CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR
UMORE PARK INTERPRETIVE CENTER

PHASE ONE: PRE-DESIGN PROCESS
FINAL REPORT
June 2005
UMore Park Interpretive Center

Phase One: Pre-Design Process

Final Report
June 2005

Prepared For:
UMore Park Management Team and Interpretive Center Steering Committee

Prepared By:
Center for Rural Design, University of Minnesota
UMorePark Interpretive Center, Phase One: Pre-Design Process

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Nancy Rose, Extension Educator/Instructor, Horticulture
Thomas Schuster, Rosemount Parks Supervisor

Acknowledgements:

This project was initiated by Phil Larsen, Director of Operations, UMore Park. The outcome is a testament to his understanding of the value that UMore Park holds for its neighbors, the University of Minnesota, and the citizens of Minnesota, as well as his vision for the future of this remarkable piece of land. The Steering Committee members guided the development of the conceptual design by ensuring that both issues and ideas central to the University and the broader community were examined. Each member also brought invaluable personal insight and experience to the design review process.

June 2005
Center for Rural Design
College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, and
College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences
University of Minnesota
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GENERAL BACKGROUND TO UMORE PARK AND THE INTERPRETIVE CENTER CONCEPT
CONCEPT OF AN INTERPRETIVE CENTER AT UMore PARK

In 2001, the newly adopted management plan for UMore PARK, “Cultivating a Landscape for Knowledge: Management Plan for the University of Minnesota Outreach, Research, and Education Park”, identified the need to interpret the diverse physical, social, and cultural features within the Park for the citizens of Minnesota. These features include the artifacts of natural systems and prior human occupation of the land as well as the University’s extensive engagement of the site as a platform for a wide range of land-based research programs. The Management Plan introduced the concept of an interpretive center linked to the broader landscape by a series of interpretive, recreational trails serving the varied needs of the greater metropolitan region.

The concept of an interpretive center was explored further by the Precision Agricultural Center, Retail Food Industry Center, and Center for Rural Design as a conceptual framework for AgTech-21: Food, Land, and Agricultural Technologies Interpretive Center. AgTech-21 was envisioned as a state-of-the-art facility for interpreting modern agriculture and food production technologies for a predominantly urban audience and as a training center for agriculturists in modern farming and information management methodologies. In 2003, the UMore PARK Management Team issued a Strategic Plan for UMore PARK that identified an interpretive center as one of three projects submitted as part of the Park’s Six-Year Capital Request.

Currently, the need for an interpretive center has increased significantly due to increased public exposure to UMore PARK through the completion of Dakota County 46, a major east-west arterial connector bisecting the Park. In addition, the formal opening of the Lone Rock Trail, the development of extensive Master Gardener Display Gardens, and the initiation of other outreach programs has encouraged a broader level of public engagement in Park activities.

INTRODUCTION TO UMore PARK

Located in Dakota County, adjacent to the City of Rosemount, UMore PARK supports teaching and research for a number of Colleges at the University of Minnesota. A Master Plan has been approved by the Board of Regents and it will serve as the guide for all future public and private development.

Acquired from the U.S. Government in 1947, the property has significant natural and cultural history including architectural remnants from its use as an ordnance manufacturing facility during World War II. As a landscape, the site includes one of the few original forest groves still remaining in Dakota County, serves as a major waterway connecting with the Vermillion River, and has a rich history of Native American and immigrant farmer relationships with the land.

UMore Park sits in the center of Dakota County, one of the fastest growing counties in the seven-county Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan Region. Located on a major transportation corridor (Highway 52) and within 25 and 30 miles, respectively, of the University of Minnesota’s
Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses, UMore Park is within convenient reach for faculty, students and researchers conducting work on the site. The Twin Cities International Airport is situated within 10 miles to the north.

To the northwest and west, UMore Park shares borders with the City of Rosemount, a historic farming community that has a current population of over 19,000 with a growth forecast to over 30,000 by 2020 (US Census Bureau). The southwest is Empire Township (anticipated to have major gravel extraction over the next 40 years) along with a new Dakota County Regional Park and MN DNR wildlife management area. The Flint Hills Resources refinery complex neighbors UMore Park to the northeast. On the east and south UMore Park abuts the rich agricultural lands of Dakota County, including the riparian corridor of the Vermillion River, which is undergoing restoration and home to a naturally reproducing trout population. In addition, two threatened species (Blandings Turtle and Loggerhead Shrike) inhabit the southern portion of UMore Park.

With the complex mix of adjoining land covers and uses, UMore Park sits squarely in the urban/rural fringe and offers unique opportunities to explore the dynamic relationships and interactions at the edge of a rapidly growing metropolitan region.
UMORE PARK acknowledges its mission and continues to support world-class programs in outreach, research, and education at the University of Minnesota.

UMORE PARK is rapidly becoming an attractive site for extension outreach events. In the past year, it has hosted a national Expo on forage research and a workshop on crop management for crop consultants from the north central region. The close proximity to the Twin Cities campus, Twin Cities International Airport, easy access and ample parking facilities provide an ideal site for outreach events. In addition, meeting facilities are available with excellent visual aid equipment, comfortable furniture, and kitchen facilities for small groups of up to fifty people.

UMORE PARK supports the agricultural research projects of 51 University of Minnesota faculty as well as graduate students and technical support staff. Projects supported include livestock health, nutrition, reproduction, and housing; crop breeding, nutrition, and pest management; soil fertility and tillage; precision agriculture; carbon sequestration; and others.

Early in 1942, the federal government acquired 12,000 acres of land south and southeast of the small rural community of Rosemount, MN. The purpose of the land acquisition was to build Gopher Ordnance Works, a munitions plant intended to support the Allied war effort during WWII. However, the war ended before construction could be fully completed.

In the years following cessation of operations at the plant the federal government returned several thousand acres to private ownership. In 1947 the remaining approximately 8000 acres, including the physical plant of GOW, was deeded to the University of Minnesota. Over time a few hundred acres has been transferred to other institutions bringing the current size of UMORE PARK to 7686 acres.

During the intervening decades of University ownership, the site had been operated under two management units:

- The Rosemount Research and Outreach Center - a branch of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, RROC conducts and supports world-class research in crops and animal agriculture, veterinary medicine, environmental sciences, and building construction methods, among others.

- The Rosemount Research Center - under the direction of the University’s Real Estate Office, RRC manages internal and external partnerships, leases, and the physical plant of UMORE PARK.
INTERPRETIVE CENTER SITE CONTEXT

The UMore Park Interpretive Center is proposed to be located in the western, agricultural research portion of UMore. The site, approximately 60 acres in size, is adjacent to the north with the administrative office of UMore Park. It is the current location of the Rosemount Research and Outreach Center field operations, Dakota County Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens, and several small scale research projects and test plots - all of which would become integral programmatic themes to the Interpretive Center.

