase of its development.[24] Several were men who had married the daughters of the three founders, including Fred S. Bell, husband of William Laird's daughter Frances, and Frank Thatcher, husband of James Norton's daughter Edith. Bell was president of Laird, Norton Co. from 1917 to his death in 1938 and Thatcher was vice-president of the firm from 1910 till his early death in 1921. Eventually a third generation assumed leadership roles, including George Little, husband of one of James Norton's granddaughters, who followed Bell as president; Norton Clapp, Mathew Norton's only grandson, who succeeded Little in the presidency of the company; and Laird Bell, the only grandson of William Laird, who was chairman of the board from 1953-1962.[25]

Although the company's main investments were now in the West, the second generation leadership decided to keep the Laird, Norton Co. corporate headquarters in Winona. In its early years, the company had maintained offices at Front and Kansas streets inside the firm's riverfront lumber yards on the east side (Figure #3). The first office was a simple wood structure which was replaced in 1880 with a more elaborate wooden structure with refined finishes and furniture. Then in 1887, the firm built a three-story brick and stone building in Queen Anne style adjacent to the lumber yard on the corner of 2nd St. and Liberty (Figure #4).[26] In this building, William Laird, James Norton and Mathew Norton completed their work of building a lumber company whose interests stretched to the Pacific Ocean. In the years before World War

[22] Kohlmeyer, p. 230.

[23] Laird and James Norton lived their entire lives in Winona. Mathew Norton died at age 86 in Pasedena, California where he had been living for several years. His body was returned to Winona for a funeral at Central Methodist Church and he was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery where James Norton and William Laird were also buried. "Mathew Norton Dies at home in California" *Winona Republican Herald*, July 16, 1917, p. 3; "Hold Funeral for M. Norton on Saturday," *WRH*, July 18, 1917, p. 3.

[24] William Laird had three daughters; his one son died in infancy. James Norton had three daughters; his one son "proved temperamentally unsuited for a business career." Kohlmeyer, p. 248. Mathew Norton had two daughters and two sons, but both of his sons died in their 20s. One of them, Herbert Norton, had graduated from Harvard and was working as a vice president of Winona Lumber Company when he died of meningitis at age 24. On Herbet Norton, see Kohlmeyer, p. 198-99; Lucas, p. 97-99, 103-110.

[25] Laird Norton Co continues as a family held corporation, although its focus today is property management and financial services. See its website at http://www.lairdnorton.com/

[26] Kohlmeyer, p. 203.

I, the new generation of Laird, Norton Co. executives like Fred S. Bell shared this building with the officials of the Botsford Lumber Company.[27]

However, a fire broke out in the basement in the early morning hours of January 5, 1916 which did significant damages to the first floor offices of Fred S. Bell and Otis Botsford. That same day, they moved their offices temporarily into the Exchange Building at Fourth Street and Center.[28] Because the Laird, Norton Co. no longer ran milling operations on the riverfront, they had little reason to restore their fire-damaged building.[29] Almost immediately they began planning a new Laird, Norton Co. building on property the company owned at the southeast corner of Fifth and Johnson streets.

This site had the advantage of being surrounded by buildings closely tied to the Laird and Norton families. Directly across Fifth Street was the Y.M.C.A. building. The Laird and Norton families were major supporters of the Y.M.C.A. and William Laird had served a term as president of the board. In 1916, the Y.M. C. A. was using the vacant site at Fifth St. and Johnson for its tennis courts with Laird, Norton Co. approval. The Winona Free Public Library (NRHP, 1977), a gift to the city from William Laird in 1899, was directly west across Johnson Street.[30] Immediately to the east on the block of the proposed site was the Winona Masonic Temple (NRHP, 1998). William Hayes Laird, a nephew of William Laird, was the leader of the Winona Masons and Botsford and Lucas served on the governing board.[31] Warren Powers Laird, another nephew of William Laird, was one of the architects for both the library and the Masonic Temple.[32] The southern half of the block was occupied by Central Methodist Church, a congregation which included the Norton families among its members. Directly across Broadway from the Methodist church was First Congregational Church, which included William Laird and his family among its

[27] The offices of the Hayes-Lucas Company, the other Laird Norton retail subsidiary, were in the "old post office" building at 50 E. Third Street. According to the *Winona City Directory,* the company had moved its office to this address by 1906.

[28] "Lumber Companies Lose offices in Fire Early Today," *WRH*, January 5, 1916, page 8

[29] They sold the damaged building to the Wisconsin Railway, Light and Power Company. Later it housed a printing company. Today it is the home of the Polish Cultural Institute and Museum (http://polishmuseumwinona.org/). The museum highlights the history and culture of the Polish immigrants to Winona, most of whom came from Kashubia, a region on the Baltic Sea. A large part of the workforce in the Laird, Norton Co. milling operations on the Winona riverfront came from this community. Kohlmeyer, p. 238-244.

[30] William D. Gernes, "Winona Free Public Library," *National Register of Historic Places Nomination*, December 3, 1976.

[31] Christine Curran and Charlene Roise, with Charles Nelson, "Winona Masonic Temple," National Register of Historic Places Nomination, August 1997. William Hayes Laird was the son of John C. Laird, one of the Laird brothers who had started the company but moved to other work in 1857. "Will" Hayes Laird worked for Laird, Norton Co. in a number of positions.

[32] Warren Powers Laird, dean of the school of architecture at the University of Pennsylvania, was the son of Mathew James Laird, one of the Laird brothers who had started the company but moved to other work in 1857.

congregants. Both churches benefited greatly from the generosity of the Laird and Norton families.[33]

The new office was in walking distance to the residences of the city's most successful business leaders. Winona's wealthy built grand Italianate, Second Empire, Queen Anne and Colonial Revival homes just west of downtown on Fourth, Fifth, Broadway (Sixth) and Wabasha (Seventh) streets and especially facing First Ward Park which was bounded by Broadway, Wabasha, Huff and Harriet.[34] Although the Laird, Norton Co. founders originally lived in modest homes near their east side lumber yard, each eventually built a grand home in this area, William Laird on Fourth Street, Mathew Norton on Fifth Street, and James Norton on Wabasha.[35] Their competitor Abner Hodgins built a grand Queen Anne on Harriet Street facing the park (NRHP, 1983) and eventually Fred S. Bell bought the mansion next store on Harriet and Fifth Street. In 1906, John Lucas of Hayes-Lucas Lumber purchased the Italianate House at 276 W. Fifth, just two blocks from the new office building.[36] In 1918, Otis Botsford built a large Georgian Revival home at 176 W. Wabasha, also just two blocks from the Laird, Norton Co. Building, whose construction he had just overseen.[37]

Laird, Norton Co. executives clearly had in mind a building which would express their identity as a long-standing, solid, prosperous company which had successfully made the transition into the new century. To achieve their goal, they sought the architectural assistance of the well-known Chicago firm of Schmidt, Garden and Martin of Chicago. Richard E. Schmidt was a German born architect well known for designing buildings in both classical and "Chicago school" styles. In 1895 he hired Hugh Garden as chief designer of the firm, and in1906, Schmidt and Garden formed a partnership which included the structural engineer Edgar Martin. Although Garden was the creative force behind many of their projects, Schmidt was the dominant figure,

[33] Kohlmeyer, p. 251. The family generosity toward their churches continued after the deaths of the founders. For example, in 1953, the four children of William Laird's daughters Frances and Maud built a small chapel for the church, today called the Laird Chapel. Frances married Fred S. Bell, and Maud married Samuel Prentiss, a banker. In 1913, the two families together built Briarcombe, an estate just outside of Winona with two matching and connected Georgian mansions. Lucas, p. 126-133.

