



General

This section provides the basic information about the park or trail and the organizations responsible for it.

Last Update

17 Apr 2017 07:27:16

Park or Trail Name

Barn Bluff Park

District

6

Location Description

Barn Bluff is located within the City of Red Wing in Goodhue County, Minnesota in the NW1/4 and the NE1/4 of Section 29 and the NE1/4 of Section 30 of Township 113N, Range 14W (Figure 3). Barn Bluff is bounded by downtown Red Wing and US TH 61 and US TH 63 on the south and southwest. The Canadian Pacific Railway mainline and Mississippi River form northern boundary.

Park/Trail Address

City

Park/Trail State

Zip

Latitude

44.57003121

Longitude

-92.525823

Map of Park/Trail

Facility Website

Organization

City of Red wing

Lead Contact Person

Brian Peterson

Title

Mailing Address

315 4th Street West

City

Red Wing

State

Minnesota

Zip

55066

Phone

651-385-3617

Joint Applicants**Joint Applicant #1****Joint Applicant #2****Joint Applicant #3****Joint Applicant #4****Other project supporters****Email**

Brian.Peterson@ci.red-wing.mn.us

Description

This section provides the basic information about the park or trail and the organizations responsible for it.

Regional Significance Statement

Classification

Natural Resource Based Regional Park

Overview/Description of Park or Trail

Barn Bluff is a renowned natural geologic feature of the upper Mississippi River Valley. The 48 plus acre park is historically significant for its geology and its association with prehistoric and historic native peoples, early Euro American exploration of the Mississippi River and the pioneer period of Minnesota. Barn Bluff was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on August 3, 1990.

Barn Bluff rises approximately 350 feet from the valley floor. The park borders downtown Red Wing, the Mississippi River and US TH 61/63. Access to the park trails is from a local street (5th St. East) at the eastern toe of the bluff.

The land form of Barn Bluff was created as the last glaciations receded from Minnesota and the present Mississippi River channel was made. Barn Bluff was formed due to its cap of Oneota Dolomite that resisted erosion during periods of glacial melt. The primary habitat characteristics of the park are classified as prairie, oak savanna, oak grove, mixed species deciduous forest and mature maple-basswood forest.

Special features include: the western and eastern overlooks, primitive rock climbing within abandoned limestone quarry areas; the NRHP listed Carlson Lime Kiln, Native American Burial Mounds and the exposed portion of the Red Wing Fault and other geologic features of the Bluff.

Barn Bluff is an isolated geologic prominence and as such, is a unique park within the region. Barn Bluff allows for low-impact recreation within a natural, historic landscape in an urban, accessible location and offers users unlimited views of the surrounding landscape. It is a destination for recreational users from throughout the region.

The user groups that take advantage of the park include: casual tourists, daily walkers, rock climbers, nature enthusiasts, photographers, and students of geology, ecology, history and the environment.

The park has five natural trail segments of varying difficulty. Due to erosion and safety concerns, the North Trail is currently closed. The hiking trails provide access to the diverse natural environments of the bluff and offer wilderness and nature treks leading to unlimited view sheds of Red Wing and the Mississippi River Valley.

Other facilities include parking and a kiosk located at the East Kiwanis Stairway. Benches are provided along the two stairways and the West Overlook. Interpretive markers, plaques, and signage are situated in various locations.

The Barn Bluff Park is one of the city's four Mississippi River waterfront parks. The park is within close proximity to Levee Park and Covill Park. Future development of the Mississippi River Walk Trail will align with the northern face of the park abutting the River with a trail/park head planned in combination with parking. The River Walk trail will complete a trail network connecting all of Red Wing's riverfront parks and historic downtown to the regional trail system that includes the Goodhue Pioneer State Trail and the Cannon Valley Regional Trail.

Total Acreage or Mileage

Acquisition and Development Status

Development status

Facility Listing

This section provides an overview of existing and proposed site facilities and general site characteristics .

Existing Facilities

- Hiking Trails (natural)
- Climbing (natural/man-made)

Proposed Facilities

- Picnicking and picnic shelters
- Hiking Trails (natural)
- Nature Center/Interpretation Trails
- Climbing (natural/man-made)

Existing Facilities Other Information

parking is undeveloped, and along city street

Proposed Facilities Other Information

safety and parking enhancement with a combination Park/Trial Head planned

General Site Characteristics

Master Plan

Additional Supportive Information:

Classification Details

Natural Resource Based Regional Park Classification.

Provides a High-Quality Outdoor Recreation Experience

Red Wing is known for its enviable natural environment. Over the years the city has ranked high as a distinctive destination and natural area within several National and International publications. The beauty of the bluffs and the river continue to draw people from across the world to Red Wing.