The site is conveniently located on Dakota County Highway 46 which provides direct access from several major suburban communities and connects to major north/south corridors that connect to the greater metropolitan area.
STEERING COMMITTEE

A broad committee, headed by Philip Larsen with representation from Dakota County, City of Rosemount, Minnesota Master Gardeners, and the University of Minnesota was formed to further explore the need for, nature of, and feasibility of an interpretive center in UMore Park. The structure of this committee was simplified to form a steering committee to guide planning and pre-design for the interpretive center. The steering committee members were:

- Philip Larsen, Director of Operations, UMore Park (Chair)
- Warren Banks, MN Master Gardener Program, UMore Park Committee Chair
- Stephan Carlson, Extension Educator/Professor, Extension 4H Center for Youth Development
- Craig Johnson, Landscape Architect, Dakota County Parks Department
- Robert Mugaas, Extension Educator/Professor, Horticulture, U of M
- Nancy Rose, Extension Educator/Instructor, Horticulture, U of M
- Thomas Schuster, Rosemount Parks Supervisor

The committee has reiterated the need for an interpretive center that would act as the hub of a series of interpretive trails and programs as well as a facility to support other onsite outreach programs. Additionally, the interpretive center would become a node along an interconnected system of regional parks, interpretive centers, and recreational facilities.

Through a series of preliminary meetings the steering committee outlined a series of concepts for a range of programs. This exploration defined a set of parameters for site selection criteria. Then the potential site was identified based on these criteria.

The complete minutes from key meetings of the committee are included in the Appendix. The primary concepts that led to program identification and development are listed below.

The UMore Park Interpretive Center should focus on:

- interpreting the history of land tenure and land use from pre-settlement to the present within UMore Park, of Native American, European Settlement, Gopher Ordnance Works, University of Minnesota.
- interpreting the history and future of agricultural activities on the land including food research and production, ornamental research and production, biomass research and production, natural systems research and restoration.
- interpreting the relationships between human history and natural history,
- interpreting the social, cultural and physical relationships at the urban/rural edge,
- providing a broad range of educational and recreational opportunities locally and regionally,
- building public interest and support for the University of Minnesota and UMore Park.

From these concepts a preliminary vision for the UMore Park Interpretive Center was defined:

The UMore Park Interpretive Center is a regionally significant site for studying and interpreting stewardship of the rural and urban-fringe landscape as it relates to human use of the land and its resources.
UMORE PARK INTERPRETIVE CENTER

ROLES IN OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND EDUCATION
ROLE IN OUTREACH

The primary role of the UMore Park Interpretive Center has been identified as outreach to the urban and suburban residents of the greater Twin Cities metropolitan area. The site will offer Minnesotans with little rural background the opportunity to explore the relationships between agricultural, horticultural, social, and environmental systems and their everyday lives.

Within the site, the Center will contain indoor and outdoor demonstrations of historical and modern, cutting-edge agricultural crops, management systems, and the U of M research related to them.

Similarly, the site will contain trial plots and demonstration gardens of horticultural plant breeding programs, best management practices, and design alternatives that further the outreach and community education mission of the Master Gardener programs already on site. The site will also demonstrate the application of environmental systems such as habitat and plant community restoration, stormwater management, and riparian buffer systems.

The Interpretive Center will also act as a hub for the interpretation of the broader features and systems of UMore Park. The role of European settlement in the transition of the region from an oak savanna/prairie landscape to an agricultural breadbasket will be examined. The power of the gridded structure imposed by the Public Land Survey System on our experience of the agricultural landscape will be interpreted. The social/cultural turmoil caused by federal occupation of the site and the construction of Gopher Ordnance Works will be explored. Lastly, the extensive history of agricultural and environmental research conducted by U of M research staff will be presented.
ROLE IN RESEARCH

The site currently houses the support operations for the Rosemount Research and Outreach Center. It also contains several agricultural and horticultural research projects and test plots. These functions will continue on site and be integrated into the interpretive role of the Center. Furthermore, additional efforts including building and energy systems research, environmental systems research and other land based research will be encouraged to locate here.

ROLE IN EDUCATION

The Umore Park Interpretive Center will serve as the primary site for educational activities at UMore Park by U of M departments and faculty. The Center will provide indoor classroom, meeting room, and workshop space suitable for a broad range of small to medium size classes.

Other regional institutions will be encouraged to utilize the site and facilities to enhance their educational programs including area K-12 school districts, vocational/technical colleges, and other colleges and universities. In particular, joint programs with Dakota County Technical College would be explored.

In addition to the community education and outreach programs of the MN Master Gardeners other community education programs examining issues related to UMore, or the outdoors in general, would be encouraged to use the site. Lastly, continuing professional education programs in agricultural technologies, environmental systems, horticulture, or any other site related profession would be invited to take advantage of the available facilities.
ROLE AS A REGIONAL AMENITY

Although in a still developing state, UMore Park has been identified for some time as an amenity assets to the region. The official opening of the Lone Rock Trail in 2004 provided the region with recreational opportunities for hiking and cross-country skiing as well as one of the most extensive equestrian trail systems in the region. The current proposal for a new regional park adjacent to UMore and the development of a connecting regional recreation trail through Umore to the City of Rosemount will further enhance recreational opportunities in the area. In addition, interpretation of the wide ranging features within the Park through auto tours and ancillary facilities will add a new depth of experience to regional recreational opportunities.

Expanding the engagement of the public in UMore Park allows the Interpretive Center to become not only the hub of public activity within the Park but also a node of activity in a system of regional recreational and interpretive amenities.