[34] The city later changed the park's name to Windom Park after William Windom, the most famous of the local leaders who build homes facing the park.

[35] William Laird lived at 361 W. Fourth Street, James Norton at 275 W. Wabasha, and Mathew Norton at 254 W. Fifth Street. None of these homes is extant. In 1948, Mathew Norton's grandson Norton Clapp, then president of Laird, Norton, Co., donated his grandfather's home to the YMCA as the site of its new building. The old YMCA at Fifth and Johnson across from the Laird, Norton, Co. Building had burned down in 1946. Landscape Research, LLC, "Phase I and II Architectural History Evaluation for the Winona Bride Study, Winona, Winona County, Minnesota—Final Report." (May 2011), p. 109.

[36] This house still exists and is the only residence left on the block occupied by the YMCA. Upon his death in 1938, the family of John Lucas donated the home to Winona State Teachers College as a dormitory ("Lucas Lodge") and in 1960 it became the Red Cross headquarters. Today it is apartments. Landscape Research, LLC, p 181-86.

[37] The house is still exists and is reasonably good repair. Landscape Research, LLC, p. 342-344.

as evidenced by the fact that the formal name of the firm was "Richard E. Schmidt, Garden & Martin." The firm produced many commercial and industrial buildings in Chicago and elsewhere, most famously the enormous Montgomery Ward Warehouse, the largest reinforced concrete building produced by the Chicago School.[38]

Hugh Garden visited Winona in February to study the location and meet with executives of the Laird, Norton Co., Botsford Lumber Co., and Hayes-Lucas Lumber Co.[39] In March, the architect delivered preliminary plans and drawings (Figure #5) which the company leaders carefully studied. Fred S. Bell, who was in California meeting with Mathew Norton and other family members, wrote to Vice-president Frank Thatcher in early April that he felt that the exterior design showed "a lack of dignity and distinctiveness."[40] The private planning for the new building went public in May when the local newspaper reported "rumors" that the three lumber companies would build a new headquarters on Fifth St. and that in fact, Otis Botsford and John Lucas had just left for Chicago on business related to the new building.[41] Very likely they traveled to meet with the architects to further confer on the evolving plans.

The concerns expressed by Fred S. Bell were apparently satisfied because he signed a formal agreement with the architects on June 22.[42] On July 26, Hugh Garden delivered detailed plans for the building (Figure #6, 7) and provided a thick sheaf of specifications entitled "Instruction to Bidders" outlining in great detail the requirements of each aspect of the construction, including masonry, concrete, stone, and marble work; plumbing, electrical, and steam heating; lathing and plastering; steel casement windows; and other details.[43]

The layout of the building created four distinct office areas, two on each floor, separated by the imposing two story lobby. The first floor was dedicated to the retail lumber companies, with Botford Lumber occupying the east wing and Hayes-Lucas Lumber occupying the west wing. Each wing had private offices for several executives as well as large, open general office space and a large vault (Figure #6). The Laird, Norton Co. offices occupied the west wing of the

[38] Carl Condit, *The Chicago School of Architecture: A History of Commercial and Public Building in the Chicago Area 1875-1925* (Chicago: U of Chicago Press, 1964) pp 187-195.
[39] Letter from Frank Thatcher to Fred W. Bell, February 24, 1916. Laird, Norton Co. Archives (Seattle), Box 20 f. 3.
[40] Letter from Fred S. Bell to Frank Thatcher, April 8, 1916. In particular he didn't like the "circular stone heads" over the first floor window which he said were "meaningless and obtrusive." He also disliked the fact that there were five windows on the second floor above only three on the first. Laird, Norton Co. Archives (Seattle), Box 20 f. 3
[41] "Lumber Interests to Build Modern Office Building on Lot near Library Rumors Say," *WRH*, May 27, 1916, p. 4.
[42] Contract, dated June 22, 1916, signed by Richard Schmidt and accepted by Fred S. Bell. The contract provided for a fee of 6% of construction costs plus a $45/week supervision fee for work in excess of six months. Laird, Norton Co. Archives (Seattle), Box 20 f. 3. In the final plans, Garden had removed the "circular stone heads" over the first floor windows, but the configuration of the windows on the first and second floors remained the same.
[43] "Office Building for Laird, Norton Co., Winona, Minnesota Job #16557, July 26, 1916, Instructions to Bidders" (typescript). Laird, Norton Co. Archives (Seattle), RG-1, Box 19. The July 26, 1916 blue prints were found in a closet of the Laird, Norton Co. Building. Digital scans will be available at the Winona County Historical Society. The original blueprints will be deposited in the archives of the Laird, Norton Co. in Seattle.

second floor, with individual offices laid out for Fred S. Bell, Frank Thatcher, and two other executives. In addition to general office areas, this wing included an ornate conference room in the southwest corner (Figure #7). The Laird, Norton Co. executives retained responsibility for personally supplying the wood trim for the conference room, which would be, not surprisingly, white pine.[44] The entire east wing of the second floor was left unfinished, presumably for future expansion space.

The architects hired Seidlitz & Werner, local general contractors, to oversee construction, and also had an architect from their own staff on site. Very likely extensive work on the building did not commence until the spring of 1917. A newspaper report in late September of that year indicated that the contractors hoped to complete their work by January 1, 1918. The article notes that the building was of reinforced concrete and "absolutely fire-proof. The reporter who visited the construction site also thought it worth noting that the lobby would be finished in marble, that a Western Union clock system would be installed, that a 375 ft. artesian well was being drilled in the rear to supply water to the building, and that the building would feature "some of the best finished conference rooms in the city."[45]

Whatever their earlier misgivings, Laird, Norton Co. executives seemed satisfied with the finished building, as evidenced by the letter to Schmidt, Garden and Martin which accompanied their final payment. They wrote that "we have a very beautiful and comfortable building, and wish to express our appreciation to you for your high services and many kindnesses to us throughout its construction."[46]

Continued evolution

The corporate leadership of Laird, Norton Co., Botsford Lumber Co., and Hayes-Lucas Lumber shared the new building for the next four decades. Over the years, the Laird, Norton Co. evolved into a management and investment company. Botsford and Hayes-Lucas continued as successful lumber yard chains. Remarkably, the descendants of the three founders, eventually numbering over three hundred, continued to collectively own the company as a privately-held corporation, and this is the status of the company today.[47]

In recognition of the Laird, Norton Co.'s centennial in 1955, the Laird and Norton families made a major donation to the Winona County Historical Society to finish part of the unused east wing of the second floor of the building, along with a cost-free lease to the space.[48] For the next 18

[44] "Instructions to Bidders. Section 107 Cabinet Work." This section generally called for walnut trim except for quarter sawn oak in the passageways to the offices on the 1st and 2nd floors, and for the conference room on the 2nd floor which would have "clear kiln-dried white pine furnished by the owner."
[45] "New Building Being Rushed," *WRH*, September 22, 1917, p 4.
[46] Letter from Laird, Norton Co. to Richard E. Schmidt, Garden & Martin, May 12, 1919. The final cost of construction was $135,349, in addition to the architects' fee of $9,641. Laird, Norton Co. Archives (Seattle), Box 23 f. 21.
[47] For more information, see the website of Laird Norton Co, LLC: http://www.lairdnorton.com/.

years, the historical society housed its museum and offices in the second floor of the Laird, Norton Co. Building. Starting in 1963, the Prudential Insurance Co. rented another part of the unused east wing.

