

Date of Report: June 30, 2006 - LCMR Final Work Program Report

Date of Next Status Report: NA

Date of Work Program Approval: June 25, 2003

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2006. The completion date has been changed due to a delay in both the fabrication of interpretive markers and in the completion of archaeological survey work. The company fabricating the markers is unable to complete their work until July 2005 and thus installation cannot take place until August 2005. The contracted archaeologists were also unable to complete their work due to the poor spring conditions.

I. PROJECT TITLE: Ft. Ridgely Historic Site Interpretive Trail

Project Manager: Thomas R. Ellig

Affiliation: Minnesota Historical Society

Mailing Address: 32469 Cty. Hwy. 2

City/State/Zip: Morton, MN 56270

Telephone Number: (507) 697-6321

E-mail Address: thomas.ellig@mnhs.org

Fax Number: (507) 697-6310

Web Page: www.mnhs.org

Total Biennial LCMR Project Budget:

LCMR Appropriation: \$150,000

Minus Amount Spent: \$135,500

Equal Balance: \$ 14,500

Legal Citation: ML 2003, Ch. 128, Art.1, Sec. 9, Subd. 6(j)

Appropriation Language: 6 (j) Ft. Ridgely Historical Site Interpretive Trail \$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the second year are from the trust fund to the Minnesota Historical Society to construct a trail through the original fort site and install interpretive markers. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2006 at which time the project must be completed and final products delivered, unless an earlier date is specified in the work program.

II. and III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY:

This is phase one of a two-phase project to expand the interpretation and recreational opportunities at the site. The completion of phase one included the design, engineering and archaeological survey for 1.25 miles of new trails at the site. The topographic survey of the 20 acre site was completed as were all trail construction drawings and bid estimate documents. The archaeological survey for the entire 1.25 mile trail corridor was completed and yielded significant new information about the original Fort parade ground. It also revealed the original

FINAL REPORT

Fort parade ground walkways, which the new trail will replicate. Additional research that will expand the knowledge of the Fort was conducted. This new information was added to existing knowledge of the site and both were used to complete text for 26 new interpretive markers. These new interpretive markers replace the 15 old ones and will expand and improve the interpretive story for the approximate 15,000 - 20,000 people who visit the site annually.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: Archaeological Monitoring

Description: A professional firm will be hired to survey the site and proposed trail corridors using remote sensing equipment (ground-penetrating radar). This work will be done to insure that no damage occurs to existing cultural resources. Results of this work will be used to determine the final marker locations and trail alignment.

| | | |
|---|--------------------|----------|
| Summary Budget Information for Result 1: | LCMR Budget | \$10,000 |
| | Balance | \$ 2,500 |

Final Report Summary: The archaeological testing yielded significant results in a variety of ways. First, it provided additional information about the 1930's archaeological testing at the site. It showed the parameters of that work and areas that have not been investigated. Second, it yielded information about the original parade ground walkways and will allow the trails to duplicate the paths within the fort. Third, it helped locate and verify the foundation of the original fort stables building. Finally, the monitoring will ensure that no cultural/historical resources will be damaged or impacted by the construction of the trails.

Because remote sensing techniques could be used for this work instead of excavations, the cost of the work came in significantly less than anticipated.

Result 2: Architect/Engineering

Description: A licensed land surveyor will be contracted to complete a topographic survey of the site in preparation for laying out a trail and locating interpretive kiosks. A licensed landscape architect will be hired to design the layout of the trail and to provide construction drawings for the project. If engineering services are required, the architect will be responsible for securing such services.

| | | |
|--|--------------------|----------|
| Summary Budget Information for Result 2: | LCMR Budget | \$19,000 |
| 3-10-05 – Budget amount reduced to reflect actual needs. \$26,000 removed from Result #2 and moved to Result #4. Budget reduction/shift approved 3-11-05 | | |
| | Balance | \$ 0 |

Final Report Summary: As a result of this work, the site now has a topographical survey locating all site features. This will greatly enhance the completion of future site projects since it will be known where all electrical lines, water lines, cultural features, vegetation, etc. will be.

Final construction drawings for the entire trail system have also been completed. These drawings indicate trail layout, materials, grades, slopes, etc. when construction funding is secured, the project will be able to be bid much faster, saving both time and money.

Result 3: Interpretive Research & Design

Description: The goal of this work will be to identify and research the themes to be interpreted. Information from the research will be used to augment the existing knowledge of the site in preparation for designing new markers that will tell an improved and expanded history of the site. Little is known about the buildings that are outside of the fort proper, but were important to the fort's operation. Utilizing this research information, markers and kiosks will be designed and text written. MHS historic sites staff will monitor and coordinate the work, which will be done by contract project people.

| | | |
|---|--------------------|----------|
| Summary Budget Information for Result 3: | LCMR Budget | \$45,000 |
| | Balance | \$ 0 |

Final Report Summary: As a result of the completed research, two primary interpretive themes were selected. They were 1) daily life at a typical mid-19th century army fort and 2) the role the fort played in the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862. With the themes selected the decision was made to use two types of interpretive markers and not to use any kiosks to tell the story of the fort. Text was written for a total of twenty-six interpretive markers.

The new information gathered from both the archaeological testing and the document research, allowed for additional interpretation of known and newly discovered fort buildings and activities to be incorporated into the site interpretation.