A survey of other related interpretive centers in the region was conducted to determine the extent to which the UMore Park Interpretive Center would compliment or compete with their missions. It was determined that the Center would have a unique mission in the interpretation of the cultivated landscape across scales and the University of Minnesota’s role in outreach, research, and education about that landscape. The survey is included in the Appendix.
UMore Park Interpretive Center
Pre-Design Process
SITE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

- Physical features present on site
  - Agriculture – apparent (expansive views of agricultural fields)
  - U of M Research – not necessarily apparent (feed mill and machine shops)
  - U of M Outreach – apparent (Master Gardener demonstration gardens)
  - GOW – not necessarily apparent (GOW bunkers possibly used as ‘museum’ and meeting facility)
  - Good access roads
  - Adequate parking - for initial phases
• Constraints of site
  o Traffic volume on Highway 46
  o Traffic speed on Highway 46
  o Access to administrative offices across highway
  o Two-way driveway (possible one-way circuit)
  o Driveway divides features to be interpreted
  o Handicapped accessibility
    ▪ Access to Master Gardener site
    ▪ Access to buildings
  o Seasonal conflict with field crews and equipment
- Off-site connections
  - Administrative offices across highway – additional horticultural display gardens and landscape
  - Woodland tree identification trail adjacent to administrative offices
  - Multiple (future) driving tours of University research sites/facilities and GOW sites
  - Information and staging site for additional recreational opportunities within UMore Park – Lone Rock Trail, other future facilities.
CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR
UMORE PARK INTERPRETIVE CENTER
PHASE ONE: PRE-DESIGN PROCESS

• Site soils and topography
  o All soils are Waukegan series
    ▪ Deep, well-drained on outwash plains
    ▪ Sandy silt loam texture
    ▪ Moderately to rapidly permeable
    ▪ Low to moderate erodibility based on topography
    ▪ Well suited to building construction
    ▪ Road construction may require well-compacted, coarse textured base
  o Natural topography is level to slightly sloping – 0 to 1 percent slope
    ▪ Steeper slopes restricted to areas of human disturbance – roadside and drainage ditches, borrow pits, etc.
PROJECT PROGRAMMING

The UMore Park Interpretive Center steering committee explored the range of program possibilities that could be undertaken on the site and within UMore Park in general. A similar exploration of potential user groups was conducted. The list was narrowed down as described below:

- Potential uses and users of the site
  - Formal education
    - University faculty and students
    - DCTC faculty and students
    - Faculty and students from other area colleges, universities, technical colleges
    - Primary and secondary school faculty and students
  - Research
    - Horticulture – Master Gardener Trial Plots
    - Agriculture – staff and researchers access to shops and equipment
    - CNR and CALA – interpretive site design and programming
  - Outreach
    - Horticulture programs
    - Agriculture programs
  - Informal education – general public
    - Outdoor interpretive kiosks and exhibits
    - Indoor ‘museum’ – interpretive exhibits
  - Opportunity for general meeting facilities

- Stories that could be told
  - Social/Cultural Systems
    - Native American residence and/or use
    - European settlement/agriculture
    - Gopher Ordnance Works
    - U of M Research and Education
    - Urban development/Open green space
  - Natural Systems
    - Geomorphology and Soils
    - Hydrology
    - Plant and animal communities

Based on this list of programming possibilities and potential user groups the steering committee, led by Tom Schuster, examined the relationships between potential programs, users, and the site. The outcome of this examination is included in the Appendix. The design team translated the effort into the matrix shown on the facing page.
### Conceptual Design for Umore Park Interpretive Center Phase One: Pre-Design Process

#### Interpretive Program/Facility Requirements

<table>
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<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>INTERPRETIVE TOPIC</th>
<th>Field Pits (FP)</th>
<th>Demonstration Pits (DP)</th>
<th>On-Site Gardening (OSG)</th>
<th>Interpretive Center (IC)</th>
<th>Banquet Facility (BF)</th>
<th>Meeting Room (MR)</th>
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#### Interpretive Program/Target Groups

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<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>INTERPRETIVE TOPIC</th>
<th>Program Components</th>
<th>Possible Target Groups</th>
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<td>Researchers, master gardeners, arborists, &quot;green&quot; industry workers, farmers, veterinarians, other various interested groups</td>
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<td>3. Residental Scale Design Plants</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Outdoor Educational Program</td>
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</table>
Working from an assessment of the programmatic needs and user groups defined by the steering committee, the design team developed a site design concept based on the metaphor of ‘The Cultivated Landscape’. The concept sprang from the site’s ongoing relationship with U of M research efforts in agriculture and horticulture. The concept also embraces the opportunity to expand interpretation to include management and restoration in naturalistic landscapes. The spatial extent of the site was expanded for certain functions to include the interpretive possibilities on the north side of Dakota Co. 46.

The concept of ‘The Cultivated Landscape’ relates the size of the site to that of a typical Minnesota farmstead, providing a sense of human-scale to the Interpretive Center, while also allowing the metaphor to be extended to all of UMore Park.

Dividing the conceptual cultivated landscape into functional components accommodates programming of the site in a manner that provides spatial organization to the Interpretive Center. The resulting framework enhances the visitors’ experience by fostering an understanding of spatial relationships within the Center.

The components of the Cultivated Landscape are:

- **Homesite Landscape**
  - demonstrating innovative environmental approaches to landscaping and gardening around the home.

- **Farmstead Landscape**
  - the core of the UMore Park Interpretive Center - site of interpretive, administrative, and museum buildings, and the service facilities of Rosemount Research and Outreach Center, interpreting social/cultural facets of land stewardship.

- **Horticultural Landscape**
  - interpreting research in horticultural food and ornamental crops, demonstrating environmental horticulture.

- **Agricultural Landscape**
  - interpreting agricultural crop and technology research, agriculture best management practices, food production, history of agriculture.

- **Naturalistic Landscape**
  - interpreting human values and services provided by nature, demonstrating land stewardship, habitat and plant community restoration, stormwater management, environmental systems functions.

Example descriptions of the Homesite and Farmstead Landscapes are presented on pages 22 and 23.
THE CULTIVATED
HOMESITE LANDSCAPE

Home Siting and Views
Framing key views that highlight the surrounding areas and
preventing the destruction of those key natural features are
some of the many advantages to a well-sited home.

Managed Lawn Areas
Laws and other open multi-use
recreational areas offer an added
transitional area from the home to
the surroundings. Utilizing some
alternative turf types, such as no-
mow and low-water mixes, can be
utilized in these areas as a more
natural alternative to conventional
bluegrass turf.

Cultivated Landscape Trees
Fruit and other trees placed at key
places in the landscape can offer
both food for the homeowner and
habitat and food for wildlife.

House Gardens & Landscaping
Landscaping around the dwelling
softens the transition between
indoor home and the outdoor
natural environment. Flowers
and fruits produced provide food
and habitat for attracting birds and
insects. Butterfly gardens are
popular examples of naturalized
home landscapes.

Natural Forests
Some plant and animal species
can only thrive in natural forested
conditions. Identifying and
preserving these forest pieces,
and blending them with the
more formal landscaping around
the home can help these
sensitive species to coexist with
human practices. These forests
often increase the home value.