In 1958, Laird, Norton Co. built the Norton Building, a modernist glass and steel office building in downtown Seattle, to house its corporate offices and also as an investment in commercial real estate. The executive offices of Botsford Lumber and Hayes-Lucas Lumber, however, remained in the Winona building. In 1962, the Laird, Norton Co. merged the two retail subsidiaries into the United Building Centers (UBC). The Winona buildings then became the corporate headquarters of the new company.

By the early 1970s, both UBC and the Winona County Historical Society had grown and were in need of expanded space. At about the same time, the former National Guard Armory at 160 Johnson Street in Winona became available. The Laird, Norton Co. therefore made a major donation to the WCHS which allowed it to purchase the armory and remodel it as a museum and office space. The WCHS moved into the armory and formally dedicated the new museum on April 16, 1973.[49] UBC then expanded into the second floor space which had been used by the WCHS. When the Prudential Insurance left the second floor in 1983, UBC expanded to the entire second floor and eventually also finished some of the basement for office space.

In 1978, the Laird, Norton Co. created Lanoga Corporation as a holding company for UBC and several similar companies it had acquired. [50] Although now part of Lanoga, the UBC corporate offices remained in the Winona building. Lanoga eventually grew to 240 stores in 14 states. In 2006 Fidelity Capital bought Lanoga's building supply stores and merged them with several other chains to form Pro-Build Holding Company. All UBC outlets then became Pro-Build stores.[51] Laird, Norton Co., however, retained ownership of the property associated with UBC, including the Laird, Norton Co. Building in Winona. Pro-Build leased the building for its regional headquarters until 2011. The building is currently vacant but the Laird, Norton Co. in Seattle continues to provide maintenance and heating.

With the sale of UBC, the Laird, Norton Co.'s active commercial presence in Winona came to an end. However, the company continues to play an active philanthropic role in the area. For example, the Laird and Norton family members provided the $1.5 million challenge grant which

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[48] "Laird, Norton Families Make Gift to Historical Society" *WDN*, June 28, 1955. The WCHS had been stori9ng some of its collection in the unused space since the previous year. See the lease, dated April 7, 1954. WCHS archives.
[49] "Humphrey phones in speech: Museum dedication here," *WDN*, April 16, 1973, p. 3. Hubert Humphrey was scheduled to be the featured speaker but weather made his flight impossible. He nevertheless spoke to the crowd of 400 from a telephone booth at the airport in Minneapolis.
[50] "Lanoga Corporation," *International Directory of Company Histories*, Vol 62 (Farmington Hills, MI: Thompson-Clark, 2004), 222ff.
[51] "Pro-Build Holdings Co." *International Directory of Company Histories*, Vol 95 (Farmington Hills, MI: Cengage, 2008), p 344-348.

led to the construction of the $4.2 million Laird Norton addition to the Winona County Historical Society's armory museum in 2009. Laird and Norton family members also maintain the Winona Foundation, which awards about $50,000 per year in grants to Winona organizations that contribute to the cultural, historical and educational heritage of Winona.[52]

The lumber industry in Minnesota is typically remembered for its northern logging camps, Mississippi River log rafts, and great saw mills. These were all part of the Laird, Norton Co. story. Ultimately, everything depended on selling the milled lumber to the rapidly multiplying farmsteads and towns on the western prairies, and Laird, Norton Co. led the way by developing its line yards all across southern Minnesota and into South Dakota. These line yards evolved into the all-purpose building centers of today, and the Laird, Norton Co. Building was at the center of this development. For this reason it is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of commerce from the time of its construction in 1917 until the Laird, Norton Co relocated its corporate offices to Seattle in 1958.

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[52] See the Winona Foundation's website at http://winonafoundation.org/ (accessed December 11, 2013)

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
____ previously listed in the National Register
____ previously determined eligible by the National Register
____ designated a National Historic Landmark
____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

_x_ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
_x_ Other repositories: Winona County Historical Society. Minnesota Historical Society, Laird Norton Company Archives (Seattle, WA)

Historic Resources Survey Number: WN-WAC-0260

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

[X] NAD 1927 or [ ] NAD 1983

1. Zone: 15	Easting: 608975	Northing: 4878210
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting :	Northing:

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Lots 2 and 3, Block 32, of the original plat of the City of Winona.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Since there have been no changes to the property, the legal description of the two lots upon which the building was original constructed serves well as the boundaries of the National Register property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Greg Gaut
organization: Historic Preservation Consultant
street & number: 673 E. Wabasha
city or town: Winona state: MN zip code: 55987
e-mail: GregGaut@gmail.com
telephone: 507-452-0536
date:

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Laird, Norton Company Building
City or Vicinity: Winona
County: Winona State: Minnesota
Photographer: Greg Gaut
Date Photographed: November and December, 2013

Description of Photographs and Number

Photo #1: (MN_Winona County_Laird, Norton Co. Bldg._0001)
Laird, Norton Co. Bldg., north (front) façade, camera facing southwest.

Photo #2: (MN_Winona County_Laird, Norton Co. Bldg._0002)
Laird, Norton Co. Bldg., west facade, camera facing south.

Photo #3: (MN_Winona County_Laird, Norton Co. Bldg._0003)
Laird, Norton Co. Bldg., east façade, camera facing north.

Photo #4: (MN_Winona County_Laird, Norton Co. Bldg._0004)
Laird, Norton Co. Bldg., south (rear) façade, camera facing north.

Photo #5: (MN_Winona County_Laird, Norton Co. Bldg._0005)
Laird, Norton Co. Bldg., north (front) façade, main entrance detail, camera facing southwest.

Photo #6: (MN_Winona County_Laird, Norton Co. Bldg._0006)
Laird, Norton Co. Bldg., lobby, camera facing south.

Photo #7: (MN_Winona County_Laird, Norton Co. Bldg._0007)
Laird, Norton Co. Bldg., stained glass skylight in lobby ceiling.

Photo #8: (MN_Winona County_Laird, Norton Co. Bldg._0008)
Laird, Norton Co. Bldg., conference room, southwest corner of second floor, camera facing southeast.

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Historic photos

Figure #1: Laird, Norton Co. lumber yards on Winona's riverfront

Figure #2: Inside the millwork factory at the Laird, Norton Co. mills on the riverfront.

Figure #3: Early office of the Laird, Norton Co within the lumber yards near Front and Kansas streets.

Figure #4: Brick and stone office building which Laird, Norton Co built at 2nd and Liberty in 1887. A January 1916 fire in this building led to the construction of the new office building at Fifth and Johnson streets. Today it is the Polish Cultural Institute.

Figure #5: An early sketch of the new building by architect Hugh Garden. Laird, Norton Co. executive Fred S. Bell objected to the configuration of the windows and especially to the arches over the first floor windows. The architects removed the arches and added more ornate limestone hoods to all the windows. In the final version, the cornice became more pronounced and cap on the parapet smaller. A stone crest was also added atop the parapet over the central entrance.

Figure #6: First floor plan from the July 26, 1916 blueprints showing Botsford Lumber offices in the east wing and Hayes-Lucas Lumber offices in the west wing. Note the vaults for each wing using the bearing wall separating the offices from the lobby.

Figure #7: Second floor plan from the July 26, 1916 blueprints showing program for the Laird, Norton Co. offices in west wing and the east wing left unfinished for future expansion.

