

## SECTION II – PROGRAM OF PRESERVATION & UTILIZATION

### 1) APPLICANT

**1a. Name of Agency:** Minnesota Historical Society

**1b. Agency Representative:** Diane Adams-Graf, Director Facilities and Risk Management

**1c. Agency Street Address:** 345 West Kellogg Boulevard

**1d. City:** Saint Paul

**1e. State:** MN

**1f. Zip Code:** 55102

**1g. Day telephone:** 651-259-3000

### 2) PROPERTY

**2a. Name of Property:** Fort Snelling Lower Post

**2b. Street address:** Historic Fort Snelling Lower Post at the intersection of Minnesota State Highway 55 and the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers; commonly addressed at Tower Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55111

**2c. City:** Unincorporated

**2d. County:** Hennepin

**2e. State:** MN

**2f. Zip Code:** 55111

**2g. Name of historic district, if applicable:** Fort Snelling Historic District

**2h. Include as part of the Application a copy of the National Register nomination form or Determination of Eligibility, obtainable from the State Historic Preservation Officer or from the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW (Org. Code 2280), Washington, DC 20240-0001.**

See Appendix A.

***Check all applicable designations:***

☐ Local listing

☐ Certified Local Government

☒ State listing

☒ National Register Listed

☐ National Register Eligible

☒ National Historic Landmark

☐ Project Seeking the Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit (*Note: Checking this box directs the NPS Regional Office reviewing this Historic Monument Application to coordinate the review with that of the NPS Washington, D.C. office which administers the Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program.*)

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Number of Resources within Property (in accordance with the National Register classification system)		
Buildings	Contributing <b>21</b>	Non-contributing <b>2</b>
	Round Tower	Visitor Center
	Guard House	Link
	Gate House	
	Shops	
	South Battery (Hexagonal Tower)	
	Commissary	
	Hospital	
	Officer's Quarters	
	Commanding Officer's House	
	Half-Moon Battery	
	Wood Barracks	
	Stone Barracks	
	School House	
	Sutler Store	
	Gun Shed	
	Magazine	
	North Battery (Pentagonal Tower)	
	Cavalry Barracks (Buildings 17 and 18)	
	Ordnance Warehouse (Building 22)	
	Calvary Stables (Building 30)	
Sites	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
	Parade Ground	Parking Lots, Paths
	Archeological site	
Structures	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>
	Northwest perimeter wall	
	Northeast perimeter wall	
	Southwest perimeter wall	
	Southeast perimeter wall	
	Well House	
Objects	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28<sup>i</sup></b>	<b>5</b>

(Note: Although the applicable National Register Nomination or Determination of Eligibility may provide this kind of information, always consult with NPS to ensure that the classifications and the counts are correct.)

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### 3) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

#### 3a. Deed and Application:

The Property described below was originally transferred to the State of Minnesota (State), acting by and through its Department of Conservation (later the Department of Natural Resources), as two separate land transfers. Tract D was transferred on July 5, 1963 (Appendix B of this Amendment). Tracts E and F were transferred on November 28, 1969 (Appendix C of this Amendment). All three tracts were transferred with the intent that they would be maintained as a Historic Monument. In 1969, the Property was transferred to the Minnesota Historical Society through the passage of Minnesota State Statute 138.025 which states: “the authority of the department of natural resources and its division of parks and recreation, or any successor thereto, to administer and control the historic sites enumerated in this section [including the Fort Snelling State Historical Park, as it was called at the time] is withdrawn, and is hereby conferred up the Minnesota historical society.” (See Appendix D of this Amendment.) In 1999, an updated Quit Claim Deed was issued for Tracts E and F (Corrective Quit Claim Deed for Portion of Fort Snelling, MN Property; GSA Contract No. GS-06-(S)-9-0092; Appendix E of this Amendment). The 1963 Quit Claim Deed, 1999 Quit Claim Deed, and this Program of Preservation and Utilization Amendment (PPU) together constitute the agreement between the State and The Government acting by and through the National Park Service (NPS). To the extent that the 1963 Quit Claim Deed or the 1999 Quit Claim Deed is in conflict with the PPU, the terms of the Quit Claim Deed shall control the actions of the State and the Government.

#### 3b. Acreage:

Approximately 25 acres

#### 3c. Legal Description:

*This can be in metes and bounds, rectangular or cadastral survey. If the information is not available from the granting Federal agency, you must survey the property when the National Park Service is assured that you will be the recipient. In such event, the legal description and plot may be submitted subsequent to the Application.*

#### Tract D (“Round Tower Area”)

Commencing at reference point 22 (Tract B) and from which reference point 17 of the same description bears south 60° - 13’ west, thence south 17°-21’ west, 186.4 ft. to the point of beginning;

Thence north 82°-43’ east, 51.2 ft.,

Thence north 85°-19’ east, 36.7 ft.,

Thence north 85°-49’ east, 77.3 ft.,

Thence deflecting right around a curve whose central angle is 78°-33’ and radius is 19.2 ft., a distance of 26.3 ft. to the point of tangency,

Thence south 15°-38’ east, 65.1 ft.,

Thence deflecting to the right around a curve whose central angle is 31°-12’ and radius is 48.0 ft. a distance of 26.1 ft. to a point of compound curve;

Thence deflecting right around a curve whose central angle is 19°-40’ and radius is 145.3 ft., a distance of 49.9 ft. to a point of compound curve,

Thence deflecting right around a curve whose central angle is 63°-4.0’ and radius is 112.1 ft. a distance of 123.4 ft.,

Thence north 81°-42’ west, 77.5 ft.,

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Thence deflecting right around a curve whose central angle is 85°-19' and radius is 8.0 ft., a distance of 11.9 ft.,

Thence north 3°-37' east, 16.7 ft.

Thence deflecting left around a curve whose central angle is 26°-3.0' and radius is 44.1 ft. a distance of 20.0 ft.,

Thence north 22°-26' west, 180.5 ft.,

Thence deflecting right around a curve whose central angle is 103°-22' and radius is 11.0 ft. a distance of 19.8 ft.,

Thence north 80°-56' east-46.4 ft. to the point of beginning and containing 0.9 acres more or less

### Tract E

Commencing at the southwest corner of Section 17, Township 28 North, Range 23 West of the fourth principal meridian, said corner being MCM 107 of the City of Minneapolis, in Hennepin County, and State of Minnesota, coordinate grid system;

Thence south 39°-54'-57" east a distance of 4015.45 feet to monument number 2 located in the south line of the U.S. Bureau of Mines Reservation heretofore established within the Fort Snelling Military Reservation,

Thence south 89°-52' east a distance of 478.97 feet to monument number 1,

Thence south 48°-48'-53" east a distance of 458.74 feet,

Thence south 70°-37'-21" east a distance of 1027.97 feet,

Thence south 37°-30'-09" east a distance of 106.83 feet to the point of beginning of the land to be described, said point to be identified as reference point number 4,

Thence south 58°-10' east a distance of 551.05 feet,

Thence south 77°-48' east a distance of 196.25 feet,

Thence south 75°-21' east a distance of 318.75 feet,

Thence south 55°-25' east a distance of 68.91 feet,

Thence south 77°-33' east a distance of 155.00 feet,

Thence south 85°-44' east a distance of 214.90 feet,

Thence south 88°-51' east a distance of 315.70 feet,

Thence north 07°-37' east a distance of 23.48 feet,

Thence south 81°-39' east a distance of 119.72 feet,

Thence south 89°-56' east a distance of 124.71 feet,

Thence south 01°-14' west a distance of 15.36 feet to reference point number 21,

Thence south 83°-09'-04" east a distance of 75.08 feet to a point on a non-tangent curve concave to the northwest having a radius of 7550.96 feet, from which the center of the circle of said curve bears north 55°-08'-44" west,

Thence southwesterly along said curve a distance of 342.56 feet,

Thence north 52°-32'-46" west a distance of 117.43 feet,

Thence south 88°-43'-17" west a distance of 511.66 feet,

Thence south 27°-15'-41" west a distance of 200.0 feet,

Thence north 62°-44'-39" west a distance of 882.17 feet;

Thence north 27°-06'-46" east a distance of 37.88 feet,

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Thence north 66°-12'-19" west a distance of 40.00 feet,  
Thence north 40°-20'-04" west a distance of 40.00 feet,  
Thence north 24°-18'-29" west a distance of 120.0 feet,  
Thence north 17°-06'-36" east a distance of 50.34 feet,  
Thence north 43°-37'-30" west a distance of 383.74 feet to reference point number 4 and the point of beginning.

### Tract F

Commencing at reference point number 21 herein described,

Thence south 83°-09'-04" east a distance of 233.31 feet to the point of beginning of tract to be described,

Thence south 83°-09'-04" east a distance of 13.91 feet,

Thence south 84°-21' east a distance of 160.85 feet,

Thence north 83°-50' east a distance of 116.30 feet,

Thence south 75°-35' east a distance of 94.98 feet,

Thence south 61°-44' east a distance of 129.51 feet,

Thence south 85°-19' east a distance of 35.47 feet,

Thence south 58°-02' east a distance of 82.85 feet,

Thence south 43°-58' east a distance of 73.35 feet,

Thence south 38°-45' east a distance of 75.60 feet,

Thence south 20°-58' east a distance of 36.91 feet

Thence south a distance of 56.06 feet,

Thence south 45°-26' west a distance of 76.36 feet,

Thence south 69°-50' west a distance of 124.85 feet,

Thence south 51°-39' west a distance of 41.99 feet,

Thence south 74°-06' west a distance of 77.42 feet,

Thence north 78°-53' west a distance of 31.30 feet,

Thence south 68°-12' west a distance of 119.00 feet,

Thence south 42°-01' west a distance of 164.66 feet,

Thence south 31°-06' east a distance of 25.22 feet,

Thence south 65°-06' west a distance of 124.90 feet,

Thence north 25°-07' west a distance of 115.70 feet,

Thence south 66°-58' west a distance of 377.51 feet to reference point number 43,

Thence north 14°-16'-07" west a distance of 44.47 feet,

Thence north 18°-43'-41" east a distance of 367.23 feet to a point on a non-tangent curve concave to the northwest having a radius of 7690.96 feet, from which the center of the circle of said curve bear 52°-32'-46" west,

Thence northwesterly along said curve a distance of 410.79 feet,

Thence north 34°-24'-29" east a distance of 12.31 feet to the point of beginning.

Except there from Tract D heretofore conveyed to the State of Minnesota and described in Document No. 3421579, dated August 5, 1963, and filed of record in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Hennepin County.

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A perpetual and exclusive right and easement to use, operate and maintain as and for an historic monument in, on, over and across the surface only of property above the highway tunnel located within the following described tract:

Commencing at reference point number 21 herein described;

Thence south  $83^{\circ}-09'-04''$  east a distance of 75.08 feet to a point on a non-tangent curve concave to the northwest having a radius of 7550.96 feet, from which the center of the circle of said curve bears north  $55^{\circ}-08'-44''$  west,  
Said point being the point of beginning,  
Thence southwesterly along said curve a distance of 342.56 feet,  
Thence south  $52^{\circ}-32'-46''$  east a distance of 140.00 feet to a point on a non-tangent curve concave to the northwest having a radius of 7690.96 feet,  
From which the center of the circle of said curve bears north  $52^{\circ}-32'-46''$  west,  
Thence northeasterly along said curve a distance of 410.79 feet,  
Thence north  $34^{\circ}-24'-29''$  east a distance of 12.31 feet,  
Thence north  $83^{\circ}-09'-04''$  west a distance of 158.23 feet to the place of beginning.

