Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps
Building a Pathway to the Preservation Trades
2017 FIELD SEASON

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

When I was growing up my dad often spoke fondly of his days serving in the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in Minneapolis during the early 1930’s. His favorite assignment was assisting the masons who were creating the Michael Dowling School swimming pool. My dad was a "hod carrier" and proud of it. His job was to mix the mud (hod) for the older, experienced masons, and "boy did I hear about it if the mud wasn’t right," he’d say with a smile. Those months had a very positive effect on him, helping to instill a lifetime work ethic. The masonry skills stuck with him as well. He never missed a chance to get out his trowel to fix something, always with a smile and often a story from his days with the WPA.

The spirit of the WPA lives on at Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps (Northern Bedrock). Our Crews, Staff, Technical Specialists, Project Hosts and Volunteers completed 18,609 hours of historic preservation work in our 2017 field season, helping to save 26 historic structures around the state of Minnesota. The Technical Specialists, Project Hosts, Program Funders and Donors have all played a huge role in having a successful season. Thank You!

Most of all we want to thank the 23 AmeriCorps Corpsmembers for 2017 and all of your hard work and commitment. We wish you well and will continue to support you on your Pathway to the Preservation Trades.

2017 was a great season! We are looking forward to another strong year in 2018, thanks to all of your help.

Sincerely

Rolf R. Hagberg
Executive Director
Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps
CONTENTS

2. OUR STORY
3. HOW WE WORK
4. THE EXPERIENCE
6. SERVICE PROJECTS
8. FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS
10. CEMETERY
12. LOG STRUCTURES
14. MASONRY
15. 2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
16. HALFWAY RANGER STATION
   HISTORIC DISTRICT
18. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
20. THANK YOU

All text and photos by Northern Bedrock Corpsmembers and Staff
OUR STORY

PURPOSE
At a time when historic structures across the country are greatly in need of maintenance and repair, individuals knowledgeable in these preservation trades are aging out of the workforce. Our goal is to engage the next generation in the preservation trades by partnering with skilled trades professionals to do historic preservation service projects.

THE PROBLEM
Need for maintenance and repair of historic structures
Specialty preservation trades professionals aging out of the workforce
Increased costs and demand for services

THE SOLUTION
Teach young people historic preservation trades skills through hands-on service projects
Partner with trades professionals
Cost effective Civilian Conservation Corps model

TIMELINE

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HOW WE WORK

WHAT IS A CORPS?
The Corps Model addresses the skills gap between education and employment. Corps are locally-based organizations that engage young adults (generally ages 16-25) and veterans (up to age 35) in service projects that address recreation, conservation, disaster response, community needs and historic preservation. There are 130 corps around the country, Northern Bedrock is the only corps focusing purely historic preservation service projects.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM
Our AmeriCorps Pathways Program works with young adults, 18-25 years old, from across the region. Corpmembers earn a bi-weekly living stipend and receive an AmeriCorps education award upon successful completion of the six month service term. During the service term, corpmembers receive training in a variety of historic preservation skills and use those skills to work on various historic sites and structures throughout the state of Minnesota. Crews are comprised of one Crew Leader and five Crew Members. They work on a service project for eight days, this is known as a “hitch”, and then typically have six days off. During a hitch, the crew camps together at or near the service project site.

2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
18,609 Hours of Historic Preservation
26 week field season
26 Historic Structures Improved
24 AmeriCorps Members
22 Project Hosts
8 Technical Specialists

2017 RECRUITMENT
180 applicants for 24 AmeriCorps service positions.

Relationships with programs such as Lifehouse, SOAR, Youth-Build, Guadalupe Alternative Program and Workforce Development.

Building a Pathway to the Preservation Trades
- Through preservation trades hands-on service hours.
- By connecting young people to tradespeople and employers.
- And by building partnerships with construction and historic preservation employers, trade unions, and vocational and college programs.
"Northern Bedrock made me want to go down the trades and historic preservation path. Before that I had no idea what it was."

"Affected me as a person in general. It gave me more self-confidence as a woman learning more about the trades and historic preservation. I feel more confident taking on projects myself."

"Northern Bedrock has shown me how to get involved with something and just do it. It can increase your mental state."

“I’ve learned new technical skills and have met people that are very passionate about historic preservation.”

“It has been rewarding to see my fellow corpsmembers learn, grow and gain confidence when learning new skills.”

“I’ve built connections with professionals in historic preservation I probably wouldn’t have met otherwise and experienced things I wouldn’t have, had I been working someplace else.”