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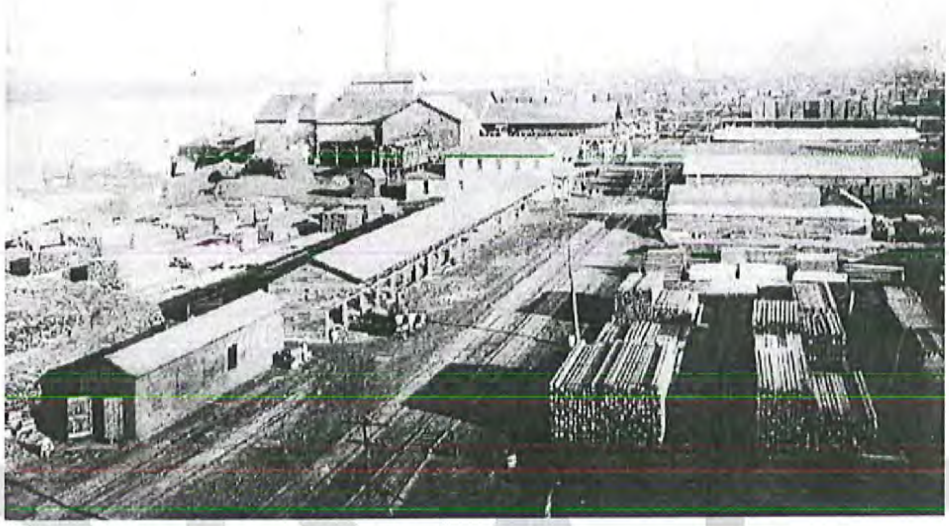

