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MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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EGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY STATE OFFICE BUILDING ST. PAUL, MN 55155



is about people — people from the past whose stories comprise our Minnesota heritage, people from across the state and beyond whom we serve through a variety of educational programs and resources, and people who work with us in so many ways to help translate our mission into action.

– Nina M. Archabal



ork is a subject we can all relate to, whether we work on a farm, in a factory, at home, in a city, or in a rural community. Working together, collaborating with others, these are cornerstones of our efforts at the Minnesota Historical Society. Our work from year to year builds on the foundation laid down by the Society's founders in 1849. Our

mission remains essentially unchanged: to collect and preserve evidence of the past and to interpret the history of our region for the education and enjoyment of all our citizens.

In the past year more than one million people participated in our programs. They came from all walks of life, of all ages and from many different communities. Often, they arrived by the busload — the History Center and historic sites were host to 208,000 children who visited with school groups. These students discover "hands-on" museum exhibits with curiosity and enthusiasm. Even the very youngest students who seem to be at play in the galleries are at work learning about the past. Certainly these young people who have attained an appreciation of



and pride in their heritage will be our good citizens of the future.

Clearly, the Society has become the leading institution of its kind in the nation. Our existence and continued remarkable growth are possible because of the magnificent support of both public and private sectors, the excellent and dedicated work of the staff led so

capably by our director, Nina Archabal, and our partnerships with organizations and communities throughout the state. To all of those who have labored with us and on our behalf we are sincerely grateful.

Over the years the Society has worked to provide service statewide, an accomplishment which was envisioned by our founders. As we look to the future we see that rapidly advancing informational technology now presents us an opportunity as well as a challenge to bring us even closer to the many constituencies we serve. It will take renewed dedication on the part of those who have served with us so well in the past as well as the active participation of new friends to maintain the leadership position that hard work has given us today.

Marshall Harpeld

Marshall R. Hatfield President



rom its beginning in 1849, the Minnesota Historical Society's work has been inspired by a mission to preserve and share our state's history for the enrichment of all our citizens. Quite simply, our work is about people people from the past whose stories comprise our Minnesota heritage, people from across the state and beyond whom we serve through a

variety of educational programs and resources, and people who work with us in so many ways to help translate our mission into action.

In 1995 more people than ever before participated in the Society's programs, and the number of visitors to the History Center after almost three years of operation is nearing two million. Throughout the past year, organization-wide goals designed to broaden the Society's educational role in the state provided the initiatives for the major areas of our work: historic sites, the History Center museum, publications, the Research Center, and statewide programs. In our annual report, we profile the year's activities and achievements in each of these areas. Underlying all of our efforts was the continuing commitment to become a more externally-oriented institution, reaching and serving larger and more diverse audiences.

This is challenging and exciting work. The energy, ability, resources, and dedication needed to make it happen flowed from the many, many individuals who worked with and contributed to the Society during the year members, patrons, Executive Council members and officers, staff, advisors, donors, legislators, colleagues from historical organizations around the state, and our wonderful group



of more than 1,300 volunteers, who logged over 35,000 hours working at our historic sites and the History Center. Our thanks and appreciation go out to all of these friends for sustaining our work and bringing history to life in Minnesota's communities and historic places. We invite you to meet some of these special people in the following pages and learn about for history in 1005

their work for history in 1995.

In addition to preserving and telling the stories of past life in Minnesota, an important part of our job is listening to the multiplicity of voices reflecting the pluralism of Minnesotans. During the past year, we heard from visitors and patrons through surveys designed to help us become more knowledgeable about our audiences and identify communities and segments of the public we hope to serve more effectively. In our museum galleries and classrooms and at our historic sites we heard the voices of children and adults who told of their own stories and discoveries of a personal connection with the past. We are using what we have learned to strengthen our outreach to all communities, and through continuing to listen we hope increasingly to bring the public into the Society's work.

