Old boom road north of Stillwater, Minnesota Historical Society

Military Road — Otisville Historic Backway

(The south end of this Backway route diverts from the Byway at MP 37.9 in Copas, then north along Quinnell Ave and rejoins the Byway farther north at MP 39.1 east of Scandia)

To the north of Copas, is a short Historic Backway along Quinnell Ave N. This low traffic road segment is ideal as a bike route and connects with MN Hwy 95 (St. Croix Trail) at its south and north terminus. As it travels to the east of MN Hwy 95, this Backway follows an original segment of the Point Douglas to Superior Military Road through the former townsite of Otisvlle.

[Read more about the 1852 Point Douglas to Superior Military Road (Government Road) on the Military Road map on page 20]

Heritage Derived

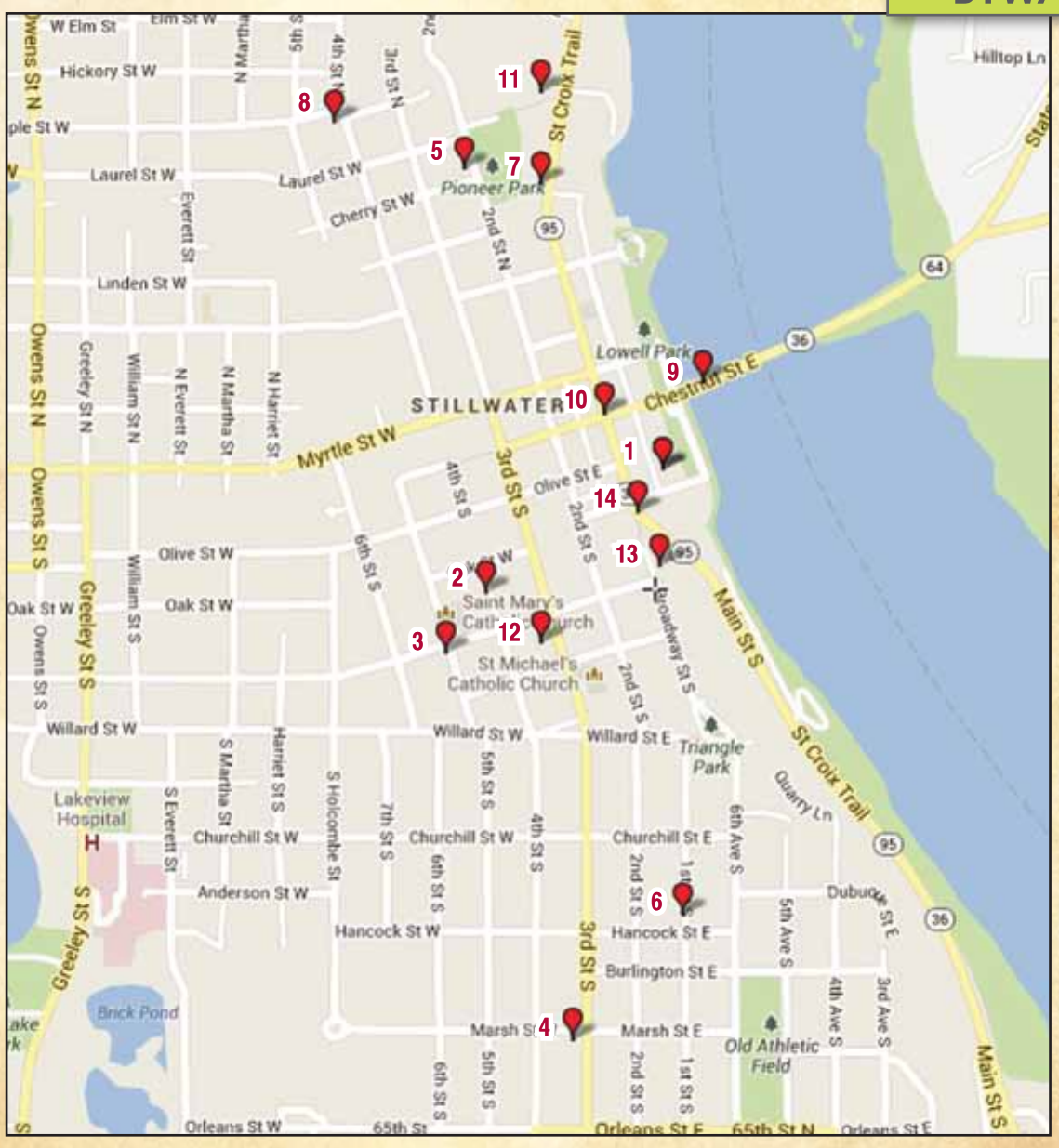
from Native Language and Traditions

Summer on the River

Before land treaties interrupted their traditional way of life, Dakota and Ojibwe people traveled with each season to areas where certain natural resources were in abundance. During the summer, bands gathered on the shores of the St. Croix River and inland lakes. Here they would plant gardens, fish, build canoes, prepare hides, and weave mats of bulrush, cedar bark, and cattails. From their camp sites along the river, the Dakota hunted buffalo that once roamed the prairies and river terraces on both sides of the St. Croix. Near Marine on St. Croix archaeologists have found evidence that Native Americans were hunting bison along the river as early as 5,000 years ago during what is known as the Archaic period.

ST. CROIX SCENIC BYWAY ARCHITECTURAL STILLWATER NATIONAL REGISTER & LANDMARK SIDEWALK TOUR

ST CROIX SCENIC BYWAY



National Register Sites:

1. Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Depot and Freight House:
A brick depot built in 1883 with locally quarried limestone foundation. At one time it housed the town's telegraph office.
233-335 Water St—National Register of Historic Places/Landmark Site