Figure #1

Figure #2

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Figure #3

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Figure #4

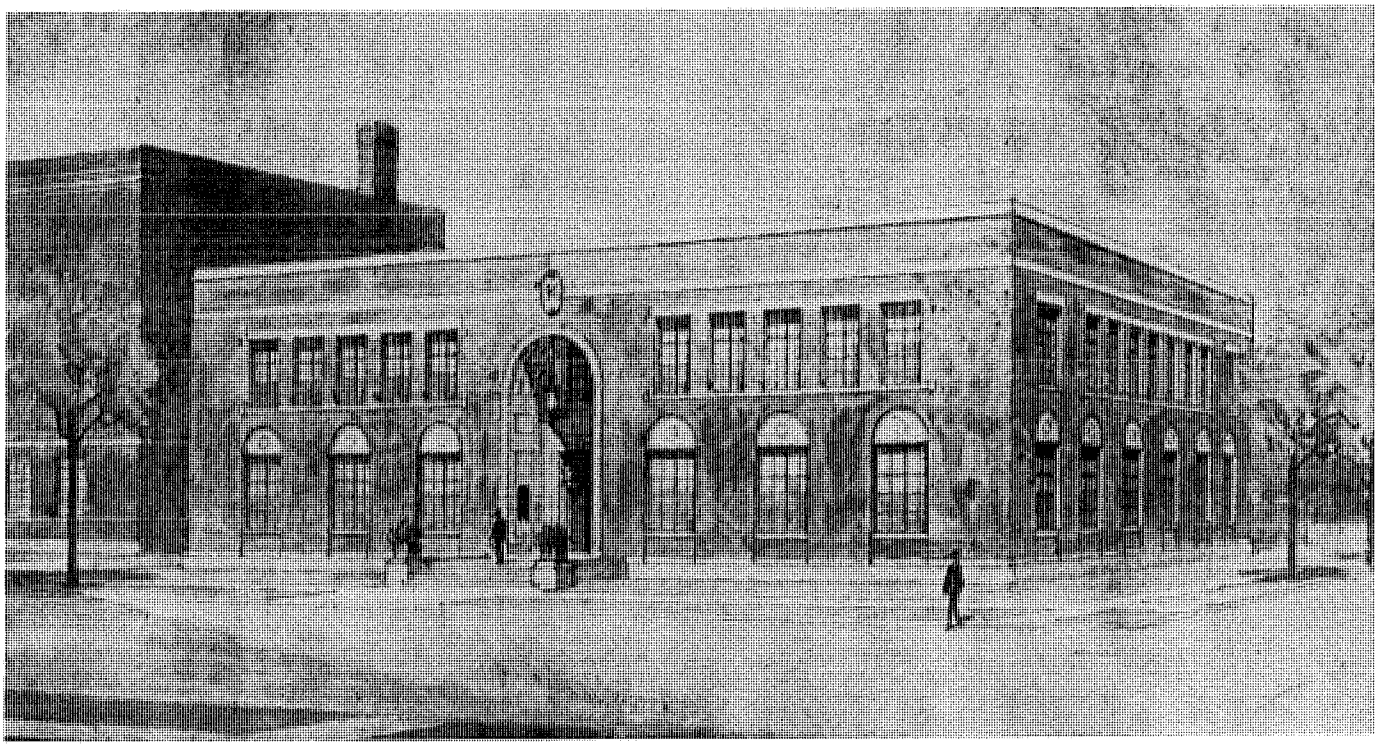


Figure #5

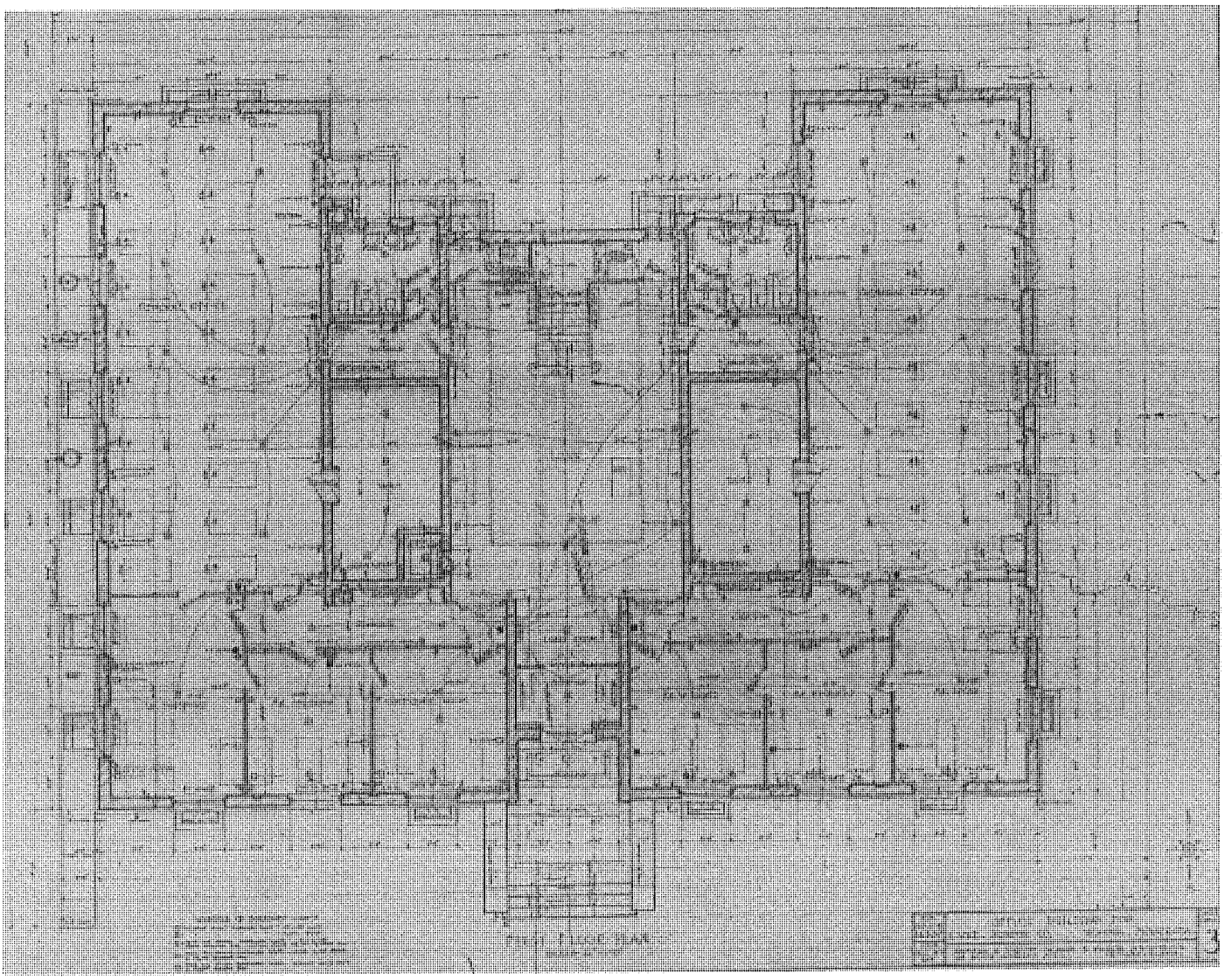


Figure #6

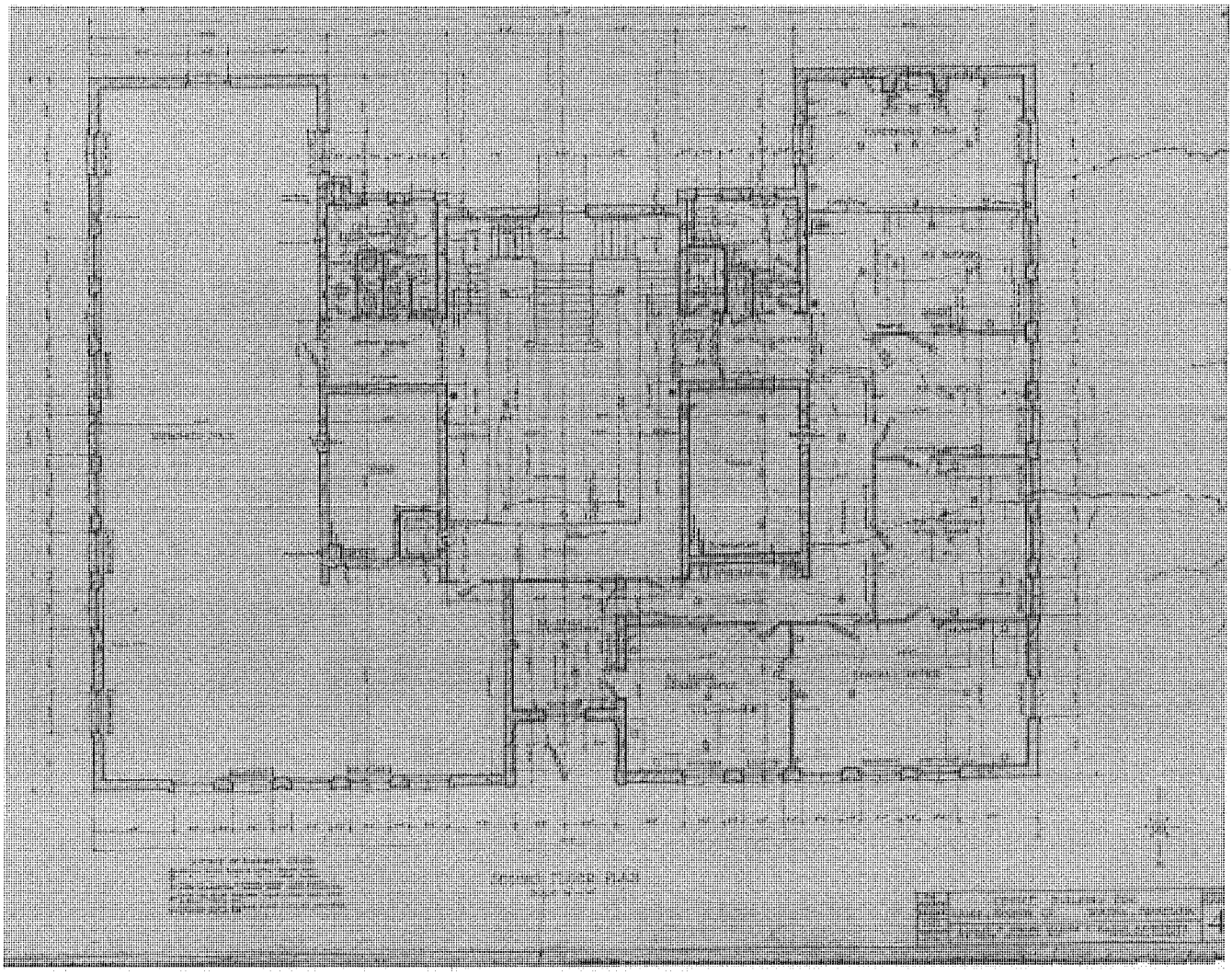
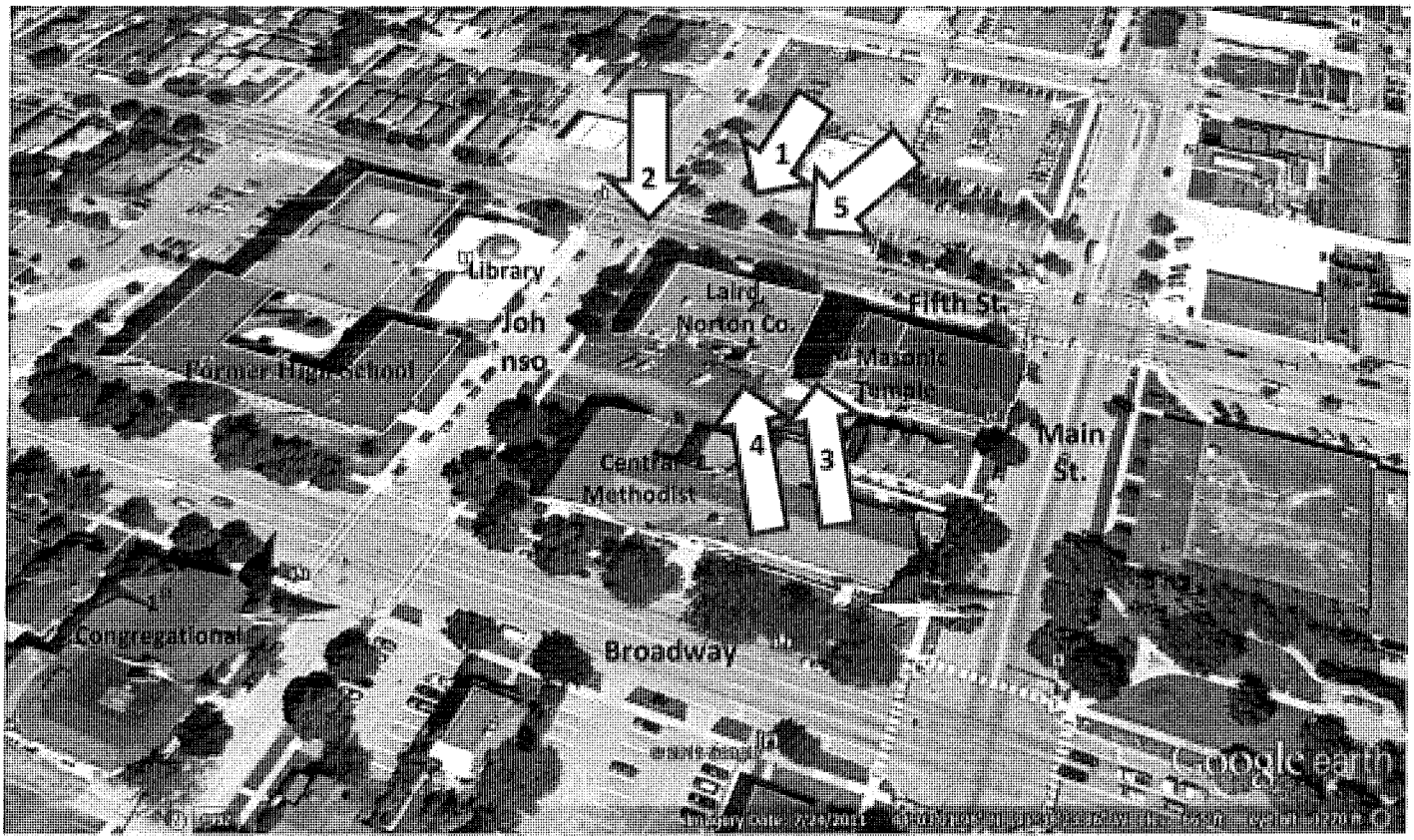


