

## VISION STATEMENT:

"To be recognized by 2030 as a leader in the State for preservation of the region's cultural resources by providing public access to resource protection tools, and the political advocacy necessary to ensure protection for, and appreciation of, our diverse prehistoric and historic ethnic heritage. "

### Issues & Opportunities:

- Opportunities for Better Communication and Exchange of Information (Local, State & National – Public and Private).
- Access to Resource Protection Tools.
- Expanding Cultural Resource Inventories of the Region.
- Cultural Resource Educational Opportunities.
- Preservation of Indigenous and Ethnic Cultural Heritage.
- Establish a Cultural Resource Goal Implementation sub-group.

### Core Goals:

- Establish a regional cultural resources goal implementation committee to work on pursuing implementation of these plan goals.
- Hold an annual Cultural Resources Summit where local organizations, preservation professionals, HP commissioners and the general public can attend, hear speakers, exchange ideas and interact with each other.
- Create a web-based clearing house to serve the region, offering a variety of resources to support preservation of our prehistoric and historical, archaeological and cultural heritage.
- Ensure that decision makers have an understanding of, and an appreciation for, cultural resource protection, using current technologies in the creation of educational presentations to distribute to targeted groups.
- Make the public better aware of the tax benefits and protections which are available to local landmarks, state register and national register site properties, as well as responsibilities associated with this privilege.
  - Provide a welcoming packet of useful information for new owners of historic properties and archaeological sites.
  - Create a web-based resource tree to help an owner determine which SHS resources they may be eligible for.
- Have ECWRPC work with the Wisconsin Historical Society to increase access to the WHS WisARHD database and expand its usefulness to a broader user base.
- Develop an easy, reliable way to alert local government officials conducting permit reviews, and prospective home buyers making land/home purchase decisions, as to the location of culturally significant properties by including these cultural resource status designations in all title transfer records.
- Work with local and regional groups to update the State's list of architectural and archaeological inventories.
- Revise the Wisconsin state statute (709.02) to expand it to include "archaeological sites" as well as historic buildings and sites, in the items which realtors must make known to potential buyers.
- Prevent generational loss of cultural heritage by incorporating cultural resource programming into the history and social studies curriculums of K-12 school districts and higher education institutions throughout our region.
- Establish a Cultural Resources Center for the ECWRPC region.
  - Attempt to attract a National Trust field office to the East Central Wisconsin region.
  - Coordinate with other existing public staff and private professionals who are currently resources within the region.
  - Hold an annual summit to exchange ideas, address current issues and needs, and to maintain support and appreciation for cultural resource enhancement and protection.
- Encourage greater interaction and sharing of ideas, resource materials, etc. between the private sector and the public sector, volunteers and professionals.

### So What?

- Better Communication between volunteer commissions and organizations, private consultants, and the professional staff of local, state and federal organizations.
  - Provides greater awareness of services and funding available from state and federal sources.
  - SHS can gain a better understanding of local commission values.
  - Can obtain better speakers when secured collectively.
  - Ideas can be shared at a regional summit or conference.
- Access to Cultural Resource Protection Tools.
  - Better awareness of tax credits and preservation benefits will result.
  - Improved access to the SHS WisARHD data base could help zoning administrators and commissions protect cultural resources.
  - Create a web-based clearing house for assistance.
  - Provide a web-based resource tree to help individuals determine eligibility.
  - Alert new property owners to benefits and obligations.
- Cultural Resource Inventories.
  - Encourages reinvestment and building reuse in downtowns and older neighborhoods, strengthening the tax base.
  - Attractive historic properties contribute to the region's ability to be a strong competitor for business attraction and economic growth.
  - Cultural resource inventories provide a sense of identity.
- Educational Opportunities.
  - Educate elected and appointed officials so that they are able to make better decisions.
  - Instill an appreciation for our cultural heritage in successive generations with curriculum additions at all school levels.
  - To prevent institutional memory loss when staff and elected officials change.
- Preservation of Indigenous and Ethnic Cultural Heritage.
  - Historical effigy mounds and ethnic tourism are significant contributors to Wisconsin's tourism based economy.
  - Cultural celebrations and landmark buildings enhance the quality of life and provide a sense of belonging and social stability.

### What's Next?

- July 2004 :
- Examine goals and develop policies to help achieve them.
- August – September 2004:
- Refine policies and identify linkages.
- October – November 2004:
- Establish targets, determine lead / support roles.
- December 2004 – January 2005:
- Draft Milestone 3 Report and submit to the Commission.



Railroad Trestle, Wolf River, New London