(N 45° 03.289′, W 092° 48.261′)
http://gohistoric.com/places/chicago-milwaukee-st-paul-freight-house-stillwater

2. Roscoe Hersey House:
An Eastlake/Queen Anne residence designed by George Orff and built in 1879-1880. 416 S. 4th St.—National Register of Historic Places/Landmark Site
(N 45° 03.154′, W 092° 48.534′)
http://gohistoric.com/places/roscoe-hersey-house-stillwater

3. Captain Austin & Harriet Jenks House:
A Victorian brick residence with mansard-roofed tower built in 1871 for Captain Jenks, a river pilot and ship owner involved in log rafting.
504 5th St S—National Register of Historic Places/Landmark Site
(N 45° 03.089′, W 092° 48.595′)
http://www.stillwater-mn.org/hpc/Sample_interface/Categories/parcel.asp?PIN=2803020430006

4. Albert & Helen Lammers House:
An elaborate Queen Anne frame residence built in 1893 for a partner in one of Stillwater's leading family lumber businesses.
1306 3rd Ave S—National Register of Historic Places/Landmark Site
(N 45° 02.667′, W 092° 48.400′)
http://www.stillwater-mn.org/hpc/Sample_interface/Categories/parcel.asp?PIN=3303020140106

5. Ivory & Sophia McKusick House:
A small French second empire frame residence built in 1868 for lumberman and surveyor, Ivory McKusick. 504 2nd St N—National Register of Historic Places/Landmark Site
(N 45° 03.617′, W 092° 48.567′)
http://www.stillwater-mn.org/hpc/Sample_interface/Categories/parcel.asp?PIN=2803020130084

6. Nelson School:
A Georgian Classical Revival, two story brick school built in 1897.
1018 1st St S—National Register of Historic Places/Landmark Site
(N 45° 02.803′, W 092° 48.231′)
http://www.stillwater-mn.org/hpc/Sample_interface/Categories/parcel.asp?PIN=3303020110154

7. St. Croix Lumber Mills/Stillwater Manufacturing Company:
A limestone powerhouse built in 1850 for Stillwater's second mill. Formerly located Main and Mulberry St—National Register of Historic Places/Landmark Site
(N 45° 03.600′, W 092° 48.450′)
http://gohistoric.com/places/st-croix-lumber-mills-stillwater-manufacturing-company