Landscaping For Wildlife
Created forest openings are one
way of installing “landscaping for
wildlife”. Habitat created
specifically to attract native
insect and animal species to an
area. This practice often
includes planting native plant
species, in both number and
pattern, to recreate or fortify
naturally-occurring plant
communities.
THE CULTIVATED FARMSTEAD LANDSCAPE

**Cultivated Agricultural Fields**
The crop produced, the amount of space crop production needs, and the total amount of usable land often determines the size and extent of the fields. An examination of the environmental conditions (e.g. - hydrologic regimes, soil type) can also aid the success of crops and their yields.

**The Farmhouse**
Much like the home site, landscaping around the dwelling softens the transition between indoor home and the outdoor natural environment. Also, the physical siting of the house itself can be pivotal in the efficiency of the workings of the home and the farm, especially the structure’s proximity to other critical farm operations and structures.

**Farmhouse Immediate Use Area**
Planted trees and gardens around the dwelling serve to provide food for the residents and slow the wind speed off of the land surface. When done in a sensitive way, these can direct and enhance views and create distinct experiences for visitors.

**Cultivated Vegetated Buffers**
In order to further mitigate erosion from cultivation practices, native vegetation buffers around fields help prevent soil from being carried away with rainfall runoff.

**Access Roads and Paths**
Access to barns, sheds, other dwellings, and other accessory buildings is important to the efficient functioning of the farm. Strategically locating these between structures can preserve access while reducing the overall impact of these impervious areas on the whole farm site.

**Farm Structures**
Structures such as barns, silos, and outbuildings, are critical for the workings of the farm and equipment storage. Carefully locating these according to where and how they will be used, and what they will be used for can increase the efficiency of the farm. This design can focus on the present needs, but can also be projected into the future uses as well to design for later-needed structures.
PROJECT CONCEPTUAL DESIGN AND PHASING

Interpretive Center Implementation Phase 1
Full implementation of Phase 1 will result in a fully functional facility and establish the UMore Park Interpretive Center as the focal point for public engagement with education and outreach at UMore Park. Implementation of Phase 1 is subdivided into two parts, Phase 1A and Phase 1B, to facilitate initiation of the project during fund raising. Each sub-Phase is described individually.

Implementation Phase 1A
Phase 1A is organized to allow initiation of the Interpretive Center project during the process of fund-raising. The intent of this phase is to define the grid system and axial corridors that will organize all of the components and activities on the site through future phases of development.

Components of Phase 1A can be designed and installed during the fund-raising and design stages of future phases. This gives an early presence to the Interpretive Center that introduces the public to the current and future opportunities to engage the University of Minnesota through UMore Park.

Implementation Phase 1B
Phase 1B will complete the implementation of Phase 1 and will yield an operational Interpretive Center. The Interpretive Center provides significant utility to meeting UMore Park’s mission of outreach, research, and education.

Components of Phase 1B will provide space and support functions for University classes as well as K-12 programs in partnership with the University. These spaces, in conjunction with workrooms on the lower level and a completed outdoor Learning Plaza, support community education and other outreach programs. Additional space is provided for information distribution and interpretation.

Interpretive Center Implementation Phase 2
Phase 2 brings UMore Park administration functions onsite through the phased construction of two LEED certified administration/research office buildings. When completed the new structures will offer twice the capacity of the current structure to the north side of the highway. The new onsite administrative office will facilitate interaction and engagement with the public providing needed onsite support and supervision for the Interpretive Center. In addition, the expanded space available to administration will allow for the consolidation of UMore Park management and administration into one structure.

Interpretive Center Implementation Phase 3
Phase 3 completes the core construction of the Interpretive Center with the remodeling of the existing feed mill structure and the addition of two wings to create a museum of agricultural research and technology (AgTech 21 concept) at UMore Park. When completed the new museum will offer the public the opportunity to explore the role of agriculture, horticulture, and land stewardship in human life throughout history and into the future. The structures will provide space for permanent and temporary exhibits, research demonstrations and hands-on learning activities.
Building Conceptual Design

A key component of the implementation of the UMore Park Interpretive Center is retrofitting the GOW era bunker buildings to serve as indoor interpretive space. Phase 1 includes retrofitting the first structure - the paired buildings at the entrance to the site - to serve as the headquarters of the Interpretive Center.

The structure needs to contain several key features including classroom, meeting room, and workroom spaces, an area for information distribution and initial phases of interpretation, handicapped accessibility, restroom facilities, and a small prep kitchen.

The steering committee explored several conceptual layouts as shown below. Components from each concept were selected to be combined into the preferred final concept represented later in this section.

**Concept One**

**Concept Two**

**Concept Three**
In addition to the initial structure, seven other GOW era structures exist on site. They create a framework that would direct visitor pattern of movement and engagement with the site. The diagram above indicates the intended relationships between the structures and other site components in support of the overall design concept.
Conceptual design for these structures was not undertaken by the steering committee since the specific program for each has not been defined as yet. However, the committee recognized the need for uniformity in character to distinguish the Interpretive Center buildings from other structures on the site. The diagram above suggests some of the variations that could be employed to meet specific program requirements while maintaining a consistent aesthetic theme.
The steering committee recognized the need for onsite staff support for the Interpretive Center as well as the future need for expanded administrative facilities for UMore Park. The committee determined that the best solution involved moving administrative functions to the site into new state-of-the-art sustainable buildings that consolidate administration and enhance public engagement at UMore Park and the Interpretive Center.

These diagrams represent the range of aesthetic expressions that the design team explored. A preferred concept is portrayed later in this section.
APPENDIX
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTERPRETIVE CATEGORIES</th>
<th>PHYSICAL PROGRAM FACILITY REQUIREMENTS</th>
<th>PROGRAM COMPONENTS</th>
<th>POSSIBLE TARGET GROUPS</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>RESEARCH</strong></td>
<td>Field Pits (F)</td>
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CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR UMORE PARK INTERPRETIVE CENTER

PHASE ONE: PRE-DESIGN PROCESS

**Concept for a LEED Certified Administrative/Research Office**
- Sustainable Building Techniques
- Energy Efficiency
- Sensitivity to Site

**New Administrative Office and Interpretive Center Building**
- Glass Walled Entry and Boardwalk connecting to Interpretive Center
- Admin/Research Office - Fishkill Museum and Dwyer Operation in background
- Interpretive Center Buildings - east end

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR UMORE PARK INTERPRETIVE CENTER

PHASE ONE: PRE-DESIGN PROCESS
CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR
UMORE PARK INTERPRETIVE CENTER
PHASE ONE: PRE-DESIGN PROCESS

Interpretive Center Building
Floor Plan - Second Floor
- Conference/Meeting/Teaching Space in NW corner.
- Prep kitchen, storage, and elevator in NE corner.
- Open Interpretive, Information Distribution, Retail, and Lounge Space to south: opening onto raised terrace overlooking Interpretive/demonstration gardens and farm operations.