Reserving therefrom, to the Grantor and its assigns, a perpetual and exclusive right and easement 20 foot wide to construct, reconstruct, use, operate, maintain and remove the existing water mains and sewerage systems and all appurtenances thereto, the centerlines of which are described as follows:

Centerline description for water mains:

Commencing at said reference point 21 in the metes and bounds description of Tracts E and F described;

Thence south  $83^{\circ}-09'-04''$  east a distance of 104 feet,  
Thence south  $34^{\circ}-23'$  west a distance of 68 feet to the place of beginning of the line to be described. Said point being the center of the meter room on the northwesterly side of the highway tunnel,  
Thence south  $37^{\circ}-05'$  west a distance of 170 feet,  
Thence south  $64^{\circ}-25'$  west a distance of 90 feet,  
Thence south  $33^{\circ}-00'$  west a distance of 28 feet to water main intersection No. 1,  
Thence north  $53^{\circ}-15'$  west a distance of 135 feet,  
Thence north  $89^{\circ}-50'$  west a distance of 274 feet,  
Thence south  $70^{\circ}-40'$  west a distance of 245 feet,  
Thence north  $77^{\circ}-15'$  west a distance of 575 feet to water main intersection No. 2,  
Thence north  $77^{\circ}-15'$  west a distance of 96 feet,  
Thence south  $15^{\circ}-15'$  west a distance of 20 feet more or less to the southwesterly line of property herein described.  
Also, beginning at water main intersection No. 2:  
Thence north  $11^{\circ}-15'$  east a distance of 280 feet,  
Thence north  $74^{\circ}-20'$  west a distance of 455 feet,

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Thence north 59°-28' west a distance of 160 feet more or less to the southwesterly line of property herein described.

Also beginning at water main intersection No. 1 above described:

Thence south 55°-45' east a distance of 320 feet,

Thence south 6°-25' east a distance of 26 feet,

Thence south 65°-45' west a distance of 195 feet, and thus terminating.

Centerline description for sewer:

Commencing at reference point No. 43 as described herein;

Thence south 14°-06'-07" east a distance of 255.21 feet,

Thence north 52°-46'-36" west a distance of 200.0 feet to the point of beginning for the line to be described,

Thence north 47°-35' east a distance of 172 feet,

Thence north 16°-47' west a distance of 785 feet,

Thence north 83°-50' west a distance of 1.365 feet more or less to the southwesterly line of tract herein described

### 3d. Map

*Attach a plot map showing the property boundary, contributing and noncontributing resources (buildings, sites, structures, objects—refer to 2h above), street plan, and other features (topographic features, vegetation, landscaping, water features, etc.) important in understanding the property.*

See Appendix F.

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### 4) NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:

*Provide a written statement of all important historic resources and natural features identified in the plot map, above. This includes contributing resources (buildings, sites, structures, objects—refer to 2h above), vegetation, landscape features, etc. Include building number, designations such as “Barracks,” “Water tower,” etc., and give dimensions and floor area.*

The Fort Snelling Lower Post is located at the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers, at the top of the bluffs that form the southern bank of the Mississippi River and the western bank of the Minnesota River. The Lower Post is generally bounded by the rivers to the north and east, and Minnesota Highway 55 to the south. The Lower Post itself has a relatively level grade, however to the north and east the land drops sharply at the river bluff and to the south, Minnesota Highway 55 is elevated above the fort. Tower Avenue, a paved road maintained by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, extends east to west across the Lower Post, connecting the various site features.

The Lower Post is divided into two distinct sections; the reconstructed “Diamond” makes up the eastern third of the property, and the area outside of the walls and fronting Tower Avenue make up the western two-thirds.

The Diamond consists of 17 buildings, a well, and a parade ground, all enclosed within diamond shaped perimeter walls. The components of the Diamond were originally constructed during the 1820s, with 13 of the buildings and the walls then deconstructed during the 1880s and 1890s, when the limestone from the buildings was repurposed for other building campaigns at the Fort. Four buildings – the Round Tower, the Commanding Officer’s House, the Officer’s Quarters, and the South Battery/Hexagonal Tower were the only buildings that were not demolished. Beginning in 1957, Minnesota Historical Society began archaeological excavations in the Diamond area. Over the next 25 years, the Diamond was excavated and buildings were reconstructed to return the Diamond to its appearance in the 1820s.

Specifically, resources in the Diamond include the following Features, which are listed including their dimensions and gross square footage.<sup>ii</sup> Features are each identified by their Feature letter in the Appendix E map.

- Round Tower (Feature G)
  - Radius of about 25 feet
  - 5,890 GSF (three levels)
- Guard House (Feature H)
  - 20.48 feet x 83.65 feet
  - 1,713 GSF (one level)
- Gatehouse (Feature I)
  - 20.24 feet x 156.77 feet
  - One level
- Shops (Feature J)
  - 20.24 feet x 156.77 feet
  - 3,173 GSF (one level)
- South Battery/Hexagonal Tower (Feature K)
  - 21 feet/side
  - 4,583 GSF (four levels)



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- Commissary (Feature L)
  - 111.64 feet x 19 feet
  - 8,485 GSF (four levels)
- Hospital (Feature M)
  - 21.17 feet x 190.5 feet
  - 8,065 GSF (two levels)
- Officer's Quarters (Feature N)
  - 267.75 feet x 29 feet
  - 15,529 GSF (two levels)
- Commanding Officer's House (Feature O)
  - 33.55 feet x 61.9 feet
  - 5,192 GSF (two and one half levels)
- Half-Moon Battery (Feature P)
  - Irregular – radius of approximately 21.75 feet
  - 2,605 GSF (two levels)
- Wood Barracks (Feature Q)
  - 21.8 feet x 267.5 feet
  - 11,664 GSF (two levels)
- Stone Barracks (Feature R)
  - 21 feet x 189.6 feet
  - 8,267 GSF (two levels)
- Sutler Store (Feature S)
  - 20.8 feet x 39.5 feet
  - 822 GSF (one level)
- Gun Shed (Feature T)
  - 16.5 feet x 26.4 feet
  - 435 GSF (one level)
- Magazine (Feature U)
  - 23.9 feet x 50 feet
  - 1,195 GSF (one level)
- Schoolhouse (Feature V)
  - 21.5 feet x 39.6 feet
  - 851 GSF (one level)
- Well House (Feature W)
  - 5.5 feet x 5.5 feet
  - 30.25 GSF
- Parade Ground (Feature X)
- North Battery/Pentagonal Tower (Feature Y)
  - 21 feet/side
  - 759 GSF (one level)

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- Northwest Perimeter Wall (Feature Z)
    - 430 linear feet of wall
  - Northeast Perimeter Wall (Feature AA)
    - 383 linear feet of wall
  - Southeast Perimeter Wall (Feature BB)
    - 490 linear feet of wall
  - Southwest Perimeter Wall (Feature CC)
    - 418 linear feet of wall

To the west of the Diamond are buildings constructed between 1878 and 1904, which are located between Tower Avenue to the south and the Mississippi River bluff to their north. Moving from east to west across the site, these Features include (Features are each identified by their Feature letter in the Appendix F map):

- Cavalry Barracks, Building 17 (Feature D)
  - 103.45 feet x 150.4 feet
  - 39,000 GSF (three levels including basement and addition)
- Link (Feature E)
  - 11.5 feet x 99.5 feet
  - 2,288 GSF (two levels)
- Cavalry Barracks, Building 18 (Feature C)
  - 103.53 feet x 150.4 feet
  - 39,000 GSF (three levels including basement and addition)
- Ordnance Warehouse, Building 22 (Feature B)
  - 26 feet x 119.3 feet (dimensions original building)
  - 1983 addition irregular massing, approximately 80 feet x 47 feet
  - 7,420 GSF (including unfinished basement and non-contributing addition)
- Cavalry Stables, Building 30 (Feature A)
  - 160 feet x 67 feet
  - 10,720 GSF

Between Buildings 22 and 30 lies the 1983 Visitor Center, a primarily subterranean concrete building, and an asphalt parking lot.

- Visitor Center (Feature F)
  - Below grade
  - 30,835 GSF

The Fort Snelling Lower Post also contains significant documented pre-historic and historical archaeological information. The overall Fort, including the Lower Post, comprises State of Minnesota Archaeological Site 21-HE-99. The site was defined in 1979 (Feature DD), and the boundaries of the site match those of the 1978 National Register of Historic Places nomination boundary (Feature EE).

- Archeology (Feature DD)
- Site (Feature EE)

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### 5) UTILITIES:

The site is served by all major utilities (water, electric, sanitary and storm sewer, gas, phone/data). Service is already supplied to many of the buildings, though it may need to be expanded due to current code requirements and designated use. Due to the site's proximity to the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and location between the cities of Saint Paul, Minneapolis, Bloomington and Richfield, many of these services are trunk lines with adequate capacity for expansion.

### 6) RELATED PERSONAL PROPERTY:

N/A

### 7) SIGNIFICANCE:

*Describe the significance of the property in American history, archeology, architecture, or culture, referencing the National Register nomination or the Determination of Eligibility.*

Historic Fort Snelling was designated as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1960 and listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) when that program was established in 1966. The NRHP nomination for the property was revised in 1978 to better align the NRNP and NHL site boundaries. The portion of Fort Snelling that includes the present-day Lower Post was included within all three nomination boundaries.

#### *Historical Background*

In 1820, construction began on a military fort, Fort St. Anthony, located at the intersection of the Mississippi and Minnesota (St. Peters) Rivers. The initial functions of Fort St. Anthony (renamed Fort Snelling in 1825) included quelling conflicts among local Native American tribes, providing military back-up to the local Indian agency (located within the Fort until 1823), controlling channels of communication, and deterring Euro-American settlement in Native American territories. During the first period of significance, 1819-1858, the Fort's buildings included officer quarters, barracks, commissaries, a quartermaster's store, a Sutler's store, a guardhouse, a bakery, and workshops enclosed within a diamond-shaped stone wall.<sup>iii</sup>

With the signing of a treaty between the Dakota and the U.S. government in 1837, the U.S. government asserted ownership over the land between the St. Croix and the Mississippi Rivers, opening land to Euro-American settlement.<sup>iv</sup> According to the Fort Snelling Upper Post Program of Preservation and Utilization, "by the mid-nineteenth century, the American frontier had moved well beyond the Mississippi River and Fort Snelling became a garrison where troops gathered to embark to other locations."<sup>v</sup> New forts constructed farther west, as well as the influx of white settlers to St. Anthony (Minneapolis) and St. Paul, lessened Fort Snelling's importance, and it was decommissioned in 1856. In 1857, the military reservation was sold to land speculator Franklin Steele, who took possession of the property the following year.<sup>vi</sup>

The Fort's status as a decommissioned post was short-lived. When Steele defaulted on his payments, the federal government kept the title to the military reservation, and in 1861, the U.S military reoccupied the fort.<sup>vii</sup> The onset of the Civil War led the federal government to reinstate Fort Snelling as a "training and staging post," using its facilities to train Minnesota volunteers for the conflict.<sup>viii</sup> The Civil War also triggered the first substantial construction of buildings outside of the Fort's stone walls, as barracks, mess halls, stables, and other structures were constructed to the west of the original fort. The Fort was also used as an internment camp during the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862, when approximately 1,500

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Dakota prisoners were held below the Fort along the riverfront. Unsanitary conditions at the camp led to the deaths of between one hundred and three hundred prisoners between October of 1862 and March of 1863, most of whom were women, children, and elderly individuals.<sup>ix</sup>