Ultimately, the Society's work looks toward the future. We build on the foundation of the past in order to ensure that our heritage will be preserved and transmitted for the education and enjoyment of generations to come. Minnesota's people — past, present, and future — will remain at the heart of our work. Please join us on this exciting adventure of making and sharing our history.

King archabal

Nina M. Archabal Director





eal people...real stories. From the stories of Gerry Spiess's trans-

Atlantic voyage, Ojibwe wild ricer Sam Mitchell, and quilters Adeline and Ellen Olson, the lives and work of Minnesotans is the focus of the Minnesota Historical Society's museum program. One of the leading history museums in the country, the Minnesota History Center engages visitors in active ways to help them make meaningful connections to the past. Innovative exhibits, costumed characters, theatrical settings, interactive stations, and demonstrations bring the experiences of past Minnesotans to life in dynamic ways. Working with other organizations and through educational, family, and public programs, the History Center attracts a diverse audience — families, tourists, adults, seniors, and school children. Since its opening, close to two million visitors have explored everything from "A to Z."

HIGHLIGHTS

MUSEUM

• New exhibits included On the Campaign Trail, which explores Minnesota's political landscape from whistle stops to sound bites, and Minnesota Through Artists' Eyes, which depicts Minnesota's natural and cultural landscape with works of art spanning 150 years. Three exhibits were revised: Minnesota Communities, Grainland, and Manoominikewin: Stories of Wild Ricing.

• 393,578 people visited the History Center museum galleries. More than 38,000 people attended events and programs.

• 74,755 students participated in registered school programs including Explore! gallery tours and museum lessons.

• 558 volunteers contributed close to 20,000 hours at the History Center.

• Working in partnership with community groups, the Society presented: a celebration of Hispanic Heritage with the Instituto de Arte y Cultura; the Artists with Attitude lecture series with the Native Arts Circle; the Crossing Boundaries performance with Dance Revels and LeReseau de L'Etoile du Nord; six performances of the Cedar Social variety show; a performance by the Rance Majestic Choir from Pilgrim Baptist Church, and the Minnesota Youth Expo, a celebration of cultural diversity.

• Family programs included the Winter Adventure Family Festival partnership with the St. Paul Winter Carnival; the Spring Openers Family Festival with the St. Paul Saints, and other group involvement in family festivals including: local high schools, the Department of Natural Resources, Northern Sign Theater, MNAqua, Minnesota Youth Ski League, Woodswomen, Christ's Household of Faith School, and the Minnesota Arboretum. Psychoanalysts and historians participated in a Memory Symposium, sponsored by the Society and the Psychoanalytic Foundation of Minnesota.

• Guests in the Gallery included people sharing stories about life and work through performance: African-American storytellers Mattie Clark, Jerry Blue, and Connee Chivers; Native-American storyteller Ona Kingbird; Theater Mu actor Paul Juhn; Northern Sign Theater's Nicole Zapko; dancers Paul Lopez and Elena Rosas. Others shared their real-life experiences: African-American author Evelyn Fairbanks; Jeanne Coffey from the Hinckley Fire Museum; world walker David Kunst; firefighter Becky Nelson; and winnowing basket makers Jim and Pat Northrup.

- Minnesota Folk '94 at the History Center attracted 5,000 visitors to see and talk with folk artists at work.
- Governor Arne Carlson selected the History Center for his January inaugural event for families; more than 5,000 Minnesotans attended.
- The League of Women Voters worked with the Society to present the commemorative exhibit, *Women in Action: Rebels* and *Reformers 1920-1980*, for the League's 75th anniversary.

• Nearly 51,000 visitors found unique Minnesota gifts at the History Center's museum stores.

• The History Center was host to 40,627 people for 285 special events for both work and play: corporate functions, award ceremonies, weddings, and family reunions.



JACKIE BORMAN

ringing a school group to the History Center is more than just a field trip. Jackie Borman, a teacher at the Saturn School of Tomorrow in St. Paul, brought her fourth graders to the History Center each Tuesday and Thursday for 18 weeks to study immigration, and found that her students had fun while learning about Minnesota's diverse heritage.

