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State Historical Society seeks public input on preservation needs

PIERRE, S.D. -- The State Historic Preservation Office of the South Dakota State Historical Society in Pierre is preparing for its federal fiscal year 2017 grant application and invites public comment through Oct. 31 on the state's preservation needs and projects.

The SHPO manages the National Register of Historic Places program of the National Park Service in South Dakota. The office relates historic preservation to economic, social and educational state objectives. It surveys, inventories and registers historical properties, and it promotes public awareness and provides technical assistance on their preservation.

Among the questions to consider are:

- What properties or areas need to be inventoried?
- What properties should be considered for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places?
- What properties are at-risk or endangered?
- What kinds of technical preservation assistance are beneficial?

"Public input or responses to these questions will help the program in preparing its annual work plan," said Jay D. Vogt, director of the State Historical Society. "Historic preservation emphasizes the history of our state and boosts economic development and heritage tourism."

The SHPO Annual Work Plan Suggestion Form may be obtained online at history.sd.gov/Preservation by clicking the link at the top of the page or by contacting the SHPO office at (605) 773-2907 or shpo@state.sd.us.

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About the South Dakota State Historical Society

The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Education. The State Historical Society, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is headquartered at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society's world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit www.history.sd.gov for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.