Figure #7

Google Earth Photo of Laird, Norton Co. Building and surrounding neighborhood indicating camera direction for exterior photographs #1-5



North

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

AGENDA ITEM:	**Discussion of Winona HPC Concurrence with Bridge Programmatic Agreement**
DATE:	**January 8, 2014**

For Commission reference, I am attaching a copy of a Programmatic Agreement between the Federal Highway Administration and SHPO pertaining to the Winona bridge project. In part, the purpose of this agreement is to lay out "who will do what" relative to historic planning issues throughout the project. As noted, the HPC is being invited to "concur" with the document.

Given the previous, a copy of the Agreement has been forwarded to the City Attorney for comment. Comments received, along with other information will be presented during the meeting. Following that, should the Commission feel that it concurs with the Agreement, it should direct Chairperson Englund to sign it.

Attachment

PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
PURSUANT TO SECTION 106 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT
BETWEEN THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION AND THE MINNESOTA
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
REGARDING THE WINONA BRIDGE (BRIDGE 5900) PROJECT (S.P. 8503-46),
WINONA, WINONA COUNTY, MINNESOTA

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is proposing a project (PROJECT) where the preferred alternative is to rehabilitate the Winona Bridge (Bridge 5900) and construct a parallel bridge (Bridge 85851) in Winona, Winona County, and the PROJECT is considered a federal undertaking for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requiring consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and

WHEREAS, consultation for this PROJECT was conducted under the terms of the 2005 *Programmatic Agreement Among the Federal Highway Administration, the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office, the Advisory Council On Historic Preservation, the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, and the Minnesota Department of Transportation Regarding Implementation of the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Minnesota*, various stipulations of which are incorporated by reference (hereafter, Statewide PA); and under the 2008 *Programmatic Agreement Concerning Pre-1956 Historic Bridges Among the Federal Highway Administration, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Officer, the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, and the Minnesota Department of Transportation*; various stipulations of which are incorporated by reference (hereafter, Historic Bridge PA); and

WHEREAS, the MnDOT Cultural Resources Unit (MnDOT CRU), on behalf of the FHWA and in consultation with the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), has defined the Area of Potential Effects (APE) of the undertaking as outlined in the December 24, 2012 letter from the MnDOT CRU to SHPO; and

WHEREAS, FHWA and MnDOT CRU, in consultation with the SHPO, have identified a number of historic properties in the PROJECT's APE listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) as identified in Appendix A, and SHPO has concurred with these determinations; and

WHEREAS, the MnDOT CRU, on behalf of the FHWA, has conducted archaeological surveys in portions of the APE (where access was obtained) and to date has not identified any archaeological sites that are eligible for or listed in the National Register; and

WHEREAS, the MnDOT CRU, on behalf of FHWA has identified that the PROJECT will not have an adverse effect (direct or indirect) on one or more of the identified historic properties. However, the rehabilitation plan design for Bridge 5900 and the design for Bridge 85851 are currently in process and as plans are developed there is the potential to have an adverse effect (direct or indirect) on one or more of the identified historic properties; and

WHEREAS, the FHWA will be responsible for ensuring that all aspects of PROJECT implementation meet the terms of this Programmatic Agreement (PA), and the MnDOT CRU has assisted the FHWA in coordinating the Section 106 process, will administer the implementation of the PROJECT, and will complete the stipulations of this PA; and

WHEREAS, this PA was developed with appropriate public involvement (pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2(d) and 800.6(a)) coordinated with the scoping, public review and comment, and public hearings conducted on October 21, 2009, October 27, 2010, and September 27, 2012 to comply with NEPA and its implementing regulations; and

WHEREAS, a Project Advisory Committee (PAC) consisting of the SHPO, neighborhood organizations, local historical society, city and county representatives, business representatives, and various agencies was established to keep these entities informed and provide feedback on issues related to the planning, design, and construction of the PROJECT; and

WHEREAS, MnDOT, as PROJECT sponsor, has been invited by the FHWA to sign this PA in accordance with 36 CFR 800.6(c)(2); and

WHEREAS, the City of Winona is an invited party and has been invited to sign this PA in accordance with 36 CFR 800.6(c)(2); and

WHEREAS, the Winona Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC), and the Winona Area Chamber of Commerce are consulting parties and have been invited to concur with this PA in accordance with 36 CFR 800 (c)(3); and

WHEREAS, upon initiation of the Section 106 consultation process and in accordance with 36 CFR 800.2(c)(2)(ii), the FHWA in a good faith effort contacted Indian tribes that might attach religious and cultural significance to properties within the APE, inviting their participation in consultation, and no tribe requested to be a consulting party to the PROJECT; and

WHEREAS, the FHWA has notified the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) of its decision to enter into this PA, in accordance with 36 CFR 800.6(a)(1), and has provided the documentation specified in 36 CFR 800.11(e), and the ACHP has chosen not to participate in the consultation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the FHWA and the SHPO agree that the undertaking shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into account the effects of the undertaking on historic properties:

STIPULATIONS

The FHWA will ensure that the following measures are carried out.

STIPULATION I. IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

A. As PROJECT activities are further defined, the MnDOT CRU, on behalf of the FHWA, will refine the APE in consultation with SHPO, as needed.

B. If the APE is revised to include areas not previously subject to historic property identification efforts conducted as part of this PROJECT, MnDOT CRU will conduct additional investigations in those areas pursuant to Stipulation 3 of the Statewide PA.

C. Once MnDOT acquires the PROJECT right-of-way, MnDOT CRU will conduct additional archaeological investigations for areas that were not accessible due to lack of landowner permission. This includes archaeological testing of Parcels 67 and 87 and possibly Parcel 68, if it is determined to be in the APE. If during the design process additional parcels are identified that may be impacted or acquired, MnDOT CRU will also conduct archaeological investigations for these areas. If archaeological sites are identified within the APE, FHWA will reopen consultation with Indian tribes that might attach religious and cultural significance to those properties under 36 CFR 800.2(c).