"Using the primary sources available at the Research Center, students had to seek out answers from several sources, rather than just finding an answer in a textbook," she says. "They learned how to look for clues in photographs and census records. They also used critical thinking skills in our immigration trunk exercise and had to think of everything they would need as immigrants: quilts, diaries, clothes, pictures."

Jackie also says that the interactive exhibits excite students. "The participation enhances learning and keeps them interested; it's not like they walk by and can't touch."

Jackie worked with Society teacher Bonnie Donnay to plan learning experiences, including researching and designing mini-exhibits to be displayed at the History Center. "The students were really excited," she says. "It opened their eyes to the history that has happened in Minnesota — they know that it happened in their own state, and not somewhere else."





ST. PAUL, MINN, JANUARY, 1888.

The story of Louis Riel, the Metis people, and their struggle for a homeland on the plains of the United States-Canada border



elling the stories of work, working with authors and other publishers to

produce new books, supporting the work of researchers — all are aspects of the publishing and research programs of the Minnesota Historical Society. This year, Marjorie Myers Douglas, in Eggs in the Coffee, Sheep in the Corn: My 17 Years as a Farm Wife, vividly described her work on a mid-century Minnesota farm. Published in September 1994 by the Minnesota Historical Society Press, the book won the Minnesota Book Award for biography and required a second printing by December. The book is the first in the new Midwest Reflections Series, which features memoirs and personal histories of people of the Upper Midwest. Douglas has spoken at Minnesota bookstores, churches, and book clubs, helping people to remember the hard work of thousands of Minnesota women on the farm. Working to preserve history in print, video, audio, and other media, the Press continues to share the stories of Minnesota's past.

PUBLICATIONS

 New publications from the Minnesota Historical Society Press include: Eggs in the Coffee, Sheep in the Corn: My 17 Years as a Farm Wife by Marjorie Myers Douglas; Radicalism in Minnesota, 1900-1960: A Survey of Selected Sources, a product of the Research Department's 20th Century Radicalism in Minnesota Project directed by Carl Ross; Grand Mound, by Society Site Manager Michael K. Budak; and The Ojibwa of Western Canada by Laura Peers, co-published with the University of Manitoba Press. New Borealis books include Strange Empire by Joseph Kinsey Howard and To Be an Indian by Herbert Hoover and Joseph Cash. New prints include reproductions of the six Civil War paintings hanging in the Governor's Reception Room at the State Capitol.

 Photographer Wing Young Huie's research grant led to a highly acclaimed exhibition about St. Paul's Frogtown neighborhood. The exhibit combined photos of and quotations from Frogtown residents and was held in a vacant lot at St. Paul's Dale Street and University Avenue.

• Publications such as the Minnesota History Interpreter, Research Center Gazette, and Member News help keep the public informed about the Society.

• Northern Lights history textbooks, used in 848 Minnesota schools, help school teachers in their work of teaching about Minnesota's history. Encouraging the work of researchers and writers, the Research Department awarded 16 grants totalling more than \$37,000 for such projects as writer Margot Fortunato Galt's collaboration with Grand Portage Ojibway elder/artist George Morrison on a book to be called Turning the Feather Around: George Morrison on his Life and Art; political scientist Tom O'Connell's research for a book on the history of Minnesota politics; anthropologist Anne Sutherland's pioneering research on Minnesota gypsies; and writer/activist Barbara Cyrus's compilation of selected columns from her 30 years of work for Twin Cities African-American newspapers.

• The journal Minnesota History featured articles ranging from a biography of Abigail Snelling and a study of how Anna Ramsey furnished her family's Irvine Park home to the details of a German POW escape in northern Minnesota, a look at the life of Liang May Seen, the first Chinese woman to settle in Minneapolis, and the story of Duluth's Skyline Parkway.

 Scholar James Robinson, who descends from three generations of railroad workers, is researching the labor history of black dining car workers in the Upper Midwest. His work in investigating the work lives and union activities of these railroad employees has been supported by two Society grants.