Barn Bluff exists because of its cap of Oneota Dolomite stone. Unlike the other bluffs in the upper Hiawatha Valley, Barn Bluff is totally isolated and is easily accessible and an entirely natural public park. Barn Bluff is a geological feature of Minnesota that is known throughout the Midwest. With proper planning and completion of the Master Plan, there are no doubts the planned improvements and potential upgrades will broaden the user type's utilizing the park and the park facilities.

Discussion items related to improvements, renovations, and stabilization issues are presented within the attached Cultural Landscape Report, Habitat Management Plan and Historic Structure Report for the G. A. Carlson Lime Kiln. In addition to these preservation elements, the city foresees other improvements and modifications. Safety modifications and improvements to the rustic north trail are of primary importance. The trail segment is very popular due to its proximity to the Mississippi and the wildlife and fauna present in the native deciduous forest. Bringing elements that celebrate the Native American culture and presence will provide an additional historical educational perspective to the park. Incorporating a sanctioned rock climbing experience would develop this recreational experience. In conjunction with the planned River Walk Trail, construction of a joint use Park Visitor Area/Trailhead with ample parking and green space will enhance the attraction of a broad range of park users.

Preserves a Regionally-Significant and Diverse Natural or Historic Landscape

The singular, monolithic land form of Barn Bluff is the result of its geological formation. Barn Bluff is unique unto itself by its presence in the River Valley. Barn Bluff has been Red Wing's and the region's most

recognizable landmark for Euro Americans since the early exploration days of Minnesota and centuries for Native Americans. Barn Bluff was placed on The National Register of Historic Places on August 8, 1990.

Several abandoned quarries and the G.A. Carlson Lime Kiln (at the northeast corner of the bluff) remain as reminders of Red Wing's limestone industry within the park boundaries. The G.A. Carlson Lime Kiln was placed on The National Register of Historic Places on September 27, 1976. From the mid-1800's to 1908, stone from Barn Bluff was used as a building material, rip-rap by the railroad, and for the production of lime. Although this industry was important to the local economy at the time, residents protested the resulting defacing of the bluff and eventually saved Barn Bluff in 1910. Now, for over 100 years, the city has persevered to keep the park in its natural state.

Well-located and Connected to Serve a Regional Population and/or Tourist Destination

Barn Bluff Park is located prominently in the downtown of the city. Red Wing is an established regional economic center and tourist destination. In addition, having the only available interstate bridge crossing the Mississippi River within 30 miles up or down river adds to the regional significance of the city. Future riverfront projects within the city's River Town Renaissance vision will enhance Red Wing stature as a premier river town in Minnesota and will create new, added destination stops by regional and out of area tourist visitors.

In particular, the development of the River Walk Trail, which will be a segment of the National Mississippi River Trail (MRT), will connect Barn Bluff to the multi-use, 'down river', Covill Park and will complete a riverfront trail network connecting the upriver parks, the historic downtown, the Goodhue Pioneer State Trail and the Cannon Valley Regional Trail. In addition to eventually becoming a segment of the broader MRT system, the riverfront trail development will also contribute to a vital network of bike lanes and sidewalks connecting Red Wing neighborhoods to the riverfront parks and to downtown.

Also as part of the Renaissance, development of transient/riverboat dockage and Levee Park promenade improvements will increase awareness of Barn Bluff. Red Wing is a 'Port of Call' for multiple riverboat cruise lines during the Upper Mississippi Riverboat cruise season. The addition of Viking Cruise Lines making Red Wing a future stop will bolster Red

Wing as a destination stop, increasing Barn Bluff Park and other city riverfront parks usage.

Fills a Gap in Recreational Opportunity within the Region

Barn Bluff Park is partially developed, with 4 designated trail areas and two partially developed look-out areas. The park features natural hiking trails with scenic overlooks and views of the Hiawatha Valley; rock climbing areas, natural areas, archeologically significant areas and historic landmarks. As a purely walking and hiking park, the experience users receive is unattainable in an urban setting, at a city public park, within the region.

Barn Bluff Park complements the other natural areas in the Red Wing area by providing unmatched view sheds while in a natural environment of original prairie, oak savannah, oak grove, mixed species deciduous forest and a mature maple-basswood forest. The primitive rock quarry areas in particular are utilized by experienced rock climbers. The shear faces of the quarry walls provide a recreational opportunity in a public park that is lacking in the region. The presence of Native American burial mounds and the overall historical significance of Barn Bluff and individually, the Carlson Limestone Kiln, provide an opportunity to provide an interpretive educational experience for users in a city public park setting that does not presently exist in the region.

