

**Community Planning & Economic Development
Planning Division**
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City of Minneapolis
*Department of Community Planning
& Economic Development - CPED*

MEMORANDUM

TO: Heritage Preservation Commission
FROM: Brian Schaffer, 612.673.2670
DATE: October 25, 2011
RE: 2011 Historic Resources Survey Results

Background

Since 2001, CPED has conducted a re-survey of historic resources in Minneapolis that has been funded by grants from the Minnesota Historical Society and matched by City dollars. The City has undertaken the re-survey because the aging of properties, changing attitudes about which types of historic resources need to be identified, e.g. historic landscapes, cultural and ethnic group resources. With the 2011 survey the City achieved its goal of documenting historic resources throughout the entire city over a ten-year period.

In 2011, CPED conducted a Historic Resources Survey of several neighborhoods within Minneapolis. The 2011 Historic Resource Survey was divided into three geographic sections. The neighborhoods included in these areas are listed below and are identified on the attached map.

- The Camden Community Survey contains portions of Victory, Shingle Creek, Webber-Camden, Humboldt Industrial Area, Lind-Bohanon, and portions of Folwell, McKinley, and Cleveland neighborhoods
- The Central Core Survey contains portions of St. Anthony West, Marcy Holmes, Como, Downtown West, Downtown East, Sumner Glenwood, and portions of Bryn Mawr, Harrison, Near North, North Loop, and Prospect Park neighborhoods
- Windom, Kenny, and Armatage neighborhoods in South Minneapolis

The Historic Resources Survey Process

The process used for the survey included three phases: research, survey, and evaluation. In the Research phase, existing historic narratives, context studies, and previously completed historic resources were consulted to build an understanding of the historic themes and potential resource types within the survey area. This research was supplemented by a review of historic maps and photographs.

The Survey phase started with inference mapping. Inference mapping is a process in which several data layers such as age of construction, size of homes, subdivisions and additions are put together using GIS to identify spatial patterns of growth and land use. This is used to better prioritize field survey efforts. The second part of the survey work is the field survey. Every street and alley is driven and all properties are visually inspected.

This leads to a more refined list of properties which receive individual property surveys during the Evaluation phase. In this phase it is determined in a property appears to meet one of the seven criteria for local designation. Individual resources and collections of resources are identified as well as themes for future research.

In the 2011 Historic Resources Survey the process was supplemented with a total of eight public meetings to communicate about the project and solicit input. Two meetings: one in February and one in April, where held in each geographical area of the survey, with an additional round of meetings held for the Central Core Area. These meeting and input from neighborhood organizations enriched the survey by adding additional information on people, social and other events that may not be caught as part of a typical architectural survey.

Survey Results

The survey identified and documented 117 individual properties and 11 potential historic districts that appeared to meet at least one criterion for local or National Register designation and are recommended for further intensive level research.

Camden Community Survey Area

- Thirty-four (34) individual properties
- Three (3) potential historic districts

Central Core Survey Area:

- Sixty-three (63) individual properties
- Five (5) potential historic districts

WKA Survey Area:

- Seventeen (17) individual properties
- Three (3) potential historic districts

More specific results will be shared at the October 25, 2011 HPC Meeting.

The Purpose of the Survey and the Future Use of the Survey Results

The purpose of the survey is to:

- Identify unknown historic properties;
- Recommend properties for further study;
- Make informed decisions about the significance and protection of historic resources;
- Develop goals and strategies for preservation as well as neighborhood planning;
- Increase community outreach about heritage preservation

Properties identified in the survey are not placed under any protection by preservation regulations. The information is useful if the interest or opportunity for pursuing designation comes up. The information serves as a trailhead of sorts for further research and evaluation.

CPED looks forward to sharing the specific results of the 2011 Survey with the HPC during the October 25, 2011 meeting. CPED also looks forward to comments and discussion with the commission regarding the future use of the survey results.