

FINAL REPORT

JUL 31 2001

1999 Project Abstract

For the period ending June 30, 2001

TITLE: Old Wadena Historic Site Development

PROJECT MANAGER: Dave Anderson Mary Harrison

ORGANIZATION: Wah De Nah Historic and Environmental Learning Project (WHELP)

ADDRESS: 200 1st Street NE, Staples, MN 56479

WEB SITE ADDRESS: NA

FUND: Minnesota Future Resources Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 1999, Ch. 231, Sec. 16, Subd. 5(e)

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: LCMR: \$25,000 Match: \$6,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results: A 4' x 55' steel footbridge was erected across the Partridge River on May 31, 2000. This provided access to the Little Round Hill for the first time, allowing community members and all park visitors to explore the site of Aywishtoyah's trading post and the battle between the post and attacking Dakota warriors. A plaque saying "This is a Minnesota Future Resources Fund Project" will be placed on the bridge during Rendezvous ceremonies August 11, 2001. An archaeological evaluation based on a Remote Sensing Survey was conducted by the Institute for Minnesota Archaeology on a high terrace by the Crow Wing River. Numerous evidence of buried artifacts from early Native American occupation and from Anglo-European occupation circa 1850's was discovered, supporting local tradition about the location of the original Wadena townsite. A Fall History Day was conducted for sixth grade students of Motley Staples Schools. The program was repeated for Boy Scouts.

Project results Use and Dissemination: The bridge allows interpretive signage on site for the benefit of all park visitors, as well as guided walking tours for groups. Information on the townsite resulting from the archaeological dig is being used in interpretive signage and in presentations to school children and other groups. It also protects that area of the park from damaging development. Learning programs that were developed for Fall History Days and enhanced by information from the evaluation are used as the basis for presentations to area fifth and sixth graders (app.. 420 children at Conservation Days last June,) civic organizations, etc. The next guided walking tour across the bridge will be held during the Rendezvous, August 11, 2001.

LCMR Workprogram Outline

JUL 31 2001

Date of Report: July 1, 2001

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2001

LCMR Final Work Program Report

I. PROJECT TITLE: Old Wadena Historic Site Development

Project Manager: Dave Anderson Mary Harrison

Affiliation: Wah De Nah Historic and Environmental Learning Project (WHELP)
a 501 (c)(3) organization.

Mailing Address: 200 1st. Street NE, Staples, MN 56479

Telephone Number: (218)894-1930 (218)837-5896

Total Biennial Project Budget:

\$LCMR: \$25,000

-\$LCMR Amount

Spent \$25,000

=\$LCMR Balance \$0

\$Match \$6,000

-\$Match Amount

Spent \$6,000

=\$Match Balance \$0

A. Legal Citation: ML 99, Ch. 231, Sec. 16, Subd. 5e

Project Draft Appropriation Language

H30 Old Wadena Historic Site Development 25,000

Appropriation Language:

\$25,000 is from the future resources fund to the Minnesota Historical Society for an agreement with Wah De Nah Historic and Environmental Learning Project to develop a footbridge, archaeological survey, and educational programs. This appropriation must be matched by at least \$6,000 of nonstate money.

B. Status of Match Requirement: \$5,000 has been received for the Staples Lions Club.

The Aldrich Lions have given \$500 and the Deer Creek Lions have given \$500. A total of \$6,000 has been matched.

II and III. Final Project Summary: The project included three areas of focus.

- 1) A 4' x 55' steel footbridge was erected across the Partridge River on May 31, 2000. This provided access to the Little Round Hill for the first time, allowing community members and all park visitors to explore the site of Aywishtoyah's trading post and the battle between the post and attacking Dakota warriors. It also enabled interpretive signage to be placed on site. A plaque saying Minnesota Future Resources Fund Project will be placed on the bridge during the Rendezvous on August 11, 2001.
- 2) An archaeological survey based on a Remote Sensing Survey was completed in the fall of 2000 by Douglas A. Birk, Senior Archaeologist/Historian of the Institute for Minnesota Archaeology. Numerous evidence of buried artifacts from early Native American occupation and from Anglo-European occupation circa 1850 was discovered, supporting local tradition about the location of the original Wadena townsite. This will prevent damaging development of the supposed townsite. Information about the townsite resulting from the archaeological research is being used to enhance educational programs.
- 3) A Fall History Day was conducted for sixth grade students of Motley Staples Schools and a separate day was added for Boy Scouts. A boy scout is currently developing a web site with this information to earn his eagle badge. We received permission to transfer a portion (\$1566) of the funds from project summary area 3 to projects summary area 1.