Construction of Fort Snelling's "Upper Post" began in the late 1870s to accommodate the transfer of the headquarters of the Department of the Dakota (a military subdivision which oversaw Minnesota and the Dakota and Montana territories) from St. Paul to Fort Snelling. The original, diamond-shaped fort and surrounding area became known as the "Lower Post," while the term "Upper Post" referred to the areas to the south and west of the original fort; the names were retained even after the relocation of the Department of the Dakota around 1885. Other notable occupants of the Fort during the late nineteenth century included the "Buffalo soldiers" of the all-black Twenty-fifth U.S. Infantry, stationed at Fort Snelling from 1882 to 1888.<sup>x</sup> According to the 2017 Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report, "As the original fort was considered outdated and dilapidated, the military began cannibalizing the old fort for building materials, removing buildings and reusing stone from the old fort walls to construct new building foundations."<sup>xi</sup> By the late 1890s, all of the fort's original walls, two towers, and several buildings within the Diamond of the Lower Post had been demolished. Extant buildings constructed during this period include Building 22, originally built as an ordnance warehouse in 1878.<sup>xii</sup>

As part of a reorganization of the United States army following the Spanish-American War in 1898, the Fort was elevated to a brigade post. To accommodate the increased numbers of artillery, cavalry, and infantry units, its facilities were expanded and new buildings constructed. Between 1901 and 1905, almost two million dollars were invested in Fort Snelling infrastructure, including new cavalry stables, stable guardhouses, cavalry barracks, and a cavalry drill hall. Extant Lower Post buildings constructed during this period include Buildings 17 and 18 (originally cavalry barracks) and Building 30 (originally a cavalry stable) from 1904 to 1905. During this period, some of the original, Lower Post buildings that had been located outside the Diamond were destroyed while others were remodeled.<sup>xiii</sup>

In the several years leading up to World War I, Fort Snelling was used primarily to mobilize and demobilize National Guard regiments for the Mexican border. When the United States entered the global conflict in 1917, a Reserve Officers Training Camp (ROTC) was established at Fort Snelling and a cantonment camp was constructed to the south of the historic fort to enroll and train drafted soldiers. The Fort's U.S. General Hospital No. 29, constructed on the Upper Post in 1918, facilitated the care of returning, wounded soldiers. Following the end of the war in 1919, the cantonment was used to train participants in the Citizen Military Training Camps (CMTC) as well as cadets in the Reserve Officer Training Corps. At the Fort's Lower Post, cavalry buildings were converted for use by a machine-gun unit and a new chapel was constructed.<sup>xiv</sup>

During the interwar period, the Fort specialized in training soldiers for cold-weather combat, though its recreational facilities and frequent public events gave it a reputation as the "Country Club of the Army." During the Great Depression, the cantonment camp was repurposed to house new Civilian Conservation recruits, and the Fort's Upper and Lower Posts underwent building and maintenance campaigns, assisted by the work-relief programs of the federal Works Progress Administration. A \$1.1 million improvement campaign began in 1936, though actual expenditures over the next few years totaled over \$2.5 million.<sup>xv</sup>

In 1940, a Fort Snelling reception center (located on the site of the World War I cantonment camp at the Upper Post) was established to process army recruits from portions of the Midwest. The U.S. entry into World War II in December of 1941 created a high demand for the center's services; at its peak in 1942, the center processed 800 recruits per day and contained dozens of buildings. By World War II, the Lower Post represented only a fraction of the military complex at Fort Snelling.<sup>xvi</sup>

By mid-1944, recruitment rates were substantially reduced, and the military found a new use for the Fort as the home of the Military Intelligence Service Language School (MISLS). The language school, established to train U.S. intelligence soldiers in the Japanese language, was first located in San Francisco, California and then at Camp Savage in Minnesota. Having outgrown the available facilities at Camp Savage, the school moved to Fort Snelling in 1944, holding its first classes at the Fort in August of 1944. The school utilized buildings on both the Upper and Lower Posts, including Buildings 17 and 18, which were used as student housing. Between February and October of 1945, MISLS added Chinese, Korean,

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and oral language programs, and initiated its first section of Women's Army Corps students. The school continued to operate after the end of World War II (in September of 1945), shifting its focus to higher-level language training that would aid in the reconstruction of Japan. Approximately 4,500 MISLS students were trained at Fort Snelling before June of 1946, when the school returned to California.<sup>xvii</sup>

In 1946, Fort Snelling was decommissioned as a military post. The Fort's reception center was moved to Fort Riley, Kansas, and by February of 1947 all enlisted military personnel had left the post. The vacancy was filled by the Veteran's Administration (VA), which annexed the former U.S. General Hospital in 1947 to relieve overcrowding at the nearby VA hospital. Beginning in 1946, the VA occupied multiple buildings on the Upper and Lower Post, utilizing structures for both hospital-related purposes and other functions. Among the Lower Post buildings occupied by the VA were Buildings 17 and 18, which were converted into outpatient clinics, and Building 22, which was used as a prosthetics shop and lab.<sup>xviii</sup>

Though efforts to preserve Fort Snelling's historic buildings had begun as early as the late 1800s, it was not until the 1950s and 60s that the Fort achieved recognition as a historic site. The need for preservation was underscored by highway construction in the 1950s, when plans for Highway 5 threatened to destroy Lower Post buildings and construction on Highway 55 resulted in the demolition of several of the Fort's early twentieth-century structures, as well as the division of the Upper and Lower Posts. In an effort to reveal significant archaeological resources, the Minnesota Historical Society (MNHS) undertook archaeological investigations of the Lower Post area in 1957 and 1958, successfully uncovering remains of early-nineteenth century buildings. In 1960, Fort Snelling's Upper and Lower Posts were declared a National Historic Landmark, the first National Historic Landmark in Minnesota. The following year, the VA transferred ownership of 320 acres of Fort Snelling land to the State of Minnesota for the creation of Fort Snelling State Park. Most of this land was located along the riverfront in the floodplain below the Diamond, although the transfer also included two small pieces of land surrounding the Round Tower and the chapel at the Lower Post.<sup>xix</sup>

With the passage of the Minnesota Historic Sites Act of 1965, Fort Snelling achieved state recognition as a Minnesota Historic Site. That same year, the Minnesota State Legislature approved the reconstruction of the historic fort to its early-nineteenth century condition, and MNHS began the Fort Snelling Restoration Archaeology project to excavate the original 1820s structures. In 1966, with the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act the Fort was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1969, the VA transferred the Lower Post north of Highway 55 to the State of Minnesota for the establishment of a historic site. Though the VA continued to utilize some Lower Post buildings (including Buildings 17, 18, and 22), it began to vacate the Fort Snelling complex during the next decade. The administration and development of the proposed historic site was conveyed to MNHS in 1969, and the site began to operate as an historic site and living history museum in 1970. With the passage of the Minnesota Historic Sites Act in 1971, Fort Snelling was designated a State Historic District, and by 1978, the restoration of Historic Fort Snelling was complete. In 1983, an underground visitor center was constructed west of Building 18, and three of the Lower Post's four cavalry stables (stables 25, 27, and 28) were replaced by a visitor center parking lot.<sup>xx</sup>

Archaeological investigations did not end with the reconstruction of the Diamond. In 1979, the Fort was declared a State Archaeological site. Under the direction of Robert Clouse of the Minnesota Historical Society, annual summer field schools were conducted in partnership with the University of Minnesota between 1980 and 1997. In addition, at least three archaeological investigations were completed at the Lower Post between 1998 and the present.<sup>xxi</sup>

In 1989, following the completion of a new VA Medical Center in 1988, the VA closed its outpatient clinic in Buildings 17 and 18. The buildings were mothballed and have remained vacant through the present day. By the early 1990s, the VA had also vacated Building 22, which was repurposed by the Minnesota Historical Society as a maintenance shop and storage facility. In 1991, the buildings were placed under state ownership. The Minnesota Historical Society continues to operate the reconstructed fort as a historic site and living history museum.<sup>xxii</sup>

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### *Recent Evaluations of Historic Significance:*

In their 2017 Cultural Landscape Report, Quinn Evans Architects made the following recommendations to “further research and expand understanding of the context within which Fort Snelling developed.”<sup>xxiii</sup> Those recommendations include

The area’s significance related to the Dakota, including both its place within the context of the Dakota origin story and the subsequent Dakota inhabitation and history of interaction with Europeans and Euro-Americans from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century (potential significance under Criteria A and D); the fort’s significance related to African Americans, including both enslaved people’s experiences and contributions to the fort’s history and the presence and contributions of African American soldiers, as well as the connection of the fort to the historic Dred Scott Supreme Court Case through Dred and Harriet Scott’s tenure at the Fort (potential significance under Criteria A and B; the fort’s role in the development of the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul (Criterion A); the activities associated with the Veteran’s Administration’s occupation of the fort after World War II (Criterion A); the fort’s acquisition and reconstruction as a Minnesota State Historic Site (Criterion A); the fort’s unusual design (Criterion C); and the potential for further archeological information to be revealed related to both the military era and the preceding habitation by Indigenous peoples (Criterion D).<sup>xxiv</sup>

Fort Snelling’s potential historic significance for activities associated with the Veteran’s Administration’s occupation of the Fort after World War II was evaluated by historic consultants the 106 Group, Inc. in 2018. The context study *Historic Context of the Veterans Affairs Hospital System in Hennepin County Minnesota*, states that Buildings 17, 18, and 22 “[do] not contribute in a meaningful way to the evolution of the VA’s medical services, and [were] not integral to the development of the VA hospital system in Hennepin County,” and do not “constitute an exceptional example of hospital design, planning, or construction,” concluding that Buildings 17, 18, and 22 are not recommended as having historical significance for their association with the VA Hospital System in Hennepin County.<sup>xxv</sup>

In addition, the potential historic significance of Fort Snelling for its association with the development of the State Historic Site Network in Minnesota was evaluated by the 106 Group, Inc. in 2017. The December 2017 draft context study *Minnesota State Historic Site Context (1965-Present) and Historic Fort Snelling State Historic Site Evaluation* evaluated the reconstructed fort, the visitor center, the visitor center parking lot, visitor center landscaping, and Building 22 for potential significance. The study states that the reconstructed fort “was neither one of the first sites acquired or administered by MNHS, nor does it appear to have significantly contributed to the establishment, or been influential in the development, of the Minnesota State Historic Site Network in an integral way.” Moreover, the reconstructed fort was evaluated as not having significance because it was “not unique in terms of the methodology employed in the reconstruction, nor was it one of the first or influential reconstructions of historic properties in the state or nation during the time of its reconstruction.” Therefore, the historic fort is not recommended as having historical significance for its association with the State Historic Site Network in Minnesota. Likewise, the visitor center and its associated landscaping, the visitor center parking lot, and Building 22 lack individual significance within the *Minnesota State Historic Site Context* and are not recommended as historically significant within this context.<sup>xxvi</sup>

Recognizing the importance of the area to the Dakota as well as its military history, in 2016 the National Trust for Historic Preservation named Bdote Fort Snelling a “National Treasure.”



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### 8) PRESERVATION PLAN:

All work must be done in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (typically, the *Standards for Rehabilitation* would be the most applicable set of treatment standards). The *Standards* are available at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/tps>, under "Featured Links."

