

Why Mantorville is Historic

Though it is true that no major battles were fought here, and no great treaties that shaped the history of the State were signed here, there is a wealth of architectural heritage preserved in this quaint hamlet. It is for this reason that the National Park Service named Mantorville to the National Register of Historic Places in 1975. This status is shared with such places as Williamsburg, Gettysburg and Freedom Square in Philadelphia. Nestled in a picturesque setting in a valley along the North branch of the middle fork of the Zumbro River, generations of Mantorville citizens have been careful to record and preserve the abundance of Minnesota and U.S. history left in their care. Named after the Mantor brothers, Peter and Riley who arrived in 1853, the entire twelve blocks of the downtown area is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. "Mantorville limestone" is probably as responsible as anything for the town surviving for the past 150 years. The abundance of this quality building material was a determining factor in the Mantor brothers selection of this place to settle. The quarries not only provided raw material for the "permanent" buildings but also required a large work force to keep them in operation.

The Limestone Story

The local limestone was in high demand for its beauty and because of its unique response to the weather. When mined, the stone was very soft and easily worked into buildings, bridges and roads but, as it endured the elements, the stone became increasingly harder with each passing year. For these reasons the "Mantorville stone" was shipped to many parts of the country. It exists to this day as an integral part of the structure and beauty of a variety of important buildings, such as St. Mary's hospital in Rochester. Some of the most famous of the local "Mantorville stone" buildings still in use are the Dodge County Courthouse, built in 1871, (the oldest working Courthouse in Minnesota); and the Hubbell House, built in 1856, an elegant restaurant of Early American and Civil War era atmosphere. An abundance of commercial, civil and residential buildings of historic consequence await your visit.



From Rochester

Go 14 miles west on Hwy. 14 to Kasson, then 3 miles north on Hwy 57.

From Minneapolis – St. Paul

Go approximately 40 miles south on Hwy. 52 to Hader, turn right on Hwy. 57 to Mantorville (62 miles south of Mendota Bridge).

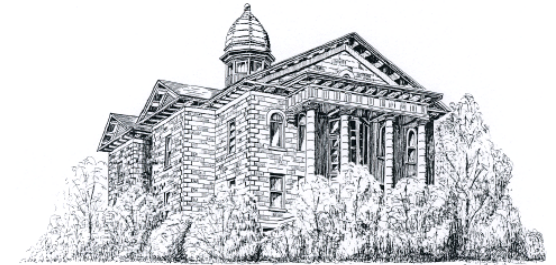
From Owatonna

Go east on Hwy. 14 to Kasson, then 3 miles north on Hwy. 57 to Mantorville.



Welcome to Mantorville

A Nationally Registered Historic Place



Preserving the Past Promoting the Future

A free guide to

Dining – Dancing – Shopping – House Tours – Theatre – Parks – Museum – Area Tours – Quilts – Historic Sites – Camping and Lodging – Covered Bridge – Fine Gifts – Native Crafts – Candy Making – Antiques – Golf – The Unusual – and More!!!!

For additional copies or information write to:

Mantorville Chamber of Commerce

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CLOSED MONDAYS