**EXIT SURVEY RESULTS**

- 70% have a better idea of what their career goals are.
- 80% have a stronger sense of responsibility to preserve historic places and structures.
- 90% are more knowledgeable about historic preservation.
- 100% gained and improved upon their technical skills.
CORPMEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

"Northern Bedrock provided introductions to many preservation trades, which gave me the confidence to apply to positions such as my internship at Point Reyes National Seashore, where I am currently learning more about historic preservation trades from knowledgeable National Park Service employees."

"Northern Bedrock helped me to decide to pursue a career in historic preservation."

"I am currently in the midst of restoring two historic cemeteries in Northeast Arkansas, and can thank Northern Bedrock for equipping me with the knowledge and experience to do so."

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SURVEY
76% Response Rate

<table>
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<th>Employment</th>
<th>Work Categories</th>
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<td>84% Employed within 1 month</td>
<td>68% Doing hands on work</td>
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<td>of leaving the program</td>
<td>16% Working in the preservation trades</td>
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<tr>
<td>53% Full Time</td>
<td>26% Attending additional school</td>
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<td>21% Part Time</td>
<td>11% Joined another Corps program</td>
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<tr>
<td>11% Independent Contracts</td>
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<td>13% School / Internship</td>
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SERVICE PROJECTS
PROJECT TYPES

Condition Assessments
Site Stabilization
Cemetery Restoration
Masonry
Log Building Maintenance
Chinking and Daubing

2017 PROJECT SITES
1. Borgeson Family Log Cabin Chinking and Daubing, Gustavus Adolphus College, Kasota MN
2. Lakewood Cemetery Restoration, Lake City MN
3. County Line Cemetery Restoration, Lake City MN
4. Oakwood Cemetery Restoration, Hastings MN
6. Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery Restoration, Minneapolis MN
7. Pennington Historical Society - Pioneer Village Chinking and Daubing, Thief River Falls MN
8. Pope County Historical Society - Schoolhouse Roofing, Glenwood MN
9. Murray County Historical Society - Wornson Log Cabin Chinking and Daubing, Slayton MN
10. Murray County Historical Society - End-O-The Line Train Depot Window Restoration, Currie MN
11. Grand Portage National Monument - Stockade Repairs, Grand Portage MN
12. Superior National Forest - Guard Station at Sawbill Lake, Log Building Maintenance, Tofte MN
13. Superior National Forest - Tofte Ranger Station, Log Building Maintenance, Tofte MN
14. City of Ely - City Cemetery Restoration, Ely MN
15. City of Ely - Sever Park - National Youth Administration (NYA) Grill Reconstruction, Ely MN
16. Halfway Ranger Station Historic District - Rehabilitation Site and Program Training Facility, Ely MN
17. Chippewa National Forest - Joyce Estate Log Building Maintenance, Bovey MN
18. Lake County Historical Society - Depot Window Restoration, Two Harbors MN
19. Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps Office, Duluth MN
20. Scandia Cemetery Restoration Training, Duluth MN
21. Adas Israel Cemetery Restoration, Duluth MN
22. Forest Hill Cemetery Restoration, Duluth MN
23. Sts. Mary and Joseph’s Historic Museum Church, Sawyer MN
24. Isanti County Historical Society, Edabald Cabin Lead Remediation, Cambridge MN
25. Isanti County Historical Society, Painting and Site Stabilization, Cambridge MN
26. Taylors Falls Historical Society, Cabin Deconstruction, Lindstrom MN
FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

DOCUMENTATION AND ASSESSMENT
Project documentation and assessments of historic properties aid in the survival and accuracy of site interpretation. Corpsmembers documented each project through photos and individual hitch reports. Five condition assessments and subsequent reports were completed in 2017. These reports can be utilized by hosts when determining priority maintenance tasks.

SITE STABILIZATION
Basic site stabilization, which often goes unnoticed, has some of the greatest impact on a building’s preservation. Among other stabilization tasks, crews cleared 3,650 square ft. of brush from around buildings, creating proper drainage away from the structures.

SCRAPING, PAINTING AND STAINING
Historic preservation tasks such as scraping, painting and staining structures often fall lower on the list for host sites, in particular the historical societies. Northern Bedrock crews were able to support hosts in these efforts on nine historic structures. The impact of this work is to weatherize the buildings to increase their longevity, and often results in a renewed interest in the historic structure by the public. Northern Bedrock continues to develop knowledge about painting techniques and products.