*Using the outline format below, describe the proposed work on a feature-by-feature or work-item basis (examples of architectural/landscape features or work items include: formal garden, new landscaping, new parking area, roof, windows, porch, exterior siding, foundation, interior trim, interior plaster, floor plan/interior partitions, HVAC system, etc.). Begin by describing site work, including new construction and parking, followed by work on the exterior and finally work on the interior. A separate outline description should be used to detail each work item and its effect on architectural/landscape features or interior spaces. Under item "8d," explain in detail the work to be undertaken and describe the effect (visual, structural, or other) on the existing feature. This should include the impact of any modern modifications or utilities on the existing feature. For archeological areas, describe necessary security and maintenance to stabilize the site, control vegetal growth, or avoid damage.*

*Numbered photographs and drawings are essential components of the Preservation Plan. Applicable photograph and drawing numbers should be referenced under "8e" and "8f" of each outline description or work item. The submitted photographs must be 35 mm color or black and white prints and they must document the existing/pre-project condition of the site, the exterior elevations of the building(s), and the interior. Interior elements to be documented include major spaces and detailing, such as decorative plasterwork and wainscoting.*

*Existing conditions may be shown by original construction drawings that include subsequent modifications, by current record drawings, or by newly prepared measured drawings. Major planned alterations or new construction must be shown on appropriate drawings (e.g. site plans, elevations, floor plans, sections). While detailed plans and specifications may not be necessary if the project is simple in scope, it must be clear from the submitted documentation that the Applicant has fully recognized areas of historic significance and will plan proposed work to minimize the impact on these significant areas.*

### ARCHITECTURAL/LANDSCAPE FEATURES

*For each architectural or landscape feature where work is proposed, use the following format to describe the existing condition and the proposed work. Attach additional sheets/pages as necessary continuing the alphabetical form until feature slate for work is described.*

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#### Feature A: Building 30, Cavalry Stable

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1904

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1955: Windows replaced, insulation added to building; beams repaired, new slate roof installed  
1982: East wall restored  
1998: Roof repairs  
2002: Asbestos Abatement  
2002-2004: New synthetic slate roof installed

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### **8c. Description and condition:**

Building 30 was constructed in 1904 as one of four cavalry stables located at the western edge of the Lower Post. The building is the last remaining cavalry stable, the other three were demolished in 1983, and is currently used for storage.

The stable is a long rectangular brick structure, with short façades facing north and south and long façades facing east and west. It has a synthetic slate gabled roof with light monitors at the east and west façades. The light monitors are currently infilled with plywood.

The building's single entrance, an overhead garage door centered on its north façade, was not part of the stable's original design. The entrance is flanked with window openings which are currently infilled with plywood. Segmental arched headers above these openings denote the location of the building's original barn-door style entries.

The east, west, and south façades are marked by a row of punched window openings with limestone sills. As at the north façade, the majority of these windows are currently infilled with plywood, though some 1955 three-over-three double-hung wood replacement sash and frame are extant.

The interior of the building is a single open volume. Brick is exposed at the exterior walls. A system of steel columns and beams supports a ceiling of exposed wood joists and decking. The floor is concrete.

### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

Within the next five years (by the end of 2023), the Minnesota Historical Society will begin production on an Historic Structure Report (HSR) for Building 30. The HSR, which will be prepared according to Preservation Brief 43 *The Preparation and Use of Historic Structure Reports* and reviewed by the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office, will identify character-defining features and materials from the building's period of significance and will inform the long-term preservation goals and needs of the historic Cavalry Stable. The HSR will serve as a foundational document that will assist the Minnesota Historical Society in caring for Building 30. The Minnesota Historical Society intends to continue using the building as storage to support the larger historic site.

While detailed preservation and use plans cannot be immediately addressed in this document, all work performed on Building 30 will meet the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at Building 30 will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for Building 30 and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, A.1 – A.6

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### **Feature B: Building 22, Ordnance Warehouse**

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1878

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** Circa 1900: Water, sewer, and electric lights installed



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Circa 1938: Wooden stairs at south façade entrances are removed; door and stairs added to east elevation

1945: Lean-to additions added to building

Circa 1946: Interior partition walls added and removed, acoustical tile and new flooring installed, chimneys removed, south façade openings modified, ramp and entry roof added at east façade

1983: Addition at west façade housing mechanical rooms, internal connection with the Visitor's Center, trash enclosure, and loading dock

1997: Asbestos abatement

1998: Boiler repaired

2013-2014: Window restoration including epoxy repairs, reglazing, replacement of broken lights, repainting, and select window replacement; storm window replacement and restoration; window sill replacement; door restoration including epoxy repairs and repainting; wood siding repair/replacement and repainting; cedar shake roof replacement; gutter and downspout replacement; soffit replacement; select areas of fascia replacement

### ***8c. Description and condition:***

Building 22 was constructed in 1878, as an ordnance warehouse. In 1983, the building received an addition at its western end; the addition houses a mechanical room and provides a subterranean connection to the 1983 Visitor Center. Building 22 is located to the east of Building 30 and west of Building 18.

The 1878 portion of Building 22 is a single story limestone building with a horizontal orientation and hipped cedar shingle roof. The 1983 addition extends to the southwest from the west façade of the original building. The addition is identifiable by the yellow limestone of its walls, and its flat roof; a loading area is present at the addition's south façade.

The south façade of the 1878 building faces Tower Avenue. It is roughly divided into six visual bays. Each bay includes three punched openings – a combination of doors and windows. The doors are all raised slightly above grade and are accessible by modern concrete ramps. There is no clear primary entry to the building. The windows are one-over-one double hung wood sash and frame. All windows have limestone sills. Three windows have segmental arched brick headers; the rest have flat limestone headers.

The east façade includes a door accessible by a modern concrete ramps, a single one-over-one double hung wood window with flat limestone sill and header, and a larger opening that has been infilled with concrete.

At the north façade, a wood clad stair enclosure protrudes from the main body of the building. Typical double hung windows are located at the western end of the façade.

At the interior, the first level of the building is organized by a single loaded corridor that extends along the north exterior wall. A series of rooms are located along the south exterior wall, with larger rooms that extend the full width of the building located at the east and west ends. Finishes at the first level include a combination of older flat plaster walls, and wood plank walls and ceilings, and newer (likely VA era) finish materials including gypsum board, bead-board, Masonite, wood paneling, acoustical tile, and carpet.

At the basement, the building has concrete floors, the walls are exposed stone and brick, and the ceiling is unfinished. The presence of wood furring strips in the walls suggests that the basement could have been finished space at some point.

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### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

Minnesota Historical Society's long term plan for the building is to rehabilitate the building and return it to use as an educational center for Historic Fort Snelling at Bdote. The rehabilitation could include space for a lobby, classrooms, restrooms, and storage. The building does not have functional HVAC systems, and the rehabilitation will also include new systems. The rehabilitation project will meet the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at Building 22 will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for Building 22 and the Lower Post, including the 2018 *Historic Structure Report for Ordnance Warehouse – Building 22, Fort Snelling, Minnesota*, as well as the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*,

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, B.1 – B.8

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### **Feature C: Building 18, Cavalry Barracks**

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1904-1905

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:**

- c.1919: A single story wooden link structure is constructed to connect Building 18 (Historically "K-12") to Building 17 (Historically "K-11," Feature B), a neighboring Cavalry Barracks
- c.1923: The single story wooden link structure is removed
- 1935: Four (4) skylights installed
- 1936: 1936: Single-story rear addition constructed by soldiers and the W.P.A.
- 1944: Interior renovations of a day room
- 1946-1948: Veteran's Affairs converts building into outpatient clinic, alterations include subdivision of interior space, removal of original door and window trim, openings cut into internal firewall, construction of additional platform roof over one story addition, removal of front porches, construction of a two story "link" (Feature E) that connects Building 18 with Building 17
- 1989: VA vacates building; building mothballed
- 1998: Updates to "security and protection" of Building 18; roof repairs
- 2001: Roof repairs
- 2011-2012: Roof replacement project including: complete replacement of slate roof at original portion of building, removal of platform roof at addition, replacement of addition roof with EPDM, reconstruction of built-in gutter system at original

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building and installation of new gutters at addition, repointing of all chimneys

2015: Masonry preservation project including: 100% repointing of the building's brick and stone, replacement of select deteriorated brick and stone, replacement of broken lights at windows; reglazing at windows; removal of aluminum storm windows and abatement of related caulk containing asbestos, stone sills stripped of lead paint, removal of concrete stairs and canopies at south façade, removal of deteriorated gable roof structures at on-grade side entrances and removal of deteriorated flat roof structure at side basement stair

### **8c. Description and condition:**

Building 18 was constructed in 1905 as a barracks building following United States Army Quartermaster Corps standard building plan Q.M.G.O. 75-G. The original three story building was U shaped, with the interior of the U facing north toward the Mississippi. The building has a quarry-faced stone foundation, buff brick walls, and a gabled slate roof with painted soffit and fascia that form short returns. Vertically stacked punched openings are present at each façade. Windows found at the first and second levels throughout the building are two-over-two double-hung wood sash and frame with segmental arched brick headers and stone sills. Garden level basement window openings are currently infilled with plywood. At the attic level of the south gable ends, a pair of smaller windows with flat lintels flank a central half-round window. At the south façade, paired wood doors are present at either end of the base of the U. At the west façade, a second level door is accessible via a metal fire stair.

In 1936, an addition infilled the interior of the U (north façade of 1905 building) at the basement and first levels. The addition has a concrete base, buff brick walls and a flat roof. A metal awning at the center of the addition covers a basement level stair.

Between 1946 and 1948, the VA constructed a link addition (Feature E) between Building 18 and Building 17 (Feature D); the link obscures much of Building 18's east façade.

At the interior of the building, the east and west wings of the 1905 building are organized around an exposed grid of cast iron columns. Wood floors, and plaster walls and ceilings are extant in some locations throughout the 1905 building. During the VA's tenure, gypsum board partition walls were installed throughout the building, heavily subdividing the space.

The building has been vacant since 1989. Interior conditions show damage caused by water infiltration, particularly at the 1936 addition and the basement.

### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society's long term plan for the building is to rehabilitate the building and convert it to public use as a new Visitor's Center for Historic Fort Snelling at Bdote. The rehabilitation could include space for a lobby, exhibit gallery, classrooms, restrooms, museum store, café, meeting and reception space, storage, a loading area, and staff offices. The building does not have functional HVAC systems, and the rehabilitation will also include new systems. The building will be made universally accessible through the addition of an accessible ramp and an elevator; stairs will be rehabilitated to be code compliant.

A rehabilitation project at Building 18 will meet the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at Building 18 will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for Building 18 and the Lower Post, including the

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2018 *Historic Structure Report for Cavalry Barracks-Buildings 17, 18 and Link, Fort Snelling, Minnesota*, and the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, C.1 – C.6

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature D: Building 17, Cavalry Barracks

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1904-1905

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:**

- c.1919: A single story wooden link structure is constructed to connect Building 17 (Historically "K-11") to Building 18 (Historically "K-12;" Feature C), a neighboring Cavalry Barracks
- c.1923: The single story wooden link structure is removed
- 1935: Four (4) skylights installed
- 1936: Single-story rear addition constructed by soldiers and the W.P.A.
- 1946-1948: Veteran's Affairs converts building into outpatient clinic, alterations include subdivision of interior space, removal of original door and window trim, openings cut into internal firewall, construction of additional platform roof over one story addition, removal of front porches, construction of a two story "link" (Feature E) that connects Building 17 with Building 18
- 1989: VA vacates building; building mothballed
- 1998: Hazardous materials abatement and "updates to security and protection;" roof repairs
- 2001: Roof repairs
- 2011-2012: Roof replacement project including: complete replacement of slate roof at original portion of building, removal of platform roof at addition, replacement of addition roof with EPDM, reconstruction of built-in gutter system at original building and installation of new gutters at addition, repointing of all chimneys
- 2015: Masonry preservation project including: 100% repointing of the building's brick and stone, replacement of select deteriorated brick and stone, replacement of broken lights at windows; reglazing at windows; removal of aluminum storm windows and abatement of related caulk containing asbestos, stone sills stripped of lead paint, removal of concrete stairs and canopies at south façade, removal of deteriorated gable roof structures at on-grade side entrances and removal of deteriorated flat roof structure at side basement stair

**8c. Description and condition:**

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Building 17 was constructed in 1905 as a barracks building following United States Army Quartermaster Corps standard building plan Q.M.G.O. 75-G. The original three story building was U shaped, with the interior of the U facing north toward the Mississippi. The building has a quarry-faced stone foundation, buff brick walls, and a gabled slate roof with painted soffit and fascia that form short returns. Vertically stacked punched openings are present at each façade. Windows found at the first and second levels throughout the building are two-over-two double-hung wood sash and frame with segmental arched brick headers and stone sills. Garden level basement window openings are currently infilled with plywood. At the attic level of the south gable ends, a pair of smaller windows with flat lintels flank a central half-round window. At the south façade, paired wood doors are present at either end of the base of the U. At the east façade, a second level door is accessible via a metal fire stair.