Interpretive Center Building
Floor Plan - First Floor
- Classrooms/Workrooms on west: opening onto Work Plaza and Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens (to west).
- Restrooms, storage, mechanicals, and elevator on east.

Proposed Administrative/Research Office Floor Plan
- Accommodates direct connection between UMoore Park administration, the Interpretive Center, and daily field operations.
- Provides capacity to house growing administrative needs in support of expanding site programming.
- Supports phased construction of second building to meet future expansion needs of Interpretive Center site.

INTERPRETIVE CENTER
CONCEPTUAL BUILDING DESIGN:
NEW ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE AND INTERPRETIVE CENTER BUILDING
Components of Phase 1A
- Kiosks introducing the public to UMore Park, the future Interpretive Center, and the Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens.
- Initial phase of the Teaching Plaza connecting the Interpretive Center Buildings to the Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens.
- New Landscape Demonstration Gardens that begin to define the grid and axial framework for future development.

Interpretive Center Implementation Phase 1A
Phase 1A is organized to allow initiation of the Interpretive Center project during the process of fundraising. The intent of this phase is to define the grid system and axial corridors that will extend to organize all of the components and activities on the site through future phases of development.

Components of Phase 1A can be designed and installed during the fundraising and design stages of future phases, giving an early presence to the Interpretive Center that introduces the public to the current and future opportunities to engage the University of Minnesota through UMore Park.
CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR UMORE PARK INTERPRETIVE CENTER
PHASE ONE: PRE-DESIGN PROCESS

Components of Phase 1B
- Fully remodelled Interpretive Center Buildings with terrace.
- Completed Teaching Plaza.
- Altered vehicular traffic pattern with new parking.
- New Interpretive Center signage.
- Initiation of interpretive/demonstration plots.
- Roadside plantings to demonstrate sound mitigation and stormwater management.

Interpretive Center Implementation Phase 1B
Phase 1B will complete the implementation of Phase 1 and will yield an operational Interpretive Center that provides significant utility to meeting UMore Park’s mission of outreach, research, and education.

Components of Phase 1B will provide space and support functions for University classes as well as K-12 programs in partnership with the University. These spaces, in conjunction with workrooms on the lower level and a completed outdoor Learning Plaza, support community education and other outreach programs. Additional space is provided for information distribution and interpretation.

Interpretive Center Conceptual Site Design: Phase 1B

Full implementation of Phase 1 will result in a fully functional facility and establish the UMore Park Interpretive Center as the focal point for public engagement with education and outreach at UMore Park. Implementation of Phase 1 is subdivided into two parts, Phase I A and Phase I B, to facilitate initiation of the project during fund raising. Each sub-Phase is described individually.
Components of Phase 2
- New Administration Buildings.
- Extended Glass Breezeway and Entry Plaza connecting new Administration Buildings with Interpretive Centers.
- Restructured and enhanced Landscape Demonstration Gardens.
- Strengthened connections to and temporary programing for Future Museum (old feed mill).
- Continued expansion of Interpretive/Demonstration Plots.
- Completed parking restructuring after dryer operation upgrades.

Interpretive Center Implementation Phase 2
Phase 2 brings UMore Park administration functions onsite through the phased construction of two LEED certified administration/research office buildings.

When completed the new structures will offer twice the capacity of the current structure to the north side of the highway.
CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR UMORE PARK INTERPRETIVE CENTER
PHASE ONE: PRE-DESIGN PROCESS

Components of Phase 3
- Remodelled and New Museum Buildings.
- New Entry Plazas, pedestrian circulation, and parking related to Museum.
- Reinforcing the grid and axial organization of the site as a reference to the Public Land Survey System.
- Enhanced public connections with other site facilities.
- Incorporation of GOW buildings into interpretive experience.
- Continued expansion of Interpretive/Demonstration Plots.
- Expansion of interpretive programming throughout UMore Park facilities and historical sites.

Interpretive Center Implementation Phase 3
Phase 3 completes the core construction of the Interpretive Center with the remodelling of the existing feed mill structure and the addition of two wings to create a museum of agricultural research and technology (AgTech 21 concept) at UMore Park.

When completed the new museum will offer the public the opportunity to explore the role of agriculture, horticulture, and land stewardship in human life throughout history and into the future. The structures will provide space for permanent and temporary exhibits, research demonstrations and hands-on learning activities.
Interpretive Center Implementation Phase 3

Phase 3 completes the core construction of the Interpretive Center with the remodelling of the existing feed mill structure and the addition of two wings to create a museum of agricultural research and technology (AgTech 21 concept) at UMore Park.

When completed the new museum will offer the public the opportunity to explore the role of agriculture, horticulture, and land stewardship in human life throughout history and into the future. The structures will provide space for permanent and temporary exhibits, research demonstrations and hands-on learning activities.
ROADSIDE PULL OFF/HISTORICAL INTERPRETATION SITE
UMore Park Meeting
August 26, 2004
10:30-12 noon

MINUTES

Present: Warren Banks, Kathy Boudreau, Greg Konat, Steve Sullivan, Steve Roos, Mel Baughman, Phil Larsen, Nancy Rose, Barbara Stendahl, John Lauber

1. **Introductions**

2. **Project objectives**
   - Recognize the soldiers of WWII
   - Chronicle the GOW
   - Events and accomplishments as a result of Ag, Vet Med, and Forestry research.

