

# HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Wednesday, February 18, 2015

6:00 P.M.

Meeting Rooms D&E  
City-County Government Center

160 South Macy Street  
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. Roll Call
- B. Declaration a Quorum is Present

## **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. November 19, 2014

## **III. DISCUSSION**

- A. Review of Eligibility for Historic Designation  
Fountain Island Bridge  
Location: Lakeside Park  
Initiator: Commissioner Lisa Pauly
- B. Planning for May 2015 Historic Preservation Month  
Initiator: Dyann Benson, Community Development  
Director

## **IV. REPORT OF OFFICERS**

- A. Possible Designations

## **V. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

## **VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

## **VII. CORRESPONDENCE**

- A. Wisconsin Association of Historic Preservation  
Commissions (WAHPC)- April 2015 - Date/Location TBD

## **VIII. ADJOURN**

# HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

November 19, 2014  
6:00 P.M.

Meeting Rooms D&E  
City-County Government Center

160 South Macy Street  
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

## CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Present: - Cathy Boyle  
John Huberty  
Lisa Pauly  
Tony Roden  
Steve Schoofs

Absent: - Sam Meyer (excused)

Administrative Staff - Dyann Benson, Dir of Comm Development

Chairperson Pauly declared a quorum present.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### October 15, 2014

Motion made by Commissioner Boyle to approve the minutes of the Historic Preservation Commission of the October 15, 2014 meeting as presented.

Seconded by Commissioner Huberty.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye - Boyle, Huberty, Pauly,  
Roden, Schoofs

Nay - None

Carried.

## DISCUSSION

Review of Exterior Alteration - Window Replacement

Location: 131 Gillett Street

Initiator: THD At Home Services, Contractor

Motion made by Commissioner Schoofs to approve the proposed exterior alteration for the deck subject to the following:



**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**

November 19, 2014

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**REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

Possible Designations

The Commissioners had no recommendations for possible designations at this time.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Report on Wisconsin Historical Society, Local History & Historic Preservation Conference, October 24-25, 2014

Initiator: Commissioner Pauly

Commissioner Pauly reported on her time at the conference stating the knowledge she gained from the speakers. She also stated that you can go to Historical Society website and take classes or webinars on Historic Preservation.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Dyann Benson reported that the December meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission will be cancelled. It was also reported that due to remodeling being done in meeting rooms D/E the January meeting will be held in rooms F/G.

**ADJOURN**

Motion made by Commissioner Roden to adjourn.

Seconded by Commissioner Boyle.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye - Boyle, Huberty, Pauly,  
Roden, Schoofs

Nay - None

Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

MARGARET HEFTER  
CITY CLERK

MH/maa

# Historic Preservation Commission Memorandum

**Date:** February 11, 2015  
**To:** Historic Preservation Commission  
**From:** Dyann Benson, Community Development Director  
**RE:** Review of Eligibility for Local Designation

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**Location:** Fountain Island Bridge (blue bridge)  
Lakeside Park

## Applicable Historic Preservation Ordinance

### Section 374-4 Designation Criteria

For the purpose of this chapter, a historic structure, historic site, or historic district designation may be placed on any site, natural or improved, including any building, improvement or structure located thereon, or any area of particular historic, architectural or cultural significance to the City of Fond du Lac, such as historic structures, sites and districts which:

- (1) Exemplify or reflect the broad cultural, political, economic or social history of the nation, state or community;
- (2) Are identified with historic personages or with important events in national, state or local history;
- (3) Embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen inherently valuable for a study of a period, style, method of construction, or of indigenous materials or craftsmanship; or
- (4) Are representative of the notable work of a master builder, designer or architect whose individual genius influenced his age.

### Section 374-6 Procedures

Designation of historic structures, historic sites and historic districts.

- (1) The Commission may, after notice published as a Class 1 notice and public hearing, as well as due notice to the parties in interest and adjacent property owners, establish historic structures and sites and may recommend historic

districts, or rescind such designation or recommendation, after application of the criteria in § 374-4 above. The Commission shall also notify the following: Department of Public Works, Redevelopment Authority, Park Division, Fire and Police Departments, Inspection Division, Board of Appeals, and Plan Commission. Each such department shall respond to the Commission within 30 days of notification with its comments on the proposed designation or rescission. The Commission shall then conduct such public hearing and, in addition to the notified persons, may hear expert witnesses. The Commission may conduct an independent investigation into the proposed designation or rescission. Within 10 days after the close of the public hearing, the Commission may designate the property as either an historic structure or an historic site or recommend its inclusion in an historic district, or may rescind the designation.

(2) Where the owner(s) of the property objects to the designation or rescission of a historic site, historic structure, or historic district, the property owner(s) may file a written appeal of the designation or rescission to the City Council within 10 days after the close of the public hearing. The City Council may affirm, deny or modify the designation or rescission. The action of the City Council shall not become effective except by the favorable vote of 3/4 of the entire membership of the City Council.