In 1936, an addition infilled the interior of the U (north façade of 1905 building) at the basement and first levels. The addition has a concrete base, buff brick walls and a flat roof. A metal awning at the center of the addition covers a basement level stair.

Between 1946 and 1948, the VA constructed a link addition (Feature E) between Building 17 and Building 18 (Feature C); the link obscures much of Building 17's west façade.

At the interior of the building, the east and west wings of the 1905 building are organized around an exposed grid of cast iron columns. Wood floors, and plaster walls and ceilings are extant in some locations throughout the 1905 building. During the VA's tenure, gypsum board partition walls were installed throughout the building, heavily subdividing the space.

The building has been vacant since 1989. Interior conditions show damage caused by water infiltration, particularly at the 1936 addition and the basement.

### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society intends to eventually rehabilitate Building 17 to support office, visitor, and storage functions at the greater historic site.

While detailed preservation and use plans cannot be immediately addressed in this document, all work performed on Building 17 will meet the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at Building 17 will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents, including the 2018 *Historic Structure Report for Cavalry Barracks-Buildings 17, 18 and Link, Fort Snelling, Minnesota*, created for Building 17 and the Lower Post, and the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, D.1-D.7

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature E: Link

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1948

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1989: VA vacates building; building mothballed

**8c. Description and condition:**

In 1948, the VA constructed a link addition between Cavalry Barracks Building 18 and Building 17 (Features C and D); at the time, the two former barracks buildings were undergoing renovations for use as an inpatient VA hospital. The link addition provided circulation between the Buildings 17 and 18. The link was constructed outside Fort Snelling's period of significance and is a non-contributing building.

The link has a concrete base, buff brick walls, and a gabled slate roof. Eight-over-eight double-hung wood windows with segmental arched brick headers and stone lintels punctuate the link's north and south façades. A wood swing door with classical pediment is located at the center of the link, again at both the north and south façades. As Building 18 is located at a higher grade than Building 17, the link is a long ramp at the interior. At the exterior, the ramping can be observed by a step in the roof line, and also by steps in the height of the building's windows. The interior currently has exposed concrete floor and ceiling, and plaster walls.

The building has been vacant since 1989, and interior conditions show damage caused by water infiltration.

**8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society may retain the link to maintain a connection between Buildings 17 and 18 or, in the future, may explore demolishing the link and/or constructing a single story link structure, as existed during the site's period of significance.

While detailed preservation and use plans cannot be immediately addressed in this document, all work performed on the Link as it relates to Buildings 17 and 18 or the construction of a new link structure will meet the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Link as related to Buildings 17 and 18 will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents, including the 2018 *Historic Structure Report for Cavalry Barracks-Buildings 17, 18 and Link, Fort Snelling, Minnesota*, created for the Link and the Lower Post, and the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, E.1 - E.2

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature F: Visitor Center

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1983

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1993: Clerestory glass replacement  
1994: Cap and sill flashing installed at clerestory windows  
2003: Remodel restrooms  
2005: Mold remediation  
2009: Concourse roof repairs

**8c. Description and condition:**

The Visitor Center was constructed in 1983 to provide orientation, restrooms, and gathering space for Fort Snelling visitors, and office space for Minnesota Historical Society staff. The Visitor Center was constructed outside Fort Snelling's period of significance and is a non-contributing building.

The Visitor Center is a primarily subterranean concrete structure, with earth mounding at the upper level that rises six to eight feet above grade. A series of above ground concrete terraces, retaining walls, and paths allow access from the east and west.

At the interior, the Visitor's Center is organized around a central concourse with clerestory windows and public entries at the east and west. To the north of the concourse, are the building's public spaces, including a conference room, and auditorium used for visitor orientation, a museum store, and ticketing. To the south of the concourse are public restrooms, and office space for Minnesota Historical Society staff. A sub-level houses additional office space and collections storage for the Minnesota Historical Society archaeology department.

The visitor center has a long history of water infiltration issues that have yielded ongoing structural problems and mold.

**8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society's plan for the non-contributing building is to demolish it as part of the site work related to the rehabilitation of Buildings 22 and 18.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, F.1 – F.6

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature G: Round Tower

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** Circa 1820

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1862: Round tower raised to three floors with conical roof  
1869: fire causes damage  
1902: Round Tower becomes adjutant's office  
1904: Exterior of the Round Tower is covered in a layer of stucco  
1905: Stucco is removed from the Round Tower and tower is repointed

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1938: Round Tower is converted to a museum “including a Works Projects Administration (WPA) mural depicting Minnesota and Fort Snelling’s early days.”

1946: Round Tower Museum closed

1956-57: Archeological excavation at the Round Tower

1966: Round Tower undergoes archeological investigation and the WPA murals are destroyed

1966: Round Tower restored

1970: Flag pole reconstructed atop Round Tower (relocated in 2007)

1993: “Restoration of Round Tower”

2000: Repointing at exterior walls

### **8c. Description and condition:**

Constructed circa 1820, the stone round tower is the oldest building in the State of Minnesota. The tower is the westernmost point of the historic fort and is connected to the limestone perimeter walls. The tower has a circular massing, is three stories tall, and is constructed of limestone. It has a flat roof with wood decking and with a wood railing along the roof’s perimeter. The tower is punctuated at all sides with regularly spaced artillery openings. The entrance to the tower is located on the eastern wall, facing the parade grounds, and is secured by a pair of wood doors.

At the interior, the floors radiate outward from a central limestone bearing wall. The floors and exposed ceiling joists and decking are all wood. A spiral wood stair with pipe railings is attached to the central bearing wall.

### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Round Tower in perpetuity. The Round Tower will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Round Tower will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Round Tower and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

### **8e. Photo number(s):**

See Appendix G, G.1 – G.3

### **8f. Drawing number(s):**

See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS’s drawing files



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### Feature H: Guard House

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1966: Reconstruction

1878: Original guard house demolished

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1996: Interior hearth replaced

2007: Roof reconstruction

**8c. Description and condition:**

The Guard House is located within the Diamond and was reconstructed in 1966. The southwest perimeter wall of the Diamond also serves as the southwest façade of the Guard House. The building is a single story and has a rectangular massing. It has limestone walls and a wood shingle roof with painted wood soffit and fascia. At the south portion of the building the roof is pitched upward toward the perimeter walls, the north portion is gabled. At the northwest façade, there are four recessed swing doors with flat wood lintels, and four six-over-six double hung wood windows with flat wood lintels and limestone sills.

At the interior, the building has a series of rooms with painted limestone walls, plaster ceilings and wood plank floors. At the gabled portion of the building the ceiling is the exposed wood joists and decking of the underside of the roof. Each room has a red brick hearth. The rooms stretch the full width of the building, and interior circulation is provided through wood swing doors in the partition walls.

**8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Guard House in perpetuity. The Guard House will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Guard House will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Guard House and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, H.1 – H.4

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature I: Gatehouse

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** Circa 1966: Reconstruction

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1824: Construction of original gatehouse

1880: Demolition of original gatehouse

1996: Repointing at exterior walls

1999: Plaster repairs at interior walls and ceiling

2000: Repointing at exterior walls

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### **8c. Description and condition:**

The Gatehouse is part of the Diamond and was reconstructed in 1966. It is located at the midpoint of the southwest perimeter wall. The gatehouse is two levels tall. It has a gabled roof, and a narrow profile, just wide enough to accommodate a second level walkway at the interior, northeast façade. At the exterior southwest façade, the gatehouse wall is exposed limestone. A double wood door occupies the majority of the first level. Above the door, a flat sandstone arch extends the length of the façade. At the second level, two small wood windows flank four artillery openings. A round window is located at the top of the second level gable. At the interior northeast façade, the second level walkway is partially enclosed by a painted wood wall. A large central opening with wood railing looks out over the parade grounds. An exterior wood stair provides second level access.

### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Gatehouse in perpetuity. The Gatehouse will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Gatehouse will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Gatehouse and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, I.1 – I.2

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### **Feature J: Shops**

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1970: Reconstruction  
1891: Original shops demolished

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1995: Door sill raised  
2007: Roof reconstruction

### **8c. Description and condition:**

The Shops building is part of the Diamond and was reconstructed in 1970. The southwest perimeter wall of the Diamond also serves as the southwest façade of the Shops building. The building is a single story and has a long rectangular massing. It has limestone walls and a wood shingle roof with painted wood soffit and fascia. The roof is pitched upward toward the perimeter walls. The northwest façade is punctuated by a series of wood swing doors with flat wood lintels, and six-over-six double hung wood windows with flat wood lintels and limestone sills.

At the interior, the building has a series of rooms with wood plank or red brick floors, and painted limestone or painted plaster walls. In some rooms, the ceilings are the exposed wood joists and decking of the underside of the roof, and in some they are plaster. Most rooms have a red brick hearth. The rooms stretch the full width of the building, and interior circulation is provided through wood swing doors in the

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partition walls. The majority building is currently used as interpretive space, portraying a blacksmith shop, bakery, and wood shop among others. The northernmost space is used as office space.

### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Shops in perpetuity. The Shops will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Shops will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Shops and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, J.1 – J.4

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### **Feature K: South Battery/Hexagonal Tower**

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** Circa 1825

1902: South Battery used as a storehouse

1904: Red tile roof installed on tower

1970: Interior restored

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1974: Work completed

1993: Archeological investigation around foundation; select stone replacement and repointing work at exterior walls

1997: Archeological investigation around foundation

### **8c. Description and condition:**

The South Battery is one of the extant original buildings in the Diamond. The building is hexagonal in shape and is the southernmost point of the reconstructed fort. The building has limestone walls and hexagonal "hipped" wood shingle roof. When viewed from the interior of the Fort, the battery is one story above grade. When viewed from the exterior of the fort walls, the battery is four stories above grade. A wood door with wood lintel is located on the north façade facing the parade ground. The other five façades feature two levels of artillery openings and a top level of larger openings with interior wood screens. At the interior, the floors radiate outward from a central limestone bearing wall. The floors and exposed ceiling joists and decking are all wood. A painted wood stair provides vertical circulation throughout the building.

### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the South Battery in perpetuity. The South Battery will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the South Battery will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-

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138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the South Battery and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, K.1 – K.4

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature L: Commissary

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** Circa 1974: Reconstruction

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1895: Original Commissary demolished

**8c. Description and condition:**

The Commissary is part of the Diamond and was reconstructed in 1974. The southeast perimeter wall of the Diamond also serves as the southeast façade of the Commissary. The building has a long rectangular massing, and is constructed of limestone with a hipped wood shingle roof. Due to the grade change at the wall, the Commissary has one above ground story at its northwest façade, and four above ground stories at its southeast façade. Painted wood doors and six-over-six double hung wood windows punctuate the northwest façade. Similar windows are present at each story of the southeast façade.

