

Heritage Preservation Commission

2008 Annual Report



**October 1, 2007-
September 30,
2008**

Heritage
Preservation
Commission (HPC)

Members:

Paul Larson,
Chair
John Manning,
Vice Chair
Lee Meyer, AIA
Secretary
Carol Carey
Richard Faricy, FAIA
Susan Bartlett Foote
April Haas
Pat Igo
Carole Kralicek
John Manning
Shari Taylor Wilsey
Mark S. Thomas, MD
Steve Trimble
Diane Trout-Oertel, AIA

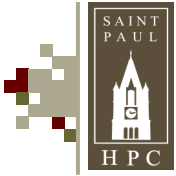
Staff:

Amy Spong
Christine Boulware

Inside:

- *Preservation Education*
- *Design Review*
- *Survey and Designation*
- *2008 Heritage Preservation Awards*
- *HPC Members and Staff*
- *Organization Summary*

Vacancies, Foreclosures and Historic Preservation in Saint Paul. What are the real impacts?



The main purposes of the new Plan are: to provide a guiding vision for historic preservation in Saint Paul, to formalize City policy regarding historic preservation, to guide public and private investment to further preservation goals, to advocate for historic preservation, and finally to guide the work of the HPC. The strategies and numerous policies are informed by the following principles:

- Preservation is a core community value
- Historic Preservation is a priority for the City of Saint Paul
- Preservation is critical for neighborhood vitality and a sense of place
- Historic resources are unique and irreplaceable, and should be treated accordingly
- Preservation should be integrated with the broader planning process
- Preservation provides an environmentally sustainable alternative to new construction

Preservation Education and Policy

Teaching Saint Paul's residents and visitors about the City's heritage through historic buildings and the urban environment is an ongoing commitment of the Heritage Preservation Commission. The HPC also seeks to improve upon public policies to respond to the ever evolving field of historic preservation.

Policy and Preservation Planning

The Heritage Preservation Commission, as a Certified Local Government, applied for and received a grant from the National Park Service through the Minnesota Historical Society, who administers the U.S. Department of the Interior's Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) program. The grant and the City's matching funds allowed for the completion of Saint Paul's first-ever **Historic Preservation Plan** chapter to be adopted as part of the City's Comprehensive Plan. The Plan will be formally adopted by the City Council in March 2009.

Special Projects

Downtown Pilot Façade Improvement Program

This program was developed to encourage appropriate façade improvements to historic buildings in Downtown and Lowertown and to highlight Saint Paul's rich architectural heritage. Three projects received approval for financial assistance from the program to undertake and complete exterior improvements to their buildings: the J.H. Allen Building at 287 Sixth Street East, the Northwestern Building at 275 Fourth Street East and the Tilsner Building at 300 Broadway Street.

Central Corridor

Staff and the HPC continued their involvement in the planning process for the **Central Corridor LRT** that will eventually run through both the University-Raymond Commercial Historic District and Lowertown Historic District, as well as along several designated structures and structures potentially eligible for designation.

Legislative Hearings and Historic Resource Reviews

During February 2008, HPC staff began evaluating all Vacant Buildings classified as "Category 3" for historical and architectural significance. Staff made recommendations to the Legislative Hearing Officer, who then either made recommendations to the City Council or forwarded certain properties to the HPC for further evaluation. The HPC made reviewed five historic resources and recommended that demolition be delayed for all five. The historic resources were: 59 Atwater Street, 242 Morton Street, 667 Sims Avenue, 696 Sims Avenue, and 606-606 1/2 Thomas Avenue. All of the resources reviewed were razed.

Survey, Evaluation, and Designation

Survey and Designation

The HPC did not add any properties to the survey or propose sites to the City Council for local designation.

The HPC did not comment on any properties proposed for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Design Review

The HPC protects buildings and districts designated for heritage preservation by reviewing all building permits and other exterior work for these areas. The HPC works with property owners to ensure that exterior changes are compatible with the original architectural design and materials of the buildings. The Commission has published design review guidelines for each district which facilitate the review of projects. The HPC also advises the City Council and Mayor on city-sponsored projects which will affect historic districts.