(3) After the designation, recommendation or rescission has been made, notification shall be sent to the property owner or owners and to the persons who appeared at the public hearing. Notification shall also be given to the City Clerk, Building Inspector and the City Assessor. The Commission shall cause the designation or rescission to be recorded, at City expense, in the County Register of Deeds office, or the recommendation to be submitted to the City Council of the City of Fond du Lac as provided by Subsection C.

## **Background & Request**

Commissioner Pauly has prepared a draft proposal for local designation for the Fountain Island Bridge at Lakeside Park. The draft proposal is attached for reference along with an aerial photograph showing the location of the bridge.

### **Background**

The basis for the bridge's historical significance is Criteria C – Architecture. The bridge is an example of a metal bowstring truss bridge that was built around 1870. The bridge was originally used to cross the Fond du Lac River at Scott street and was

relocated to Lakeside Park in 1920. The bridge is one of seven remaining bowstring trusses in Wisconsin.

## **Request**

The bridge has been proposed for local designation by the Historic Preservation Commission under Criteria C – Architecture.

Staff requested information for the Engineering Division on any work that has been performed on the bridge that should be included in the discussion for designation. In 2014, eight (8) I-beams were hung from the concrete bridge deck and the exterior tension channels of the bow bridge. The I-beams provide support for failed interior, transverse and longitudinal girders. Girder failure was due to extreme rust deterioration of steel members under the bridge.

Other modifications to the original bridge include welded steel plate and I-beam piling on the west side of the bridge. Welding to a steel bridge girder is not acceptable practice, particularly to a tension member in a failure critical bridge like this bow. Electric conduit is attached to the bridge; however, the conduit may no longer be in use. The concrete bridge deck is also not the original deck material.

Engineering staff looked under the bow bridge in January to check the condition and measurements for the abutments. The condition of the steel under the bridge remains very poor and the longitudinal and transverse steel at the north abutment is really in very bad condition. A number of transverse girders have holes through the web and broken bottom flange. The beams at the north end of the bridge appear to be mostly rust. A determination will need to be made on how much of the structure under the bridge deck can be salvaged and what must be replaced in order to maintain structural integrity.

The Department of Public Works will be seeking the services of an engineering consultant to assist in further determining the extent of the structure that can be salvaged and what must be replaced in order to be structurally sound.

## **Considerations**

The proposed designation of the Fountain Island Bridge has unique circumstances for consideration. Unlike other designations, the HPC will have to consider not only

the eligibility of the bridge under the Designation Criteria but also the need for a Certificate of Appropriateness. The condition of the bridge, with or without designation, needs to be addressed by the City. IF designated, shortly thereafter, the HPC would be asked to consider the necessary work items to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness. The HPC must be aware of the extent of work that will have to be performed in order to maintain the structure.

*If the HPC determines that the bridge is eligible for designation, staff is recommending that the public hearing for designation be held at the April meeting in order to allow Public Works to retain the services of an engineering consultant to determine the scope of work for the Fountain Island Bridge.*

CITY OF FOND DU LAC  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
Historic Site Designation Application

Property Information:

Date:	1/28/2015
Name of Property:	Fountain Island Bridge
Address:	650 N. Main Street
Owner of Property:	City of Fond du Lac
Address/City/State/Zip:	160 S. Macy Street, Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Significance: Architecture

Does the property have any accessory structures? No

Statement of Significance:

Metal Bowstring Truss bridge built circa 1870, originally used to cross the Fond du Lac River at Scott Street as a pony truss bridge.<sup>1,2</sup> It was moved to Lakeside Park circa 1920 to replace a wooden bridge directly south of the bandstand connecting Promen Drive to Fountain Island. This bridge would have been originally used for pedestrian and equestrian purposes and later a vehicular purpose with the influx of automobiles. In its move to Lakeside Park it has fulfilled its original purpose of pedestrian traffic for generations.

The bridge is a single span, arched parabolic truss with pinned connections and a concrete replacement deck. It is 67 feet 4 inches long, 10 feet 11 inches wide, and 8 feet 7 inches high. The three-section, parabolic top chords are two upright, curved, iron channels connected with riveted stay plates and cover plates. The bottom chords are two upright iron channels connected with riveted cover plates, supported by iron I-beams. Diagonal bracing consisted of cylindrical eyebars which pass through the top chord and are secured with cast iron skewbacks and hex nuts. The bridge is divided into ten panels by a series of iron verticals, laced with short, horizontal and diagonal members. These verticals are similar in configuration to the verticals on an 1877 Pratt through truss, built by Milwaukee Bridge and Iron Works in Burlington, Wisconsin. The ends of the upper chords are riveted to the ends of the lower chords, which were riveted to steel-bearing pads resting on concrete abutments.<sup>3</sup>

The Fountain Island Bridge is one of seven remaining bowstring trusses in the State of Wisconsin. The bowstring truss was patented by Squire Whipple in 1840, and was thus one of the early types of metal truss bridges.<sup>4</sup>

1 Wisconsin Historic Society Property Record reference number 27173

2 A Photographer's History of Fond du Lac County Vol. I by Ray Thornton, page 52

3,4 Lola Bennett, Wisconsin Historic Bridge Recording Project July 1987, Historic American Engineering Record, National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior HAER No. WI-23

