



JEAN Baptiste
Faribault House
at Mendota

PRESERVING and INTERPRETING *Minnesota's* HISTORIC SITES

RUSSELL W. FRIDLEY

AN ORGANIZED MOVEMENT to preserve Minnesota's major historic sites has gained considerable momentum in recent years. While a relatively small number of people are involved in this effort, and their work seldom receives public attention, they are pervaded by a sense of the deepest urgency. They are aware that a period of crisis is at hand in the struggle to save the significant physical remnants of our past. More than is generally realized, the face of our

state is changing. Modernization of cities and towns, population expansion into suburbs and rural areas, industrial growth, military installations, and huge state and federal highway programs are exerting tremendous pressure on once neglected or scarcely noticed historic sites. If steps are not rapidly taken to preserve these places where Minnesota history was made, they will soon be lost forever.

MR. FRIDLEY, who is the director of the society, has based this article on talks given before the Great Lakes Conference on Historic Sites, held at Mackinac Island State Park, and the National Conference on State Parks, in Pacific Grove, California, on August 7 and September 21, 1959.

Though few in number and armed with all too meager resources, those engaged in the battle to conserve Minnesota's historic spots are united by a keen awareness of the values at stake. Our society is changing more rapidly than ever before and our bonds with the past are each day becoming

more tenuous. It is thus a vital task to preserve for future generations these unique and tangible glimpses of their heritage. The question faces us squarely whether our generation will act to protect the landmarks of the past or will let them crumble before the bulldozer of modern improvement. Posterity will judge our sense of values and appreciation of a common heritage by our response to this question.

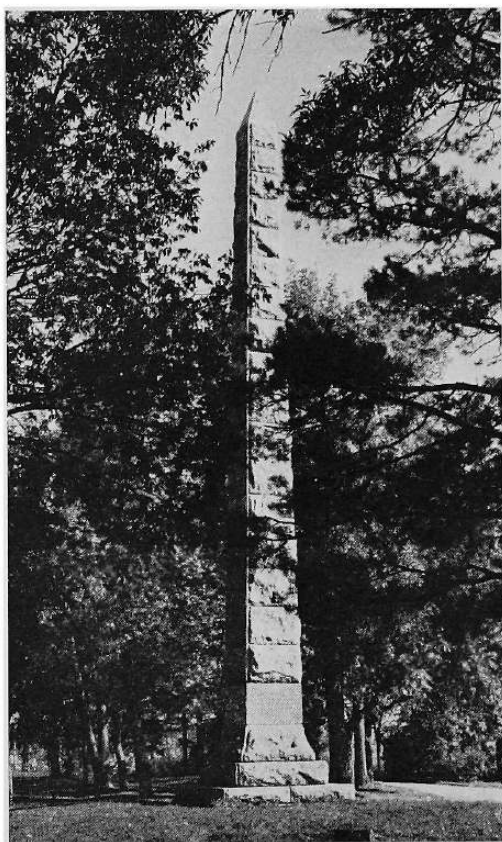
While the problem of preservation is heightened by recent economic and social developments that are nationwide in effect, it is not new in Minnesota. For almost a century attempts have been made to salvage the state's more important historic locations. In view of the immediate challenge, it is interesting to review these efforts. In 1864 officers of the Minnesota Historical Society asked the eminent local historian, Edward D. Neill, to write a paper on Fort Snelling. Neill responded with what seems to have been the first study of the post as a historic site. "For nearly 50 years," he wrote, "Fort Snelling has been well known for the beauty and prominence of its situation." He feared, however, that "under the advancing and resistless pressure of modern civilization, it may be that within a generation, not one stone will be left on another."¹ While Neill's prediction was unduly pessimistic, he displayed a keen understanding of the forces contributing to the rapid disappearance of many an important historical landmark. Moreover, his sense of the significance of the spot foreshadowed a concern of later generations that Fort Snelling should somehow be saved — a possibility not yet fully realized.

The most extensive and successful preservation work yet done in Minnesota was conducted by the now defunct Minnesota Valley Historical Society between 1885 and 1915. As a result of this organization's efforts, permanent monuments were erected on a host of sites associated with the Sioux

War of 1862. In part, this was accomplished by direct action — the placing of the society's own markers and tablets on various historic spots. A vastly more important contribution was the arousing of deep public interest in Sioux War sites. This resulted in legislative action which continued for many years after the demise of the Minnesota Valley Historical Society, and it achieved a rare thoroughness in preserving areas associated with the bloody events of 1862.