The HPC reviewed 398 applications during 2008, eight less than the 406 applications reviewed in 2007. Thirty-six were reviewed by the Commission and 362 were reviewed and approved by staff. The HPC also conducted seven pre-application reviews for new construction or rehabilitation projects, five historic resource reviews, five after-the-fact reviews, reviewed one street name change and one lot split.

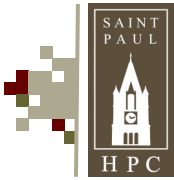
Of the total applications reviewed, only seven were denied by the HPC. An HPC decision can be appealed to the City Council by an applicant or other party, and for the fiscal year 2008 only one decision was appealed and the City Council granted the appeal. This low denial rate demonstrates the Commission's desire and ability to work with applicants to reach compatible solutions while upholding historic design standards.

Applications Reviewed by Type

	STAFF	HPC	TOTALS
New Construction/ Alteration Permits	56	26	82
Repair/Rehabilitation Permits	199	5	204
Fence/Retaining Wall Permits	43	1	44
Mechanical Permits	40	0	40
Sign/Awning Permits	9	2	11
Stucco Permits	9	0	9
Demolition Permits	6	2	8
TOTALS	362	36	398

Applications Reviewed by Districts

	STAFF	HPC	TOTALS
Dayton's Bluff	52	12	64
Historic Hill	161	14	175
Irvine Park	14	1	15
Lowertown	11	4	15
Summit Avenue West	61	3	64
University-Raymond	9	0	9
Individual Sites	27	2	29



Preservation Awards

The Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC), in collaboration with the Saint Paul Chapter of the Minnesota Society of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), recognizes contributions to heritage preservation through its Preservation Awards program. The awards are given to individuals or organizations for their efforts to preserve historic buildings or to enhance the historic character of Saint Paul.

The HPC and the Saint Paul Chapter of the AIA held the 18th annual Heritage Preservation Awards Ceremony on May 13, 2008, in the Saint Paul City Hall/Ramsey County Court House. The welcoming addresses were given by Nancy Homans, Policy Director in the Mayor's Office and Councilmember Dave Thune. Carole Kralicek served as Master of Ceremonies. HPC Chair, Paul Larson and AIA Saint Paul President, Deborah Rathman presented the awards.

The recipients were recognized and celebrated for their preservation efforts and contributions to Saint Paul and its neighborhoods. Recipients of the 2008 Preservation Awards were:



Cinco de Mayo Festival

Cinco de Mayo Festival

Cultural Heritage Award
Riverview Economic Development Assn

Olaf Lee House

955 Jessie Street
Stewardship Award
John Stensing & Gary Sipes
Historic Saint Paul
City Venture Corporation



Olaf Lee House

Lighter-Young Double House

322-324 Summit Avenue
Restoration/Rehabilitation Award
Mohr Constructions Company
JLG Architects

Legacy Rose Store and Flats

1581 Selby Avenue
Restoration/Rehabilitation Award
CCI Properties
Ben's Saad Restoration



Payne Avenue State Bank

Padgett Art Studio

274 Goodrich Avenue
New Construction
Michael & Deborah Padgett
Yust Architectural Services, Limited
Buck Brothers Construction

Payne Avenue State Bank

965 Payne Avenue
Adaptive Reuse Award
East Side Neighborhood Development Company
Neighborhood Development Center
Collaborative Design Group, Inc.
Thor Construction, Inc.

John Yust

Individual who has made an excellent contribution to heritage preservation

Czech and Slovak Sokol MN

Community Education Award
Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

Jacob Heck House

613 North Street
Restoration/Rehabilitation Award
Kim & Rene Lerma
Historic Saint Paul



Czech and Slovak Sokol

West Seventh/Fort Road Nbhd. Homes

Vote of Confidence Award
Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity

Fort Snelling Porches and Roofs

Restoration/Reconstruction Award

Minnesota Historical Society

Collaborative Design Group, Inc.

L.S. Black Constructors, Inc.