At the interior, the top level is finished with wood plank floors, painted limestone walls, and the ceiling is open to the underside of the wood roof joists and decking. Wood doors in partition walls allow circulation between the various rooms. At the northeast end of the building, a wood stair provides vertical circulation to the lower levels. In addition to the stair, a pulley system allows for vertical circulation of various supplies that were housed in the lower levels of the building.

**8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Commissary in perpetuity. The Commissary will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Commissary will be in conformance with the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*, the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Commissary and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, L.1 – L.2

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature M: Hospital

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1973-1975: Reconstruction

1904: Original Hospital demolished

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1996: Window sill replacement

2007: Roof reconstruction

**8c. Description and condition:**

The Hospital is located within the Old Fort, at the southwest edge of the parade grounds. The building has a long rectangular massing, and is constructed of limestone with a hipped wood shingle roof. Five limestone chimneys are evenly spaced along the length of the roof. The primary façade faces northeast toward the parade grounds. The façade is organized by five groupings of openings, where each grouping includes a wood door with wood lintel, flanked at either side by two six-over-six double hung wood windows with wood lintels.

The southeast and northwest façades are uninterrupted limestone.

The southwest façade is punctuated by a series of eight-light wood windows with wood lintels. At the north end of the building, two below-grade limestone stairwells provide basement access. The stairwells are secured by above grade painted wood cellar-style doors. At the south end of the building, a change in grade causes the basement to be above ground. Here, two wood doors with wood lintels provide access.

At the first level interior, the building is organized into a series of hospital wards, where each ward has wood plank floors, plaster walls, plaster ceilings, and a red brick fireplace. Wood doors allow circulation between the wards.

The basement level interior is has wood floors, limestone walls, and the ceilings are the exposed joists and decking of the first level.

**8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Hospital in perpetuity. The Hospital will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Hospital will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Hospital and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, M.1-M.4

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature N: Officers' Quarters

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1846: Construction

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1979: Restoration of building  
1993: Restoration of piazza  
1995: Accessible toilet rooms constructed  
1996: Replacement of some windows and sashes; repointing at external walls  
1998: Ceiling and wall repair; accessible ramp constructed  
1999: Hardwood floors refinished; plaster repairs at interior walls and ceilings  
2000: Repointing at exterior walls  
2006-2007: Porches reconstructed; roof replacement

**8c. Description and condition:**

The Officers' Quarters are one of the extant original buildings located within the Diamond. The Officers' Quarters were constructed in 1846, and originally held apartments housing four officers and their families. The Officers' Quarters are a long rectangular limestone building with a hipped wood shingle roof. Six low red brick chimneys are evenly spaced along the length of the roof.

The building's primary façade faces northwest toward the parade ground. The roof overhangs at this façade, and is supported on painted wood posts, creating an arcade. The arcade has a gravel walkway. The façade itself is organized by a series of six painted wood doors. Each door is flanked by a pair of nine-over-nine double hung wood windows with wood lintels and stone sills.

The northeast and southwest façades are uninterrupted limestone.

A change in grade causes the basement to be above ground at the southeast façade. The roof overhangs at this façade, covering a first level wood porch and a basement level arcade. The roof and porch are supported on wood posts. At the basement level, the façade is organized by groupings of openings comprised of two wood doors with stone lintels flanked by two six-over-six double hung wood windows with stone sills and lintels on either side. At the first level, single windows and pairs of doors are more sparsely spaced along the façade.

At the interior, first level spaces are organized with a larger series of rooms along the northwest façade and a set of narrower rooms along the southeast façade. Swing doors in partition walls of the larger rooms allow for circulation along the length of the building. The smaller rooms are accessible from the larger rooms, but are not also linked to each other. Spaces are finished with wood floors, plaster ceilings and walls. Painted wood base, chair rail, picture rail, and casings are found throughout.

At the southwest end of the building, the first level floor is open to the basement below. A perimeter walkway allows a view into the basement, which has not been restored, but rather shows the results of archaeological excavations showing the foundation of the building.

**8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Officers' Quarters in perpetuity. The Officers' Quarters will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Officers' Quarters will be in conformance with the requirements of Section

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106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Officers' Quarters and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, N.1 – N.6

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature O: Commanding Officer's House

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1824: Construction

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1904: Stucco applied to the exterior  
1975-76: Archeological excavation  
1978: Restoration completed  
1981: fire at Commanding Officer's House  
2000: Repointing at exterior walls

**8c. Description and condition:**

The Commanding Officer's House, or Commandant's, House is one of the extant original buildings located within the Diamond. The Commanding Officer's House was constructed in 1824. The building is one-and-one-half stories with rectangular massing and limestone walls. The building has a hipped wood shingle roof with two red brick chimneys each at the north and south ends.

The primary façade faces west toward the parade ground and an entrance block projects slightly toward the parade ground and is marked by a dramatically stepped parapet. The entrance block includes a pair of wood doors capped with a semi-circular fanlight. The door is flanked by a pair of six-over-six double hung wood windows. At either side of the entrance block are two twelve-over-twelve double-hung wood windows. All window openings have stone sills and lintels.

The north and south façades are uninterrupted limestone.

At the east façade, change in grade causes the basement level to be above ground. Irregularly spaced nine-over-nine double hung wood windows with stone lintels and sills are spread over the basement and first levels. A single six-over-six double hung wood window is located at the half-story; and two flat roofed dormers are also present. Wood swing doors are roughly centered on the façade at the basement and first levels. A painted wood stair provides access to the first level door.

At the interior, the house has a central hall plan with a stair and four rooms. At the first level, the parlor is to the south of the hall and the dining room is to the north; both rooms have wood floors and fireplaces (the dining room fireplace has a tile surround, while the parlor fireplace has a marble surround). Two smaller bedrooms are located at the rear; both bedrooms have wood floors and fireplaces.

The stair to the upper level has wood risers and treads. The upper level has a wood floor. The landing has plastered walls, and two bedrooms at either side are open to the roof's wood joists and decking.

The basement includes a kitchen, storage space, and a second dining area. The floors are brick, the walls and ceiling plastered.

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### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Commanding Officer's House in perpetuity. The Commanding Officer's House will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Commanding Officer's House will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Commanding Officer's House and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, O.1 – O.7

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### **Feature P: Half-Moon Battery**

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1971: Reconstruction

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 2006: Removal and replacement of approximately 280 ft. of exterior wall

### **8c. Description and condition:**

The Half-Moon Battery is part of the Diamond and was reconstructed in 1971. The building is semi-circular and is the easternmost point of the reconstructed fort. The building has limestone walls and a flat roof with wood decking and a low limestone parapet and wood railing at the perimeter. A wood stair at the north end of the battery provides access to the roof. A wood swing door is centered on the straight, north façade providing access to the interior. At the interior, the floors radiate outward from a central limestone bearing wall. The floors and exposed ceiling joists and decking are all wood.

### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Half-Moon Battery in perpetuity. The Half-Moon Battery will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Half-Moon Battery will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Half-Moon Battery and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, P.1 – P.2

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files



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### Feature Q: Wood Barracks

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1972: Reconstruction

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1904: Original Barracks demolished  
1994: Accessible ramp and loading dock installed  
1996: Window sill replacement  
1998: Tile floors replaced in staff men's room  
1999: Plaster repair and interior walls and ceilings; replacement of deteriorated doors  
2000: Window sash replacement  
2007: Porches reconstructed; roof reconstructed

**8c. Description and condition:**

The Wood Barracks are located within the Old Fort, along the northeast perimeter wall. The building is a single story with basement and has a long rectangular massing. The exterior walls are clad in painted wood clapboard. The building has a hipped roof with wood shingles. Seven low limestone chimneys are evenly spaced along the length of the roof. At the southwest façade, the roof overhangs a wood porch that extends the full length of the building.

The southwest façade is divided into seven groupings of openings where each grouping is composed of four twelve-over-eight double hung wood windows flank either side of a central wood swing door.

At the northeast façade, the building's limestone foundation is partially exposed. Six below-grade limestone stairwells provide basement access. The stairwells are secured above grade by painted wood cellar-style doors. Fixed multi-light windows are located in window wells next to each stair. At the southeast end of the building, changes in grade cause the basement level to be fully above ground. Here, one wood swing door and one eight-light windows are located at the basement level of the façade. Fixed eight light wood windows punctuate the first level of the façade.

At the interior of the building, a circulation corridor extends along the southwest façade. Modern office and classroom space is located along the northeast façade.

**8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Wood Barracks in perpetuity. The Wood Barracks will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Wood Barracks will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Wood Barracks and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, Q.1 – Q.5

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature R: Stone Barracks

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1971-1975: Reconstruction

1999: Replacement of deteriorated doors

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 2000: Plaster repair at interior walls and ceilings

2007: Porches reconstructed; roof replaced

**8c. Description and condition:**

The Stone Barracks is part of the Diamond and was reconstructed between 1971 and 1975. The building is located along the northwest perimeter wall. The building is a single story with basement and has a long rectangular massing. The exterior walls are limestone. The hipped roof has wood shingles, and five low limestone chimneys are evenly spaced over the length of the building.

The building's primary façade faces southeast toward the parade ground. A painted wood porch with overhanging roof extends the length of the façade. A series of six-over-six double hung wood windows and wood swing doors punctuate the façade. The southwest and northeast façades are uninterrupted limestone. The northwest façade is punctuated by pairs of six-light casement windows. Three below-grade limestone stairwells provide basement access. The stairwells are secured by above grade painted wood cellar-style doors.

At main level of the interior, the stone barracks is arranged as a series of rooms that each extend the full width of the building. Wood doors in the partition walls allow access between rooms. A red brick fireplace is located beneath each chimney. Room finishes generally include plaster ceiling and walls, and wood plank floors. The building is currently arranged to interpret married soldier's quarters and typical enlisted soldier's housing.

The basement includes a modern restroom, and additional interpretive space that is also finished with plaster walls and wood plank floors.

**8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Stone Barracks in perpetuity. The Stone Barracks will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Stone Barracks will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Stone Barracks and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, R.1-R.5

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature S: Sutler Store

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1970: Reconstruction

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1878: Original Sutler Store is demolished  
1956-57: Archeological investigation at Sutler Store foundation  
1970: Sutler Store reconstructed  
1997: Demolition of chimney and fireplace

**8c. Description and condition:**

The Sutler Store is part of the Diamond and was reconstructed in 1970. The building is located near the northwest perimeter wall of the Fort. The building is one-story above grade, and has a small rectangular footprint. The walls are constructed of limestone. The roof is a hip style with wood shingles and painted wood fascia and soffit. The east and west façades are uninterrupted limestone. There is one door opening on the north façade. The south façade features one door opening at the center with two 12-over-8 wood windows flanking each side of the door. The window sills and door thresholds are stone and the lintels are wood. Both doors and frames are wood.

At the interior, the building is a single open volume. The floors are wood and the walls and ceiling are covered in plaster. The building is currently interpreted as a general store.

**8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Sutler Store in perpetuity. The Sutler Store will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Sutler Store will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Sutler Store and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, S.1-S.3

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature T: Gun Shed

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1979: Reconstruction

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1999: Plaster repair at interior walls and ceilings

**8c. Description and condition:**

The Gun Shed is part of the Old Fort. It is one-story above grade, with a small, rectangular footprint. The walls are constructed of painted wood lap siding and the roof is a hip style with wood shingles and a

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painted wood fascia and soffit. The north, east, and west façades are blank. The south façade features three pairs of wood board doors, installed between the wood posts.

The interior of the gun shed is exposed dirt floor, wood structure, siding, and roof decking. All interior woodwork remains unpainted with the exception of the three pairs of doors.