Result 4: Interpretive Markers/Kiosks Fabrication

Description: Of the two kiosks that will be fabricated, one will be used to introduce and orient visitors to the site and to promote other historic sites in the area. The second kiosk will be used to interpret the fort area that lies outside of the fort proper and is on property that is administered by the DNR, Division of Parks. Approximately fifteen interpretive markers will be used to locate and identify important physical features of the site and too interpret their role in the

B. Project Cooperators: Tom Pfannenstiel, Minnesota Historical Society and Dan Spock, Minnesota Historical Society.

VIII. DISSEMINATION

Results and products of this project will be disseminated through the site's daily interpretive programming and special events. The Minnesota Historical Society's marketing of historic sites will also be utilized as well as the MHS website, www.mnhs.org.

IX. LOCATION

The physical location for Fort Ridgely historic site is inside Fort Ridgely state park. The site is located in Section 6, Township 111 North (Ridgely), Range 32 West, Nicollet County. The site address is 72404 County Road 30, Fairfax, MN 55332.

X. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than January 31, 2004; August 31, 2004, March 31, 2005, June 28, 2005 and January 31, 2006. A final work program report and associated products will be submitted by June 30, 2006.

December 1, 2004

The January 31, 2004 and August 31, 2004 report dates were inadvertently missed. Therefore, a December 1, 2004 progress report was done to report on work completed to that date.

XI. RESEARCH PROJECTS

NA.

2003 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2006

SEP 07 2006

TITLE: Fort Ridgely Historic Site Interpretive Trail

PROJECT MANAGER: Tom Ellig

ORGANIZATION: Minnesota Historical Society

ADDRESS: 32469 Cty. Hwy. 2, Morton, MN 56270

WEB SITE ADDRESS: www.mnhs.org

FUND: Trust

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2003, Ch. 128, Art. 1, Sec. 9, Subd. 6(j)

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$150,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

This is phase one of a two-phase project to expand the interpretation and recreational opportunities at the site. The completion of phase one included the design, engineering and archaeological survey for 1.25 miles of new trails at the site. The topographic survey of the 20-acre site was completed as were all trail construction drawings and bid estimate documents. The archaeological survey for the entire 1.25 miles trail corridor was completed and yielded significant new information about the original fort parade ground. It also revealed the original fort parade ground walkways, which the new trail will replicate. Additional research that will expand the knowledge of the fort was conducted. This new information was added to existing knowledge of the site and both were used to complete text for 26 new interpretive markers. These new interpretive markers replace the 15 old ones and will expand and improve the interpretive story for the approximate 15,000-20,000 people who visit the site annually.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

The primary form of dissemination for new material is through the interpretive markers. As site education and marketing brochures are reprinted, the new material will also be used in them. Discussions are underway to see if the results of this project can be incorporated with the results of other archaeological research being done in the park for a published document.

Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2003 Projects - Summary and a Budget page for each partner

Proposal Title: Ft. Ridgely Historic Site Interpretive Trail; Subd. 06j Page 1

Project Manager Name: Tom Ellig

LCMR Requested Dollars: \$150,000

| 2003 LCMR Proposal Budget | Result 1 Budget: | Amount Spent 4/6/05 | Balance 4/6/05 | Result 2 Budget: | Amount Spent 12/1/04 | Balance 12/1/04 | Revised Budget 3/10/05 | Balance 3/10/05 | Result 3 Budget: | Amount Spent 12/1/04 | Balance 12/1/04 | Amount Spent 6/28/05 | Balance 6/28/05 | Result 4 Budget: | Amount Spent 12/1/04 | Balance 12/1/04 | Revised Budget 3/10/05 | Balance 3/10/05 | Amount Spent 6/28/05 | Balance 6/28/05 | TOTAL FOR BUDGET ITEM | Balance 12/1/04 | Balance 6/26/05 | Balance 6/30/06 | |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|
| BUDGET ITEM | Archaeological Monitoring | | | Architect & Engineering | | | | | Interpretive Research & Design | | | | | Interpretive Market Fabrication | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PERSONNEL: Salaries for Archaeologists | 1,000 | 0 | 1,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Salaries for Researchers | | | | | | | | | 37,500 | 28,124 | 9,376 | 9,376 | 0 | | | | | | | | | 37,500 | 9,376 | 0 | 0 |
| PERSONNEL: Staff benefits - FICA and Insurance | 200 | 0 | 200 | | | | | | 7,500 | 5,626 | 1,874 | 1,874 | 0 | | | | | | | | | 7,700 | 2,874 | 800 | 200 |
| Contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Professional/technical Landscape architect and remote sensing firm selected using RFP and competitive bid | 8,000 | 7,500 | 500 | 45,000 | 19,000 | 26,000 | 19,000 - \$26,000 to Result #4 | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 53,000 | 26,000 | 8,000 | 500 |
| RFP and Competitive Bid | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 50,000 | 3,000 | 47,000 | 76,000 - \$26,000 from Result | 73,000 | 61,000 | 12,000 | | 50,000 | 47,000 | 12,000 | 12,000 |
| Other direct operating costs - Vehicle Rental | 300 | 0 | 300 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Travel expenses in Minnesota - Food and Lodging | 500 | 0 | 500 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 300 | 300 | 300 | 300 |
| Construction (for what?) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Other land improvement (for what?) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other (Describe the activity and cost) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| COLUMN TOTAL | 10,000 | 7,500 | 2,500 | 45,000 | 19,000 | 26,000 | 0 | 0 | 45,000 | 33,750 | 11,250 | 0 | 0 | 50,000 | 3,000 | 47,000 | | | | 12,000 | 150,000 | 94,250 | 22,600 | 14,500 | |