The establishment of state memorial parks on the sites of two of the major Sioux War battlegrounds — Birch Coulee near Morton in 1893 and Fort Ridgely near Fairfax in 1911 — was the most valuable legislative contribution of this period. In about the same era, funds were provided for historical monuments within the state's infant park system at Camp Release near Montevideo in 1889, the site of the Lake Shetek

MONUMENT on the site of Camp Release



¹ Edward D. Neill, "Occurrences in and around Fort Snelling from 1819 to 1840," in *Minnesota Historical Collections*, 2:102 (1860-67).

massacre in 1905, Wood Lake battleground near Granite Falls in 1907, and the site of the Acton murders near Grove City in 1909. Another historic site set aside during these years of early activity was the treaty ground of 1851 at Traverse des Sioux near St. Peter. This was located and acquired by the state in 1905.

Later legislatures created state parks on the site of the Lac qui Parle mission in 1931, and in the areas surrounding monuments at Lake Shetek and Monson Lake in 1937. Also in the latter year, three acres near Sacred Heart, including the ruins of the Joseph R. Brown house, were presented to the state, and money was appropriated for the site's maintenance and improvement as a state memorial park.

There is a distinction between the marking of a site and its preservation, though in most cases the former leads directly to the latter. Some monuments — as, for instance, those erected to the Schwandt family in 1915 and to the victims of the Milford massacre in 1929 — commemorate an event but do not mark the site upon which it occurred. The Lower Sioux Agency near Morton is a glaring example of a site which has been marked but not adequately preserved. This and the Upper Sioux Agency near Granite Falls are

the only major locations associated with the Sioux War which have not been saved. The remarkable program of the Minnesota Valley Historical Society and the state legislature not only protected a host of significant spots, but the impressive parks and monuments it created gave southwestern Minnesota a distinctive historical atmosphere that sets it off from other sections of the state.

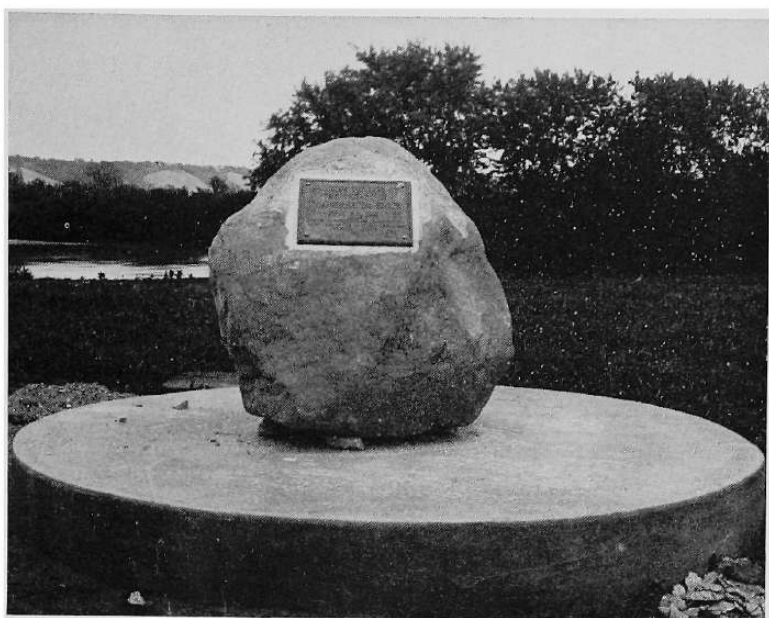
Another important project of the late nineteenth century was led by J. V. Brower on behalf of the Minnesota Historical Society; it resulted in saving the extensive and unusual wilderness area around Lake Itasca, the source of the Mississippi River. Through the work of Brower and others, Itasca became Minnesota's first state park in 1891. Thus the marking of the site of Camp Release and the setting aside of the area about Lake Itasca laid the foundations of the Minnesota state park system.

The only complete community in the state to be preserved is old Mendota, which has been saved by the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution. This early settlement — once the Minnesota headquarters of the American Fur Company — consists of several structures, including the homes of Henry H. Sibley, Jean Baptiste Faribault, and Hypolite DuPuis. The best known of

RUINS of the Joseph R. Brown house, overlooking the Minnesota Valley



MARKER at
Traverse des Sioux
erected in 1913
by the DAR



these is the Sibley House, which Sibley sold to the local Catholic parish when he moved with his family to St. Paul in 1862. It was used first as a convent, later as an art school, and still later as a warehouse. Finally, it fell into disrepair. In 1910 the structure was, on the recommendation of Archbishop John Ireland, presented to the Minnesota DAR. Restored by this organization and opened to the public, the house has been since maintained with financial aid from the state. The DuPuis House and other structures were secured in later years by the DAR, and in 1935 the state acquired and restored the Faribault House, which was turned over to the DAR in 1937. This timely program of action saved one of the state's most significant historic places, and today the six-acre tract comprises the only pioneer village in Minnesota which has been permanently preserved.