WING YOUNG HUIE CLOSE-UP

hen Wing Young Huie contacted the Minnesota Historical Society's research department about his idea, "Frogtown: A Portrait of a Neighborhood," he was a bit apprehensive because he didn't consider himself a "professional" historian. As a writer, artist, and photographer, he considered himself more a purveyor of "current history."

"The Minnesota Historical Society was the first organization I approached and they were really instrumental in getting the whole project rolling," he says. "When I first talked with Deb [Miller] about my project, it was her enthusiasm and interest that really enabled me to do the project. She encouraged me to apply for a Society research grant."

Wing's acclaimed project culminated with an exhibit at a vacant lot on the corner of University Avenue and Dale Street in St. Paul. He chose this venue for his show because it was important that the work be easily accessible to all of Frogtown's residents.

Some of Wing's work appears in the History Center's Families exhibit, and the Minnesota Historical Society Press is talking with him about a book of his photographs of and interviews with Frogtown residents.







he work at Minnesota Historical Society historic sites is never done —

it is a vibrant, continual process that depends upon the help of others, including local preservation groups, historical societies, historians, cultural advisory groups, tourism bureaus, business groups, and state and national agencies. Without their support, the discovery of historic resources or the research necessary for new programs at sites might be hindered. Re-enactments of historic events, new characters in living history portrayals, site restoration, changing exhibits, special events, and guided tours illustrate the dynamic process of interpreting and preserving history at historic sites. History comes alive at historic sites, and visitors from individuals to school children to senior groups and families — discover that the work of the present in preserving the past is a fun and memorable experience.

HISTORIC SITES

Comstock House

Folsom House Forest History Center Historic Forestville Fort Renville Fort Ridgely Grand Mound Historic Fort Snelling Harkin Store James J. Hill House Jeffers Petroglyphs

Oliver H. Kelley Farm

HISTORIC SITES

Lac qui Parle Mission

Lindbergh House

Lower Sioux Agency

Marine Mill

W.W. Mayo House

Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post

Minnehaha Depot

Minnesota State Capitol

North West Company Fur Post

Alexander Ramsey House

Saint Anthony Falls Historic District

Split Rock Lighthouse

HIGHLIGHTS

HISTORIC SITES

• Attendance at historic sites was 553,892 — a 5.7 percent increase over last year. The total includes 134,054 children from 2,882 school groups.

• Split Rock Lighthouse worked with the U.S. Postal Service on a Great Lakes Lighthouses commemorative stamp series. One of five lighthouses in the series, Split Rock hosted the second-day-of-issue ceremony on June 19.

• During the State Capitol's 90th anniversary, organizations and individuals worked together to remove the Quadriga (golden horses), to restore them to their original appearance, and to reinstall them on the Capitol's roof.

• The Lower Sioux Agency received a \$160,000 ISTEA grant to complete a historic trails project. Staff conducted preliminary work for the agency's 1861 stone warehouse restoration.

• Historic Fort Snelling installed a World War II exhibit to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the war's end, and also continued to host the World War II History Round Table lecture series.

• Exhibits at the James J. Hill House included: The Art of Gardens, Adolf Dehn: A Centennial Exhibition, and Art Workers: Minnesota Women in the Arts and Craft Movement.

 Construction continued on the Mille Lacs Indian Museum, and the newly restored Trading Post reopened in the spring. A grand opening for the museum is planned for May 18, 1996. • Lindbergh House staff assisted author Scott Berg with his research for an authorized biography of Charles A. Lindbergh Jr. to be published in 1997.

• Staff in the Southern District — Lower Sioux Agency, Fort Ridgely, and Jeffers Petroglyphs — worked with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Redwood Regional Tourism and Convention Bureau, local citizens, and the Minnesota River Valley Task Force to designate 100 miles of road between Mankato and Granite Falls as the Minnesota River Valley Scenic Byway.

