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Historic planning and preservation conference at UMM June 23-24

Summary:

(June 21, 2004)-What is believed to be the first and most intact campus by Minnesota landscape architects Morell and Nichols is right here in west central

Minnesota - the campus of the University of Minnesota, Morris. The UMM campus has been named to national significance on the National Register of Historic Places and has received a grant for historic preservation planning from the J. Paul Getty Trust.

So, in the interest of sharing best practices for historic campus planning and preservation in the Upper Midwest, UMM will host "Stewards of Past and Future: Exploring Tools for Historic Preservation on Campus," a unique two-day conference on June 23 and 24. The conference, sponsored by UMM and the State Historic Preservation Office of the Minnesota Historical Society, is designed for facilities managers, planners, groundskeepers, and other stewards of historic campus buildings and landscapes.

The conference will bring together campus staff and experts in planning, architecture, landscape architecture, and historic preservation to learn, compare notes, and discuss concepts and tools.

The conference schedule will include a welcome and introductory session keynote by Mary Hughes, Fellow, American Society of Landscape Architects, University landscape architect for the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. Hughes will describe historic landscape preservation at UVA, which has just completed a landscape master plan. Gary Johnson, professor of Urban and Community forestry at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, will speak on the "Value and Care of Heritage Trees" and present an outdoor session on landscape plantings.

Architects Chuck Liddy and Michael Bjornberg, of Miller-Dunwiddie Architects, Minneapolis, will discuss "Preservation Strategies for Historic Buildings." Dennis Gimmestad, government programs and compliance officer for the State Historic Preservation Office, St. Paul, and UMM alumnus, will serve as overall moderator for the conference.

The conference will include tours of the campus and a session on preservation studies from four campuses. In addition, the UMM Preservation Plan: "Balancing Historic Preservation with the Needs of a Modern, Changing Institution," will be presented.

Morell and Nichols planned many institutions in the Upper Midwest including Augustana, Bemidji State, Blake, Breck, Carleton, Concordia (Moorhead), Gustavus Adolphus, among others.

The conference is 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.

Registration for the conference is \$25, which includes all conference Sessions, materials, dinner on June 23, and a continental breakfast and lunch on June 24. The conference will underwrite the cost of 25 hotel rooms on a first come-first served basis (no more than three rooms will be awarded to any one organization).

Registration deadline is May 28, 2004. Space is limited. For more information, please contact Nancy Erdahl or Lowell Rasmussen, UMM Plant Services, UMM, Morris MN 56267, 320-589-6100, erdahl@mrs.umn.edu. Information is also available at <http://www.mrs.umn.edu/preservation/>.

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