Isanti County Historical Society
“"The Northern Bedrock crew showed the willingness to perform the work tasks involved in the fence repair project, exemplified by their ability to learn new techniques, use of the required tools, adjusting to the historic nature of the project and how the visitors will view the final results of work accomplished.“
- Lynn Dablow, Director
INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED TRAININGS

OSHA 10 Card
Lead Renovator Certification
CPR / AED Certification
Leave No Trace

TRAINING TOPICS

Home buying workshop
Home inspecting
Plaster repair demonstration
Historic preservation history
Documentation
Hand tools
Power tools
General construction
Log hewing
Team building
Leadership
Resume writing
Interviewing

Chippewa National Forest
"We enjoyed working with Northern Bedrock, they are an enthusiastic and hardworking bunch!"
- Sean Dunham, Heritage Preservation Manager
CEMETERY RESTORATION

CORPSMEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS
The 2017 field season found the cemetery projects to be those in the most need of preservation and maintenance. Crews reset 115, cleaned 465, edged 284, excavated 13, and repaired 5 monuments among nine cemeteries in MN. This work mitigates future safety and liability concerns of toppling heavy headstones in these public spaces as well as instilling a deep sense of history in the corpsmembers.

CEMETERIES SERVED
1. Scandia Cemetery, Duluth MN
2. Forest Hill Cemetery, Duluth MN
3. Lake City Historical Society Cemetery, Lake City MN
4. County Line Cemetery, Lake City MN
5. Oakwood Cemetery, Hastings MN
7. Soldiers and Sailors Cemetery, Minneapolis MN
8. Adas Israel Cemetery, Duluth MN
9. City of Ely Cemetery, Ely MN

Oakwood Cemetery Association
"We were beyond amazed and grateful for the help we received from Northern Bedrock Corps workers at Oakwood Cemetery. The crew was willing to teach us how to carry out some of the tasks on our own and demonstrated how they rescue sunken stones. As a result of their presence at this site, some neighbors have been inspired to help maintain this property in small ways."
- Heidi Langenfeld, President of the Friends of Le Duc and Historic Hastings
TECHNICAL TIPS
- Never use bleach or supplies from under your sink for cleaning headstones. Use a product called D2.

- Use only white bristle brushes. Others leave color residue.

- Never attempt lifting headstones without the proper equipment and personal protective equipment. Most are very heavy!

- Use lots of water and small white plastic scrapers for cleaning off the stones.

- Call Northern Bedrock for help resetting monuments!

- BE CAREFUL !!!

HEADSTONE Resetting WORKSHOP
Northern Bedrock hosted Jonathan Appell for a two-day workshop at the Forest Hill Cemetery in Duluth, MN. During which he trained all corpsmembers in the basic cleaning technique, followed by large monument resetting and repair using a tripod and chain hoist. Appell is a historic stone conservator working out of West Hartford, Connecticut. He has been working in the field for 30 years and has had a significant impact on the field of historic preservation as a monuments conservator. Appell regularly travels across the country to lead cemetery preservation workshops demonstrating cleaning, resetting and repairing monuments.
Log buildings were the most common type of structure worked on this season. Crews did log repair, cleaning, staining and borate treatment. Crews maintained 12 log buildings, providing hosts with skills and outcomes scarcely found locally. Log buildings are often nationally or locally significant, linked to great histories that engage the public, an impact that would be lost without the preservation work completed by corpsmembers.

**Chinking and Daubing**

Chinking and daubing is a technical skill that many local historical societies do not have the capabilities to administer. Northern Bedrock Corpsmembers were taught the proper technique and completed historically accurate chinking and daubing on four log structures. This task is critical to a structure’s preservation as it provides weatherization and mitigates damage from pests.

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**Pennington County Historical Society**

"Northern Bedrock helped us to preserve our log cabins. They taught our staff the proper way to chink and daub. The entire staff had positive attitudes and enjoyed what they were doing. I would recommend them to anyone who wants to preserve history the correct way. They were true to making materials similarly to what someone would originally have used on a 100 year old building. The other amazing experience we had was that they did a demonstration for 75 of our students. These students were able to see first hand what the process of chinking and daubing was/is. I think it is wonderful that they did that for our community."