ASIDE from these exceptionally successful projects, how good is our record of preserving the spots where Minnesota history has been made? To answer this question it is necessary first to determine what are Minnesota's major historical places. Two important studies have attacked the problem. The first,

a joint survey completed in 1956 by the Minnesota Historical Society and the division of state parks, undertook to specify Minnesota sites that have national significance. The second and more extensive survey is attempting to locate historic sites throughout the state and to determine which have state-wide interest.

From the earlier project emerged a list of six landmarks—the Grand Mound at Laurel, the Red Pipestone Quarry in southwestern Minnesota, Fort St. Charles on the Lake of the Woods, Lake Itasca, Grand Portage on Lake Superior, and Fort Snelling.

The Grand Mound at Laurel is situated fifteen miles west of International Falls at the junction of the Big Fork and Rainy rivers. The largest of a group of seven mounds, it is 45 feet high, 90 feet wide, and 110 feet long. In addition to being the largest prehistoric burial mound in the upper Mississippi Valley, the Grand Mound is the basic example of the so-called Laurel culture, archaeological remains of which are found throughout northern Minnesota and across the international border in Ontario and Manitoba. This culture, which flourished somewhere between 500 B.C. and 1000 A.D., was characterized by bone tools and ornaments, the

extensive use of native copper, and cannibalistic rites. Fortunately, the Grand Mound, which is situated in sixty-four acres of virgin deciduous forest, has been preserved in its original setting by the Fred Smith family, owners of the property over several decades. The mound itself is a magnificent example of the many burial sites that once dotted the Minnesota landscape by the thousands. With the advent of mechanized farming and the urbanization of wide sections of the state, mounds of this type have largely disappeared.

The Pipestone Quarry in southwestern Minnesota is the spot where for centuries North American Indians obtained the red stone from which they carved their peace pipes. According to a legend common to both the Omaha and Yankton, an Omaha squaw named Wehegela discovered the quarry while trailing a white bison whose hoofs uncovered the red stone. Indians of all tribes regarded the spot with reverence, for they believed that there the Great Spirit had created man and that the dark red stone was the flesh of their ancestors, hardened by the waters of a great flood. The quarry was sacred as well as neutral ground, where Indians of all tribes gathered in peace. It was visited in 1836 by George Catlin, a widely known painter of the North American Indians, who reported on it in print and painted the best early picture of the site. Catlin secured samples of the rock, which was named "catlinite" in his honor. Many other travelers followed the trail he blazed. Carved on some rocks near the quarry are the still decipherable names of the explorer Joseph N. Nicollet and a younger member of his party, John C. Frémont. In 1937 Congress set aside a hundred and fifteen acres of land centering about the quarry as the Pipestone National Monument. To this day only Indians are allowed to dig the stone. When freshly quarried it is soft and claylike, easily molded and shaped, but once exposed to the air it soon hardens to a consistency which will take a brilliant polish.

The next two sites listed as nationally sig-

nificant are associated with the great saga of North American exploration and discovery. Fort St. Charles on the Northwest Angle in Lake of the Woods is surrounded by a wilderness that is rich both in history and scenery. Built in 1732 by a great French explorer, the Sieur de la Vérendrye, it served for more than a decade as his headquarters and the base of operations for ambitious exploring and fur trading enterprises. La Vérendrye and members of his family were in the vanguard of those who searched for the Northwest Passage to the Western Sea, and their Minnesota fort was a place of importance during the period when the French were penetrating the interior of North America. Although less widely known than many of his countrymen, La Vérendrye remains the greatest of the French pathfinders who explored the area west of the Great Lakes. His fruitless eighteen-year search for a route to China opened a vast new country that today includes northern Minnesota, Manitoba, North and South Dakota, and large areas of other states and provinces extending westward to the Rocky Mountains. The site of Fort St. Charles was definitely located by Jesuits from St. Boniface in 1908. Extensive excavation yielded a wealth of artifacts which were later lost in a fire. The site is preserved by the Minnesota Knights of Columbus.

Like the Western Sea, Lake Itasca was an elusive goal for explorers of varied nationalities. After the discovery of the lower Mississippi by DeSoto in 1541, a long line of adventurers attempted to trace the great river to its source. For three centuries the challenge of its origin kindled the imaginations of such potential discoverers as the British trader and map maker, David Thompson; the Italian adventurer, Giacomo Beltrami; and the American explorers, Zebulon M. Pike and Lewis Cass. Each believed that he had reached the beginning of the mighty river, but it remained for Henry Rowe Schoolcraft to discover and name Lake Itasca as the source of the great waterway in 1832. Today Lake Itasca is the centerpiece

of Itasca State Park, comprising thirty-three thousand acres in north-central Minnesota. Evidence of its appeal is to be found in the fact that some six hundred thousand people visit it each year — an annual attendance greater than that of most national parks.