Attachments

Doc Name	Description	Url
Other	Historic Structure Report (HSR) for the G. A. Carlson Lime Kiln completed in January 2015. The HSR is distinct preservation and rehabilitation tool that thoroughly documents the history and material elements of the NRHP listed Carlson Lime Kiln.	1435341881337-Barn%20Bluff%20HSR%20--%20final%20draft%20--%20reduced%20size.pdf
Other	Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), with appendixes completed January 2015. The CLR completed for Barn Bluff (CLR) will provide supplementary guidance for the Barn Bluff Park Master Plan providing two important functions: it is a treatment document for cultu	1435342168467-Barn Bluff CLR - FINAL.pdf

Resolution	Authorizing Resolution 6850	1435592904362-150622 - Resolution 6850 Authorizing GMRPTC submission.pdf
Location Map	Barn Bluff Location and Trail Map	1435604519879-Barn Bluff Location and Trail Map.pdf
Location Map	Region View Red Wing-Parks and Trails	1435604568985-Region View of Red Wing-Parks and Trails.jpg
Site Map Uploads 2	Barn Bluff Site map and Existing Conditions	1471617652027-Figures 2.2 Barn Bluff Site Map And Existing Conditions.pdf
Regional Map	Goodhue County Network of Parks & Trails: Inventory	1471617738455-Goodhue County Parks & Trails Inventory Jan 2011.pdf
Public Involvement Photos	Public Survey Summary	1471623761573-Tab 4 - Figure 2.4 Public Participation Survey Summary.pdf
Public Involvement Photos	Issues & Opportunities Summary	1471623856779-Tab 4 - Issues and Opportunities - Public Participation.pdf
Public Involvement Photos	Graphic Public Input Summary	1471623926483-Tab 4 - Figure 2.5 Public Open House Feedback Summary.pdf
Public Involvement Photos	Public Participation meetings with Stakeholders.	1471623960365-Tab 4 - Apendix B Public Partipation Stakeholders.pdf
Regional Demographic Photos	SE MN Counties population	1471624178916-Tab 4 - Population SEMNCounties.pdf
Regional Demographic Photos	Barn Bluff General Use Survey	1471624402878-Tab 4 Barn Bluff Survey Summary_ 20Nov2015.pdf
Public Health Photos	03-2014 Minnesota's Parks, Trails, and Public Health	1471625363134-March 2014 Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota - Public Health.pdf
Recreational Trends Photos	Rock Climbing Locations in region	1471625877349-Rockclimbing_M N - WI graphic.png
Recreational Trends Photos	Stakeholder Meeting - Rock Climing summary	1471625946419-Rock Climbersf StakeholderMeeting Summary.pdf
Recreational Trends Photos	Graphic - recreational trends and demographics	1471626081386-Recreation Trends and Demographics.pdf
Development Plan Overview Uploads	Illustrative Park Features	1471634664584-FIGURE 3.1 Illustrative Park Master Plan.pdf
Development Plan Overview Uploads	Narrative Graphic Features of Master Plan	1471634745669-TAB 6 - Development Features of the Master Plan illustrative

		narrative.pdf
Development Plan Overview Uploads	Trails, Circulation and Access Plan	1471634781642-FIGURE 3.7 Trails Circulation and Access Plan.pdf
Feature Uploader 228	Park Entry Improvement Area Graphic	1471636021169-FIGURE 3.2 Park Entry Improvements Area Plan.pdf
Feature Uploader 302	West Overlook Improvement Area Graphic	1471636073190-FIGURE 3.3 West Overlook Improvement Area Plan.pdf
Feature Uploader 303	East Overlook Improvement Area Graphic	1471636133490-FIGURE 3.4 East Overlook Improvement Area Plan.pdf
Feature Uploader 305	Trails Analysis Summary Graphic	1471636373579-FIGURE 3.6 Trails Analysis Summary Graphic.pdf
Feature Uploader 305	New - Park Entry Trails	1471636412635-New Trail - Park Entry Trails.pdf
Feature Uploader 305	New - Kiln Overlook Trail	1471636451611-New Trail - Kiln Overlook Trail Connection.pdf
Feature Uploader 305	Carlson Kiln Trail Improvements	1471636514471-Carlson Kiln Trail Improvements.pdf
Feature Uploader 305	Quarry Trail Improvements	1471636555100-Quarry Trail Improvements.pdf
Feature Uploader 305	North Trail Improvements	1471636591109-North Trail Improvements.pdf
Feature Uploader 305	Midland Trail Improvements	1471636651521-Midland Trail Improvements.pdf
Feature Uploader 305	Prairie Trail Improvements	1471636688582-Prairie Trail Improvements.pdf
Feature Uploader 305	Prairie Trail Bypass Improvements	1471636724075-Prairie Trail Bypass Improvements.pdf
Ad Cost Projections Photos	Development Cost Projections	1471639985240-Development Cost Projections Summary Table.pdf
Ad Phasing Plan Photos	Development Phasing Plan Graphic	1471640062022-Development Cost Projections Figure 4.1 Graphic of Phasing Plan.pdf
Ad Phasing Plan Photos	Development Plan Sources and Uses	1471640130311-Phasing Plan Support Information - Fig 4.2 Funding Sources and Uses.pdf
Ad Phasing Plan Photos	Development Cost Estimate Details	1471640168271-Development Phasing Plan - Cost Estimate Details.pdf