IV. Outline of Project Results:

Result 1: A steel footbridge was constructed across the Partridge River to give access to the important Little Round Hill site. Total cost was \$12,166. \$6,000 of this was matching funds pledged by local Lions clubs. \$1,566 was transferred with permission from area 3, education.

Result 2: An archaeological survey was completed on five acres of open land on the high terrace above the Crow Wing River. This area was being considered for development, but revealed an abundance of buried artifacts. The area will now be protected. Total cost was \$10,000.

Result 3: Educational programs for area students were developed at a total cost of \$3,434.

Whelp did not encounter any unresolved problems in attaining these results nor would they, in hindsight, change any procedures.

A 58 page report was prepared for WHELP on the result of the archaeological investigations. The report is titled:

OLD WADENA COUNTY PARK
ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT THE SUSPECTED ASPINWALL SITE (21wd19)

by
Douglas A. Birk, Senior Archaeologist/Historian
Institute for Minnesota Archaeology
Reports of Investigations Number 604
June 2001

V. Dissemination: Community awareness has included presentations to civic organizations, newspaper announcements and articles, school presentations at the upper elementary and middle school levels, presentations to over 70 people at WHELP's annual meeting, and Rendezvous bridge opening ceremonies.

VI. Context:

A. Significance: On National Register of Historic Sites. Underdeveloped.

B. Strategy: Historic Sites

C. Time: Completed in two year period

D. Budget Context: 1. LCMR Budget History: None

2. Non-LCMR Budget History: None

3. Total: None

BUDGET:

Personnel \$

Equipment \$0

Acquisition \$0

Development \$17,566 for footbridge

\$10,000 for archaeological study

\$3,434 for educational programs

Total: \$31,000

VII. COOPERATION: The bridge project was completed with the close cooperation of Wadena County, especially the Parks and Highways Departments. The Archaeological survey was completed with the help of local volunteers, including people from the IMA, WHELP, Boy Scouts, and teachers. Funding sources included local Lions clubs.

VIII. LOCATION: Wadena, Todd, Cass, Morrison and Ottertail Counties have been involved in educational aspects. The Old Wadena site, where the bridge was constructed and the archaeological survey was conducted, is located in Wadena County in a public park visited by tourists from all over as well as by community members and organizations. The cities of Staples, Wadena, Verndale, Menahga, Browerville, Motley, Clarissa, and Eagle Bend are involved in educational programs and events. (See enclosed map.)

LCMR Grant

	Bridge Result #1 Budget	Result #1 Actual	(Over) Under Budget	Archaeology Result #2 Budget	Result #2 Actual	(Over) Under Budget	Education Result #3 Budget	Result #3 Actual	(Over) Under Budget	Total Budget	Total Actual	(Over) Under Budget
Wages	100.00	0.00	100.00	200.00		200.00	1,200.00	1,137.65	62.35	1,500.00	1,137.65	362.35
Professional Fees			0.00	9,000.00	10,000.00	(1,000.00)	1,200.00	1,921.29	(721.29)	10,200.00	11,921.29	-1721.29
Phone/Mail	100.00		100.00	200.00		200.00	200.00	59.59	140.41	500.00	59.59	440.41
Travel			0.00			0.00	400.00	231.52	168.48	400.00	231.52	168.48
Office Supplies	100.00		100.00	200.00		200.00	234.00	33.95	200.05	534.00	33.95	500.05
Other Supplies			0.00			0.00	200.00	50.00	150.00	200.00	50.00	150
Buildings/Land Imps	11,266.00	11,566.80	(300.80)			0.00			0.00	11,266.00	11,566.80	-300.8
Legal Fees			0.00	400.00		400.00			0.00	400.00	0.00	400
	11,566.00	11,566.80	(0.80)	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	3,434.00	3,434.00	0.00	25,000.00	25,000.80	(0.80)

Match Grant

	Bridge Result 1	Archaeology Result 2	Education Result 3
Wages, salaries - S. Opheim & D. Anderson	5,300		800
			Total 6,000