The fifth site chosen for its national significance — Grand Portage — was the great inland depot of the North West Company and the hub of the North American fur trade from 1770 to 1804. Located on the rocky north shore of Lake Superior near the tip of Minnesota's beautiful Arrowhead Country, it was the gateway to the nine-mile portage over which canoes and furs were carried to Fort Charlotte at a point on the Pigeon River above the many waterfalls and rapids on that stream's lower course. Beyond lay the vast chain of interconnected lakes and rivers leading straight to the heart of the continent. The Indians knew the route. They showed it to La Vérendrye in 1731 and to other French travelers, who called it *le grand portage*, or "the great carrying place." When the North West Company was in control, trading posts were built at each end of the portage, but that at Fort Charlotte was little more than a storehouse. The main post, on the site of an ancient Indian village, was on the lake shore; it took its name from the nine-mile trail — Grand Portage. For more than a quarter of a century before 1800 Grand Portage was the busiest, liveliest place in the entire Northwest.

The sixth site selected in 1956 was old Fort Snelling. The establishment of the sturdy limestone post in 1819 at the junction of the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers radically affected the course of events in the upper Mississippi Valley. It extended the authority of the young American nation over the region for the first time, paved the way for white settlement, and set in motion trends which eventually transformed a vast Indian territory into a state. As a military outpost on the remote American frontier, Fort Snelling was an island of civilization from which stemmed much of the settlement of Minnesota and the Northwest.

As a result of this study of Minnesota's historic spots of national significance, some valuable recommendations were made. In 1956 Grand Portage was a national historic site, having been so designated in 1951. The study recommended that Grand Portage be made a national monument, confirming earlier efforts in this direction. They finally met with success in September, 1958, when Congress established as Minnesota's second national monument a seven-hundred acre tract, including the areas of the main post, Fort Charlotte, and the nine-mile portage. No further action was recommended on Pipestone, which has been a national monument since 1937 and has been wisely and well developed by the National Park Service. Fort St. Charles was recommended for national monument status, and the Grand Mound, Fort Snelling, and Lake Itasca for designation as national historic sites.

THE SECOND and more comprehensive survey has been under way for the past four years. During this time members of the Minnesota Historical Society's staff have been investigating historic sites in the field and in the library and evaluating the role that each played in the state's development. Embraced by this study have been spots associated with prehistoric man, Indians, exploration, the fur trade, military forts, treaties, wars, religion, agriculture, and industry. The homes of humble pioneers and famous Minnesotans have been included, as have frontier institutions like the one-room schoolhouse and the indispensable country store. Although it will take years for many of the benefits from such a study to materialize, one immediate and tangible result will be the publication, perhaps next year, of an illustrated booklet describing some of the area's more interesting historic places.

The detailed findings of this survey are too extensive to present in full, but some general observations have been recorded. First, we have learned that one event in the state's history — the Sioux Uprising of 1862 — dominates the scene. There is, in fact,

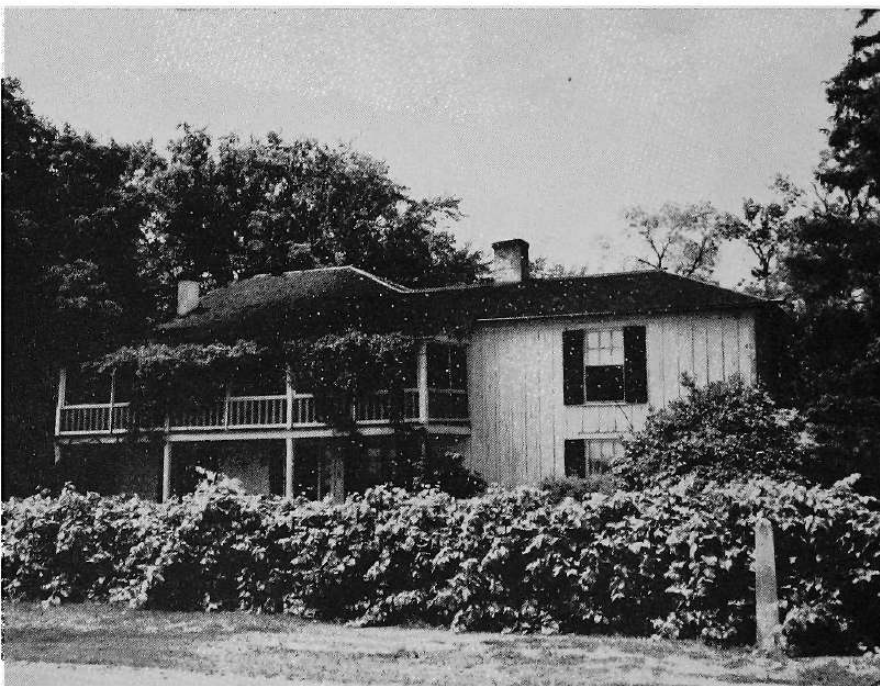
almost an overabundance of places that recall this bloody and tragic conflict.