3. **Vision for project:**
   - Many visions and ideas were discussed.
   - Paint the T-walls (to represent past history) and install historical markers for GOW.
   - Use audio: Voices of the families that were dislocated.
   - Include land use history. Describe how the land was used over a hundred plus years.
   - Place mile markers along the road to help people place themselves. These mile markers could be designed in the spirit of the T-wall, painted, etc. Mile markers could be color coded for various aspects of the tour.
   - Provide experiences for people. Public interest items might include: The trail, T-walls, smokestacks, other GOW artifacts, garden vistas, Forage Hill. More difficult projects to display are: agricultural research, Native American history, and the burning ground. Could Ag research portion change each year according to what is current? For example, soybean rust, soybean aphids, etc. The research portion runs the risk of being too academic.
   - History and future of agricultural activities on the land. Use the landscape design around the administrative building to tie in to the University work, horticulture and Master Gardening area.
   - Track the cycle of use from to GOW and back to agriculture.
   - Combine human history and the natural history. Have a pull off at a bluff area.
   - Involve as many people as possible. There are many groups at Dakota County that could be involved, as well as the city of Rosemount and service groups.
   - Create living gateways/portal areas; place them at places where the landscape changes.
   - A pull-off park honoring the farmers who lived here, the war effort and GOW. This is the first of several pull-off sites and can provide a driving route map for other pull-offs.
   - Build a kiosk with parking area and a space for University and UMore Park information.
   - Investigate a radio broadcast, with a roadside sign announcement “Tune to AM 1605 to learn more about this area…”
   - John Lauber mentioned the *Silos and Smokestacks* project in eastern Iowa. It is a similar type of project, and includes cassette-tape tours, printed media, a John Deere plant visit.
   - This project should look nice, be landscaped, have sufficient parking and viewing space. It should have clean restrooms; perhaps a composting toilet.
4. The group voted on their favorite ideas, which included:
   - Audio voices of families
   - Track layers of land use
   - A series of pull-off sites with one main stop
   - Kiosk with info on both the University and UMore Park
   - Natural history pull-off
   - Involve many agencies
   - Create a memorial area for displaced residents.
   - Once a site for the pull-off is chosen, Dakota County will work with us to create it. (Greg Konat)

5. The following committee members will develop a written description/programmatic plan
   - Family farms history and human history of this area - Kathy Boudreau
   - GOW era - Kathy Boudreau
   - University research - Phil Larsen
   - Natural history - Mel Baughman and Steve Sullivan
   - Current & future opportunities for residents (gardens, trails, recreation) Barb Stendahl & Nancy Rose

6. Next steps:
   - Choose a pull-off location
   - Design the site
   - Take the 5 themes (above) and develop some programmatic plans, which could drive the physical design.
   - Can we bring Dewey Thorbeck in and ask him to work with John Lauber to develop an overall concept / vision of the process? With this vision in mind, we can build a framework for programmatic ideas and assign people to different tasks.
   - Steve Roos will develop some programmatic diagrams to help spur our thought process. Greg Konat would like to have this diagram in advance in order to take it to others in Dakota County for more ideas and feedback.

7. Action Items
   - Phil will circulate information to the group before the next meeting.
   - Steve Roos will supply John Lauber with a 1947 map of GOW.
   - John Lauber will look into information on Native American history in the area.
   - Elizabeth Soucy will create a grouplist/listserv and will schedule the next meeting. At the next meeting we will review the written pieces, and the programmatic schematic.
   - See number 5 (above) for additional action items.
Conceptual Ideas
- Through connections (north/south mostly) to regional parks and trail systems to provide broad range of recreational opportunities locally and regionally. UMore, in general, and interpretive center, in particular, become nodes along the route (destination as well as path).

- Interpretive driving tours set up early and quickly (and cheaply) to introduce public to UMore (modern ag and research, GOW, natural areas and trails), build public interest and support for UMore, and test feasibility of expanded tour programs.
  - Discussion about other interpretive tours/programs as possible precedents (Kellogg Biological Station – Michigan State)

- Special emphasis on K-12 audiences for interpretation through presentation and active engagement

- Engage University students in assessment, planning, and design for interpretive programs and center
  - Surveying regional learning centers, interpretive centers, nature centers, etc. to catalog program offerings for competitiveness/compatibility.
  - Initial development of interpretive programs for ag research, GOW, horticulture, natural areas/restoration, etc.
  - Adaptation/modification of existing structures for reuse
  - Planning and conceptual site design for interpretive center incorporating MG display gardens

- Construct timeline-oriented planning/design phase (task) list that identifies appropriate stage to engage private sector professional services.

Site Specific Ideas
- Identify programs that could be interpreted on-site and those that are introduced on site to assess space requirements and arrangements
  - Outdoor programs
    - Horticulture (MG gardens and admin bldg landscape): low maintenance, sustainable landscaping; native plants; variety trials; youth gardening; etc.
    - Small scale ecological restoration (MG gardens, admin bldg, tree trail)
    - Ag crop research (plots adjacent to MG gardens and building area)
    - Modern agricultural processes/practices/equipment
    - GOW?
  - Indoor Programs: all of above(?) plus
    - Large scale agricultural, environmental research, & ecological restoration
    - GOW
    - Trails and recreation
    - Cultural history
    - Issues related to urban/rural interface
- Identify requirements/estimated costs related to building modification and updating
- Identify requirements/estimated costs related to site modification and spatial needs
- Develop alternative design concepts for site/building arrangements and aesthetics
Conceptual Ideas

- **Role of the Facility**
  - **Interpretive Site/Center**
    - History of the property: human culture/society land tenure based – indigenous peoples/pre-european settlement, agricultural expansion, Gopher Ordnance Works, U of M
    - Environmental and ecological systems: geologic and hydrologic systems, plant communities, wildlife habitats – changes over time
    - Broad agriculture and horticulture history: original sources and development of useful food and ornamental crops
    - History of U of M involvement in above
    - Ongoing U of M research efforts: agricultural, horticultural, environmental, recreational, equestrian
  - **Information Distribution Center**
    - U of M: on-site outreach programs, recreational opportunities, educational and interpretive tours, general University info on related academic programs
    - Community-wide: regional sites and programs of similar nature – educational, recreational, interpretive
  - **Meeting Facility**
    - Community organizations
    - Private sector – corporate/business meetings
    - Classroom (see below)
  - **Education Facility**
    - Formal education: classrooms designed for formal teaching of UMORE related subject matter (University, college, vocational, other post-secondary, K-12)
      - Horticulture, arboriculture, agriculture, recreation, environmental
    - University outreach programs (Public and professional): agriculture, horticulture, community development, Extension
    - Private sector partnerships: corporate/business training sessions and seminars
  - **Research Support Facility (?)**

Specific Ideas

- **South Metro Center for Sustainable Horticulture**
  - Dedicated to research and education of sustainable horticultural activities
    - Landscape design, appropriate plant selection, invasive plant control, low input/maintenance, etc.
  - Integrated with Master Gardener program and display gardens

- **Pre-Design Concept Proposal**
  - Engage graduate design students to define a conceptual design for the interpretive center site and buildings
- Final products to include presentation quality documents and model depicting final conceptual design – intended to be used for fund raising and future design development – and approximate cost estimates
- Include survey of regional interpretive/learning centers to aid in mission and program development
Agriculture and Natural Resource Literacy

