THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN

H. Nicholas Muller III, Director

816 State Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53706
608/262-3266

19 October 1989

Copies to: Louis D. Cathy H. Emilie O. Lloyd R.

Mr. Gordon McLester
Tribal Secretary
Oneida Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
P. O. Box 365
Oneida, WI 54155

RE: Survey & Planning Grants

Dear Mr. McLester:

The Division of Historic Preservation is currently accepting applications for historic preservation survey and planning grants for federal fiscal year 1990. The application period will run from August 1 to November 15, 1989.

Although commitment of federal funds is still unclear at this time, it is hoped that Wisconsin will receive sufficient federal preservation funds for 1990 to continue to fund its Survey & Planning subgrant programs. In anticipation of receipt of adequate funding, the Division of Historic Preservation is currently providing potential applicants with informational materials in hopes that they will seriously consider submitting an application.

Survey and planning grant money may be used for a variety of historic preservation projects in Wisconsin, including surveys to identify and evaluate architecturally, historically, or archeologically significant sites and the preparation of nominations to the National Register of Historic Places. The enclosed brochure describes eligible activities in detail.

Examples of projects funded in the past few years include intensive surveys in Watertown, Fond du Lac, Richland Center and Baraboo, the preparation of National Register nominations in Cedarburg and Green Bay, the publication of walking-tour brochures and landmarks commission news letters, and the preparation of educational materials for the Eau Claire school system.

Any unit of government, organization, or individual is eligible to apply for the matching grants, which are available for a maximum of 50% of project costs, matched by an equal amount of local contributions. Ordinarily, survey and planning grant applications will not be accepted for less than $1,000 in federal funds, for a total project cost of $2,000.

In the past, Wisconsin has been awarded over $1 million in survey and planning grants to assist in the identification, evaluation, preservation, and protection of the state's historical, architectural, and archeological resources. These federal funds are made available to the states from the Historic Preservation Fund, which is derived from revenue generated from oil and gas leases in the outer continental shelf. This federal-state partnership was established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. In Wisconsin the funds are administered by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

FFY 1990 funds, if allocated, will not be available until approximately April of 1990 and projects must be completed by 15 July 1991. For a more detailed explanation of eligible activities, a description of the criteria used to evaluate proposals, assistance in preparing an application, or an update of funding availability, please call me at 608/262-8904. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Paul R. Lusignan
Chief, Survey & Registration
Section
DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

PRL:da
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Historic Preservation

Survey and Planning Subgrants

The Wisconsin Historic Preservation Program

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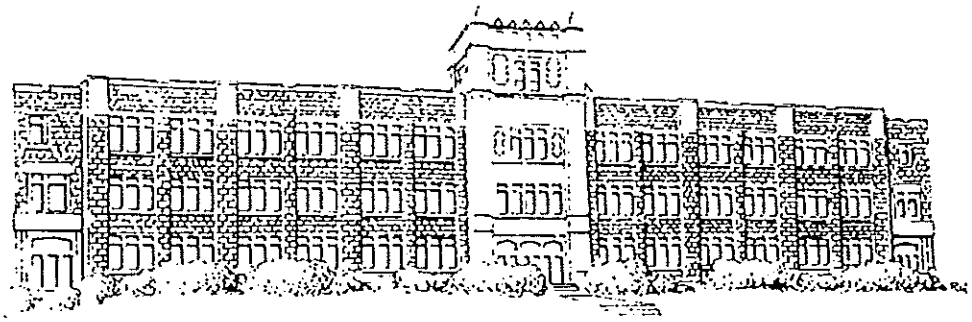
States use the funds for the historic preservation activities specified in federal laws and regulations. Eligible work includes conducting surveys to identify and evaluate historical, architectural and archeological resources, nominating properties and districts to the National Register of Historic Places, and carrying out a program of comprehensive historic preservation planning. Because these activities are also intended to meet local historic preservation needs, states are authorized to award part of their annual grant from the National Park Service as subgrants to localities interested in participating in the state program.

What is a Survey?

Historic preservation offices, government or public agencies, and scholars undertake surveys of cultural resources to achieve a better understanding of above ground and below ground (and underwater!) resources. Surveys are funded by the Historic Preservation Division in order to improve its ability to evaluate properties for and nominate properties to the National Register of Historic Places. The type of survey undertaken depends on the geographic area to be covered, the purpose for which the survey data will be used, and the amount of funding available. Many local units of government conduct surveys to accumulate data for comprehensive planning. Frequently, their motivation is to identify significant properties and districts to aid in complying with federal historic preservation regulations.