SteppingStone Theatre

873 Portland Avenue

Community Organization Award

SteppingStone Theatre

Duan Corporation

Flannery Construction

HPC Members and Staff

Members: Continuing members during the 2008 fiscal year were: Carol Carey, Richard Faricy, Susan Bartlett Foote, April Haas, Pat Igo, Carole Kralicek, Paul Larson, John Manning, Lee Meyer, Mark Thomas, Diane Trout-Oertel and Shari Taylor Wilsey. Officers during the 2008 calendar year were Commissioner Larson, serving as Chair; Commissioner Manning, serving as Vice-Chair; and Commissioner Meyer, serving as Secretary. One new member joined the commission last year: Steve Trimble. Commissioner Trimble is a representative of the Ramsey County Historical Society Board and the three registered architects are Commissioners Faricy, Meyer and Trout-Oertel. The Commission said goodbye to one member, Richard Nicholson.

New commissioner **Steve Trimble**, originally from Kansas, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from S.M.U and conducted his graduate work in history at University of Chicago. He moved to Minnesota in 1969 and currently resides in the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood. Commissioner Trimble has taught history at the college level for four decades. He is the author of many articles and books on Minnesota and Twin Cities history and served as State Legislator from 1987-2000.

Staff: Amy Spong and Christine Boulware continue to serve as staff to the HPC. Cory Rucker assisted the HPC during meetings. Christopher Farrar was the summer intern.

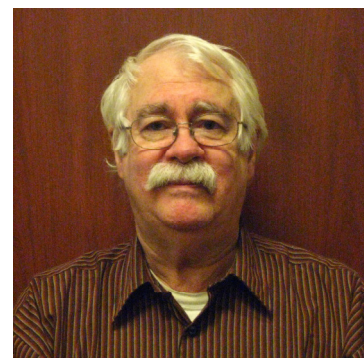
Staff served on the Local Planning Committee and assisted in the Downtown Walking Tour for the National Preservation Conference in Saint Paul in October 2007. The Local Planning Committee has now become the Minnesota Preservation Coalition and will continue to meet quarterly. Staff also served on the Minnesota Main Street Task Force.

Staff and Commissioners Carey, Foote, Igo, Kralicek, Manning and Larson attended the National Trust Conference in Saint Paul, October 2 through October 6, 2007. The theme was "Preservation Matters!"

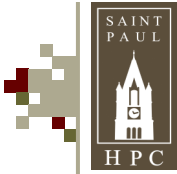
Staff and Commissioner Carey participated in the 28th Annual Statewide Historic Preservation conference in Northfield on September 19 and 20, 2008. This years theme was "Main Street and Beyond."



Stepping Stone Theatre



Commissioner Trimble



Heritage Preservation Commission

Organization Summary

The Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) serves as an advisory body to the Mayor and the City Council on municipal heritage preservation matters. It was created by city ordinance in 1976 to protect and promote the heritage of the City of Saint Paul. The Commission consists of thirteen voting members who are residents of Saint Paul and are appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the City Council. One of the members is a representative of the Ramsey County Historical Society and at present three of the members are professionally registered architects.

The City of Saint Paul is a Certified Local Government (CLG) in the national Historic Preservation Program. The city is certified as having a heritage preservation commission and program that meets federal and state standards. Saint Paul's status as a CLG confirms its commitment to support a qualified heritage preservation commission, maintain a system for the survey and inventory of historic properties, enforce appropriate state and local legislation for the designation and protection of historic properties and provide for public participation in its preservation program.



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Chris Coleman, Mayor

City Councilmembers

Melvin Carter III

Ward 1

Dave Thune

Ward 2

Patrick Harris

Ward 3

Russ Stark

Ward 4

Lee Helgen

Ward 5

Daniel Bostrom

Ward 6

Kathy Lantry, President

Ward 7

The Heritage Preservation Commission is staffed by the Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI)
Bob Kessler, DSI Director

For more information about the Heritage Preservation Commission, contact:

Department of Safety and Inspections
375 Jackson Street, Suite 220
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1806

Telephone: 651-266-9090
Web: www.stpaul.gov/hpc

This annual report for the Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) for the fiscal year 1 October 2007—30 September 2008, has been prepared according to the guidelines outlined in "Procedures for Applying For and Maintaining Certified Local Government Status (CLG)." CLG Status is administered by the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for the National Park Service.