

Interim Editor
Pam McClanahan

Design and Typesetting
Percolator

mnhs.org/mnhistory

The Universe Is Our Home

Twenty-five years ago we published Paul Gruchow's essay "Discovering the Universe of Home." So much of what he represented in his work as writer, teacher, and farmer resonates deeply today. Gruchow, who died in 2004, wrote often on themes of truly knowing and fiercely protecting the places we call home, for people here in Minnesota and the four Dakota communities and seven Ojibwe nations that share the same geography:

A home is the place in the present where one's past and one's future come together. . . . All history is ultimately local and personal. To tell what we remember and to keep on telling it is to keep the past alive in the present. Should we not do so, we could not know, in the deepest sense, how to inhabit a place.

In this issue, our articles are linked by concepts of home:

- A commitment to preserve homes and memories of the Linden Hill estate in Little Falls and the late Laura Jane Musser in Alexander Ames's article, "Mansions of Memories."
- Colleges and seminaries as temporary homes for students spending their formative years in an academy of learning, activity, and service, their lives and education closely supervised by faculty and houseparents, as told by Mark Granquist in "The Other Luther Seminary in Minnesota."
- The concept of "third places," a term that refers to places where people spend time between home (first place) and work (second place), represented in Noah Barth's essay on the Onyx Bar, one of many important community spaces for LGBTQ+ people in Minneapolis for building relationships, having a good time, and feeling at home in a world of hostility against queer people. Greg Gaut and Marsha Neff highlight another third place: the Worthington Armory and Community Building, which remains a vital community resource.
- Writing home, an almost daily task so many soldiers and others deployed to fight wars have done over time, as a way to describe "hopes, fears, and friendships" to loved ones. William Convery spotlights the Leland Rowberg Papers and Rowberg's service and sacrifice in World War II.

Rowberg is one of dozens of individuals profiled in the newly opened exhibit at Historic Fort Snelling, *Many Voices, Many Stories, One Place*, including Dakota and Ojibwe people, Japanese Americans, immigrants, enslaved African American people, soldiers, and fur traders, whose lives played out at Bdote, the sacred Dakota homeland at the confluence of the Mni Sota Wakpa and Haha Wakpa (the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers), and the military fort that played a pivotal role in our nation's history. Watch for a deep dive into these remarkable individuals and the history-making behind the exhibit in our forthcoming winter issue.

We are all connected. It is the important work of history, Gruchow reminds us, "that makes Minnesota, quite literally, a bigger, and richer, and stronger place."

Pam McClanahan
Interim Editor, Minnesota History

Minnesota History (ISSN 00265497) (USPS 351660) published quarterly, copyright 2023 by the Minnesota Historical Society, 345 Kellogg Blvd. West, St. Paul, MN 55102-1906. Periodicals postage paid at St. Paul, MN.

Postmaster: Send address changes to *Minnesota History*/Membership Office, 345 Kellogg Blvd. West, St. Paul, MN 55102-1906.

Membership in MNHS includes a subscription to *Minnesota History*. Basic individual memberships are \$50; for more information, write the Membership Office at the address above or at membership@mnhs.org or call 651-259-3131.

Back issues of *Minnesota History* are \$7 each plus Minnesota tax and handling; go to mnhs.org/mnhistory.

Magazine text is available in alternative format: contact mnhistmag@mnhs.org.

Minnesota History welcomes the submission of articles and edited documents dealing with the social, economic, political, intellectual, and cultural history of the state and the surrounding region. Author guidelines are at mnhs.org/mnhistory.

MNHS assumes no responsibility for statements made by contributors.

Copying beyond that permitted by Section 107 or 108 of the US Copyright Act requires the copier to pay the stated per copy fee through the Copyright Clearance Center, Danvers, MA, 978-750-8400 or www.copyright.com. This consent does not extend to other kinds of copying, such as copying for general distribution, for advertising or promotional purposes, for creating new collective works, or for resale.

Printed with soy ink on recycled paper containing at least 10 percent pre-consumer waste.



Officers David Hakensen, *President*; Peter Reyes Jr., *Vice President*; Kent Whitworth, *Secretary*; Thomas Forsythe, *Treasurer*; Phyllis Rawls Goff, *Immediate Past President*

Executive Council Ford Bell, Barbara Burwell, Grant Davis, Michael Davis, Mitch Davis, Joanel Dyrstad, Dick Engebretson, Michael Farnell, Stephanie Fehr, Thomas Forsythe, Phyllis Rawls Goff, David Hakensen, Jean Larson, Monica Little, Linda Mona, Richard Nash, Krista O'Malley, Peter Reyes Jr., Daniel Schmechel, Diana Schutter, Anton Treuer, John (Jack) R. Tunheim, Noelle P. Turner, Ben Vander Kooi, Gwen Westerman, Kent Whitworth, Warren Zaccaro

Ex-Officio Members Tim Walz, *Governor*; Peggy Flanagan, *Lieutenant Governor*; Steve Simon, *Secretary of State*; Keith Ellison, *Attorney General*; Julie Blaha, *State Auditor*



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 users or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission: [contact us](#).

Individuals may print or download articles for personal use.

To request permission for educational or commercial use, [contact us](#). Include the author's name and article title in the body of your message. But first--

If you think you may need permission, here are some guidelines:

Students and researchers

- You **do not** need permission to quote or paraphrase portions of an article, as long as your work falls within the fair use provision of copyright law. Using information from an article to develop an argument is fair use. Quoting brief pieces of text in an unpublished paper or thesis is fair use. Even quoting in a work to be published can be fair use, depending on the amount quoted. Read about fair use here: <http://www.copyright.gov/fls/fl102.html>
- You **should**, however, always credit the article as a source for your work.

Teachers

- You **do not** need permission to incorporate parts of an article into a lesson.
- You **do** need permission to assign an article, either by downloading multiple copies or by sending students to the online pdf. There is a small per-copy use fee for assigned reading. [Contact us](#) for more information.

About Illustrations

- **Minnesota History** credits the sources for illustrations at the end of each article. **Minnesota History** itself does not hold copyright on images and therefore cannot grant permission to reproduce them.
- For information on using illustrations owned by the Minnesota Historical Society, see [MHS Library FAQ](#).