



Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps

Building pathways to the preservation trades

2022

Milestone 4:

Field Season Report

2022 Field Season Report

Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps

Building a Pathway to the Preservation Trades

Report produced by
Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps Staff

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Cover Photo: Project Orientation, Halfway Ranger Station. Courtesy of Tyler McAllister, 2022 Corpsmember

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MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Cook County Higher Education
Dorothy Molter Museum
Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums
Northland AmeriCorps Collaborative
Northland History Association
RETHOS
State Historic Preservation Office
Superior Fuel

FRIENDS

Cathy Wurzer - Twin Cities Public Television
Chris Severson
Darryl and Diane Sannes
Jay Sorensen
Karen Johnson
Krista Godfrey - International Wolf Center
Louie Moriz - TBG



Our Mission: To develop enduring workforce and life skills through service learning in historic preservation and community stewardship.

Our Values: Serving, Transforming, Preserving, Honoring

In 2021 and 2022, we have focused mainly on program retention by engaging Members in our conversations on programmatic changes, strategic planning, and the development of Crew Leader roles. To date, we have had five Members from our 2021 field season return to Northern Bedrock - three as Corpsmembers and two as AmeriCorps VISTAS through Ecolibrium3.

By creating permanent AmeriCorps Crew Leader roles, we were able to provide an increased stipend and additional training opportunities to our in-field leaders while addressing the concerns of our Project Hosts. Our Crew Leaders were able to use their hands-on experience from their previous field season to assist in training our new Members while growing their leadership skills. Having permanent Crew Leaders has allowed our new Members to grow more comfortable with a variety of skills and tools while providing our Project Hosts with a permanent in-field contact.

Projects are scheduled as nine-day, camping-based project “hitches” that run from May through October, with five days off in between each hitch. Projects are planned in collaboration with a variety of groups throughout the state of Minnesota, including non-profits and government entities at all levels (federal, state, county and local).

We onboarded fifteen total Members for our 2022 Field Season. To diversify recruiting, we decided to maintain our two full seasons (June to October) and one summer only (June to August crew). Members were recruited from the country, but staff made a concerted effort to recruit local participants.

This year we increased our stipends from \$700 biweekly to \$850 biweekly for Members and \$950 biweekly for Crew Leaders. This increase allowed for us to fill 85% of our positions. The national recruiting average was 37%.

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report covers the 2022 Field Season (May - October). It includes an overview of the field season structure and schedule, the impact on historic resources, the impact on the Corpsmembers' lives, and 17 project reports. The MNHS partnership funded two crews and a portion of the overhead for the program as a whole. Thank you for your continued support - especially in these financially and otherwise trying times.

Summary: We onboarded 15 Members for our 2022 Field Season. In an effort to diversify recruiting, we decided to run two full seasons (June to October) and one summer-only (June to August crew). Members were recruited from across the country, but Staff made a concerted effort to recruit local participants. Projects are scheduled as twelve, nine-day, camping-based project “hitches” that run from May through October, with five days off in between each hitch. Projects are planned in collaboration with a variety of groups throughout the state of Minnesota, including non-profits and government entities at all levels (federal, state, county, and local).

Community Education: We were able to facilitate two public cemetery restoration workshops and one window restoration workshop with the help of our community partners.

To address serious vandalism at the Kinkead Cemetery, we partnered with Douglas County Historical Society to provide a two-part workshop. The morning focused on cleaning and edging techniques, while the afternoon focused on the repairing and resetting of stones. Staff and Members lead fifteen participants throughout the day.

At Glenwood Cemetery, we partnered with the Pope County Historical Society to provide hands-on training in cleaning and stone maintenance to community members. Fifteen community members participated in this workshop.

For the first time, Northern Bedrock partnered with Cook County Higher Education to provide hands-on training in window restoration to residents in northern Minnesota. We brought our practice windows to Grand Marias to teach folks the ins and outs of removing finishes and glazing putty, cutting glass, and installing new points and putties. There were six program participants, four were employees of the Grand Portage National Monument, and two were local homeowners. Cook County Higher Education is hoping to provide hands-on trades instructions to local residents to address the lack of trades folks in the area while encouraging the preservation of their built environment.



Member Training:

We welcomed our new and returning Members with hands-on training in leadership, team building, OSHA 10, fleet management, Leave No Trace, meal planning, group culture and inclusion, AmeriCorps policies, risk management, and Wilderness First Aid / CPR. We also introduced Historic Preservation regulatory practices and approaches. Northern Bedrock believes in embedding continuous training into all projects and hitches by contracting Technical Instructors to provide project-specific instruction as needed. We offer career preparation and resume guidance throughout the season as Members explore their next steps.

We added two new training hitches in 2022 - Crew Leader Orientation and Project Orientation. Schedules for all orientations follow.

This was our first year running Crew Leader and Project Orientation. We found the extended orientation greatly improved our Members' comfort in the field and helped us improve Project Host satisfaction.

We expanded our mid-season orientation to include informational sessions on careers with the Forest Service, relationship building between Federal and Tribal patterns, resume building, mock interviews, and information on accessing and using the education award. This expanded programming allows up to wrap up the season for our summer-only folks and prepare our full-season Members for the second half of their season.



