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Historic Preservation Website

Retrieved information on 1/11/2022

2004 CONFERENCE

Stewards of Past and Future: Exploring Tools for Historic Preservation on Campus June 23-24, 2004

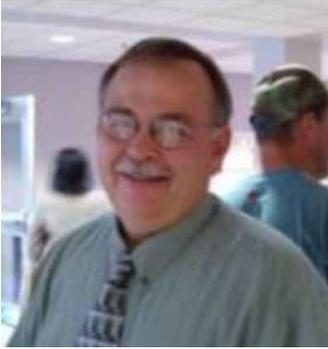
The University of Minnesota, Morris and the State Historic Preservation Office of the Minnesota Historical Society hosted a unique two-day conference to share best practices for historic campus planning and preservation in the Upper Midwest.

The conference was designed for facilities managers, planners, plant services staff, and others from colleges, universities and other campuses in Minnesota (and our neighbors) with historic buildings and landscapes.

The campus is believed to be the first and most intact campus planned by Morell and Nichols, Minnesota landscape architects, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places

This conference was funded in part by the Getty Grant Program as part of its Campus Heritage Preservation Initiative, with additional support from UMM and the State Historic Preservation Office. The Getty Grant Program has awarded grants to support the architectural preservation needs of historic buildings, sites and landscapes on college and university campuses across the U.S. as part of its Campus Heritage Preservation Initiative. The initiative provides funds for activities that help colleges and universities identify, assess and plan for the preservation of their significant historic resources.

CONFERENCE IMAGES



Lowell Rasmussen is the Principal Investigator for UMM's Getty grant, which largely funded the conference.



Dennis Gimmestad of the Minnesota Historical Society was one of the key organizers of the conference. The Minnesota Historical Society was a co-sponsor of the conference.



Mary Hughes of the University of Virginia was the keynote speaker.



Gary Johnson, featured speaker, gave a entertaining and informative talk on landscape preservation.



Preservation case studies were presented June 23 by Richard Strong (Carleton), Mary Hughes (University of Virginia), Brenda Williams and Arnold Alanen (University of Wisconsin, Madison)



UMM's preservation plan - a work in progress - was presented.



Walking tours highlighting the history of the campus were part of the conference



Walking tours highlighting the history of the campus were part of the conference



Our picnic was moved indoors due to volatile weather.



Lunch was another opportunity for conference participants to talk preservation.



Ice cream was a cool treat.

CONFERENCE ONLINE MATERIALS

A variety of materials were available at the conference; some of these materials are available online. Click on the links below to view the materials.

The Secretary of the Interiors Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes ...provide guidance to landscape owners, managers, landscape architects, preservation planners, architects, contractors and project reviewers who are planning and implementing project work.

Making Educated Decisions

A publication of the Historic Landscape Initiative of the National Park Service. This edition has been revised to assist the user in obtaining practical guidance to make informed decisions when researching, planning, managing, interpreting, and undertaking project work for any cultural landscape resource.

Caring for the Past; Sale Publications Catalog

Another publication of the Historic Landscape Initiative of the National Park Service. Includes information on a number of publications and how to order them. You can order your own copy of the Secretary of Interior Standards and Guidelines, a reference book that all of our conference experts agreed is an *essential* resource.

Sustainable Urban Landscape Information Series

The goal of the SULIS is to provide sustainable landscape information to the public and to the horticulture/landscape industry. By utilizing SULIS concepts, homeowners, business owners and related industry personnel will be able to create outdoor spaces that are functional, maintainable, environmentally sound, cost effective and aesthetically pleasing.

Tough Trees and Shrubs for Tough Sites

An article by our featured speaker, Gary Johnson

Minimizing De-Icing Salt Injury to Trees

The title says it all...

Information on our keynote and featured speakers:

Mary Hughes, FASLA, University Landscape Architect for the University of Virginia (UVA) in Charlottesville. Mary described historic landscape preservation at UVA, which has just completed a landscape master plan. Designed by Thomas Jefferson, the core of UVA is a World Heritage Site. Mary also offered a national perspective on historic campus issues.

Gary R. Johnson, PhD, Professor of Urban and Community Forestry at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. A popular extension educator and arborist, Gary discussed the management of irreplaceable trees and other plant materials on historic campuses. He also lead an outdoor session.

CONTRIBUTORS

Who's Who: Committees and Contributors

The Historic Preservation Plan has been a concerted effort among many participants. Our *Advisory Committee* consists of architects, consultants, members of the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities community, the University of Minnesota, Morris community, and the City of Morris. Its purpose is to complete guidelines that will inform future development of both buildings and landscape at UMM. The *UMM Committee* is a group of campus volunteers consisting of professors, administrators and students who advise other details of the effort, from the mapping of campus landscape to putting together literally hundreds of images reflecting the changes the campus has gone through. The *Display Committee* is working to develop a portable display reflecting the history and changes of the campus. Many other individuals have helped the project along, and we would like to acknowledge the breadth and depth of all contributions and extend our thanks to those individuals.