- Jamie Baken, Director
LOG BUILDINGS IMPROVED
1. Borgeson Family Log Cabin
2. Halfway Ranger Station, Garage
3. Sts. Mary and Joseph Church
4. CNF Joyce Estate, Main Lodge
5. CNF Joyce Estate, Tea House
6. Pennington County, Nopers Cabin
7. Murray County, Cabin
8. Tofte Ranger Station, Cabin
9. SNF Sawbill, Cabin
10. Halfway Ranger Station, Warehouse
11. Halfway Ranger Station, Oil House
12. Halfway Ranger Station, Boathouse

LOG HEWING AND DOVETAIL WORKSHOP
Gerald F. David is a German trained timber framer who owns GFD Woodworking, a restoration company out of Duluth, MN. He has traveled around the country restoring structures, and teaches timber framing classes at the North House Folk School and the Duluth Folk School. Gerry conducted an eight-day, hands-on workshop with corpsmembers and staff to teach them traditional log hewing and dovetail joinery skills. In addition to hewing logs, corpsmembers also started the construction of a traditional log structure.
MASONRY

CORPSMEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS
The masonry projects this year had some of the most fulfilling impacts to the public. Two stone grills that were built by the National Youth Administration were reconstructed by Northern Bedrock Corpsmembers in their original locations, carrying on corps work that began in the 1930’s. The parishioners of Sts. Mary and Joseph Church in the town of Sawyer saw the reconstruction of a chimney that has value associated with their heritage dating back to the early 1900’s. Two chimneys were repaired at Halfway Ranger Station, which increased the level of use at a historic building, previously a cherished home for many.

TECHNICAL TIP
- Painting brick can trap in moisture, and once it freezes and expands can cause damage.

TECHNICAL SPECIALIST HIGHLIGHT
Mike Braun is an expert stone mason who owns a business located in Ely, MN, that has been in operation for 33 years. He has worked with Northern Bedrock for two seasons, and is consistently passing on knowledge with patience and reverence. Mike was a Technical Specialist for two projects. The first was the reconstruction of the 1930’s NYA era grills at Semer Park in Ely. The second project was at Halfway Ranger Station in which corpsmembers worked under the guidance of Mike to repair stone and brick chimneys.
# 2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## QUANTITATIVE DATA

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<td>MONUMENTS, CLEANED</td>
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<td><strong>MASONRY &amp; CONCRETE</strong></td>
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<td>FIREPITS, REBUILT</td>
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HALFWAY RANGER STATION

THE SITE
The Halfway Ranger Station Historic District (HRSHD) is located on the South Kawishiwi River, 10 miles south of Ely, MN on approximately 15 acres of land in the Superior National Forest and includes 12 structures as well as historically significant landscape features. HRSHD dates back to the early 1900’s and has a rich history encompassing early logging operations, USDA Forest Service administration, federal forest research, and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The site boasts an architecturally unique complex of buildings, including seven prime examples of CCC-built Rustic/Adirondack style log buildings. The history and surviving structures of this site are unmatched nationally.

THE STRUCTURES
Ranger Dwelling
District Office
Boathouse
Pump House
Sauna
Warehouse
Oil House
LSFES Dwelling
Laboratory
Insectary
Cellar
Outhouse

PBS WDSE Duluth filming at Halfway Ranger Station for "Making it up North" TV series.
HISTORIC DISTRICT

NORTHERN BEDROCK HISTORIC STEWARDSHIP
In 2015, NBHPC entered into a Participating Agreement with the USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station (NRS), to conduct job training and development through the maintenance, rehabilitation and management of the site. Northern Bedrock has since worked to implement an Adaptive Reuse Plan in hopes of future training and educational opportunities for Northern Bedrock corpsmembers and the greater public.

ACTIVITIES AT HALFWAY
This year corpsmember orientation and skills training was hosted at Halfway Ranger Station. Tours were given of Halfway, introducing visitors to the Civilian Conservation Corps. Other maintenance activities included site stabilization, removal of hazardous vegetation, disinfecting, cleaning and log preservation.
FINANCES

2017 INCOME STATEMENT

Revenue
Minneapolis Historical Society Partnership 475,000
Historic Recognition Grant 14,024
State of Minnesota Appropriation 267,504
Project Host Income 174,628
Donations 2,906
$934,062

Expenses
Program 649,831
Management and General 165,075
Fundraising 32,092
$846,998

FINANCIAL GOALS
- Diversify Funding Sources
- Access AmeriCorps Funding
- Increase Charitable Donations
- Expand In-Kind Contributions
- Expand Program Spending

2017 REVENUE

2017 EXPENSES
### BALANCE SHEET  12/30/17

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### CONTRIBUTIONS

**In - Kind**

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**AMERICORPS EDUCATION AWARDS LEVERAGED = $50,248**
THANK YOU

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