*A Corpsmember learning from a Technical Instructor
how to use grader blades in log replacement*





Corpsmembers learning the rules of Leave No Trace from Northern Bedrock staff



Scaffolding training through OSHA 10

**"I now know how to cook myself dinner, work with a diverse team, and feel more comfortable with my trade skills. I have learned a lot through out this program."
- 2022 Corpsmember**



Canoe safety training for Corpsmembers



Corpsmembers learning van and trailer safety



By the Numbers

16,705 square feet *painted*
15,679 square feet of *borate applied*
10,962 square feet *scraped*
9,437 *service hours* in Minnesota
2,879 square feet of *landscaping managed*
2,670 square feet of *roofing installed*
1,356 *service hours* in Wisconsin
685 linear feet of *chinking and daubing installed*
368 cubic feet of *stone wall disassembled and reconstructed*
250 *artifacts inventoried*
201 *monuments cleaned*
122 *hours of travel*
112 *windows improved*
87 *monuments reset*
41 *monuments leveled*
18 *monuments edged*
16 project hosts *welcomed crews*
15 *Corpsmembers* served communities
13 sections of *whalers improved*
8 logs *replaced*
4 staff *organized programming*
3 technical instructors *taught trade skills*
2 *community workshops*
1 *successful field season enjoyed*

"Working with Corpsmembers at the Mount Hope Cemetery was truly a rewarding experience as a technical instructor; it really was amazing to see how quickly the Corpsmembers picked up the monument resetting and repair techniques! Their careful attention and hard work resulted in such a noticeable change in the cemetery - from the careful piecing together of small headstones to the highly technical resetting of significant monuments."

Technical Instructor

Total Project Hours

11,042 Corpsmembers Hours

180 Volunteer Hours

412 Staff Hours

Project Host

5-Historical Societies

2-Other Non-Profit

4-Federal Partners

1-Tribal Partner

1-Local Government



Corpsmembers working to remove wooden sash

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

FIELD SEASON OVERVIEW

Northern Bedrock received 27 applications and interviewed 18 applicants. We enrolled a total of 9 participants for the full field season (900 service hours) and 6 participants for summer only (450 service hours). We had a great deal of interest in our program and attracted applicants from across the country with a variety of different backgrounds.

Staff participated in the following virtual and in-person recruiting events:

Minnesota Private Colleges Fair

Legacy of The Lakes

Lake Superior College Career Fair

Non-Profit and Government Career Fair

GAP School, INC.



Corpsmember Demographics

State of Residency

Minnesota-9
North Dakota-1
Wisconsin-1
Arizona-1
Ohio-1
Tennessee-1
Virginia-1

Education

High School Diploma or GED-1
Some College-6
Bachelor's Degree-8

Race/Ethnicity

White-14
Black-1
Jewish-2



Project Hosts

Our Project Hosts partner with us to address critical preservation issues while building pathways to the preservation trades for our Corpsmembers. These service projects enable us to provide opportunities for young people to learn real-world skills and open the door to future careers. Building relationships with our community partners, fellow volunteers, Project Hosts, and Technical Instructors are always the most memorable part of Northern Bedrock's field season.

"This project was the critical first step in implementing a 5-year management plan for the National Register eligible structure and associated cultural landscape. The Forest hopes to adaptively reuse the cabin and restore the historic trails on the island to provide a unique recreational opportunity to the American public. We could not have taken this first step without assistance from NBHPC".

Project Host



Technical Instructor

In our most technical season yet, we had the pleasure of working with several passionate and insightful technical instructors. This year Technical Instructors provided hands-on instruction in roofing, log replacement, and window restoration. Technical Instructors provided more than 266 hours of hands-on guidance and career advice to our Members.



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Field Schedule

Hitch 1 | May 17-25

1-Crew Leader Orientation

Hitch 2 | May 31-June 8

1-Classroom Orientation

Hitch 3 | June 14-22

1-Project Orientation

- *Ely Cemetery*
- *Halfway Windows*
- *Boathouse/Oil Shed*

Hitch 4 | June 28-July 6

2-Sand Lake, Superior National Forest (timber framed structure maintenance)

3-Franklin Lake/Anvil Lake, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (cedar shake roofs, window)

4-Joyce Estates, Chippewa National Forest (scraping/painting, landscaping)

Hitch 5 | July 12-20

5-Grand Portage National Monument, Grand Portage National Park (trail maintenance)

3-Franklin Lake, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (masonry)

6-Mount Hope Cemetery, Afton, MN (cemetery)

Hitch 6 | July 26-August 3

7-Wolf Island, Superior National Forest (roofing, inventory)

3-Franklin Lake/Anvil Lake, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (roofing, borates)

8-Rausch Cabin, Fond du Lac, WI (chinking and daubing)

Hitch 7 | August 9-17

9-Norland Cabin, Kittson County, MN (log replacement)

10-Glenwood Cemetery, Pope County, MN (cemetery preservation)

11-Kinthead Cemetery, Douglas County, MN (cemetery preservation)

Hitch 8 | August 23-31

12-Camp Rabideau, Chippewa National Forest (scraping and painting, trim replacement)

Hitch 9 | September 6-14

13-Ovensons Fish Camp, Voyageurs National Park (scraping/painting)

13-Kabatoga Boathouse, Voyageurs National Park (scraping/painting, masonry, carpentry)

Hitch 10 | September 20-28

13-Ovensons Fish Camp, Voyageurs National Park (scraping/painting)

13-Kabatoga Boathouse, Voyageurs National Park (scraping/painting, masonry, carpentry)

Hitch 11 | October 4-12

12-Camp Rabideau, Chippewa National Forest (scraping/painting)

5-Grand Portage National Monument, Stockade (log replacement)