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Types of Surveys

- Reconnaissance surveys of buildings and structures are a street-by-street canvass of a specified geographic area to document all properties of architectural or historical interest. Properties are photographed, mapped, and state inventory cards are prepared. Grant awards usually are limited to surveys in the one-third of the state not previously surveyed at this level.

- Intensive surveys begin where reconnaissance surveys leave off and involve extensive historical research. At the conclusion of an intensive survey, properties and districts are evaluated for eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. State inventory cards, intensive survey forms, and a survey report are products of an intensive survey project. Sometimes, nominations for properties and districts identified as eligible for the National Register are prepared as part of intensive survey projects.

- Thematic surveys concern one aspect of history or architecture and are undertaken in a specific geographic area. As in intensive surveys, at the conclusion of a thematic survey properties and districts are evaluated for National Register eligibility. State inventory cards, intensive survey forms, and a survey report are products of a thematic survey. National Register nominations are usually prepared as well.

- Archeological surveys are systematic efforts to locate archeological sites and to improve our understanding of the patterns of archeological resource distribution. These surveys are directed by qualified archeologists. Archeological survey projects tend to focus on areas endangered by development and areas that are poorly known archeologically. Detailed survey reports and other documentation are produced by each survey project. Intensive archeological surveys include evaluations of archeological sites, the preparation of National Register nominations for eligible sites, exten- sive public outreach work, and archeological management planning.

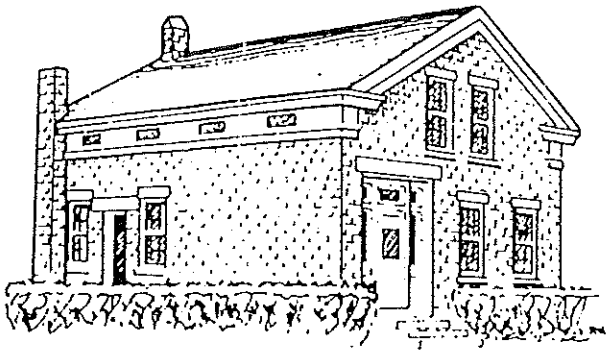
Certified Local Governments - Survey and Planning Subgrants

A Certified Local Government (CLG) is a local unit of government that has demonstrated a commitment to historic preservation through the enforcement of a local historic preservation ordinance, the initiation of a survey program, and the maintenance of an inventory of historic sites. The process for attaining CLG status is described in the State Historical Society's "Procedures for the Certification of Local Governments in Wisconsin."

The major advantage of CLG status is the opportunity for communities to receive special CLG survey and planning matching subgrants. Because at least 10% of the total grant awarded to the State Historical Society must be allocated to CLGs, the competition for the CLG pool of funds is among fewer applicants. Communities that presently do not meet the criteria for CLG status can apply for survey and planning subgrants to assist in developing programs that will qualify them for CLG status.

Existing CLGs should apply for CLG survey and planning subgrants on the standard application form, indicating in the appropriate space the date of certification. The CLG survey and planning subgrant applications will be evaluated as a separate group, according to the criteria specified in the

"Procedures for the Certification of Local Governments in Wisconsin." Although CLGs receiving survey and planning subgrants can only undertake eligible work (see below), they have more leeway to initiate projects that may not be high priorities according to the criteria annually established for the survey and planning program.



Eligible Survey and Planning Subgrant Projects

Each year the Historic Preservation Review Board and the Historic Preservation Division establish criteria for evaluating survey and planning subgrant applications. The criteria are always based on the program areas and activities identified by the National Park Service as priorities for Historic Preservation Fund expenditures, but include criteria that specifically address state preservation goals. Interested applicants should read about the criteria in effect in the summer or fall issues of Wisconsin Preservation, the division's bimonthly newsletter.

Activities determined eligible for survey and planning funding by the National Park Service include:

National Register of Historic Places Nominations: preparing nominations, with particular emphasis on multiple property nominations, such as historic districts. Nominations that pertain to the division's statewide planning efforts, that expand the geographic balance of nominations statewide, or that concern threatened properties are encouraged. The preparation of nominations that facilitate or enable property owners to take advantage of the historic preservation tax credits is also stressed.

Surveys: conducting reconnaissance, intensive, or thematic surveys for purposes of identifying eligible properties and districts, for planning purposes, and for a better understanding of Wisconsin history, architecture, and archeology. Surveys are considered important if they result in improved compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, inventory numerous properties, focus on areas that are poorly known in the historic preservation program, or involve threatened properties. Surveys that include coverage of National Register historic districts that have not been fully surveyed are encouraged. Planning projects that result from completed intensive surveys are also eligible for funding.