The survey shows that virtually all effort in Minnesota has been concentrated upon the preservation of single, often isolated units—a fort, a house, a mill, a log cabin, or a schoolhouse. Some have been moved from their original locations to county fairgrounds, courthouse grounds, and other places; some remain in their original settings. A splendid example of a log cabin still stands on the Ole Bakken homestead near McIntosh, and a fine specimen of an early country school is the stone structure at Frankford. One notable exception to this tendency is to be found in old Mendota, where one of the earliest communities in the state is preserved. It constitutes Minnesota's most extensive historic site. Another appealing and unique pre-Civil War village, and one which holds rare possibilities for restoration as an example of an early Minnesota summer resort, is old Frontenac, on Lake Pepin south of Red Wing.

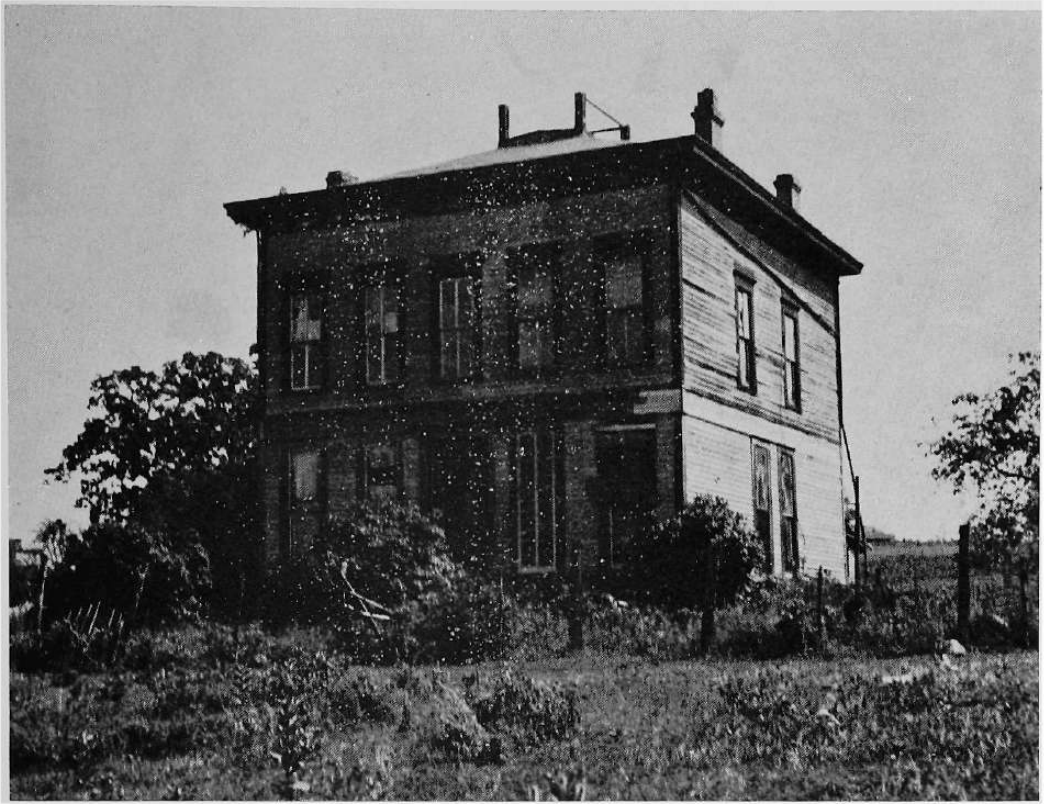
Of the state's three major cities, St. Paul—the oldest—has done considerably better than either Minneapolis or Duluth in preserving historic sites. There, for example, the home of Minnesota's first territorial governor stands in excellent condition, still occupied by a member of the Ramsey family. In Minneapolis, however, the feature most important to its founding and growth—the Falls

of St. Anthony—is covered by a concrete apron and surrounded by power dams, sluices, railroad tracks, mills, and factories. Similarly in Duluth, industrial growth along the waterfront has destroyed all evidences of the city's birth. Insofar as sites associated with important Minnesota industries are concerned, several good pioneer flour mills and a number of early iron mines still exist, but no significant remains of the lumbering era that so deeply influenced the region's development have survived.