Form Prepared by:

Name: Lisa Pauly

Organization (if applicable): Historic Preservation Commission

Address/City/State/Zip: 160 S. Macy Street, Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Are you the property owner: No

# LAKESIDE PARK - FOUNTAIN ISLAND BRIDGES



Harbor View Drive

© 2008 Pictometry

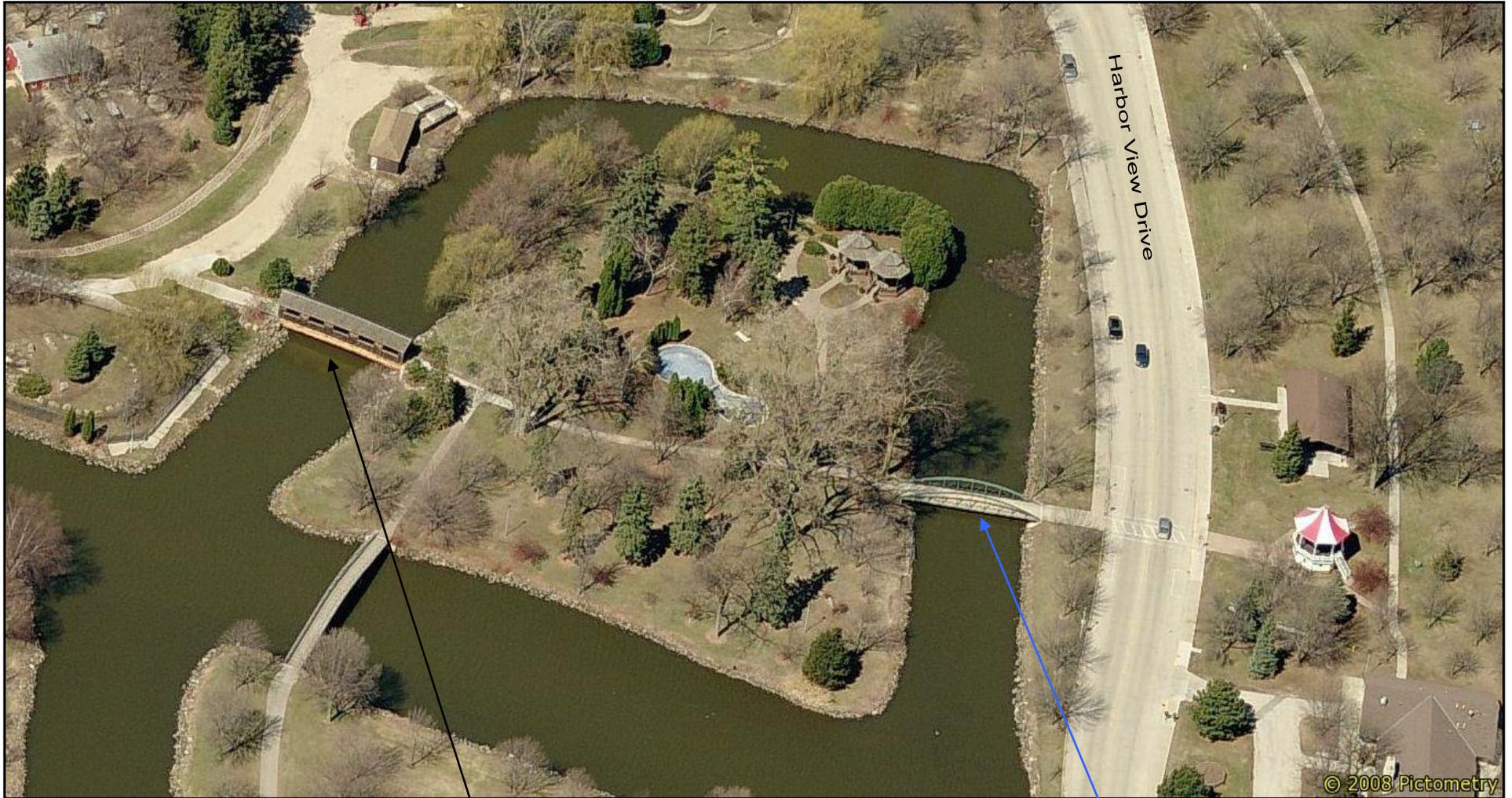
COVERED BRIDGE

BOWSTRING BRIDGE



# LAKESIDE PARK – FOUNTAIN ISLAND BRIDGES

VIEW LOOKING WEST



COVERED BRIDGE

BOWSTRING BRIDGE

# ***CITY OF FOND DU LAC - Memorandum***

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Department of Community Development

**Date:** February 11, 2015

**To:** Historic Preservation Commission

**From:** Dyann Benson, Community Development Director

**Re:** Planning – May 2015 Historic Preservation Month

The Historic Preservation Commission has been discussing opportunities to promote May 2015 as Historic Preservation Month. Staff has been working with the Library and Wisconsin Historical Society to host a speaker along with a social meet-and-greet after the presentation. Staff will provide an update on other possible activities , including the status of the locally designated property booklet and potential opportunities with other historic preservation partners.