### 8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Gun Shed in perpetuity. The Gun Shed will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Gun Shed will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Gun Shed and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, T.1-T.2

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature U: Magazine

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1967: Reconstruction

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:**

**8c. Description and condition:**

The Magazine is part of the Old Fort. It is located in the northwestern corner of the fort, near the Round Tower. The magazine is a single story, with limestone exterior walls, where the south façade is rounded. A wood swing door with a stone lintel is located at the southern façade. The gabled wood shingled roof overhangs on all sides of the building, and is supported on painted wood posts with angled brackets.

At the interior, the building is divided into a vestibule and main magazine storage room. The vestibule is contained within the rounded portion of the exterior wall, and is open to the overhanging roof. The main magazine has a wood plank floor and limestone walls. Timber trusses support the roof.

**8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Magazine in perpetuity. The Magazine will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Magazine will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Magazine and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

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<b>8e. Photo number(s):</b>	See Appendix G, U.1 – U.3
<b>8f. Drawing number(s):</b>	See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature V: Schoolhouse

<b>8a. Approximate date of construction:</b>	1966: Reconstruction
<b>8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:</b>	Circa 1820s: Original school constructed 1878: Original school is demolished 1956-57: Archeological investigation at schoolhouse foundation

**8c. Description and condition:**

The Schoolhouse is part of the Diamond and was reconstructed in 1966. It is a one-story building with rectangular massing and a hipped roof. The building is constructed of limestone and the roof is clad in wood shingles. There is a limestone chimney on the east side of the building.

The primary façade faces northeast toward the parade grounds; there are two entrances with wood doors and three nine-over-six double-hung true divided light wood windows. On the southwest façade there are two nine-over-six double-hung true divided light wood windows. All openings have stone lintels. There are no openings on the southeast and northwest facades.

At the interior, the Schoolhouse is a single open volume with plaster walls and wood floors. There is a stone fireplace on the southeast wall. A raised wood platform occupied by the schoolmaster's desk is also located at the southeast end of the room.

**8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Schoolhouse in perpetuity. The Schoolhouse will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Schoolhouse will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Schoolhouse and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

<b>8e. Photo number(s):</b>	See Appendix G, V.1 – V.3
<b>8f. Drawing number(s):</b>	See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature W: Well House

<b>8a. Approximate date of construction:</b>	2011-2012: Well House Reconstructed (second time)
<b>8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:</b>	Circa 1824: Original well dug/constructed 1970: Well House Reconstructed (first time)

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### **8c. Description and condition:**

The Well House is part of the Diamond; the current iteration was reconstructed in 2011-2012. It is located near the northwest edge of the gravel path surrounding the parade ground. The Well House is a rectangular wood structure with a hipped roof. The roof has wood shingles and is raised about the Well House's base by four wood posts. The base of the Well House is constructed of wood planks. A pair of hinged doors are located at the top of the base – these doors cover the well below. All wood elements, save for the shingles, are painted.

### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Well House in perpetuity. The Well House will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Well House will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Well House and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, W.1

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### **Feature X: Parade Ground**

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1969: Parade ground raised to 1820s level and regraded

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 2012-2013: Parade ground crowned for drainage

### **8c. Description and condition:**

The Parade Ground is a generally diamond shaped green lawn at the center of the Diamond. Gravel paths extend around the perimeter of the parade ground, with the fort's buildings grouped at the far sides of the path, their primary façades generally facing the parade grounds.

### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Parade Ground in perpetuity. The Parade Ground will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Parade Ground will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Parade Ground and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

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**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, X.1

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### **Feature Y: North Battery/Pentagonal Tower**

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1968-1969: Reconstruction

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:**

**8c. Description and condition:**

The North Battery is part of the Diamond and was reconstructed in 1968-1969. The building is pentagonal in shape and is the northernmost point of the Diamond, overlooking the Mississippi River bluff. The battery is a single story, has limestone walls and a pentagonal "hipped" roof with wood shingles. A recessed wood door is centered on the south façade facing the parade ground. Artillery openings are located at the other four façades.

At the interior, the floors radiate outward from a central limestone bearing wall. The floors and exposed ceiling joists and decking are all wood.

**8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the North Battery in perpetuity. The North Battery will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the North Battery will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the North Battery and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, Y.1 – Y.3

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### **Feature Z: Northwest Perimeter Wall**

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1966 – 1974: Reconstruction

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1966: Southwest wall reconstructed  
1968: Northwest wall reconstructed  
1970: 700 feet of wall reconstructed

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### **8c. Description and condition:**

The Diamond is surrounded by limestone walls that are 10 feet high and two feet thick. The walls are parged at the top. The walls form a diamond, with each of the fort's four towers comprising a corner of the diamond.

### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Northwest Perimeter Wall in perpetuity. The Northwest Perimeter Wall will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Northwest Perimeter Wall will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Northwest Perimeter Wall and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, Z.1-Z.4

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### **Feature AA: Northeast Perimeter Wall**

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1966 – 1974: Reconstruction

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1966: Southwest wall reconstructed  
1968: Northwest wall reconstructed  
1970: 700 feet of wall reconstructed

### **8c. Description and condition:**

The Diamond is surrounded by limestone walls that are 10 feet high and two feet thick. The walls are parged at the top. The walls form a diamond, with each of the fort's four towers comprising a corner of the diamond.

### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Northeast Perimeter Wall in perpetuity. The Northeast Perimeter Wall will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Northeast Perimeter Wall will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Northeast Perimeter Wall and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.



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**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, AA.1 – AA.2

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature BB: Southeast Perimeter Wall

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1966 – 1974: Reconstruction

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1966: Southwest wall reconstructed  
1968: Northwest wall reconstructed  
1970: 700 feet of wall reconstructed

**8c. Description and condition:**

The Diamond is surrounded by limestone walls that are 10 feet high and two feet thick. The walls are parged at the top. The walls form a diamond, with each of the fort's four towers comprising a corner of the diamond.

8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Southeast Perimeter Wall in perpetuity. The Southeast Perimeter Wall will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Southeast Perimeter Wall will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Southeast Perimeter Wall and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, BB.1 – BB.2

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### Feature CC: Southwest Perimeter Wall

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** 1966 – 1974: Reconstruction

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1966: Southwest wall reconstructed  
1968: Northwest wall reconstructed  
1970: 700 feet of wall reconstructed  
1974: "Further work at all walls"

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### **8c. Description and condition:**

The Diamond is surrounded by limestone walls that are 10 feet high and two feet thick. The walls are parged at the top. The walls form a diamond, with each of the fort's four towers comprising a corner of the diamond. The Fort's main entry and gatehouse are located roughly in the center of the southwest wall.

### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

The Minnesota Historical Society plans to preserve the Southwest Perimeter Wall in perpetuity. The Southwest Perimeter Wall will be maintained in conformance with the *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Work and maintenance undertaken at the Southwest Perimeter Wall will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents created for the Southwest Perimeter Wall and the Lower Post, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

**8e. Photo number(s):** See Appendix G, CC.1-CC.4

**8f. Drawing number(s):** See Appendix H for an up-to-date inventory of MNHS's drawing files

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### **Feature LL: Archaeology**

**8a. Approximate date of construction:** n/a

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1957 through the present

### **8c. Description and condition:**

Historic Fort Snelling at Bdote is an archeological site (21-HE-99). Archeological investigations at Fort Snelling have taken place since 1957, when the site was threatened with the construction of a highway. Archeological investigations from 1957 through the 1970s revealed foundations of fort buildings dating to the early American military presence at the Fort. These buildings were reconstructed between 1965 and 1980. Archeological field schools were conducted at Fort Snelling between 1981 and 1997 and investigations have been conducted from the 1980s through the present in conformance with state and federal compliance for construction projects at the historic site.

### **8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

Where new construction or excavation of any kind outside of the footprints of existing buildings is undertaken, the potential for archeological resources will be considered and the appropriate level of survey will be conducted in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

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**8e. Photo number(s):** N/A

**8f. Drawing number(s):** N/A

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### **Feature MM: Site**

**8a. Approximate date of construction:**

**8b. Approximate date(s) of alterations:** 1820 to present

**8c. Description and condition:**

The Fort Snelling Lower Post is located on an approximately 25 acre site at the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers, at the top of the bluffs that form the southern bank of the Mississippi River and the western bank of the Minnesota River. The Lower Post is generally bounded by the rivers to the north and east, and Minnesota Highway 55 to the south. The Lower Post itself has a relatively level grade, however to the north and east the land drops sharply at the river bluff and to the south, Minnesota Highway 55 is elevated above the fort. Tower Avenue, a paved road maintained by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, extends east to west across the Lower Post, connecting the various site features.

The Lower Post is divided into two distinct sections; the reconstructed Diamond makes up the eastern third of the property, and the area outside of the walls and fronting Tower Avenue make up the western two-thirds.

The portion of the site that is devoted to the Diamond is largely contained within the Fort's stone perimeter walls. The site outside of the walls includes paved road, parking lots, and paths as well as areas of open lawn.

The site has been continuously altered since the military's first building campaign in the 1820s.

**8d. Proposed work and impact on the feature:**

While detailed preservation and use plans cannot be immediately addressed in this document, all site work beyond general maintenance (such as lawn care, snow removal, etc.) that includes changes to site grade, organization, circulation, function, and/or the introduction of new construction in the form of parking lots, paths, or support buildings or the reconstruction of historic buildings will meet the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *The Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*, and *The Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*. Work will be in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as well as any additional preservation guidance documents, including the 2017 *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* for the Lower Post.

Where new construction, the reconstruction of historic structures, or excavation of any kind outside of the footprints of existing buildings is undertaken, the potential for archeological resources will be considered and the appropriate level of survey will be conducted in conformance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the requirements of Minnesota State Statute 138.661-138.669, including the requirements laid out in the *Programmatic Agreement Between The National Park Service and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Amendment to the Program of Preservation and Utilization and the Proposed Revitalization Project for the Lower Post of Fort Snelling at Bdote*.

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8e. Photo number(s): N/A

8f. Drawing number(s): N/A

### 9) USE PLAN:

*Describe in detail the planned utilization and exhibition of the historic site. Differentiate between public-use activities and revenue-producing activities. Identify any portions of the property to which public access will be denied or restricted. Establish the suitability of the property for the proposed uses and the compatibility of the proposed revenue producing activities with the historical and/or architectural character of the property.*

The Minnesota Historical Society intends to continue operating Historic Fort Snelling as an active historic site in perpetuity. Public access will be maintained at the “Old Fort” and in outdoor public areas of the greater site. The Minnesota Historical Society intends to provide public access to significant portions of Buildings 17, 18, and 22; Minnesota Historical Society staff office space in these buildings will have restricted access. Building 30 will continue to serve a storage function for the site and will have restricted access.

Earned income from revenue-producing activities, such as retail sales, site and program fees, and parking fees, will contribute to operating income for the historic site.

### 10) FINANCIAL PLAN:

10a. Analysis of projected income from all sources:

Currently, MNHS funding projections for Historic Fort Snelling breaks down as:

- 25% State Appropriation
- 13% Contributed Income
- 62% Earned Income

This is based on the assumption that the State Appropriation and the Earned income will remain flat in the future. Therefore, all increases in operating expenses will have to come from earned revenue sources.

Historic Fort Snelling collects earned income from a number of museum-related sources.

Currently, this income comes primarily from:

- Site admissions fees,
- Program fees, and
- Retail sales

With improved facilities, and therefore increased visitation, the expectation is that all of the income sources will increase and be supplemented by new rental income and parking fees.