Advisory Committee: (left to right)

Back Row: Randee Hokanson, Dennis Gimmestad, Mieka Hoffman, Lowell Rassumussen, Chuck Koncker, Stephen Gross

Center Row: Peter Orr, Susan Granger, Chuck Liddy, Wes Grey

Front: Tom Mahoney, Frank Martin

Not pictured: Michael Bjonberg, Jay Fier, Jack Grundtner, Robert Harvey, Clint Hewitt, Carol McCannon



Display Committee Members: Susan Granger, Matt Ottinger, Therese Buchmiller, Judy Korn, Annie Olson, Stephen Gross



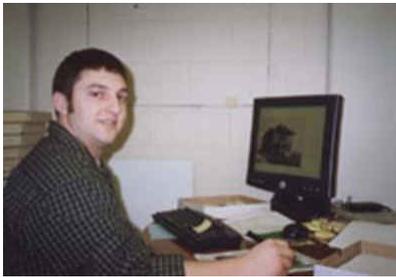
Jason Phelps mapped trees throughout the campus using GPS.



Lowell Rasmussen, Project PI and UMM Associate Vice Chancellor of Physical Plant and Master Planning



Annie Olson has served on both the Display and Campus Committees



Matt Ottinger, student, has been scanning and identifying more than 400 photos. He also has served on the Display Committee and as coordinator.



UMM Campus Committee Members: Gail Boe, Mieka Hoffman, Susan Granger, Annie Olson, Stephen Gross, Jason Phelps, Carol McCannon, and Lowell Rasmussen

Not pictured: Tom Mahoney, Peter Orr, Therese Buchmiller

GRANT OVERVIEW

The original intent of the University of Minnesota, Morris' Campus Heritage Grant through the J. Paul Getty Trust follows

The Campus Heritage Program, funded by the Getty Grant Program, will create a preservation plan for the historic district of the campus of the University of Minnesota, Morris.

The plan will include:

- a statement of goals and purpose
- a brief history of campus landscapes and buildings
- a section on historic landscapes
- a section on historic buildings
- references and resources
- appendices

The separate Historic Landscapes and Building Exteriors sections will each include:

- a description of historic conditions and original design intent
- identification of character-defining features
- changes through time
- current integrity and condition
- challenges to be faced
- recommendations or guidelines for:
 - emergency stabilization (if any)
 - preservation of specific elements
 - repairs and rehabilitation needed
 - restoration or reconstruction, if any
 - recommendations regarding new work
 - recommendation in response to challenges faced
 - routine and long-term maintenance
 - accessibility, health and safety, environmental concerns, etc.
 - recording and/or documenting future changes to buildings and landscapes

The Getty Grant Program is part of the J. Paul Getty Trust, an international cultural and philanthropic institution devoted to the visual arts located at the Getty Center in Los Angeles. Since its inception in 1984, the Grant Program

has supported over 3,000 projects in more than 150 countries. The Getty Trust also includes the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Getty Research Institute, and the Getty Conservation Institute.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

The Historic Preservation Plan Report is the product of the efforts of a dedicated and specialized group of people. These guidelines will be included as part of the UMM master plan, and will help to guide renovation and alterations of buildings. The information and details are extensive and intended to provide clear and consistent guidelines that will help to keep our history intact.

[View the report](#)

LANDSCAPE INVENTORY

Inventory of Current Plantings

Preservation involves not only buildings, but also historic landscapes. Part of the total preservation project was the development of a real-time, technology based mapping of the trees of UMM, many of which have roots in campus history.

To develop this map, a tree survey was conducted in 2004 and was designed to give a working database of the UMM's trees so the trees can be monitored and information about them updated and compared. The survey used the latest in computer technology, including GPS for location, a campus CAD drawing, and interactive GIS software to identify features, analyze information, and create graphs and charts. Information such as type, height, canopy size, DBH (diameter at breast height), condition and location were collected. For data collection, a handheld computer, GPS and separate software programs designed specifically for the handheld to communicate with the main software were used. This made the collection of data in the field, real-time location and continual monitoring and updating of the information a realistic and cost-effective task. Additional information such as soil condition and pH will gradually be collected in years to come. The map will also feature the historic boundary and building locations of the original campus, the 1978 tree survey, groves, the tree nursery, and more.

A special thank you to Richard "Jason" Phelps who worked to understand and then apply the technology to this effort.

WCSA HISTORIC DISTRICT NATIONAL REGISTER

At the heart of the UMM campus is a 42-acre historic district listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The district encompasses the former West Central School of Agriculture (WCSA) and Experiment Station, a boarding high school and research facility that opened here in 1910. The WCSA campus was planned by landscape architects Morell and Nichols of Minneapolis. Most of the buildings were designed by a prominent Minnesota architect, Clarence H. Johnston, Sr.

[Nomination](#)