In the category of homes, the best job has been done in preserving those of political leaders, the poorest in keeping those of cultural leaders. We have set aside and restored one home that is only a little over fifty years old: the Charles A. Lindbergh House at Little Falls. This indicates a commendable awareness that history is not confined to the state's early years—that it has been made in the twentieth century, and that recent history, too, is worth preserving. The most significant site thus far lost to the state—and it was one of the first magnitude—was the Ignatius Donnelly house at Nininger. Writer, politician, promoter, and the father of almost numberless reform movements and third parties, Donnelly was the most colorful, many-sided, and paradoxical personality ever to figure in the state's history. His home was razed in 1949 and another house has been erected on the site. Paneling from his



ST. HUBERT'S Lodge at
Frontenac,
built in 1855
by Israel Garrard

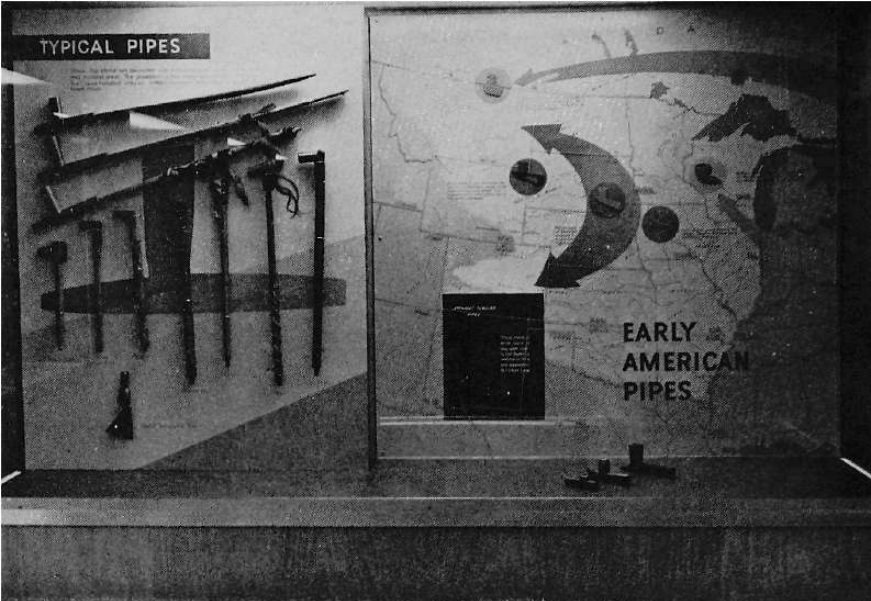


*THE home of Ignatius Donnelly at Nininger as it appeared in 1937,
twelve years before it was demolished*

*ALEXANDER Ramsey
home, St. Paul,
built in 1872*



TYPICAL PIPES



MODERN interpretive exhibits in the Pipestone Museum

library, many of his books, and some pieces of furniture were, however, obtained by the state historical society.

Between the historic sites that have been saved for posterity and those irretrievably lost are many that have a highly uncertain future. This group presents the greatest problem and the greatest challenge. Two examples are the birthplaces in Sauk Centre and St. Paul of Minnesota's most famous authors, Sinclair Lewis and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Another is the home of the Doctors Mayo in Rochester. On the whole, Minnesota has done reasonably well in the field of preservation. The survey shows that, in general, truly outstanding sites in all sections of the state have been or still can be saved, and that they represent many phases and periods of the area's development.

It is in the interpretation of its historic heritage that Minnesota lags. Interpretation implies not only the preservation and maintenance of historical places, but also the effective telling of their stories. At its best it arouses interest and conveys with accuracy and appeal the story behind the landmark it serves; at its worst it misinforms and provides a dead and dull advertisement for history. Our record of interpretation in Minnesota is unimpressive, and we have fallen behind other states of our region. There are those who feel, with justice, that preserva-

tion should come first and that development can always come later. This does not, however, mean that interpretation should be postponed indefinitely.

Those places in Minnesota where a good job of interpretation is being done are altogether too few. The story of the Pipestone Quarry is extremely well presented by the National Park Service, and the interpretive

THE Winona County



programs of at least three county historical societies at present show great promise. The Winona County society has embarked upon an ambitious program of specialized historic museums, and the Marshall County society's restoration of a gristmill in Old Mill State Park is one of our potentially superior interpretive jobs. The Alexander Faribault home at Faribault, skillfully and accurately restored in recent years by the Rice County Historical Society, is notable for the degree of original atmosphere it captures. Beyond these few examples, however, Minnesota has a long way to go in the field of interpretation.