D. Any historic properties newly identified within the APE by MnDOT CRU will be added to the list of properties included in Appendix A upon written concurrence by the SHPO. An amendment to the PA under Stipulation V is not necessary unless agreed upon by the signatories to the PA.

STIPULATION II. PROJECT PLAN REVIEW (BRIDGE 5900 AND 85851 AND ADDITIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EFFECT

A. Under the preferred alternative, MnDOT, or its design team, will prepare rehabilitation plans for the Winona Bridge (Bridge 5900) in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation (Standards) and work to avoid and minimize adverse effects on the historic property.

B. Under the preferred alternative, MnDOT, or its design team, will prepare the plans for the parallel bridge (Bridge 85851) to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the Winona Bridge and other historic properties identified in Appendix A.

C. During PROJECT development, MnDOT or its design team will provide PROJECT plans for Bridge 5900 and Bridge 85851 or an equivalent document at 30%, 60%, and 90% completion. At each stage of development, one set of plans will be submitted to MnDOT's Historic Bridge Expert and two sets of plans will be provided to MnDOT CRU. The Historic Bridge Expert will submit comments to the MnDOT CRU Project Manager. MnDOT CRU will submit the plans and their findings of effect to SHPO for review and comment. SHPO will have 30 days to review the document and MnDOT CRU's assessment of effect. Final plans (i.e., 100% completion) will also be submitted to the SHPO by MnDOT CRU for the project record.

STIPULATION III. RESOLUTION OF ADVERSE EFFECTS ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

If the PROJECT is determined to have an adverse effect on historic properties that cannot be avoided, MnDOT CRU on behalf of FHWA will work with SHPO and other signatories to this PA to develop and complete appropriate mitigation measures. An amendment to the PA under Stipulation V is not necessary unless agreed upon by the signatories to the PA.

STIPULATION IV. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Should any party to this PA object at any time to any actions proposed or the manner in which the terms of the PA are implemented, FHWA will consult with the objecting party (or parties) to resolve the objection. If FHWA determines the objection(s) cannot be resolved, FHWA will follow Stipulation 7 of the Statewide PA. FHWA's responsibility to carry out all other actions subject to the terms of this PA that are not subjects of the dispute remain unchanged pending resolution.

STIPULATION V. DURATION, AMENDMENTS, AND TERMINATION

A. This PA will remain in effect from the date of execution for a period not to exceed five (5) years. If the FHWA anticipates that the terms of the PA will not be completed within this timeframe, it will notify the signatories in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the PA's expiration date. The PA may be extended by the written concurrence of the signatories. If the PA expires and the FHWA elects to continue with the undertaking, the FHWA will reinitiate review of the undertaking in accordance with 36 CFR 800.

B. If any signatory to the PA determines the PA cannot be fulfilled, or that an amendment to the terms of the PA must be made, the signatories will consult to seek an amendment to its terms using the same consultation process as that exercised in creating the original PA. The FHWA shall file any amendments with the ACHP upon execution.

C. Any signatory to this PA may terminate the PA by providing thirty (30) days written notice to the other signatories, provided the signatories consult during the period prior to termination to agree on amendments or other actions that would avoid termination. If the PA is terminated and the FHWA elects to continue with the undertaking, the FHWA will reinitiate review of the undertaking in accordance with 36 CFR 800.

STIPULATION VI. IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PA

A. This PA may be implemented in counterparts, with a separate page for each signatory. This PA will become effective on the date of the final signature. FHWA will ensure each party is provided with a complete copy and that the final PA, updates to appendices, and any amendments filed with the ACHP.

B. Execution of this PA by the FHWA and the SHPO and implementation of its terms is evidence that the FHWA has taken into account the effects of its undertaking on historic properties and has afforded the ACHP opportunity to comment pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

SIGNATORIES
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

_____ _____
Derrell Turner, Division Administrator Date

SIGNATORIES
MINNESOTA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

_____ _____
Barbara Mitchell Howard, Deputy SHPO Date

INVITED
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

_____ _____
Charles A. Zelle, Commissioner Date

INVITED
CITY OF WINONA

_____ _____
The Honorable Mark Peterson, Mayor Date

CONCURRING
WINONA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

_____ _____
Lynn England, Chairman Date

Appendix A: Historic Properties Identified Within the Area of Potential Effect That Have Been Listed in or Determined Eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as of 1/20/2012

(Note: NRHP is noted after properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The remaining properties have been determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.)

Winona Bridge (Bridge 5900) Interstate Bridge (WN-WAC-0477)
North Channel Bridge (WN-WAC-1142)
Municipal Marina (WN-WAC-1260)
Winona Monument Co. (WN-WAC-0472)
Peter F. and Anna Schmitt House (WN-WAC-0440)
William F. and Louisa Kohler House (WN-WAC-0441)
Winona Waterworks (WN-WAC-0482)
Segment of the Chicago & North Western (C&NW) Railroad (WN-WAC-1246)
Windom Park (WN-WAC-1247)
First Baptist Church (WN-WAC-1300)
Central Methodist Church (WN-WAC-0258)
First Congregational Church (WN-WAC-0246)
St. Paul's Episcopal Church (WN-WAC-1303)
Winona County Courthouse (NRHP listed; WN-WAC-0460)
Winona Lumber Exchange (WN-WAC-0260)
YMCA (WN-WAC-0458)
C&NW Railroad Bridge (WN-WAC-0568)

Winona Commercial District/Third Street Commercial District (NRHP listed)

Properties in the Winona Commercial District/Third Street Commercial District that are individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places

- Schlitz Hotel (WN-WAC-0469)
- Winona Hotel (WN-WAC-0470)

Broadway Residential Historic District (NHRP listed)

Properties within the Broadway Residential Historic District individually eligible for or listed in the National Register:

- Winona Free Public Library (NRHP listed; WN-WAC-0261)
- Winona Senior High School and Auditorium (NRHP listed; WN-WAC-0262)
- Central Jr. High School (NRHP listed; WN-WAC-0263)
- Huff-Lamberton House (NRHP listed; WN-WAC-0544)
- Winona Masonic Temple (NRHP listed; WN-WAC-0259)
- Hannibal Choate House (WN-WAC-0448)
- William S. and Caroline Drew House (WN-WAC-0453)
- Harry S. and Sadie Youmans House (WN-WAC-0550)
- Peter and Edna Hallenbeck House (WN-WAC-0548)
- Joseph A. and Rebecca Prentiss House (WN-WAC-1305)
- Chauncey and Sarah Doud House (WN-WAC-0102)

