



TREE  
CITY  
USA

# CITY OF KASSON

401 FIFTH STREET SE  
KASSON, MINNESOTA 55944-2204  
PHONE: (507) 634-7071  
FAX: (507) 634-4737

October 10, 2007

**State Historic Preservation Office**

Britta L. Bloomberg, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
345 Kellogg Blvd. W.  
St. Paul, MN 55102

Re: *Kasson Public School, 101 3rd Ave. NW, Kasson, MN*

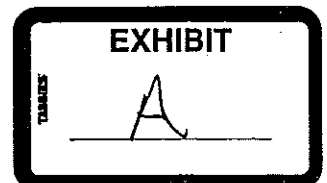
Dear Ms. Bloomberg:

I am the City Administrator for the City of Kasson, Minnesota ("City"). On behalf of the City, I hereby certify that the City owns the old school building located at 101 3rd Avenue N.W., Kasson, MN ("School") and object to the listing of the School on the National Register of Historic Places ("National Register").

The City objects to the listing of the School on the National Register because it has determined that demolishing the School is in the public's best interest. The School is vacant and requires major renovation in order to be safely and efficiently used. Because the City did not have the funds, a \$3.9 million bond referendum was held in November 2006 to determine if the public would support and finance rehabilitating and converting the School into a public library and municipal building. The City's residents voted on and rejected the referendum. With no other possible use for the School or available financing, the City Council passed a resolution to demolish the School on November 27, 2006.

Shortly thereafter, the City was designated as the Responsible Government Unit for determining whether an Environmental Assessment Worksheet ("EAW") was required to demolish the building. The City retained historian Robert C. Vogel to prepare findings and make recommendations concerning the need for an EAW based on the historical significance of the School. In his preliminary report, Mr. Vogel opined that an EAW was not required because, among other reasons, the School is not eligible to be placed on the National Register. On May 23, 2007, the City resolved to adopt Mr. Vogel's findings and make a Negative Declaration that an EAW is not required or found to be in the public's best interest. There have been no challenges to the City's May 23, 2007 Resolution or Negative Declaration. Listing the School on the National Register for the purpose of preserving it would therefore be inconsistent with the City's legislative process and its residents' wishes.

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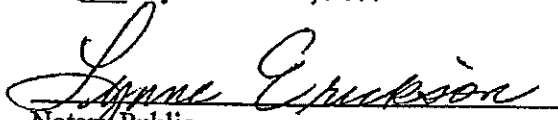
If you have any questions about the City's objection or comments to the listing of the School on the National Register, please do not hesitate to contact me at (507) 634-7071.

Sincerely,



Randy D. Lenth  
City Administrator, City of Kasson

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2007

  
Notary Public