Hitch 12 | October 18-26

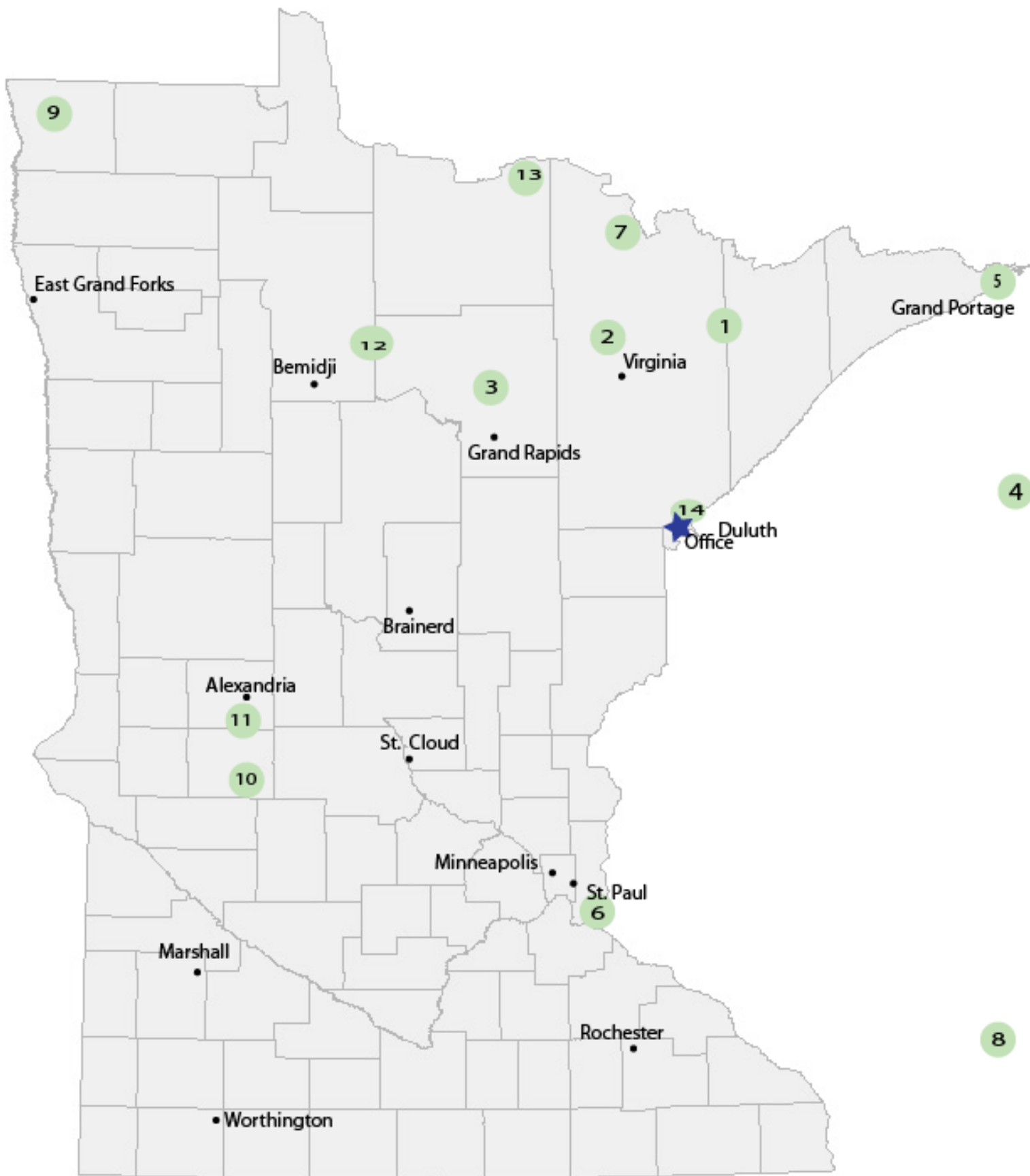
14-Legacy House, Ecolubrium3 (masonry)

14-Endion School Apartments (windows)

Bonus Hitch | November 1-9

1-Ranger Dwelling, Halfway Ranger Station (flooring)





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Project: Crew Leader Orientation

Host: Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps

Site: Halfway Ranger Station Historic District

Hitch 1: May 17-25, 2022

HITCH SUMMARY

Tuesday – Welcome to the Program!

- Hello! Introductions + Our COVID Protocols
- Onboarding and Overview
- Orientation Brainstorming
- Camping 101

Wednesday –

- Leave No Trace
- Policy/Handbook Brainstorm
- Bathroom Doors/Shower Divider projects

Thursday –

- Project Powerpoint
- Preservation brief/Job Hazard Analysis
- Expectation/Goal Setting
- Vehicle/Fleet Management
- Canoe Lessons

Friday –

- Lead Renovator Certification

Saturday –

- Project Orientation Brainstorm
- Practice Instruction for Project Orientation

Sunday –

- Lead Window Work
- Practice Instruction for Project Orientation

Monday –

- Member Roles
- Leadership Building Activities
- Finished Ongoing Projects

Tuesday –

- Expectation/Goal Setting Meetings
- Documentation/Timesheets

Wednesday – Wrap Up

- Meal Planning
- Grocery Shopping
- Financial Policy



Project: Classroom Orientation

Host: Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps

Site: Halfway Ranger Station Historic District

Hitch 2: May 31- June 8, 2022

HITCH SUMMARY

Tuesday – Welcome to the Program!

- Hello! Introductions + Our COVID Protocols
- Onboarding and Overview
- Tour of Office
- Tour of Halfway
- Scavenger Hunt
- Survey and Bios
- Expectations/Culture Discussion

Wednesday –

- OSHA 10 certification

Thursday –

- OSHA 10 certification
- Vehicles and Trailers

Friday –

- Intro to Historic Preservation
- Crew Roles and Scenarios
- Documentation and Timesheets
- Leadership Skits
- Project Slideshow
- Canoe Safety and Practice

Saturday –

- Leave No Trace
- Team Building Safety Relay Course
- How to Camp
- Handbook Quiz

Sunday –

- Wilderness First Aid certification

Monday –

- Wilderness First Aid certification, cont.