- Daniel and Melissa Sinclair House (WN-WAC-1312)
- Central Methodist Church Chapel and Gym (WN-WAC-0258)
- Joseph S. and Laura Hoard House (WN-WAC-1250)
- First Congregational Church (WN-WAC-0246)
- First Congregational Church Parsonage (WN-WAC-0247)
- Eben M. and Clara Roberts House (WN-WAC-0252)
- John R. and Mary Lamberton Mitchell House (WN-WAC-0253)
- Herbert C. and Louise D. Garvin House (WN-WAC-1251)
- Harry L. and Ida Buck House (WN-WAC-1252)
- Moses C. and Julia Varney House (WN-WAC-1253)
- Windom Park (First Ward) (WN-WAC-1247)
- Franklin and Augusta Rising House (WN-WAC-1049)
- First Baptist Church and Parsonage (WN-WAC-1300)
- Samuel L. and Maude Prentiss House (WN-WAC-1299)
- Emma Ball House (WN-WAC-0530)
- Frank and Mary Youmans House (WN-WAC-0524)
- Frederic and Frances Bell House (WN-WAC-0314)
- Abner F. Hodgins House (NRHP listed; WN-WAC-0315
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Parish House (WN-WAC-1303)
- Central Methodist Church Parsonage (WN-WAC-1249)
- Allison W. and Anna Laird House (WN-WAC-1279)
- Otis M. and Lucretia Botsford House (WN-WAC-0255)
- Emory G. and Elizabeth Nevius House (WN-WAC-1278)
- Leslie L. and Lulu Brown House (WN-WAC-0305)
- George and Elizabeth Whitman House (WN-WAC-0293)
- Walter and Emma Anderson House (WN-WAC-1139)
- Dr. Linn A. and Abbie Kelly House (WN-WAC-0264)

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion – 2014 CLG Grant

DATE: January 8, 2014

For Commission reference, I am attaching information from SHPO related to 2014 Certified Local Government Grant Funding. Also attached is the Commission's most recent project list (Note that some of these projects have been completed.) that among other things highlights a few ideas for a CLG Grant.

Given the previous, if the Commission determines that a grant application should be submitted in 2014, direction should be provided relative to a grant project. As noted, the deadline for a preliminary application is January 24th.

Attachments

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 16, 2013

TO: Heritage Preservation Commissions

FROM: Barbara Mitchell Howard, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer BMH

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2014 Certified Local Government Grant Funds

---

The Department of the Interior's National Park Service (NPS) is expected to approve shortly the fiscal year 2014 Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) Program for Minnesota. Department of the Interior regulations stipulate that at least ten (10) percent of the allocation be awarded under the Pass-Through Program to cities that have achieved Certified Local Government (CLG) status. Minnesota's allocation for fiscal year 2014 is expected to be similar to the 2013 appropriation; approximately $95,000 will be awarded to cities in Minnesota through this program. As of December 2013, the following Minnesota cities have been certified:

Afton	Elk River	Lanesboro	Pine Island
Albert Lea	Excelsior	Litchfield	Pipestone
Belview	Faribault	Little Falls	Red Wing
Carver	Farmington	Mankato	Saint Cloud
Center City	Fergus Falls	Maplewood	Saint Paul
Chaska	Frontenac	Minneapolis	Stillwater
Chatfield	Hastings	New Ulm	Taylors Falls
Cottage Grove	Henderson	Newport	Wabasha
Duluth	Kenyon	Northfield	Waseca
Eden Prairie	Lake City	North St. Paul	Winona
Edina		Otsego	

Heritage Preservation Commissions (HPCs) wishing to achieve Certified Local Government status for their city are urged to make application immediately to the Minnesota Historical Society's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Grant applications will be accepted from cities that have applied for certification; however, consideration of applications from such cities will be contingent upon CLG certification approval by March 1, 2014. HPCs needing assistance should contact Michael Koop, Historic Preservation Program Specialist, at 651-259-3452.

Match funds may be cash, in-kind and/or donated services or materials contributed to the project. Minnesota Historical and Cultural (Legacy) grants may be used to match a CLG grant. In the past, several cities have made good use of "fast track" Legacy grants in matching their CLG grants, so please consider this as a source of match.

As in previous years, projects that will receive special priority are those that: reflect the goals and strategies in the 2012-2017 statewide preservation plan; result in local designations or National Register nominations; and involve properties associated with the history of heretofore under-documented groups of communities (ethnic or racial minorities for example, but also other groups defining themselves as communities). The CLG Grants Manual provides additional instructions regarding the full range of eligible activities and the selection criteria used in making awards.

Eligible cities – and those cities expecting to be certified as a CLG by March 1 – should begin considering their project ideas soon. Preservation office staff is pleased to provide technical assistance and advice. Requests for grant assistance and general inquiries about the CLG grant program should be directed to Michael Koop, Historic Preservation Program Specialist, at 651-259-3452; michael.koop@mnhs.org.

The Society's Grants Office is now using an entirely on-line grants system. Applicants access the system through the grants portal (https://mnhs.fluxx.io/). The portal provides access to everything you'll need in administering a grant from the Minnesota Historical Society, from the pre-application stage through reporting on the completion of a project. Here you will be able to track where an application is in the review process as well as have access to information about previous grants you have received. The portal allows you to save your work on an application and come back to finish it later.

The calendar schedule for Fiscal Year 2014 Pass-Through Program Funds is as follows:

2013	
December 16	Application instructions available.
2014	
January 24	Pre-application draft deadline (highly recommended).
March 7	Final application deadline, midnight.
April 17	Grants Review Committee considers applications.
May	Cities notified of Grants Review Committee recommendations.
	Grants Office prepares CLG Grant Agreements.
June 1	Earliest beginning date for project work.
September 30	Interim financial close-out for projects that will be completed in the next fiscal year.*
October 1	Alternate date to begin project work.
Continuing	Monthly progress reports from grant recipients.
2015	
July 31	Latest ending date on all project work.
August 14	Final deadline for grant recipients to submit project products, final project report, and Request for Reimbursement. (Note: Funds will be released to grant recipients upon formal approval of products, final project report, and fiscal documentation.)

Your participation and cooperation in the Certified Local Government Pass-Through Program will aid in making the state and federal preservation programs successful.

* Federal regulations require interim financial close-out reports at the end of the federal fiscal year on September 30. This requirement will apply to all projects with starting dates earlier than September 30 and ending dates during the next federal fiscal year that begins on October 1.

This program receives Federal funds from the National Park Service. Regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in departmental Federally assisted Programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or disability. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by a recipient of Federal assistance should write to: Director, Equal Opportunity Program, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127.

WINONA HPC TO DO LIST 2012

- HPC orientation session for all members (could be special meeting)
- Local/NR Nomination Ideas
  - WSU Buildings (Including Greenhouses) (Possible District?)
  - Amtrack
  - Christenson Property (Current NR Site)
  - Watkins Administration Building (Current NR Site)
  - Athletic Club
  - Cotter Campus Buildings (Possible District?)
  - Tea House (Former St, Ts Campus)
  - Ex neighborhood grocery stores
  - Local bars

  (Potential funding source – Legacy Grants. Begin with local designation of present NR sites.)
- Thompson Home (East Wabasha St.) – Commendation Award as part of Preservation Month
- Develop/Maintain a list of "most threatened" structures/ properties
  - Middle School Auditorium
  - Masonic Temple (Backdrops)
  - Other
- Formalize a City HPC website
  (Funding Source – Legacy Grant)
- Develop a map with all (NR/Local) historic site/district locations shown
- Preservation related redevelopment opportunities (with available funding)
  - Neighborhood surrounding Middle School Auditorium
  - Acquire Freighthouse Property (adjacent to Amtrak) for a multi-use transportation campus
- Encourage sustainability in preservation rehabilitation activities
- Continue to be informed in Main Street effort, as the HPC is an integral part of the CBD
- Promote continual information networks with district/site property owners
- Work with MnDOT in securing the preservation data base that has been developed for the Interstate Bridge Relocation/ Reconstruction Project
- Participate in Winona Radio Home Show activities (March)
- Keep Central School reuse issues on the HPCs radar

DRAFT