



**MNHS: HERITAGE PRESERVATION**

**National Register of Historic Places**

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# National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation.

Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archeological resources.



# National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is administered by the National Park Service, under the Secretary of the Interior.

Nominations are made by:

- Minnesota Historic Preservation Office
- Tribal Historic Preservation Offices
- Federal Agencies

The Keeper of the National Register makes the final decision on whether a property is entered into or removed from the National Register of Historic Places.



# National Register Criteria of Evaluation

Districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects are eligible for listing in the National Register if they retain integrity and

- (a) are associated with significant events or historical trends; or
- (b) are associated with significant people; or
- (c) are significant architecturally or artistically; or
- (d) are likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

36 CFR Part 60.4

(edited for clarity)



# Minnesota State Capitol

Entered into the National Register of Historic Places on February 23, 1972.

Areas of Significance:

- Architecture & Art (Criterion C)
- Education & Politics (Criterion A)

The nomination is available online at

[www.mnhs.org/preserve/nrhp/nomination/72000681.pdf](http://www.mnhs.org/preserve/nrhp/nomination/72000681.pdf)



# Federal Laws

Per the National Historic Preservation Act, State Historic Preservation Officers must:

- identify and nominate properties to the National Register
- advise and assist local, state, and federal agencies in carrying out their historic preservation responsibilities
- consult with Federal agencies on undertakings that may affect historic properties, including plans developed to protect, manage, or to reduce or mitigate harm to such properties (a.k.a. “Section 106”)

PL 89-665, as amended by PL 96-515  
54 U.S.C. 302303(b)  
(edited for clarity)

# State Laws

## Minnesota Historic Sites Act (MS 138.661-138.669)

The state [has] a responsibility to protect the physical features and historic character of properties designated in sections 138.662 and 138.664 or listed on the National Register of Historic Places ... Before carrying out any undertaking that will affect designated or listed properties, or funding or licensing an undertaking by other parties, the state department or agency shall consult with the Minnesota Historical Society pursuant to the society's established procedures to determine appropriate treatments and to seek ways to avoid and mitigate any adverse effects on designated or listed properties.

MS 138.665

## Minnesota Environmental Rights Act

It is the continuing responsibility of the state government to ... preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage and maintain, wherever practicable, an environment that supports diversity, and variety of individual choice.

MS 116D.02



# State Law Regarding the Capitol (MS 138.67-138.70)

## Supervision of Preservation

The works of art in the public and ceremonial areas of the State Capitol are declared to possess historical value for the people of Minnesota. ... No monument, memorial or work of art shall be relocated or removed from, or placed in such areas or altered or repaired in any way without the approval of the Minnesota Historical Society. The Minnesota Historical Society shall have final authority over the disposition of any monuments, memorials or works of art removed from the State Capitol or the Capitol grounds.

MS 138.68

## Public Areas of the Capitol

The Minnesota State Historical Society is designated the research agency and is responsible for the interpretation of the public areas for visitors to the Capitol...

MS 138.69

# State Law Regarding the Capitol (MS 138.67-138.70)

## Capitol Building Powers and Duties

The Minnesota Historical Society shall:

- (1) assist and advise in research and preservation of historical features of the Capitol building, appropriate custodial policies, and maintaining and repairing works of art according to section 138.69;
- (2) jointly, with the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board, review and approve the design, structural composition, and location of all monuments, memorials, or works of art presently located in the public and ceremonial areas of the Capitol building, or proposed for placement in the public or ceremonial areas, according to section 138.68;
- (3) assist with planning and design of restoration and renovations of the Capitol building in order to provide public access and education through public interpretive programs according to the society's statutory responsibilities under section 138.69; and
- (4) assist the State Capitol Preservation Commission with performance of its duties as needed.

MS 138.70



# Consultation Process

Minnesota Historic Preservation Office *advises, assists, and consults with* local, state, and federal agencies.

Two goals of consultation are:

- to ensure historic properties are considered as part of project planning and decision-making
- to *avoid, minimize, or mitigate* any adverse effects to historic properties

Local, state, and federal agencies use the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties in carrying out their historic preservation responsibilities. The Standards provide a *framework* for decision-making.

Learn more at [www.nps.gov/tps/standards.htm](http://www.nps.gov/tps/standards.htm)