Tuesday –

- CPR Certification
- Understanding Leadership Styles
- Meal Planning

Wednesday – Wrap Up

- Prepare for Project Orientation



Project: Mid-Season
Host: Chippewa National Forest
Site: Rabideau
Hitch 8: August 23-31

HITCH SUMMARY

Tuesday – Hitch Out

- Set up camp
- Slideshow of projects for the second half of the field season

Wednesday –

- Forest Service job panel
- Resume building
- Interview tips and tricks
- USA Jobs navigation
- Resume workshop

Thursday –

- How to use your education award
- Performance reviews
- Reset trailers and spike bins
- Free afternoon

Friday –

- Scraping and painting

Saturday –

- Summer only leaves
 - Hitch in and offboarding
- Scraping and painting

Sunday –

- Scraping and painting

Monday –

- Scraping and painting

Tuesday –

- Scraping and painting

Wednesday – Hitch In

- Hitch in



Project: Project Orientation

Host: Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps

Site: Halfway Ranger Station Historic District/Ely Cemetery

Hitch 3: June 14-22, 2022

HITCH SUMMARY

During this orientation, Members worked on various projects to get an introduction to some of the projects they will be doing this season. Corpsmembers split into three crews and worked at the Ely Cemetery learning cemetery restoration, at Halfway learning window restoration from Technical Instructor Mark Johnston, and scraping and painting the Boathouse and Oil Shed at Halfway. Members rotated through the projects after spending two and a half days at each site and were led by our three Crew Leaders.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

Ely Cemetery - Cemetery Training

- 70 Monuments cleaned
- 17 Monuments reset
- 13 Monuments edged

Oil Shed - Prep and Finishes Training

- 80 square feet scraped
- 100 square feet cleaned
- 100 square feet borated

Halfway Windows - Window Restoration and Carpentry Training

- 11 windows were scrapped, repaired, and reglazed





Corpsmembers learning to use a heat gun to remove old glazing



Corpsmembers reglazing windows



Corpsmembers making their own glazing putty



A Corpsmember using a rock bar to reset a monument



Before picture of a footstone at Ely Cemetery



After picture of a footstone at Ely Cemetery

Window photos courtesy of Mark Johnston

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Log Structure Restoration
Host: Superior National Forest-USFS
Site: Sand Lake
Hitch 4: June 28-July 8, 2022

ABOUT THE SITE

The Sand Lake Guard Station is a ballon-framed building constructed by the CCC in the 1930s.

HITCH SUMMARY

Members' main task at this site was to replace a support column by one of the garage doors to help make the building more structurally sound. They also hung door trim, completed siding repair, performed window restoration, and painted and scraped.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

- 28 square feet disassembled
- 194 square feet scraped
- 700 square feet of structure cleaned
- 64 square feet painted
- 64 square feet of siding replaced
- 1 structural beam hewed to size and replaced
- 1 window reinstalled
 - 22 glass panes reglazed





A damaged structural beam for the Corpsmembers to replace



A look at the new beam put in place by the crew at Sand Lake



Two Corpsmembers reglazing windows



A finished look of the siding repair done



A look at the windows that Corpsmembers reglazed in place.



An up-close look at the glazing done

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Cedar Shake Roofing and Windows, Masonry, and Site Maintenance

Host: Chequamegon/Nicolet National Forest

Site: Franklin Lake and Anvil Lake

Technical Instructor: Sadie Young, Northern Bedrock Staff, Hitch 5

Hitch 4: June 28-July 6, 2022

Hitch 5: July 12-20, 2022

Hitch 6: July 26-August 3, 2022

ABOUT THE SITE

The development of the Franklin Lake Campground was a joint venture between the CCC, WPA, and Forest Service. CCC enrollees from Camp Ninemile (641st Company) worked in cooperation with the Forest Service to develop the landscape, roads, trails, and campsites. Enrollees from the Warvet Camp (WPA camp made up of WWI veterans) constructed the buildings.

The Anvil Lake Campground Shelter is a rustic-style campground built in 1936 by the Civilian Conservation Corps Company 641, located at Camp Ninemile. Constructed primarily of tamarack logs, at one time, it had cedar shake shingles and stone steps leading to the beach. They hauled rock from the Phelps Area, as this was a good source of rock for rubble work. While cutting the right-of-way for what is now Highway 70, enough tamarack logs were obtained for the Anvil Lake Campgrounds.

HITCH SUMMARY

For hitch 4, Members replaced the cedar shake roofs of the kiosks at Franklin and restored one window at Anvil Lake. For hitch 5, members here deconstructed and rebuilt a wall on one of the comfort stations to make it more structurally sound.

For hitch 6 members here finished reroofing kiosks and did some building maintenance by borating.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

208 square feet demolished

- Cedar shakes removed

264 square feet of cedar shakes replaced

2 comfort stations were demossed/cleaned, and drainage improved

18 square feet of site drainage installed

7650 square feet of structure cleaned

14450 square feet borate applied

10 screens replaced

2 square feet painted

360 cubic feet of masonry completed

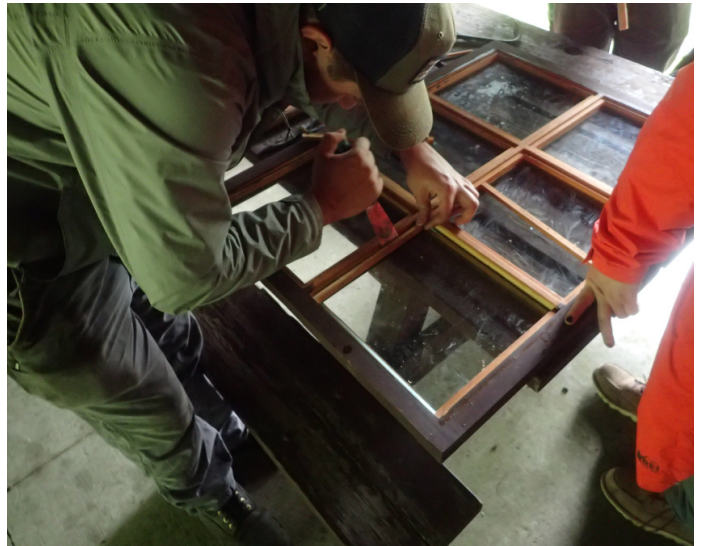
- includes deconstructing and reconstructing a stone wall



Hitch 4



A picture of the window at Anvil Lake to have glass replaced



Corpsmembers working on the window at Anvil Lake



Franklin Lake well roof that needed new cedar shakes.