• During spring 1995, Grand Mound Site Manager Michael Budak discovered that the site has a 200-foot earthen "tail," a unique earthwork in North America. Working closely with the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council and the State Archaeologist Office, staff cleared undergrowth and rerouted foot trails to highlight and protect the discovery.

• Planning continued for a new visitor center at Jeffers Petroglyphs, assisted by The Nature Conservancy, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

• A \$3 million restoration of the Stone Arch Bridge near St. Anthony Falls was made possible by the work of the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Board, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, and Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) funds. The bridge is a major attraction for pedestrians and bicyclists using the area's trails.



BILL CARPENTER CLOSE-UP

ill Carpenter goes by his real name when he's in the role of the blacksmith at the Forest History Center, where he and other living history characters portray life in a 1900 logging camp. He gets a lot of flack for being a blacksmith named "Carpenter," and sometimes visitors' comments cause him to break character and trade jokes.

Bill approaches the job as a storyteller. "As interpreters, we are given research on people and then must bring that information to the visitor," he says. "It's really the job of a storyteller. Most people are more apt to listen to a story than to facts and figures."

Visitors come from all over Minnesota, the United States, and the world. "We had a Portuguese group — they didn't speak English very well and I didn't speak their language," he said. "I was the cookshack cook that day, and noticed a woman who was saying something behind my back. I asked a member of the group who could speak a little English if she was saying that I was a bad cook. She was, and we all had a good laugh."

Bill sometimes loses track of time while at the Forest History Center. "When you have a really active group of visitors, asking a lot of questions and taking part in activities, I sometimes forget it's 1995," he says. "But when you get home, it's a reminder that things sure have changed since 1900."







linking individuals with information and artifacts. The work and lives of past Minnesotans from the northern railroad workers of the 1800s to meat packers in the 1940s to office workers in the 1970s — is accessible for people today who want to connect with the past. The Society strives to help make that connection possible. Genealogists, students, families, scholars, and amateur and professional historians are exploring the Society's rich collections as Society staff work to document the lives of yesterday's and today's Minnesotans. In the past year, 77,466 people accessed the Society's extensive collections of books, maps, government records, manuscripts, newspapers, photographs, works of art, and archaeological and historic objects. Some 2,210 people participated in Research Center classes from family history and house history to church and Civil War records and photo research.

HIGHLIGHTS RESEARCH CENTER

• New patron registration increased by 13 percent from the previous year. Since 1992, the Research Center experienced a 68 percent increase in the number of patrons, a 46 percent increase in phone inquiries, and a 81 percent increase in the number of materials used.

• Nearly 12,000 historical object catalog cards were added the Society's online catalog, accessible in Minnesota through the PALS network, and internationally through the Research Libraries Group and the Online Computer Library Center.

• New artifact acquisitions included 1,860 items for the historical collections and 10,000 for the archaeological collections. Acquisitions included: objects from Minnesota's railroads from the late 1800s to the 1980s; Red Wing dinnerware; the Thief River Falls Satellite Drive-In Theater sign; a sugar beet puller used in Carver County; smocks worn by Swift & Co. meat packers; an 1887 banner from the Journeymen Stone Cutters Association; furnishings and signs from the Flagg Resort and Lodge near Emily; and an Adirondack-style chair made by the Green Chair Project in Minneapolis.

• The work of the Red Wing Potteries is of interest to many Minnesotans. Collections staff have improved access to and references for the Society's Red Wing collection, and a new database will initiate a collecting project for Red Wing dinnerware.

 Records acquired from the Twin Cities Rapid Transit Company reflect an enterprise that was both a major employer and provider of transportation for people to and from work in Minnesota.

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• Oral history projects help document the lives and work of individuals and community organizations. These included: a project documenting the Asian Indian community in Minnesota with the India Association of Minnesota; interviews on the reintroduction of wolves in northern Minnesota with the International Wolf Center; a project concerning wildlife and forestry issues at Itasca State Park; and a project on the care and treatment of AIDS patients in Minnesota.

• Staff worked with KARE-11 Television in Minneapolis to develop information spots on the care and preservation of photos and videotape.