10b. Analysis of projected expenses for:

#### i) Repair, rehabilitation and restoration

In the past several years, MNHS has identified a number of capital improvements needed at the fort, including a replacement of the existing Visitor Center. Existing, but unoccupied structures on the site

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(Buildings 18 and 22) were identified to house new exhibits, galleries, gathering spaces, and visitor amenities. The current Visitor center would be razed and replaced with an open lawn for general use, gathering, and special events. Projected cost for this project- the Historic Fort Snelling revitalization project is \$46.5MM.

In addition to this capital project, there are other needs on the property ranging from window rehabilitation to hazardous material mitigation to interior preservation. Each of these projects are estimated with a total need of \$10-\$15MM in 2018 dollars. Projects at this site compete as priorities with other properties in the MNHS sites network for capital resources. All major repair, rehabilitation and restoration projects are ranked internally by MNHS in relation to a set of criteria to establish their relative importance.

### ii) Recurring maintenance requirements:

There is a central maintenance fund for repair and replacement of items at sites across the network. There are maintenance staff assigned to the Historic Fort Snelling to perform day to day maintenance tasks. As a part of the revitalization project, an increase of .5FTE has been accounted for.

### iii) Administration and operation:

Incremental Minnesota Historical Society overhead includes a marketing allowance, site utilities, facility costs, and personnel.

#### 10c. Provisions for disposition of excess income:

*The law requires that all income in excess of costs for repair, rehabilitation, restoration and maintenance shall be used by the Grantee only for public historic preservation, or park or recreational purposes (when all preservation needs have been adequately addressed). A reasonable amount of any excess proceeds may be carried forward from year to year to meet such costs. Any lessee who develops or rehabilitates the property on behalf of the Grantee shall be held to the same requirements for excess income.*

Portions of the funding for the site operation are fixed, with added program costs being covered by increased earned income. As such, it is not anticipated to have excess income. Should we find that we are operating with a fund balance at the close of the fiscal year, all of that would roll forward into an account for the preservation of the property.

#### 10d. Description of accounting and financial procedures:

*These must include provision for an independent audit every two years, the cost to be borne by the Grantee, and for an Audit Report based thereon to be submitted every two years, together with a Financial Report, to the Secretary of the Interior.*

The Minnesota Historical Society conducts an annual audit of its finances at its own expense, and complies with any occasional requests from the State of Minnesota's Legislative Auditor. All of these reports are available upon request.

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### **11) CAPABILITY:**

*Give a full statement of legal authority and ability to finance, operate, and maintain the property. Furnish complete information about the adequacy of staff to be made available to develop and operate the project and the Applicant's qualifications for the development and operation of historic property.*

MN Statue §138.661-138.669, also known as the Minnesota Historic Sites Act, conveys to MNHS the authority to administer sites throughout the State of Minnesota, including Historic Fort Snelling. This specifically addresses the operation, financing and maintenance of sites.

All of our sites are operated and maintained within our capabilities to deliver our mission and our mandated responsibilities. This includes adequate staffing and maintenance commensurate with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

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<sup>i</sup> NRHP Nominations for Fort Snelling were completed in 1969 and 1978. Nominations from this era did not include explicit feature counts. The division of contributing and non-contributing features above is based on current understanding of the history and use of the Fort.

<sup>ii</sup> Gross square footage is based on measurements provided in the Site Survey completed by Kemper and Associates, Inc. for Minnesota Historical Society, January 2016.

<sup>iii</sup> State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Fort Snelling Upper Post Program of Preservation and Utilization, 2016, 16; Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 2-19 – 2-26, 2-29, 2-30.

<sup>iv</sup> Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 2-20, 2-38.

<sup>v</sup> State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Fort Snelling Upper Post Program of Preservation and Utilization, 2016, 16.

<sup>vi</sup> Nicole Foss, “Minnesota State Historic Site Context (1965 – Present) and Historic Fort Snelling Site Evaluation,” (unpublished manuscript, prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, December 2017), 40, PDF file; Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for Minnesota Historical Society, February 2017), 2-20, 2-48; Charlene Roise and Penny Peterson, *Fort Snelling’s Buildings 17, 18, 22, and 30: Their Evolution and Context* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2008), 4; State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Fort Snelling Upper Post Program of Preservation and Utilization, 2016, 16.

<sup>vii</sup> Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 2-45; Charlene Roise and Penny Peterson, *Fort Snelling’s Buildings 17, 18, 22, and 30: Their Evolution and Context* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2008), 4.

<sup>viii</sup> Charlene Roise and Penny Peterson, *Fort Snelling’s Buildings 17, 18, 22, and 30: Their Evolution and Context* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2008), 4; Stephen E. Osman, *Fort Snelling Then and Now: The World War II Years* (Saint Paul, MN: The Friends of Fort Snelling, 2011), 4; *Historic Fort Snelling*, c. 1940, in Ruth Tanbara Papers, Box 1, Minnesota Historical Society; Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 2-46.

<sup>ix</sup> State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, “Fort Snelling Upper Post Program of Preservation and Utilization,” 2016, 16; Charlene Roise and Penny Peterson, *Fort Snelling’s Buildings 17, 18, 22, and 30: Their Evolution and Context* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2008), 4; Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 2-46, 2-50, 2-54.

<sup>x</sup> Charlene Roise and Penny Peterson, *Fort Snelling’s Buildings 17, 18, 22, and 30: Their Evolution and Context* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2008), 6; Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 2-49, 2-62; Stephen E. Osman, *Fort Snelling in World War II: A Self-Guided Walking and Driving Tour of the Fort Snelling Military Reservation* (St. Paul, MN: 2005), “General Background,” “The Fort Expands,” Minnesota Historical Society, accessed November 28, 2017, <http://www.historicfortsnelling.org/history/military-history/later-conflicts>; State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, “Fort Snelling Upper Post Program of Preservation and Utilization,” 2016, 16. The Upper and Lower Posts were differentiated from each other by a change in elevation, though this change has since been altered by regrading and road expansion projects.

<sup>xi</sup> Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 2-49.

<sup>xii</sup> Nicole Foss, “Minnesota State Historic Site Context (1965 – Present) and Historic Fort Snelling Site Evaluation,” (unpublished manuscript, prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, December 2017), 40, PDF files; Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 2-48, 2-58, 2-62.

<sup>xiii</sup> Stephen E. Osman, *Fort Snelling Then and Now: The World War II Years* (Saint Paul, MN: The Friends of Fort Snelling, 2011), 5; Charlene Roise and Penny Peterson, *Fort Snelling’s Buildings 17, 18, 22, and 30: Their Evolution and Context* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2008), 14 - 28; Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 2-65, 2-66.

<sup>xiv</sup> Charlene Roise and Penny Peterson, *Fort Snelling’s Buildings 17, 18, 22, and 30: Their Evolution and Context* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2008), 31-34, 41 – 42, 48; Stephen E. Osman, *Fort Snelling Then and Now: The World War II Years* (Saint Paul, MN: The Friends of Fort Snelling, 2011), 6; Nicole Foss, *Historic Context of the Veterans Affairs Hospital System in Hennepin County, Minnesota (1927 – Present), and Evaluation of Buildings 17, 18, and 22* (prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 10 – 11. The Fort’s chapel is extant and located at the Lower Post, however it was transferred as a separate tract of land, Tract C, is not managed by MNHS, and is therefore not included in the land addressed by this Program for Preservation and Utilization Amendment.

<sup>xv</sup> Charlene Roise and Penny Peterson, *Fort Snelling’s Buildings 17, 18, 22, and 30: Their Evolution and Context* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2008), 39, 42, 44; State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Fort Snelling Upper Post Program of Preservation and Utilization, 2016, 17; Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 2-70.

<sup>xvi</sup> Charlene Roise and Penny Peterson, *Fort Snelling’s Buildings 17, 18, 22, and 30: Their Evolution and Context* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2008), 48; Stephen E. Osman, *Fort Snelling Then and Now: The World War II Years* (Saint Paul, MN: The Friends of Fort Snelling, 2011), 10; Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 2-71.

<sup>xvii</sup> *MISLS Album, 1946*, reprint (1946; repr., Nashville, TN: Battery Press, 1990), 11; Charlene Roise and Penny Peterson, *Fort Snelling’s Buildings 17, 18, 22, and 30: Their Evolution and Context* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2008), 51 - 55; Duane R. Shellum, *American’s Human Secret Weapon* (Minneapolis, MN: Minnisei Printers, Inc., 1977), 15; Mitzi Matsui, “The Military Intelligence Service Story,” in MIS-Northwest Association, *Unsung Heroes: The Military Intelligence Service, Past, Present, Future* (Seattle, WA: MIS-Northwest Association, 1996), xii; Stephen E. Osman, *Fort Snelling Then and Now: The World War II Years* (Saint Paul, MN: The Friends of Fort Snelling, 2011), 17; Masaharu Ano, “Loyal Linguists: Nisei of World War II Learned Japanese in Minnesota,” *Minnesota History* 45 (Fall 1977): 283; PVN, “Historic Structure

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Report for Cavalry Barracks Buildings 17, 18, and Link,” vol. 1 (unpublished manuscript, prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, February 2018), 16.

<sup>xviii</sup> Charlene Roise and Penny Peterson, *Fort Snelling’s Buildings 17, 18, 22, and 30: Their Evolution and Context* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2008), 57 - 58; Nicole Foss, “Minnesota State Historic Site Context (1965 – Present) and Historic Fort Snelling Site Evaluation,” (unpublished manuscript, prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, December 2017), 43, PDF files; Nicole Foss, *Historic Context of the Veterans Affairs Hospital System in Hennepin County, Minnesota (1927 – Present), and Evaluation of Buildings 17, 18, and 22* (prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 21 – 24; Stephen E. Osman, *Fort Snelling Then and Now: The World War II Years* (Saint Paul, MN: The Friends of Fort Snelling, 2011), 43.

<sup>xix</sup> Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 2- 49, 2-73, 2-75, 2-76; Nicole Foss, “Minnesota State Historic Site Context (1965 – Present) and Historic Fort Snelling Site Evaluation,” (unpublished manuscript, prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, December 2017), 1, 16 – 17, 20, 43 – 44, 46, PDF files.

<sup>xx</sup> Nicole Foss, “Minnesota State Historic Site Context (1965 – Present) and Historic Fort Snelling Site Evaluation,” (unpublished manuscript, prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, December 2017), 1, 24-25, 47, 62, PDF files; Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 2-76, 2-80; PVN, “Historic Structure Report for Ordnance Warehouse – Building 22,” vol. 1 (unpublished manuscript, prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, February 2018), 13.

<sup>xxi</sup> Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 2-72, 2-85 – 86.

<sup>xxii</sup> Nicole Foss, “Minnesota State Historic Site Context (1965 – Present) and Historic Fort Snelling Site Evaluation,” (unpublished manuscript, prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, December 2017), 49, PDF files; PVN, “Historic Structure Report for Ordnance Warehouse – Building 22,” vol. 1 (unpublished manuscript, prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, February 2018), 14.

<sup>xxiii</sup> Quinn Evans Architects, *Historic Fort Snelling Cultural Landscape Report* (Prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 1-6.

<sup>xxiv</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xxv</sup> Nicole Foss, *Historic Context of the Veterans Affairs Hospital System in Hennepin County, Minnesota (1927 – Present), and Evaluation of Buildings 17, 18, and 22* (prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, 2017), 68, 69, 76, 82, 83.

<sup>xxvi</sup> Nicole Foss, “Minnesota State Historic Site Context (1965 – Present) and Historic Fort Snelling Site Evaluation,” (unpublished manuscript, prepared for the Minnesota Historical Society, December 2017), 63, 74, 78, 83, 88, PDF files.