

2006 Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement (SFEIS) BACKGROUND:

During the SFEIS stage of the St. Croix River Crossing Project, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was finalized to address the project's impacts on the known historical and archeological resources within the area of potential effect. For a full description of those individual historical/archeological resources, please see chapter 11 of the SFEIS at

http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/stcroix/pdfs/sfeis2006/Full%20Chapters/Chapters/StCroixSFEIS_Ch11.pdf

Chapter 11 describes the determination of effect on each of the historical/archeological resources and if necessary, the appropriate mitigation of that effect. One of the historical/archeological resources is the Shoddy Mill and Warehouse on page 11-14. (The MOA has the same documentation on page 12 for the Shoddy Mill and Warehouse at

http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/stcroix/pdfs/sfeis2006/Full%20Chapters/Appendices/StCroixSFEIS_AppendixG.pdf)

Since 2006, MnDOT has been implementing a number of mitigation items, including the relocation of the Shoddy Mill and Warehouse. Agency coordination meetings between MnDOT, the City of Stillwater, NPS and MnDNR have developed this relocation project. MnDOT is currently planning a August 2010 letting to relocate the Shoddy Mill and Warehouse buildings to the site as proposed in the City of Stillwater's 2006 Proposed Site Assessment report.

MnDOT maintains information on the Shoddy Mill and Warehouse Relocation Project on the project website at: http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/stcroix/documents_mill.html

Shown below are the Shoddy Mill and Warehouse buildings in their existing location.



Historical Context: The Bergsteins emigrated from Europe in 1880, during a time when many Jews were emigrating from Eastern Europe. Moritz was born in Germany and his wife Bertha was born in Bohemia. Moritz Bergstein owned and operated a salvage business and as one of the early environmentalists he recycled waste paper, rags, scrap metal, and wood shavings. He built a machine that tore up the rags and employed several women to fabricate mattresses. Later, Moritz entered into a partnership with his brother, Ignatz, to form a mattress making firm. There were few Jewish settlers in Minnesota in its pioneer days, so the story of the Bergsteins provides insight into early Jewish life in Minnesota. While many Jewish immigrants dealt in used goods and recycled materials, the Bergsteins were atypical because they lived in a town distant from other Jews, engaged in light manufacturing, owned property soon after they moved to Minnesota, and hired non-Jewish workers.

Both the Shoddy Mill and Warehouse are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

This is an image of the buildings incorporated into the park that is part of the loop trail system for the St. Croix River Crossing Project.