8. William Sauntry House:
A large Queen Anne frame residence built in 1891. 626 4th St N
William Sauntry Recreation Hall: In 1902 the prosperous businessman built an exotic revival recreation facility for entertaining at 625 5th St N. Both the House and Hall are National Register of Historic Places/Landmark Sites
(N 45° 03.667′, W 092° 48.767′)
House: http://www.stillwater-mn.org/hpc/Sample_interface/Categories/parcel.asp?PIN=2803020130067
Hall: http://www.stillwater-mn.org/hpc/Sample_interface/Categories/parcel.asp?PIN=2803020240004

9. Stillwater Bridge:
A ten-span, concrete-and-metal vertical lift highway bridge of Waddell and Harrington type was built in 1931. MN 36/WI 64 over St. Croix River—National Register of Historic Places/Landmark Site
(N 45° 03.383′, W 092° 48.200′)
http://gohistoric.com/places/stillwater-bridge-st-paul

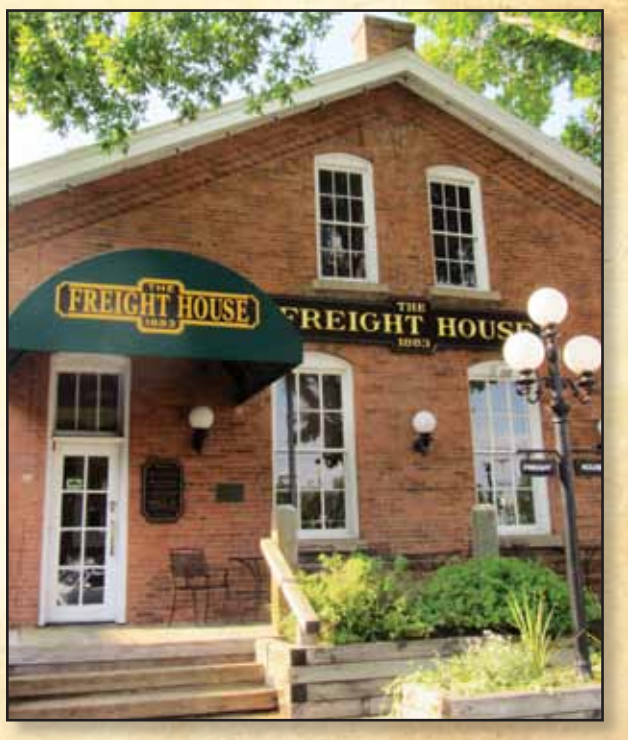
10. Stillwater Commercial Historic District:
Central business district of 19th century river town, encompassing largely brick commercial buildings of various styles, built in 1860's-1930's.
(N 45° 03.350′, W 092° 48.350′)

11. Territorial State Prison Warden's House:
Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate. Warehouse and manufacturing buildings that were built on the Prison site between 1884 and 1898 and remained in use through the 1970s were destroyed by arson on September 3, 2002. The Warden's House survived the fire and remains in use as a Washington County Museum.
602 N. Main St—National Register of Historic Places/Landmark Site
(N 45° 03.700′, W 092° 48.450′)
http://gohistoric.com/places/minnesota-territorial-state-prison-wardens-house-stillwater

12. Washington County Courthouse:
Italianate/Classical Revival, second-generation brick courthouse, jail, and sheriff's residence designed and built in 1867-1870.
101 Pine St W—National Register of Historic Places/Landmark Site
(N 45° 03.100′, W 092° 48.450′)
http://www.stillwater-mn.org/hpc/Sample_interface/Categories/parcel.asp?PIN=2803020430064

13. Mortimer Webster House:
Italian villa-style frame residence built in 1865-1866 for New York immigrant and real estate developer. 1021 3rd St S—National Register of Historic Places/Landmark Site
(N 45° 03.183′, W 092° 48.267′)
http://www.stillwater-mn.org/hpc/Sample_interface/Categories/parcel.asp?PIN=3303020110099

14. Joseph Wolf Brewery
402--414 S Main St and 211 E Nelson St—National Register of Historic Places/Landmark Site
(N 45° 03.242′, W 092° 48.299′)
http://gohistoric.com/places/joseph-wolf-brewery-stillwater



The Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Depot and Freight House built in 1883, photographer Bill Neuman