- Natural Resource Interpretation
  - Potential for a shooting sports facility sponsored through College of Natural Resources and Extension
    - Statewide 4-H shooting train center (available to other youth groups as well)
    - Could be a collaborative project with existing and new UMore site uses
      - Regional city, county, state and UM police departments
      - Local sportsmen and gun clubs
    - Part of a broader Game Wildlife Program by CNR and DNR integrated with new and existing regional Wildlife Management Areas
  - Potential Interpretive Center roles in program
    - Probably not an appropriate site for the shooting range itself
    - Provide classroom/meeting facilities
    - Provide interpretation of habitat management for game species
    - Provide outdoor examples of practical plant material, land cover, habitat management practices
  - Other possibilities (not fully discussed yet)
    - Non-Game Wildlife Management
      - Integrated with MG and DNR ‘Landscaping for Wildlife’ program as example gardens and interpretation
    - Geology and Hydrogeology
      - Water management in the landscape – surface and ground water - across scales (region to building site)
        - Could potentially include waste water management
      - Soil interpretation and management

- Agriculture Interpretation (would include UM research efforts – past and present)
  - History of field crop plants
    - Original source and original genetics
    - Adaptation, manipulation, and selection over time
  - History of crop production practices
  - Similar interpretation of horticultural crops
    - Food and decorative crops including turf
  - History of animal agriculture
    - May include temporary/short-term animal housing facilities to support specific events on site
  - Need to interpret for all ages – Children’s Gardens
    - Junior Master Gardener Program
    - Separate gardens for children (interactive and ‘hands-on’)
    - Support for 4-H agriculture, horticulture, and natural resource project areas

- Silviculture (?)
  - Urban forestry
- Plant selection - Tree Trail and tree variety garden
- Planting, culture, and maintenance demonstrations
- Industry programs
  - Hardwood forest woodlot management

- Need to define the ‘Audience’
  - Need for a Name
  - Primary audience
    - Primarily urban and suburban general public
  - Secondary audiences
    - Formal UM outreach programs
    - Professional and industry groups
    - Academic audiences
      - K-12 education programs
      - UM students – undergraduate and graduate programs
        - New student orientation
        - Classroom and outside teaching opportunities
      - Other post-secondary institutions and students, e.g., Dakota Co. Vo-Tech
  - Problems with enticing a broad audience and repeat visits
    - Building a sense of community ownership
    - Answering the ‘so what’
    - Ongoing vs. temporary/seasonal themes to capture different segments of the broad audience

- Role of South Metro Center for Sustainable Horticulture
  - What is its role in the broad scheme of an interpretive center (ag, hort, natural resource interpretation, MG program, etc.)
    - Separate independent program housed at the site
    - Integral part of the overall program
  - What is its relationship to interpretation of
    - Food production and delivery systems
    - Ornamentals
    - Environmental systems
    - Habitat and plant community restoration
    - Urban forestry
  - Meeting, training and demonstration facility (or program?)
  - Sponsoring a K-8 ‘Ag in the Classroom’ program (or is this a role of the broader interpretive center?)
Organization Name: Minnesota Zoo

Web Address: www.mnzoo.com

Location: 13000 Zoo Blvd, Apple Valley, MN 55124

Mission: Our mission is to strengthen the bond between people and the living earth, which, loosely translated, means we're dedicated to inspiring people to act on behalf of the environment. To accomplish this, we provide award-winning recreational, educational and conservation programs, locally, nationally and internationally.

Intended Audience:

Programming:

Program Area 1: Education

Specific Programs: Guided & Self Guided Tours, Classes, Zoo Mobile Program, Community Event Programs,

Program Area 2: Conservation

Specific Programs: Local, National, and International Programs including projects in partnership with MNDNR.

Organization Name: Dakota County Historical Society

Web Address: www.dakotahistory.org

Location: 130 Third Avenue North
South Saint Paul, MN 55075
651/552-7548 - Fax: 651/552-7265

Mission: Our mission is to preserve, interpret and promote the history of Dakota County.

Intended Audience: The people of Dakota County, K-12, Educators

Programming:

Program Area 1: Education, History

Specific Programs: Museum, Downloadable materials for educators and children.
Program Area 2: Historical Library

Specific Programs: Research library, Online database.

Organization Name: Mill City Museum

Web Address: www.millcitymuseum.org

Location: 704 South Second Street
Minneapolis, MN 55401
612-341-7555

Mission: Mill City Museum creates opportunities to discover the people and industries that built Minneapolis, transformed a region and influenced our world.

Intended Audience: Public

Programming:

Program Area 1: Education, History

Specific Programs: Museum, K-12 educational programs, scheduled events, connections to riverfront, “Flour Tower” multimedia elevator ride revealing stories of mill workers and glimpses of historical machinery.

Organization Name: Big Rivers Regional Trail

Web Address: http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/rivers.htm

Location: Highway 13 and Mendota Heights Road, Mendota Heights

Mission: The mission of the Dakota County Parks System is to provide for the protection and preservation of the land in its natural state, while providing for outdoor natural resource-oriented recreation activities.

Intended Audience: The people of Dakota County, State of Minnesota

Programming:

Program Area 1: Education, History
Specific Programs: Hiking, Biking, In Line Skating, Ice Skating, Picnic Areas, Views to Ft. Snelling, Pike Island

Organization Name: Lebanon Hills Visitor Center

Web Address: [http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/visitor_center.htm](http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/visitor_center.htm)

Location: Visitor Center/Schulze Trailhead:
860 Cliff Road, Eagan
651.554.6530

Mission: The mission of the Dakota County Parks System is to provide for the protection and preservation of the land in its natural state, while providing for outdoor natural resource-oriented recreation activities

Intended Audience: The people of Dakota County, State of Minnesota

Programming:

Program Area 1: Delivery of environmental education and interpretation pertaining to the natural and cultural history of the area.

Specific Programs: Hiking, Cross Country Skiing, Sustainable/Environmental Interpretation

Organization Name: Lake Byllesby Regional Park

Web Address: [http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/byllesby.htm](http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/byllesby.htm)

Location: Trailhead:
Harry Avenue and 300th Street, Cannon Falls (Randolph Township)

Mission: The mission of the Dakota County Parks System is to provide for the protection and preservation of the land in its natural state, while providing for outdoor natural resource-oriented recreation activities

Intended Audience: The people of Dakota County, State of Minnesota

Programming:

Program Area 1: Outdoor recreation
Specific Programs:  Boating, Camping, Hiking, Etc.

Organization Name:  Thompson County Park

Web Address:  http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/thompson.htm

Location:  Trailhead:
360 Butler Avenue East, West St. Paul

Mission:  The mission of the Dakota County Parks System is to provide for the protection and preservation of the land in its natural state, while providing for outdoor natural resource-oriented recreation activities

Intended Audience:  The people of Dakota County, State of Minnesota

Programming:

Program Area 1:  Outdoor recreation

Specific Programs:  Hiking, Picnicking, Etc.