Picture of well roof with new cedar shakes



Corpsmember measuring the cut mark on a cedar shake



The various tools that the Corpsmembers used during this project

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Hitch 5



Before picture of a screen to replace



Interior view before view of a comfort station wall



Corpsmember chiseling away old mortar on the comfort station wall



Exterior before view of comfort station wall



New mortar placed for wall reconstruction



Picture of Corpsmembers' ingenuity using sticks to support a reset stone

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Hitch 6



A roof needing new cedar shakes



A building needing a borate application and roof cleaning



The process of removing old cedar shakes



A Corpsmember sweeping off a roof



A new cedar roof on this information board



A freshly cleaned stone structure

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Scraping/Painting and Landscaping

Host: Chippewa National Forest

Site: Joyce Estates

Hitch 4: June 28-July 6, 2022

ABOUT THE SITE

The Joyce Estate is located in the Chippewa National Forest, on Trout Lake, near Grand Rapids, MN. David Joyce built the estate from 1917 to 1935, which originally consisted of 40+ buildings, with the property spanning 4,500 acres. The Joyce family, from Chicago, acquired their fortune through the logging industry in Itasca County. Boasting a nine-hole golf course, airplane hangar, greenhouse, dog kennel, tennis court, and observatory, the estate was an unusual experience in its time. The family used the estate until 1972, with at least one caretaker living on-site year-round until 1986. Many buildings no longer exist, but those that remain represent a rare Adirondack-style architecture. The site's significance stems from it being Minnesota's only known example of a family summer home built in the "Great Camps" traditions of the Adirondacks region of New York State. "One of the most soul-inspiring recreation camps to be found between the two oceans" – McDonald and Mack, 1987, visitors of the estate.

HITCH SUMMARY

Members scraped and painted one of the cabins. The members cleared landscaping to make the cabin more accessible for visitors, even unearthing two staircases previously lost to vegetation.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

989 square feet scraped

900 square feet painted

989 square feet borate applied

1450 square feet landscape cleared





Before side view of the Mary Louise Cabin



Before inside view of the Mary Louise Cabin



Before picture of the front side of the cabin



After picture of the front of the cabin after clearing landscaping



Corpsmembers applying new paint to the cabin exterior



Finished look of the cabin with a new coat of paint

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Trail Maintenance

Host: Grand Portage National Monument

Site: Grand Portage National Monument

Hitch 5: July 12-20, 2022

Technical Instructor: Grand Portage National Monument Maintenance Department

Hitch 11: October 4-12

Technical Instructor: Pat Pierre

ABOUT THE SITE

Grand Portage National Monument is within the homeland of the Grand Portage Anishinaabe. Approximately half of the land for the national monument was donated by the Grand Portage Band. This community is the homeplace and center of tribal government for the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

Gichi Onigaming is the Ojibwe term for the "Great Carrying Place," an apt name for an 8.5-mile portage trail that allowed American Indians, explorers, and voyageurs to bypass high falls, cascades, and gorges and has been a critical transportation route for thousands of years. Because of the area's geology, topography, natural resources, and strategic location, the trail was part of an ancient transcontinental trade route connecting the Great Lakes to the continent's interior.

The dynamic enterprise that thrived along the Grand Portage forged diverse relationships between American Indian and non-Indian peoples. The adoption of native technology and the cultural exchange that took place led to the pioneering exploration of the continent. The portage also enabled European expansion into the northwest in the 18th and 19th centuries. It was a focal point in developing the international boundary between Canada and the United States in the 19th century. The Grand Portage trail remains an international road. Under the Webster-Ashburton Treaty of 1842, the use of the trail remains free and open to the citizens of both the United States and Canada. Canadian and American political history and national boundaries might have been quite different without the Grand Portage.

HITCH SUMMARY

Hitch 5 consisted of members replacing wooden footbridge trail structures with new, safer bridges. They also did other trail maintenance, such as removing vegetation and clearing debris.

In Hitch 11, the Corpsmembers replaced whalers on the stockade.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

75 square feet of brush removed

32 square feet of carpentry

- Footbridges repaired

20 square feet disassembled

127 square feet of landscape cleared

150 linear feet of logs replaced

- 13 whalers replaced



Hitch 5



Before picture of one of the footbridges



Debris pile to be cleared



Corpsmembers working on the footbridges



A picture of a bike the crew found while clearing debris



After picture of a safer footbridge put in place by the crew



Area now free of debris

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Hitch 11



Before picture of stockade



Before picture of stockade



Removal of whalers



A Corpsmember prepping a whaler to put in



After picture of stockade



After picture of stockade

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Cemetery Restoration
Host: Afton Historical Museum
Site: Mount Hope Cemetery
Technical Instructor: Laura Leppink
Hitch 5: July 12-20, 2022

ABOUT THE SITE

Mount Hope Cemetery was initially established in 1855 and was actively used until 1892. The last burial was in 2002 after a special request from a local family. Struck by neglect, previous mismanagement, and vandalism over the last century, many of the stone monuments are broken or missing. The Afton Historical Society has been working for years to protect and restore what remains of this city-owned Civil War-era cemetery.

HITCH SUMMARY

Members worked on restoring this cemetery. They completed tablet repairs, edging and leveling, reset large monuments, found and marked stones, and researched archival material to return stones to their proper locations.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

10 monuments cleaned

- Monuments were first wetted with water
- Moss and lichen were scraped off with white plastic putty knives
- Dirt was further removed with stiff-bristled brushes
- D2 was applied to help prevent more moss and lichen growth

5 monuments edged

- Edges of footstones and monument bases were cleared up by the removal of overgrown sod

13 monuments reset

- Made sure the bases of monuments were leveled
- Cleaned off any debris from monument bases
- Setting compound and lead spacers on the exterior perimeter of base
- Flood the interior of the setting compound with epoxy
- Using a tripod and straps, reset the monument over the base and slowly lower it in place
- Once in place, remove the tripod straps and clean up any setting compound that squeezed out

11 monuments repaired

- Many had multiple repairs
- Stones were cleaned at broken joints and allowed to dry
- Epoxy was applied to broken joints, which were then aligned together
- Pieces were clamped together left to cure for 24 hours