WHAT is the Minnesota Historical Society doing to meet the problems and challenges here outlined? In 1958 the society carefully reconsidered its role in the over-all state effort to safeguard historic sites. Recognizing the critical need, its executive council altered a traditional policy, which had stood for 109 years, of refusing to acquire historically significant real estate. When the home of General William G. Le Duc at Hastings was offered to the society two years ago, it

was accepted, and the institution launched forth into a new field. Now the society is involved not only in the development of the Le Duc house, but in the preservation of old Fort Snelling, of the Lindbergh home, and of the ancient Sioux village of Kathio.

The Le Duc home, a splendid and beautifully preserved example of Victorian Gothic architecture, was presented to the society by its owner, Mr. Carroll B. Simmons, on the occasion of Minnesota's statehood centennial. Its construction was begun in the early 1860s by William G. Le Duc, a versatile Minnesota pioneer who became a Civil War general and United States commissioner of agriculture under President Rutherford B. Hayes. The house is surrounded by big trees and several acres of attractively landscaped grounds, on which the original stable and an octagonal icehouse still stand. It is expected that Mr. Simmons will continue to occupy the house for some years, but both he and the society have already begun to plan for its furnishing and interpretation.

The Minnesota Historical Society has long been involved in preserving and interpreting Fort Snelling, having placed exhibits in the Round Tower as early as 1941. In 1946 the modern military post that developed from old Fort Snelling was disestablished by the United States Army and turned over to the Veterans' Administration. During the next ten years the Round Tower was neglected, suffering from lack of interest and funds. In 1957 the society received twenty-five thousand dollars from the Minnesota Statehood Centennial Commission with which to excavate the old fort site and rehabilitate the museum in the Round Tower. This work was conducted during the warmer months of 1957 and 1958. Remains that came to light included the stone foundations of seven original fort structures—the guardhouse, the magazine, the chapel, a store, a hospital, an office building, and a pump house—all erected in the early 1820s. A sizable section of the foundation of the thick limestone wall that once enclosed the post, as well as remnants of the original gate, were also uncov-

Society's steamboat museum





THE Lindbergh House
at Little Falls

ered. The results proved beyond question the desirability of restoring the old fort.² Further work toward this end has been held up until the land is transferred from the federal government to the division of state parks and until extensive highway construction, including a tunnel in the vicinity of the Round Tower, is completed. Of all the society's historic sites projects, the restoration of Fort Snelling has created the most public interest, and it appears to have a bright future. It will be a joint venture of the Minnesota division of state parks and the historical society, the division being responsible for holding title to the area and maintaining it, and the society for restoring the post and interpreting its story.

The society and the state parks division are co-operating on the same basis in maintaining and restoring the Lindbergh House at Lindbergh State Park near Little Falls. The society has been actively involved in this project since 1952. With the help of members of the Lindbergh family, the restoration of the first floor rooms was completed in the spring of 1958. Hence, the work is well under way. The site is proving popular; already it attracts some twenty-five thousand visitors each year. Among the furnishings are many original items that belonged to Congressman Charles A. Lindbergh, to his

son, Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr., the "Flying Colonel," and to others in their family.

The spot occupied by the ancient Sioux village of Kathio, near Vineland on the west shore of Lake Mille Lacs, is the site most recently acquired by the society. It was received in April, 1959, from Mr. and Mrs. Harry D. Ayer. In addition to 104 acres of land, they presented an extensive and remarkable Indian collection and a new museum in which to house it. At the same time, they drew wills leaving their entire estate to the society. This unusually generous gift will enable the organization to transform Kathio into a historic attraction of great interest.

The story of the village goes back as far as 1679, when Du Luth, the first white man definitely known to have trod the soil of Minnesota, planted the flag of France on this spot. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries Kathio and two smaller villages on the shores of Mille Lacs were the major strongholds of the Sioux. There lived the ancestors of Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse, Little Crow, and other famous Sioux leaders. About 1740 Kathio was the scene of a great battle between the Sioux and the Chippewa — a battle that is believed to have been the

²For a full account of this work, see John M. Callender, *New Light on Old Fort Snelling: An Archaeological Exploration* (St. Paul, 1959).

most decisive engagement between the two tribes. The Chippewa, possessing firearms, had a distinct advantage. After bravely defending one of the lesser villages, the Sioux retreated to the supposed security of their earthen lodges at Kathio. The Chippewa defeated them by climbing upon the lodges and dropping gunpowder through the smoke holes. When the powder exploded in the lodge fires, it killed most of those within. As a result of this engagement, the Sioux were driven from Minnesota's northern lakes and forests onto the plains to the south and west, and their way of life was drastically and permanently changed.