• Some 139 units of official records from state and local government were added to the state archives, totalling 1,000 cubic feet of records and 546 reels of microfilm. Dating from the 1840s to the 1990s, these records included materials from the former tuberculosis sanatorium at Ah-Gwah-Ching, the Pollution Control Agency's Water Quality Division, and court records from Isanti, Goodhue, and Todd counties.

• The St. Paul Retired Teachers Association History Committee and Society staff worked together to obtain records from 36 St. Paul schools dating from the 1850s to the 1980s.

• Over 850 inquiries from the general public and other institutions were answered by the book, objects, paper and textile conservation and photo labs during the year. The microfilm lab tested more than 1,100 microforms for other Minnesota state agencies to insure that they met standards for permanent retention as archival film.



BARBARADAVIS

hen the Minnesota Historical Society contacted Barbara Davis after her husband Ken died in 1991, Barbara was surprised that the Society would be interested in the history of a small business. Ken Davis Products, which her husband founded in 1969, is a successful minority-owned business distributing its barbeque sauces and products around the Upper Midwest.

"I worked in a major corporation before I met Ken, and it was very good about keeping archives," Barbara says. "But it never occurred to me that anyone would care about the history of a small business. But when you think about it, we constitute the majority of employers in the country."

The Davis's lives and experiences were an important facet to the business history. "The Society was interested in things such as personal diaries, my wedding dress, Ken's favorite cigar lighter — things you might not think were significant to the business," she says.

Barbara keeps a box in her office and at home, and continues to collect objects and papers for the Society. Recently she ran across her college diary from the 1960s, which included an entry about a trip to Denver to hear a speech by George Wallace. Reading the entry, she said it brought back the same emotions of anger and sadness.

The Society strives to capture the stories and emotions, pleasant or unpleasant, associated with objects. "That's what the Society is all about," Barbara says. "When you walk through the exhibits [at the History Center], they evoke feelings about family, real people, and you think, my family or my grandfather did this or experienced that. It always brings back memories."







he success of the Minnesota Historical Society's statewide programs

depends on solid working partnerships with local and county historical societies, federal and state agencies, and interested individuals in a shared commitment to document and preserve Minnesota's past. This year, the Society's statewide efforts with other organizations focused on collaborative ways to share information and plan for the future. The Society launched an important new project to computerize architectural and archaeological inventories, drafted a plan to preserve the state's historic properties in the 21st century, continued to work on implementation of the Native American Graves Protection Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), and exchanged information and resources through annual meetings of historical organizations and heritage preservation commissions. Preservation of archives and official state documents, an extensive travelling exhibits program, and co-sponsorship of Minnesota History Day are also a part of the Society's work statewide.

HIGHLIGHTS

STATEWIDE PROGRAMS

• Membership increased from 11,922 to 13,984 — resulting in the largest membership of any historical society in the United States.

• New travelling exhibits include Families Who Nurture: Individuals Who Serve, with the Hallie Q. Brown Center in St. Paul and Failure is Impossible with the League of Women Voters. Staff assisted members of the Jewish community, the St. Paul United Jewish Fund and Council, and Community Programs in the Arts and Sciences with the travelling exhibit Old Lives, New Lives: Soviet Jewish Women in Minnesota.

• Working with the Minnesota Department of Transportation, the Society initiated a year-long project to computerize State Historic Preservation Office architecture and archaeological inventories, helping to make this information more accessible to researchers and federal and state agencies.

• Some 133 participants attended the Minnesota Historical Organization annual meeting in St. Cloud. History cluster workshops were held in Rochester, Willmar, and Fergus Falls.

 Seven historic districts and 10 properties were added to the National Register of Historic Places, including commercial districts in Wykoff, Caledonia, Little Falls, Blooming Prairie, and Sauk Centre's Main Street.

• With assistance from the Legislature, a two-year project was completed that assisted four National Register properties: the Pickwick Mill, the Sibley County Courthouse, the Wendelin Grimm Farmstead, and the Tugboat Edna G. National Register Emergency Grants totalling \$49,402 were awarded to 11 properties.