Tablets to be repaired



Monument to be repaired



Process of repairing a tablet



Corpsmembers working to repair a monument using a tripod



A repaired tablet



Repaired monument

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Roofing and Inventory
Host: Lake Superior National Forest
Site: Wolf Island
Technical Instructor: Dave Poppema, USFS
Hitch 6: July 26-August 3, 2022

ABOUT THE SITE

Wolf Island was once owned by John Jaeger, a prominent Minneapolis architect who immigrated to Minnesota from Yugoslavia and homesteaded on the island after visiting it in 1906. Jaeger meticulously documented the island's archaeological history and drew a series of detailed maps highlighting the rare historic and geologic features he uncovered. His maps capture the story of a pre-settlement island well-used by both Native Americans and Voyageurs. The maps illustrate the existence of Native American burial mounds, a working indigenous canoe shop that he personally witnessed on his first visit, and a navigation point used by a Voyageur more than 200 years prior to Jaeger's research. After Jaeger's passing, the island was handed down to family friends. Most recently, the island was owned by three siblings living in Michigan who wished to sell the property. The Trust for Public Land purchased the island to enact conservation efforts. This allowed the Superior National Forest the time to appropriate funds to acquire this land to be used recreationally.

HITCH SUMMARY

Members installed rolled roofing and took inventory of items in the cabin. Members also cleaned and cleared landscaping of the surrounding area.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

40 square feet of brush removed
450 square feet of landscape maintained
100 square feet scraped
805 square feet of structure cleaned
250 objects inventoried
1800 square feet of roofing completed





Front side of the cabin at Wolf Island



Before picture of the roof at Wolf Island



Freshly scraped logs ready for a fresh coat of paint



Corpsmembers learning to install rolled roofing



Some of the items that the crew inventoried at Wolf Island



New roof in place

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Chinking and Daubing/ Painting

Host: Fond du Lac Historic Village

Site: Rausch Cabin

Technical Instructor: Ashley Newton, AmeriCorps VISTA and Northern Bedrock Alumnus

Hitch 6: July 26-August 3, 2022

ABOUT THE SITE

Rausch Cabin is located at The Historic Galloway House and Village and is owned, restored, and maintained on a nonprofit voluntary basis by The Fond du Lac County Historical Society, Inc. The Fond du Lac County Historical Society is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to its mission of "Connecting people to history by inspiring passion, preservation, exploration, and fun."

Originating from the Town of Lamartine, on the property known as the Rausch Farm, the cabin is furnished in traditional 19th-century style with a rope bed, wooden-pegged loom, snowshoes, pie safe, various cast iron cooking equipment, and much more.

HITCH SUMMARY

Members chinked and daubed the interior and exterior to improve weatherization and structural stability. They also painted the gable ends of the building.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

517 linear feet chinked and daubed

360 square feet scraped

360 square feet painted





Before picture of the Rausch Cabin



After picture of the chimney side with new mortar



Before picture of the Rausch Cabin



Corpsmembers chinking and daubing



Corpsmember applying new mortar to the cabin



Front view of the cabin with some new mortar

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Log Replacement

Host: Kittson County Museum

Site: Norland Cabin

Technical Instructor: Helaman Haynie

Hitch 7: August 8-17, 2022

ABOUT THE SITE

"Eric Norland, who settled in the area in 1878, built a log cabin in the late-nineteenth century. The cabin was moved to the Kittson County museum grounds. Norland and his wife, Emma Backman, were reportedly the first Swedish settlers in Kittson County. The small, one-story cabin contains two wooden cots, a treadle sewing machine, a cast-iron stove, and a blanket chest." – Minnesota Open House: A Guide to Historic House Museums.

HITCH SUMMARY

Members replaced logs, starting with the sill logs, and chinked and daubed as they went to make the cabin structurally sound.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

4 square feet demoed

168 feet chinked and daubed

159 linear feet of logs replaced

- eight logs were replaced overall





Before picture of Norland Cabin



After picture of Norland Cabin



Before picture of Norland Cabin



After picture of Norland Cabin



Corpsmembers prepping a log by stripping the bark off



Corpsmembers by a log they just set into the cabin

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Cemetery Restoration
Host: Pope County Historical Society
Site: Glenwood Cemetery
Hitch 7: August 9-17, 2022

ABOUT THE SITE

Tory Thorson donated this five-acre property on the bluff at the south edge of Glenwood to the city of Glenwood, then to the Glenwood Cemetery Association. Glenwood Cemetery is a large, non-denominational cemetery that allowed burials at three small cemeteries on “church hill” near the Soo Depot and in the southeast section of Glenwood to be exhumed and relocated to its grounds. A few early or unmarked graves were discovered during later construction projects. These burials were also moved to the new cemetery.

HITCH SUMMARY

Members worked on cleaning and leveling stones at this cemetery. They also lead a public workshop where they taught members of the community to clean monuments with the proper tools, such as white plastic putty knives and diluted D2.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

59 Monuments Cleaned

- Monuments were first wetted down with water
- Moss and lichen were scraped off with white plastic putty knives
- Dirt was further removed with stiff-bristled brushes
- D2 was applied to help prevent more moss and lichen growth

16 Monuments Reset

- Level the base of monument
- Cleaned off any debris from monument bases
- Setting compound and lead spacers placed on exterior perimeter of base
- Epoxy was applied to inside the setting compound perimeter
- Using a tripod and straps, reset the monument over the base and slowly lower it in place
- Once in place, remove the tripod straps and clean up any setting compound that squeezed out





Monument to be cleaned



A newly cleaned monument



A Corpsmember cleaning a monument



Side by side comparison of what a good clean can do for a monument



A sunken Footstone



A footstone that has been reset

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Cemetery Restoration

Host: Douglas County Historical Society

Site: Kinkead Cemetery

Hitch 7: August 9-17, 2022

ABOUT THE SITE

The settlement of Alexandria began when Alexander and William Kinkead built a log cabin and hotel along the shore of Lake Agnes in 1858. It was the Kinkead brothers who named the area "Alexandria." The land which became the official town site and the county seat was purchased in 1867 by William E. Hicks. The town soon expanded as Mr. Hicks built a general store, provided land for Kinkead Cemetery, and donated land for three churches. The cemetery recently became a victim of vandalism and was part of the 48 States Tour put on by Atlas Preservation.

