

Lawrence J. Sommer

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Museum/Nonprofit Organization Management and Historic Preservation Planning Consultant, St. Paul, Minnesota, July 2005-present.

Director and State Historic Preservation Officer, Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, Nebraska, July 1992-July 2005.

Director, Montana State Historical Society, Helena, Montana, July 1989-July 1992.

Director, Lake Superior Railroad Museum and St. Louis County Historical Society, Duluth, Minnesota, January 1981-July 1989.

Director, St. Louis County Historical Society, Duluth, Minnesota, October 1977-January 1981.

Historic Preservation Planning Consultant, Duluth, Minnesota and other locations, March 1974- October 1977.

Assistant Director of Planning, City Dubuque, Iowa, October 1972-March 1974.

Consultant, Western Lake Superior Sanitary District, Duluth, Minnesota, May 1972-October 1972.

Research and Travel in Europe and the United States, September 1971-May 1972.

Research Analyst/Planner, Aguar Jyring Whiteman Moser, Inc., Duluth, Minnesota, June 1968- September 1971.

EDUCATION AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Graduate of The Hill School, Pottstown, Pennsylvania, 1964.

B.A. Degree, Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota, 1968.

M.A. Degree, History and Historic Preservation Studies, University of Minnesota, 1971.
Thesis: "Landmark Structures of Duluth: Their History and Architecture."

Urban Planning Institute, Cornell University, Historic Preservation Summer Planning Course, 1973

Cultural Institutions Management Program, Columbia University Graduate School of Business and Museums Collaborative, Inc., 1980 (Donner Foundation Fellowship).

Museum Management Institute (Getty Leadership Institute), University of California, Berkeley and American Federation of Arts, 1982 (Bush Foundation Fellowship).

Museum Management Program, University of Colorado, 1991.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Nebraska State Capitol Commission, 2004-2005.

Nebraska Capital Facilities Planning Commission, 2004-2005.

Board of Directors, Mountain-Plains Museums Association, 2004-2005.

Member, Nebraska Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Commission, 2000-2005.

Nebraska Governor's Residence Advisory Commission, 1998-2005.

Alumni Admissions Representative, Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota, 1998-2002.

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Graduate School, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 1996-2004.

Guest Faculty, Museum Management Program, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, 1996.

Board of Directors, National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, 1996-2000.

Museum Accreditation Visiting Committee Member, American Association of Museum, 1996-

Governing Board, Nebraska Lied Main Street Program, 1994-2005, Chairman, 2000-2005

Nebraska Tourism Development Planning Committee, 1994-1995.

Nominating Committee, American Association for State and Local History, 2003-2005, Chair 2005.

Editorial Board, American Association for State and Local History, 1996-2000.

Annual Meeting Program Committee, American Association for State and Local History, 1995, 1997, 2000, 2002, Chair of 2003 meeting, 2004.

Chair, Elections Committee, American Association for State and Local History, 1995, 2001.

Blue Ribbon Campaign Committee, American Association for State and Local History, 1995-1996.

Membership Committee, American Association for State and Local History, 1995-1998; state membership representative, 1995-2005.

Associate Fellow, Center for Great Plains Studies, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska 1992-2005.

Nebraska Historic Preservation Board, 1992-2005.

Guest lecturer, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Museum Studies Program, 1992-2004.

Nebraska Representative, U.S. Board on Geographic Names, 1992-2005.

Secretary, Nebraska Hall of Fame Commission, 1992-2005.

Board of Directors, Nebraska Agricultural Hall of Achievement, 1992-2005.

Co-chair, Nebraska Task Force on Historic Preservation, 1992-1995.

Nebraska State Historical Records Advisory Board 1993-2005.

National Trust for Historic Preservation Board of Advisors, 1991-1992.

Center for Rocky Mountain West, University of Montana, Advisory Board, 1991-1992.

Montana Historical Records Advisory Council, 1990-1992.

Nez Perce National Historic Trail Advisory Council, 1989-1992.

Minnesota State Review Board for the National Register of Historic Places, 1979-1989;
Chairman, 1987-1989.

Museum Assessment Program Consultant, American Association of Museum, 1982-

Grant Reviewer, Institute of Museum Service, 1981-

Board of Directors, Preservation Alliance of Minnesota, Inc., 1986-1989.

Chairman, City of Duluth Downtown Renaissance Storefront Renovation Design Review
Committee, 1986-1989.

Board of Directors, Friends of Grand Portage National Monument, 1984-1989. Honorary
Director, 1990-

Board of Directors, Friends of Library, University of Minnesota, Duluth, 1987-1989.

Board of Directors, Duluth Preservation Alliance, Inc., 1980-1982.

Alumni Board of Directors, Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota, 1980-1982.

Member, Minnesota Historic Records Advisory Board, 1980-1982.

Member and Board of Directors, Duluth Kiwanis Club, 1979-1986

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Association of Museums

American Association for State & Local History

Minnesota Historical Society

Montana Historical Society

Mining History Association

Mountain Plains Museums Association

National Trust for Historic Preservation

Nebraska State Historical Society

Preservation Alliance of Minnesota

PUBLICATIONS

Author/Editor of three books and over thirty articles and technical reports related to museum and nonprofit organization management, historic preservation planning, architectural and local history.