Attaining Certified Local Government Status: preparing a historic preservation ordinance or, if an ordinance is in place, undertaking activities that enable a local government to become a Certified Local Government (CLG). Applicants interested in attaining CLG status should examine the Historic Preservation Division's publication "Procedures for the Certification of Local Governments in Wisconsin" or call Larry Reed (608/262-4771) for more information.

Educational Activities: preparing informational brochures or visual productions that convey the results of an intensive survey project or information about the National Register program. Development of curriculum materials for school districts is also eligible. Although the National Park Service has not identified public education as a priority for Historic Preservation Fund expenditures, in Wisconsin educational activities have always been stressed if done in combination with survey and nomination projects.

Awards

Subgrants are awarded annually on a 50% matching basis, with subgrantees contributing half of the total project cost in cash, acceptable donated services, or a combination. Applications must be for at least $1,000 (representing a total project cost of at least $2,000), and applicants whose previously funded projects are incomplete beyond their deadlines are not eligible for funding. Applications are evaluated on a competitive basis, according to the criteria developed for each fiscal year. Generally, the more comprehensive the work specified, the better the evaluation. For example, a proposal that includes a survey and the preparation of National Register nominations would usually be rated higher than a proposal that is limited to a survey.

All work must be completed by professionally qualified individuals, but at the time of application the professional consultant or personnel who will do the work need not be indicated. The Historic Preservation Division is willing to help all applicants find qualified individuals to employ.

Application

Applications for survey and planning subgrants are accepted only during designated application periods, usually in the summer or fall of each year. Specific dates for the availability of application forms and for application deadlines are posted in the Historic Preservation Division's bimonthly newsletter Wisconsin Preservation. At any time during the year the division staff is willing to talk with groups or individuals about the survey and planning subgrant program. Often, potential applicants need to begin generating the local matching share of the project several months prior to the application period. Because the Division prefers to make awards to local units of government, regional planning commissions, or universities, some potential applicants may need to find such a sponsor to submit an application. Subgrants may not be used to fund work that has already been completed.

For further information about the survey and planning subgrant program please call:

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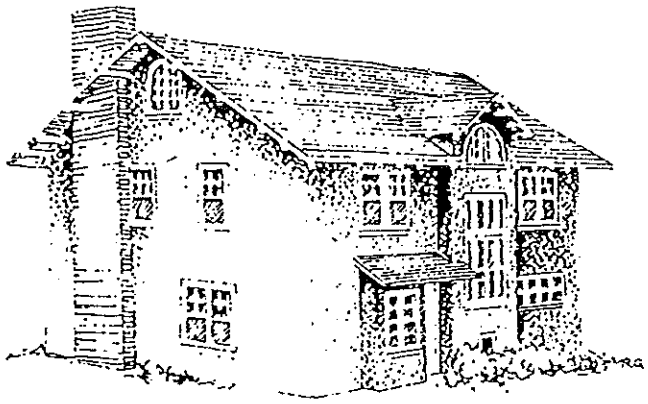

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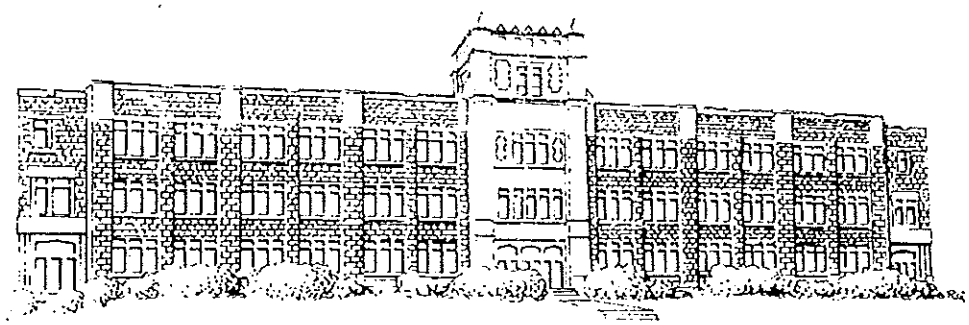

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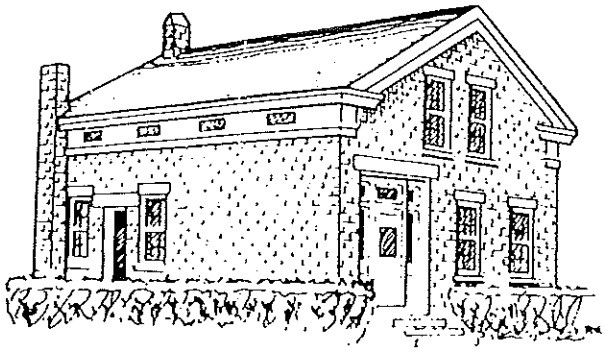

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