HITCH SUMMARY

Members worked on resetting and restoring monuments that had become the victims of vandalism. They also lead a public workshop that taught fifteen participants how to clean, level, and reset monuments.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

65 Monuments cleaned

- Monuments were first wetted down with water
- Moss and lichen were scraped off with white plastic putty knives
- Dirt was further removed with stiff-bristled brushes
- D2 was applied to help prevent more moss and lichen growth

24 Monuments leveled

- Removed the sod from the bases
- Rock bars and wood were used to pry up corners of bases
- Gravel was placed under bases to help level and prevent further sinking
- Once leveled, checked by a torpedo level, the bases were set back into their spots

41 Monuments reset

- Level the base of monument
- Cleaned off any debris from monument bases
- Setting compound and lead spacers placed on exterior perimeter of base
- Epoxy was applied to inside the setting compound perimeter
- Using a tripod and straps, reset the monument over the base and slowly lower it in place
- Once in place, remove the tripod straps and clean up any setting compound that squeezed out





A tablet to be reset



A collection of monuments that fell due to old age



Corpsmembers using a tripod to reset a top piece of a monument



Corpsmembers working a monument



Newly reset and cleaned monument



A repaired tablet

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Site Maintenance

Host: Chippewa National Forest

Site: Camp Rabideau

Hitch 8: August 23- 31, 2022

Hitch 11: October 4-12

ABOUT THE SITE

Camp Rabideau, located on 112 acres of Forest Service land, is one of the country's best-preserved Civilian Conservation Corps camps. When in operation, 300 men between the ages of 17 and 28 called Camp Rabideau home. Once WWII concluded, the site was operated for nearly thirty years by the University of Illinois until 1973. They used this site to train their forestry and engineering students. The site sat vacant with minimal use until a significant investment was made with American Reinvestment and Recovery Act funds in 2009. Now the site is operated by the Chippewa National Forest as a hiking and educational center during the summer months.

Dedicated leadership from the University of Illinois and Chippewa National Forest has ensured that the fifteen original buildings remain standing for today's visitors. It is particularly fitting that our 21st Century Conservation Corps crews are able to work at one of the sites that hosted the original iteration of the Corps model.

HITCH SUMMARY

Hitch 8 served as the final hitch for the Summer-only crew members, one last time to get the whole Corps together. The first half of the hitch focused on career development for the Corpsmembers, with staff focusing on resume and interviewing tips. Sean Dunham of the Chippewas National Forest arranged for a panel discussion with forest service personnel about careers in the Forest Service. Ben Benoit, a Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Employee, spoke to the Corps on relations with the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and their history in the area. Members finished scraping and painting the Educational Building from last year, scraped and painted a Bunkhouse, and replaced rolled asphalt roofing on a shed.

Hitch 11 was a continuation of scraping and painting the bunkhouses at the CCC Camp.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

7092 sq ft scraped and painted

12 sq ft of siding replaced

106 sq ft of roll asphalt replaced

3700 sq ft of structure cleaned



Hitch 8



Corpsmember scraping a building



Corpsmember scraping window trim for a new coat of paint



Steps of the Educational Building getting a fresh coat of paint



Northern Bedrock Program Manager Beatrice Dornfeld discussing career development with Corpsmembers.



Two Corpsmembers fixing a shed roof

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Hitch 11



Before picture of the roof on the shed



Before picture of one wall of the Bunkhouse



After picture of the fixed shed roof



After picture of one wall of the Bunkhouse



Corpsmember scraping some paint off



Two Corpsmembers caulking some checks in the wall

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Preventive Maintenance

Host: Voyageurs National Forest

Site: Ovensons Fish Camp

Technical Instructor: Historic Preservation Training Center

Hitch 9: September 6-14

Hitch 10: September 20-28

ABOUT THE SITE

Harry Oveson Fish Camp is a Visitor Destination site that displays the lifestyle of commercial fishing. It is a testament and reminder of the hard-working life that commercial fishermen like Harry experienced.

Today, visitors can still experience the seclusion and lifestyle of Harry's legacy. This Day Use site has a picnic table and fire ring. Visitors are welcome to enjoy a shore lunch while immersing themselves in Voyageurs' fishing history. Peek into the ice house, relax, watch for birds, and enjoy Harry Oveson's life on Rainy Lake.

HITCH SUMMARY

The crews were at this site for two consecutive hitches to scrape and paint the multiple buildings. Members also fixed exterior damages on the buildings, such as siding and roofing repairs.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

2356 square feet scraped

4277 square feet painted

57.5 square feet of siding replaced

250 square feet of structure cleaned

500 square feet of roof repaired

4 windows installed





Before picture of one structure at Ovensons



Before picture of other structure at Ovensons



Corpsmembers applying a fresh coat of paint



Corpsmembers scraping a building before painting



After picture of one structure at Ovensons



After picture of another structure at Ovensons

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Preventive Maintenance and Masonry

Host: Voyageurs National Forest

Site: Kabetogama Boat House

Hitch 9: September 6-14

Hitch 10: September 20-28

ABOUT THE SITE

The Minnesota Forest Service built a boathouse at Kabetogama Lake in 1929, but the CCC substantially remodeled it in 1936. Enrollees poured a concrete floor in strips in the boathouse in 1935 and rebuilt the facility the following year. It sits south of the 1935 ranger's cabin and north of the warehouse. The building measures approximately 17' x 44'. It possesses an asphalt shingle gable roof that opens on the eastern and western ends. A brick chimney extends through the southwestern corner of the roof, and several ventilation pipes protrude throughout its surface.

Lake Kabetogama is a glacier-craved 26-mile-long lake and is one of four major chain-of-lakes within Voyageurs National Park.