Economic Development Photos	Visitor Profile and ROI Analysis	1471641992669-Visitor Profile Study and ROI Analysis 10-2012.pdf
Site Characteristic Images	Park Entry	1471642104257-Barn Bluff Park Entry.jpg
Site Characteristic Images	Barn Bluff current parking	1471642152121-Barn Bluff Park Parking.jpg
Site Characteristic Images	Kiln Trail Access	1471642193432-Carlson Kiln Trail access - pumphouse facility.jpg
Site Characteristic Images	View East	1471642277058-Viewshed East Prairie.jpg
Site Characteristic Images	West Overlook	1471642298599-West Overlook.jpg
Site Characteristic Images	East Overlook	1471642362935-East Overlook 2.jpg
Site Characteristic Images	Rock Climbing	1471642403171-Rock Climbing.jpg
Site Characteristic Images	North Trail	1471642435113-North Trail 1.jpg
Site Characteristic Images	Prairie Trail East	1471642475592-Prairie Trail East.jpg
Site Characteristic Images	Prairie Trail to East Overlook	1471642520018-Prairie Trail to East Overlook.jpg
Site Characteristic Images	Quarry Trail	1471642570854-Quarry Trail 1.jpg
Site Characteristic Images	South Trail	1471642618616-South Trail 1.jpg
Site Characteristic Images	North Trail 3	1471642644386-North Trail 3.jpg
Site Characteristic Images	East Stairway base	1471642679394-East Kiwanis Stairway base.jpg
Criteria 1 Photos	South Trail	1471642978477-South Trail 4.jpg
Criteria 2 Photos	East Overlook	1471643028448-Prairie Trail to East Overlook.jpg
Criteria 3 Photos	West Overlook	1471643069940-West Overlook.jpg
Criteria 4 Photos	Rock Climbers	1471643137487-Quarry Trail rock climbers.jpg
Ecological Land Resources Photos	Conservation Management Plan	1471643270841-Barn Bluff Management Plan V3 - Final.pdf
Feature Uploader 304	Calron Kiln Plaza	1471876725820-FIGURE 3.5 Envisioning Carlson Kiln Plaza.pdf
Public Health Photos	Support Letter Goodhue County Health and Human Services	1472741100782-Goodhue County Health and Human Services Letter of Support- Barn Bluff- Park

[Legacy Gr](#)

Public Health Photos	Support Letter Minnesota Climbers Association	1472741143083-MCA_Barn Bluff_Support.pdf
Public Health Photos	Support Letter Friends of the Bluffs	1472741185318-FriendsOfBluffsLetter of Support for HE MNI CAN.doc
Public Health Photos	Support Letter Red Wing Environmental Learning Center	1472743087451-ELC.pdf
Public Health Photos	Support Letter Cannon Valley Trail	1472743129015-CVT2016 Letter of Support Red Wing - Barn Bluff.pdf
Public Health Photos	Support Letter HS Cross Country Head Coach	1472743187292-Cross Country-Red Wing Letter of Support Barn Bluff.docx
Public Health Photos	Support Letter Community Education & Recreation	1472743224664-Community Recreation Support LetterHeMniCanBarnBluffLtr83016.docx
Public Health Photos	Support Letter Anderson Center	1472743287955-Anderson Center for the Arts Barn Bluff Support Letter.pdf
Public Health Photos	Support Letter Goodhue County Historical Society	1472743477334-Goodhue County Historical Society Support Letter for Barn Bluff.pdf
Public Health Photos	Support Letter Red Wing School District	1472743648124-Karsten Anderson RW Schools.pdf
Public Health Photos	Support Letter US Fish and Wildlife Service	1472743794123-USFWS Support Letter-Barn Bluff.pdf
Public Health Photos	Live Healthy Red Wing Out Your Front Door Map	1472744129311-Live Health Red Wing Out Your Front Door Map.pdf
Economic Development Photos	Support Letter Red Wing Shoe Company	1472744422485-08_30_16 RW Shoe Support Barn Bluff Project.pdf
Economic Development Photos	Support Letter St James Hotel	1472744452717-St James Hotel.pdf
Economic Development Photos	Support Letter Xcel Energy	1472744484115-Xcel Energy Support Letter.pdf
Economic Development Photos	Support Letter Red Wing Downtown Main Street	1472744558938-DTMS Letter of Support .pdf
Economic Development Photos	Support Letter Red Wing Arts Association	1472744585040-RWAA Barn Bluff Support Letter.pdf
Feature Uploader 305	Barn Bluff Trail Improvement Plan	1472745094593-Trails Improvement Took Kit Outline V2.pdf