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• The Society's Grants Review Committee awarded \$500,000 in state bond-funded County and Local Preservation Project Grants to 18 applicants. Projects funded included restoration of the mural and exterior sculpture on the Willmar Auditorium and the restoration of the Universal Lab Yeast Factory in Dassel.

• The Society awarded 13 grants totalling \$77,513 in federal Certified Local Government funds to 12 cities for preservation survey and planning projects.

• Nearly 14,000 Minnesota students participated in History Day activities, co-sponsored by the Society and the University of Minnesota. 52 students went on to participate at National History Day in Washington, D.C.

 Working with educators across the state, the Society provided work experiences for 34 high school students who used their academic skills for special projects under the Summer Youth Program.

 Society staff studied 273 sites, 523 cultural resources, and investigated 191 development projects, including working with the Nicollet County Historical Society and the Dakota Indian Community in archaeological investigations and planning at the Traverse des Sioux historic site.

• The Society provided tours and presentations at Minnesota's first Archaeology Week.

• Cultural resources were managed under cooperative agreements with the Department of Natural Resources divisions of Parks and Recreation, Trails and Waterways, and Forestry as well as the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the County and Municipal Highway Department.



ARNOLDANDERSON

he work of preserving history throughout Minnesota depends on the assistance of thousands of volunteers working at local historical societies and in historic preservation efforts. Arnold Anderson, president of the Chippewa County Historical Society and a member of the Minnesota Historical Society Executive Council, is one such person who is instrumental in preserving Minnesota's heritage.

"Working with the Minnesota Historical Society is very beneficial in that we see the vast collections and holdings, and that helps us in our own collection development," he says. "We also benefit from technical advice on preservation — from clothing and artifacts to periodicals and structures. In addition, we're working with the Society on developing standardized computer systems for collection databases, and records and fiscal management."

The benefits are reciprocal, Arnold says. "Local units provide valuable constituent support by encouraging legislators to support the Society's work." In addition, local historical societies are essential in keeping several Society-owned historic sites open to the public, such as Fort Renville and Lac qui Parle, both managed by the Chippewa County Historical Society.





Minnesota Historical Society **CONDENSED BALANCE SHEET** Year ended June 30, 1995 (000's omitted)

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricte State Appropria- tions	ed Funds Other	Plant Endo		Totals 1995 1994	
					- and		
Cash and investments	\$ 3,114	\$ 4,209	\$ 3,730	\$ -	\$ 5,789	\$16,842	\$12,965
Receivables	273	239	1,324		19 2	1,836	3,500
Museum shop inventories	635	-	-)-		635	589
History Center property and equipment – net				67,753	- <u></u>	67,753	
Total assets	<u>\$ 4,022</u>	<u>\$ 4,448</u>	<u>\$ 5,054</u>	<u>\$67,753</u>	<u>\$ 5,789</u>	<u>\$87,066</u>	<u>\$83,654</u>
Payables and accrued amounts	281	3,696	314		_	4,291	2,355
Deferred amounts		752	4,740			5,492	6,584
Total liabilities	281	4,448	5,054	() 		9,783	8,939
Fund balances	3,741			67,753	5,789	77,283	74,715
Total liabilities and fund balances	<u>\$ 4,022</u>	<u>\$ 4,448</u>	<u>\$ 5,054</u>	<u>\$67,753</u>	<u>\$ 5,789</u>	<u>\$87,066</u>	<u>\$83,654</u>

These statements are excerpts from the Society's audited financial statements, which are available upon request.