HITCH SUMMARY

The Corpsmembers here received training on concrete finishing with the help of the Historic Preservation Training Center. They also continued doing preventive maintenance such as scraping, painting, and site drainage.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

405 square feet of carpentry

50 square feet demoed

667 square feet painted

144 square feet of flooring completed

97 cubic feet of masonry completed

72 square feet of site drainage completed

6 screens repaired





Before picture of the floor at the Kabatoga Boathouse



Corpsmembers getting ready to learn some concrete finishing



Corpsmembers trying their hands at concrete finishing



After picture of a section of concrete slab done

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Masonry and Landscaping

Host: Ecolibrium3

Site: Legacy House and Farm

Hitch 12: October 18-26

ABOUT THE SITE

Ecolibrium3 serves as the sponsoring organization and a host site for the Eco3 AmeriCorps VISTA program. One of the greatest challenges facing VISTA members, as well as the Duluth community as a whole, is affordable housing. In 2017, a condemned building, dubbed the Legacy House, became the property of Eco3 with the intention of being redeveloped into affordable housing for VISTA members. This project simultaneously addresses multiple communities and Eco3 VISTA program challenges by increasing the availability of affordable, accessible housing using a revitalization model, removing financial barriers to participating in national service due to housing cost and availability, and reducing blight in the Lincoln Park neighborhood.

The project has slowly but surely been progressing from the early days of demo and pigeon relocation to creating partnerships with the local trade unions and looking for funding to today, where mechanical, electrical, and plumbing rough-ins have started, and a deck is being built in the back. We are hoping to finish the project in 2023 in time for the new cohort of AmeriCorps VISTA members to move in with continued support and assistance from our community and partners.

The Eco3 Farm is an urban agriculture space that supports plant development for multiple community programs, a community gathering space, and expanded opportunities for individuals with limited mobility and BIPOC individuals to engage with growing. The soil at the Eco3 Farm has been negatively impacted by urbanization and development, leading to pH and nutrient mobility issues. Despite these issues, Eco3 believes in the potential of this amazing space to feed both bodies and minds in the community. This belief is the foundation of their soil restoration project and the key to expanding sustainable food systems in the community.

HITCH SUMMARY

At this project, Corp members worked on repointing the stone exterior and interior for weatherization purposes. They also did some landscaping maintenance in the backyard, which included drainage and retaining walls. The crew here was later joined by the Endion School crew. The crews also worked at the Eco3 Farm at Lake Superior College, helping to create raised beds in a hot house to help farm year around.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

8 cubic feet of masonry completed

30 square feet of site drainage installed

852 square feet of garden beds created





Before Picture on the backyard of Legacy House



Corpsmembers doing landscaping prep



After picture on the backyard of Legacy House



Corpsmembers making raised beds at the Eco3 Farm



The raised beds completed by the crews

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Windows

Host: Center City Housing Corp

Site: Endion School Apartments

Technical Instructor: Mark Johnston

Hitch 12: October 18-26

ABOUT THE SITE

Endion School is a former school building in the East End/Endion neighborhood of Duluth. Built in an ornate Richardsonian Romanesque style with a unique design on a prominent hilltop site, it has been a local landmark since its construction in 1890. Endion School was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983 for its local significance in the theme of architecture. It was nominated as the finest surviving example of Duluth's Lake Victorian school buildings.

The footprint of Endion School is two squares overlapping at one corner. This unique design by local architect Adolph F. Rudolph allowed for classrooms with windows on two sides radiating around a central staircase.

A two-story annex was added to the rear of the building in 1950. It was placed at a slight distance with a connecting hallway so all four of the original wing's ornate facades would remain visible. Endion School closed in the 1970s. It has since reopened as an apartment building.

HITCH SUMMARY

At this site, Corpsmembers worked on fixing storm windows and wooden sashes to help make the apartment building compliant with regulations. With the help of Technical Instructor Mark Johnston, the crew was able to make all the storm windows functional. After completing this project, the crew joined those at Legacy House to finish off the hitch.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

96 windows worked on and reinstalled

- Sash cords and counter weights were replaced as needed





Endion School Apartments



Corpsmembers working on windows

Photos courtesy of Mark Johnston

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Project: Structural Reinforcement

Host: Northern Bedrock

Site: Halfway Ranger Station

Technical Instructor: Marshall Boone, Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps Staff

Hitch 13: November 1-9

ABOUT THE SITE

The Halfway Ranger Station Historic District (HRSHD) is located on the South Kawishiwi River, 10 miles south of Ely, MN. The Historic District consists of seven log buildings constructed by locally based Civilian Conservation Corps companies and three stick-framed buildings used by Lakes States Forest Experimental Station (LSFES). The latter started operating as early as 1924, conducting forest research in the area. From at least 1910 until 1950, the site was the location for the Halfway Ranger Station of the Superior National Forest. Management of the site was assumed by the Northern Research Station (formerly LSFES) in 1968, and the buildings were utilized by federal biologists conducting long-term large mammal research. Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps has a long-term Section 111 lease with the Forest Service to preserve the site for its adaptive re-use.

HITCH SUMMARY

This was Northern Bedrock's Bonus Hitch for Crew Leaders to finish their time and for other Corpsmembers to make up hours. At Halfway Ranger Station, the crew worked on stabilizing the second floor of the Ranger Dwelling. The second floor of the Ranger Dwelling was deemed unworkable after an inspection earlier this year. The crew, along with staff, added support to the second floor from the main floor.

QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

168 square feet of framing installed

- Installed plywood, ledger boards, and cross-bracing joints





Corpsmembers and staff work on the first step to reinforce the second floor by first adding plywood



A staff member demonstrates the second step of reinforcement by showing how to measure angles to create wedges that will keep the ledger boards plumb



After the wedges are in place, Corpsmembers and staff work on attaching ledger boards to each log



Joists are attached to ledger boards along each log to distribute the load



A finished look of the reinforcement in place for the second floor of the ranger dwelling

This project has been financed in part with funds from the State of Minnesota Arts and Culture Heritage Fund through the Minnesota State Historical Society.