Feature Uploader 305	Appendix to the Barn Bluff Trail Improvement Plan	1472745172231-Trail Design Detail Appendix V2.pdf
Feature Uploader 305	Conservation Corp of Minnesota Letter of Support	1472745238752-Conservation Corp of MNRed Wing grant app support.pdf
Ecological Land Resources Photos	Support Letter Audubon Habitat Management	1472745642568-Audubon MN letter of support for City of Red Wing CPL proposal 8-23-16.docx
Ecological Land Resources Photos	Support Letter US Fish and Wildlife Service	1472745683648-USFWS Support Letter-Barn Bluff.pdf
Programming Support Material	Letter from Red Wing Environmental Learning Center	1472746724403-ELC.pdf
Programming Support Material	Letter from Community Education and Recreation	1472746753506-Community Recreation Support LetterHeMniC anBarnBluffLtr83016.docx
Programming Support Material	Letter from Anderson Center	1472746771923-Anderson Center for the Arts Barn Bluff Support Letter.pdf
Programming Support Material	Letter from Laura Wildenborg	1472746800732-Laura WildenborgLetter of Support - Barn Bluff Grant.pdf
Programming Support Material	Letter from Goodhue County Historical Society	1472746829394-Goodhue County Historical Society Support Letter for Barn Bluff.pdf
Programming Support Material	Letter from HS Cross Country Coach	1472746860275-Cross Country- Red Wing Letter of Support Barn Bluff.docx
Outreach Marketing Photos	Red Wing Visitor Guide 2016	1472747493942-RedWing_Visitor sGuide_2016.pdf
Economic Development Photos	Support Letter Red Wing Area Fund	1472747682243-RWAF Support Letter Ms Renee Mattson Barn Bluff project.docx
Economic Development Photos	Support Letter City of Cannon Falls	1472747707650-City of Cannon Falls Support Letter for Barn Bluff.pdf
Economic Development Photos	Support Letter from Senator Schmit	1472747828668-Senator Matt Schmit Support LetterBarn Bluff LOS.pdf
Public Health Photos	Support Letter Live Healthy Red Wing	1472758133790-Live Healthy Red Wing Support Letter.pdf
Programming Support Material	Live Healthy Red Wing Support Letter	1472758251085-Live Healthy Red Wing Support Letter.pdf
Feature Uploader 357	Trails Analysis Summary graphic	1472762329269-FIGURE 3.6 Trails Analysis Summary

		Graphic.pdf
Feature Uploader 357	Kiln Overlook Trail	1472762368816-New Trail - Kiln Overlook Trail Connection.pdf
Feature Uploader 357	Park Entry Trails	1472762433712-New Trail - Park Entry Trails.pdf
Feature Uploader 357	Prairie Trail Bypass	1472762488821-Prairie Trail Bypass Improvements.pdf
Feature Uploader 357	Prairie Trail	1472762513052-Prairie Trail Improvements.pdf
Feature Uploader 357	Carlson Kiln Trail	1472762546361-Carlson Kiln Trail Improvements.pdf
Feature Uploader 357	Midland Trail	1472762654765-Midland Trail Improvements.pdf
Feature Uploader 357	North Trail	1472762680161-North Trail Improvements.pdf
Feature Uploader 357	South Trail	1472763144956-South Trail Improvements.pdf
Feature Uploader 357	Quarry Trail	1472763309029-Quarry Trail Improvements.pdf
Feature Uploader 357	Barn Bluff Trail Improvement Plan	1472763899764-Barn Bluff Trail Improvement Plan.pdf
Feature Uploader 357	Appendix to Barn Bluff Trail Improvement Plan	1472763925443-Trail Design Detail Appendix V2.pdf