The dual nature of the Ayer gift — the site plus the funds to develop and maintain it —

reveals a true understanding of the integral relationship between preservation and interpretation. In developing the Kathio area the society will again work closely with the division of state parks, which already owns much adjoining land.

We have learned from experience that the movement to preserve historical areas goes hand in hand with the movement to conserve natural areas. The state historical society and the state park system are logical allies and should work together. The park system is well equipped to preserve natural areas and the land on which historical places are located; the historical society is the obvious agency to carry out the interpretive program.

PARLOR of the Alexander Faribault House at Faribault



IT IS ENCOURAGING to see state, county, local, and private groups co-operating in the vital effort to conserve historic places. The historic site recreates the physical aura of the past. It shows visually and vividly how people once lived, worked, played, and died. It helps people—as few books can—to visualize the past from which we have all emerged. Like the Grand Mound, it may be merely a hummock of earth, concealing fragments from the lives of a forgotten people; or it may be a sacred spot, like the Pipestone Quarry, recalling traditions which answered the eternal human questions of “Whence?” “How?” and “Why?” for unknown generations of Indians. A site may bring to life the personality of a man, as does the gracious mansion built in the heart of the wilderness by Henry H. Sibley; or, like the log cabin, the country store, and the one-room schoolhouse, it may suggest a world but recently vanished, yet nearly as remote to our children as that of the mound builders seemed to our grandfathers. Any site that

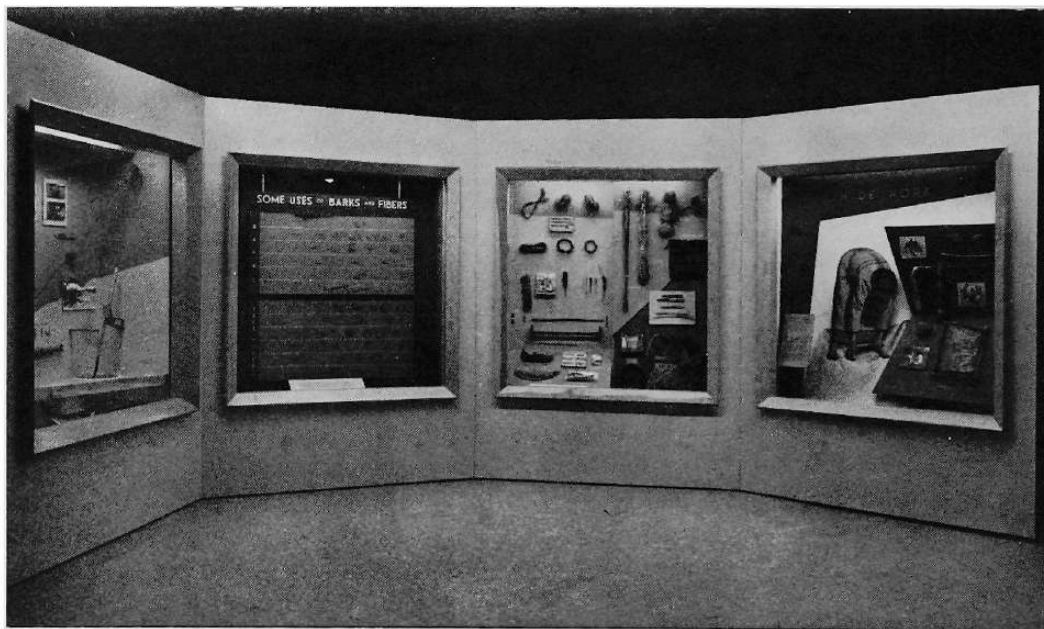
³ “General of the Army Omar Nelson Bradley Speaks Out for Conservation,” in *Planning and Civic Comment*, December, 1959, p. 1.

helps to visualize history adds to an understanding not only of our past but of ourselves.

Yet intangible historical values find it difficult to compete with pressing needs of the immediate present, like a metropolitan redevelopment, a new parking lot, a Nike base, or an interstate freeway. There are those to whom the value of historic remains seems visionary. To them General Omar Bradley gave a warning recently; “If we are not careful,” he said, “we shall leave our children a legacy of billion dollar roads leading nowhere except to other congested places like those they left behind.”³ As a people, we would be much poorer without our historic places.

The decade ahead is critical for the future of historic sites in Minnesota. The battle for land has just begun. Places that today can be acquired for little or nothing may command prohibitive prices within a few years. Some that can still be purchased will be impossible to obtain at all ten years hence. Thus, we must speed up our efforts to determine what historic sites deserve preservation and then exert every effort to save them.

AN exhibit in the new Mille Lacs state Indian museum





Copyright of **Minnesota History** is the property of the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, or email articles, however, for individual use.

To request permission for educational or commercial use, [contact us](#).