Organization Name:  Miesville Ravine Park Reserve

Web Address:  http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/ravine.htm

Location:  Trailhead:
280th Street, Miesville Township

Mission:  The mission of the Dakota County Parks System is to provide for the protection and preservation of the land in its natural state, while providing for outdoor natural resource-oriented recreation activities

Intended Audience:  The people of Dakota County, State of Minnesota

Programming:

Program Area 1:  Outdoor recreation

Specific Programs:  Hiking, Picnicking, Fishing, Etc.
Organization Name:  Spring Lake Park Reserve

Web Address:  http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/spring.htm

Location:  Archery Trail:
Fahey Avenue and Pine Bend Trail, Rosemount
Schaar's Bluff Trailhead:
8500 127th Street East, Hastings (Nininger Township)
Youth Camp:
Fahey Avenue and Pine Bend Trail, Rosemount

Mission:  The mission of the Dakota County Parks System is to provide for the protection and preservation of the land in its natural state, while providing for outdoor natural resource-oriented recreation activities

Intended Audience:  The people of Dakota County, State of Minnesota

Programming:

Program Area 1:  Outdoor recreation

Specific Programs:  Hiking, Picnicking, Archery, Etc.

Organization Name:  William O’Brien State Park

Web Address:

Location:  16821 O’Brien Trail North, Marine On St.Croix, MN  55047

Phone Number:  651-433-0500

Mission:  (Unstated) Recreational opportunities along the scenic St.Croix River

Intended Audience:  All

Programming:  Interpretive/natural hikes, demonstrations of cultural and natural features of the area, interpretation activities and events by area naturalist

Program Area 1:  Natural History Interpretation

Specific Programs:  Interpretive/natural hikes, demonstrations of cultural and natural features of the area, interpretation activities and events by area
naturalist, birding

Program Area 2: Recreation

Specific Programs: Boating access, self-guided hikes, road and mountain bicycling, trail and road running, sightseeing

Physical Facility: State park with thousands of acres of recreational area; small headquarters building able to handle small groups; paved handicapped-accessible trails; natural surface trails; boat launch; sand beach

Organization Name: University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

Web Address: www.arboretum.umn.edu

Location: 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chaska, MN 55318

Phone Number: 952-443-1400

Mission: “To provide a community and natural resource for horticulture and environmental information, research, and public education; to develop and evaluate plants and horticultural practices for cold climates; to inspire and delight all visitors with quality plants in well-designed and maintained displays, collections, model landscapes, and conservation areas”

Intended Audience: Gardeners, landscape architects, designers, public, university staff

Programming: Outdoor display gardens and horticultural interpretation (guided and self-guided), indoor botanical species display, cross-country skiing and hiking trails, stormwater displays, large conference facility, bookstore, library

Program Area 1: Self-guided botanical interpretation

Specific Programs: Signage to identify botanical species and cultivars in a garden/landscape environment; volunteers available to answer questions

Program Area 2: Conference facility

Specific Programs: Site able to accommodate small- to medium-sized events in indoor and outdoor environments; garden clubs meetings, conservation conferences, others

Program Area 3: Conservation practices demonstration
Specific Programs: Spring Peeper Meadow wetland restoration interpretation; oak savanna restoration area; stormwater treatment & mitigation areas in parking lots demonstration

Physical Facility: 1000+ acres of gardens, displays, and natural areas, a conservation library, tea room, conservatory.

Organization Name: Gale Woods Farm

Web Address:

Location: 7210 County Road 110 West, Minnetrista, MN 55364

Phone Number: 763-694-2001

Mission: “The farm provides opportunities for visitors of all ages to enjoy experiences that enhance their understanding of agriculture, food production and land stewardship. Seasonal farm activities are the basis for public programs and scheduled group visits.”

Intended Audience: Elementary school groups, Three Rivers Park District visitors, farmers

Programming: Animal agriculture interpretation, crop agriculture interpretation, orchard demonstrations, spinning classes, hayrides

Program Area 1: Crop/animal agriculture interpretation

Specific Programs: Classes on agricultural practices for a variety of school-aged children; special classes and programs for other interest groups

Physical Facility: A 410-acre site comprised of: 1) Working educational farm with cattle, poultry, and crops; 2) visitor center for general interpretation; 3) picnic pavilion; 4) 3.5 miles of recreational trails; 5) a fishing pier; 6) canoeing (rentals available)

Organization Name: Gibbs Farm Museum

Web Address: http://www.rchs.com/gbbsfm2.htm

Location: 2097 West Larpenteur Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55113

Phone Number: 651-646-8629

Mission: To interpret period Dakota and pioneer life
**Intended Audience:** General public; school groups

**Programming:** Classes for interpretation; guided tours; facility use for events; seasonal events (harvest festivals, hayrides, etcetera)

**Specific Programs:** Dakota garden demonstration; pioneer garden demonstration; Dakota cultural demonstration; pioneer living demonstration; heritage cropping (maize, gourds, etcetera) demonstration; sod homes demonstration; period art interpretation

**Physical Facility:** Dakota garden demonstration area; pioneer garden demonstration area; Dakota cultural demonstration area; pioneer living demonstration area; heritage crop (maize, gourds, etcetera) demonstration area; sod homes; period art interpretation facility

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**Organization Name:** Historic Fort Snelling

**Web Address:** [www.mnhs.org/places/sites/hfs/](http://www.mnhs.org/places/sites/hfs/)

**Location:** 200 Tower Avenue, Saint Paul, MN  55111

**Phone Number:** 612-726-1171

**Mission:** To interpret “an 1820s military outpost once the focus of a small settlement but now at the center of Minnesota’s Twin Cities metropolitan area”

**Intended Audience:** School groups, general public

**Programming:** Participation-based experience of site and period history; period costuming and firearms demonstration; guided tours of site

**Physical Facility:** Fort itself, partially restored; visitor center; park facility with walking/hiking trails

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**Organization Name:** Murphy’s Landing

**Web Address:**

**Location:** 2187 East Highway 101, Shakopee, MN  55379

**Phone Number:** 763-694-7784
**Mission:** To be “a unique living history museum that preserves and interprets 19th century life in the Minnesota River Valley”

**Intended Audience:** Public, school groups, tourists

**Programming:** Period immersion, experiential education

**Specific Programs:** “Fur trade” era (19th Century) historical experience; site tours; school group interpretation and classes; special event accommodation; period immersion special events

**Physical Facility:** Seasonally open. Location of working recreated settlement along the Minnesota river with 40+ period-style permanent structures