Minnesota Historical Society

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT AND REVENUE, EXPENSES, CAPITAL ADDITIONS, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

Year ended June 30, 1995 (000's omitted)

	Restricted Funds									
	Unrestricted	State Appropria-		Plant	Endowment	Totals				
	Funds	tions	Other	Fund	Funds	1995	1994			
Support and revenue Support		36 - Q. S		·						
Private gifts and grants	\$ 285	\$ -	\$ 187	\$ -	\$ –	\$ 472	\$ 444			
History Center gifts and grants		-	1,304		-	1,304	1,336			
Federal grants and contracts State grants and contracts			2,174 1,279			2,174 1,279	966 1,170			
County and other grants	_		1,219	- <u>-</u>	_	1,219	173			
State appropriations				1						
History Center Other		619	-	* · · · - ·	-	619 21,405	416 18,466			
		21,405								
Total support	285	22,024	4,945	-		27,254	22,971			
Revenue	364		7			371	330			
Membership Admissions	711	_	-	_		711	601			
Publication sales	507	_	-	-	-	507	518			
Museum shop sales	1,003	-		-	-	1,003	1,020			
History Center cafe History Center parking	84 214		Su-			84 214	55 174			
Management fees	63				1.1.2	63	146			
Magazine sales	18			dal biz	14 × -	18	21			
Facility rental	173 133		-			173 133	146 104			
Museum program fees Other sales and fees	318		- 13	1,212	-7	338	267			
Investment earnings	295	-	280	<u>-</u>	70	645	739			
Total revenue	3,883		300		77	4,260	4,121			
Total support and revenue	4,168	22,024	5,245		77	31,514	27,092			
Expenses										
Program services	1 . L									
Library collections and archival services	\$ 139	\$ 5,100	\$ 153	\$ 232	\$ -	\$ 5,624	\$ 5,524			
Publications and research Museum operations, exhibits and education	563 94	742 3,855	29 340	9 409		1,343 4,698	1,182 4,211			
Historic sites, field programs and					1.1.1.5					
State Historic Preservation Office	956	6,499	2,777	11	11 N	10,243	7,100			
Special subsidies and grants History Center	657	363 2,459	10 20	271	1.5	373 3,407	427 3,305			
Total program services	2,409	19,018	3,329	932		25,688	21,749			
1 0	2,409	19,010	5,529	932		23,000	21,749			
Supporting services Management and general	546	2,534	83	15		3,178	3,176			
Development and membership	133	200	3	1	-	337	317			
Total supporting services	679	2,734	86	16	1 (<u>-</u>	3,515	3,493			
Total expenses	3,088	21,752	3,415	948	14	29,203	25,242			
Excess (deficiency) of support and revenues										
over expenses before capital additions	1,080	272	1,830	(948)	77	2,311	1,850			
Capital additions – contributions and bequests				1 X =	259	259	240			
Excess (deficiency) of support and revenues				1.1.1						
and capital additions over expenses	1,080	272	1,830	(948)	336	2,570	2,090			
Fund balances at beginning of year	2,662			66,600	5,453	74,715	72,393			
Prior period adjustment	-		- 1	. <u> </u>	- · · · · - ·	S-82	232			
Transfers	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1.13		1200		11 63				
History Center property and equipment	x	1.3.5			- 19 h	E Maille				
current year acquisitions		(272)	(1,830)	2,102			<u> </u>			
Fund balances at end of year	\$ 3,742	\$	\$	\$67,754	\$ 5,789	\$77,285	\$74,715			
						1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1				



- During Fiscal Year 95 the Society generated 12.3 percent of its income from revenue producing activities.
- Unrestricted support and revenue rose by \$745,000 a 22 percent increase over Fiscal Year 1994.
- An increase in the number of visitors and admissions fees resulted in an 18 percent increase in Historic Sites revenue.
- The Society completed construction of the Mille Lacs Indian Museum using a combination of state, federal and private funds. Completed on time and within budget, the new museum will open in May, 1996.
- Society membership increased to 13,984 a 17 percent increase over Fiscal Year 1994. The Society now has the largest membership of any state historical society in the country.
- Over 900 volunteers contributed more than 27,000 hours of service to the Society an equivalent of almost 13 full-time positions.



• Percentage of Expenses by Program Area

• Sources of Support and Revenue



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– Nina M. Archabal



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