

MEMORANDUM

TO: Heritage Preservation Commission

FROM: Mei-Ling Anderson, City Planner, (612) 673-5342

DATE: June 23, 2015

SUBJECT: Remember 1934 commemorative plaque

Remember 1934 is a group that is involved with commemorating the Minneapolis Teamsters' strike of 1934, which was a notable event in the history of Minneapolis and of the American labor movement.

The movement began in May 1934 out of a strike by a group of truckers who belonged to the General Drivers Local 574 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. They had been trying to organize and be recognized as a union, but city leaders refused. The truckers recruited other warehouse workers for the effort to improve working conditions and demand union recognition, and approximately 6,000 were organized by May. The strikers were successful in halting truck movements and bringing the city to a standstill. The strike led to multiple episodes of police violence against the workers, culminating on July 20, 1934, also referred to as "Bloody Friday," during which two participants were killed and 67 unarmed strikers were shot in the back. Henry Ness was killed at the intersection of 3rd Street North and 6th Avenue North in what is now the Warehouse Historic District. According to the applicant, approximately 100,000 people attended his funeral.

After Bloody Friday, the National Guard and a federal mediator were called in to make progress towards a resolution. The unionization effort was successful and the strike ended on August 21, 1934. The success of the local Teamsters' union was a catalyst for unionization throughout the trucking industry in the United States and Canada, and made Minneapolis known as a union city.

CPED staff has approved a Certificate of No Change to allow for the installation of a plaque that commemorates these events on the primary façade of the building at 701 3rd Street North, which is a contributing resource in the Warehouse Historic District. The building is a two-story brick building that is currently used for offices, and is also known as the Sherwin Williams building. The significance of this property in relation to Bloody Friday is that this building faces the street intersection where Henry Ness was killed on Bloody Friday. The plaque would be 30 inches by 22 inches in size and would be constructed of porcelain enamel and stainless steel. CPED has determined that the proposal, as conditioned is not out of compliance with the Warehouse Historic District guidelines.

This is an information item only and does not require action on the part of the Heritage Preservation Commission.

701 N. 3rd Street, Sherwin Williams Company

BZH-28636

For CPED use only:

Date received: 04/17/15

Received by: Mei-Ling Anderson

Date application complete: 04/22/15

Name of building: 701 3rd Street North, Sherwin Williams Company

Historic District: Warehouse Historic District

Staff Findings and Comments:

1. 701 3rd Street North is a contributing resource in the Warehouse Historic District.
2. The building is a two-story, brick building currently used for offices.
3. The applicant is proposing to install a 30" by 22" plaque on the primary façade of the building adjacent to 3rd Street North.
4. The plaque would be located beneath the stone sill and would be approximately six feet in height as measured to the top of the plaque.
5. The plaque commemorates the 1934 Minneapolis Truckers' strike and, in particular, the "Bloody Friday" incident during which several strikers were killed.
6. The plaque materials would consist of porcelain enamel and stainless steel.
7. The applicant is proposing to install the plaque with a 4 by 1/4 lag bolt in mortar and three tamper-proof screws on the top and bottom.
8. The applicant's proposal for the primary facade is not out of compliance with the Warehouse Historic District guidelines that prohibit removal or blocking of windows on primary facades of existing buildings.
9. As conditioned, the alteration will not negatively alter the essential character of the historic district.

Conditions of Approval:

1. The plaque shall be attached to the building through the mortar joints.
2. Any masonry that is damaged shall be repaired and replaced. Any new brick and mortar shall match the original brick and mortar in material, color, profile, dimension, and texture. Replacement mortar shall duplicate the original mortar's composition, color, texture, joint width, and joint profile.
3. No other work is approved.

Reviewed by: Mei-Ling Anderson

Date Approved: 04/23/13



Bloody Friday; the police decoy truck with strikers ambushed at 3rd Street and 6th Ave. on July 20, 1934.



Deputies Run; the confrontation between Citizen's Alliance deputies and police against strikers on May 21, 1934.



Members of Union Teamsters 574 Women's Auxiliary feeding striking workers.

BLOODY FRIDAY IN MINNEAPOLIS

On this site, 20 July 1934, 67 unarmed striking workers were shot by police during the Minneapolis Teamsters' Strike.

STRIKERS HENRY NESS AND JOHN BELOR died of their wounds on what became known as Bloody Friday. An investigative commission appointed by Governor Floyd B. Olson found that almost all 67 strikers were shot in the back.

The 1934 strike was a watershed moment in the history of the American labor movement. More than 6,000 workers demanded and won union recognition for Teamsters Local 574. The workers defeated the Citizens Alliance, an anti-union group of employers that controlled city government. The victory made Minneapolis a union town.

The strike was notable for its militancy. Workers engaged in mass picketing. They published a daily strike newspaper. Cruising pickets halted the movement of trucks throughout

the city. Women played an important role on the picket line and operated a commissary that fed the workers. The union forged powerful alliances with farmers and unemployed workers. About 100,000 turned out for Henry Ness's funeral.

A democratically elected Committee of 100 led the strike. Veteran union militants V.R. Dunne and Carl Skoglund, expelled from the American Communist Party in 1928 as "Trotskyists," were key strategists of the strike.

The strike established the industrial form of union organization for the first time in the trucking industry and set the stage for massive organizing that eventually transformed the International Brotherhood of Teamsters into a union of more than one million members.

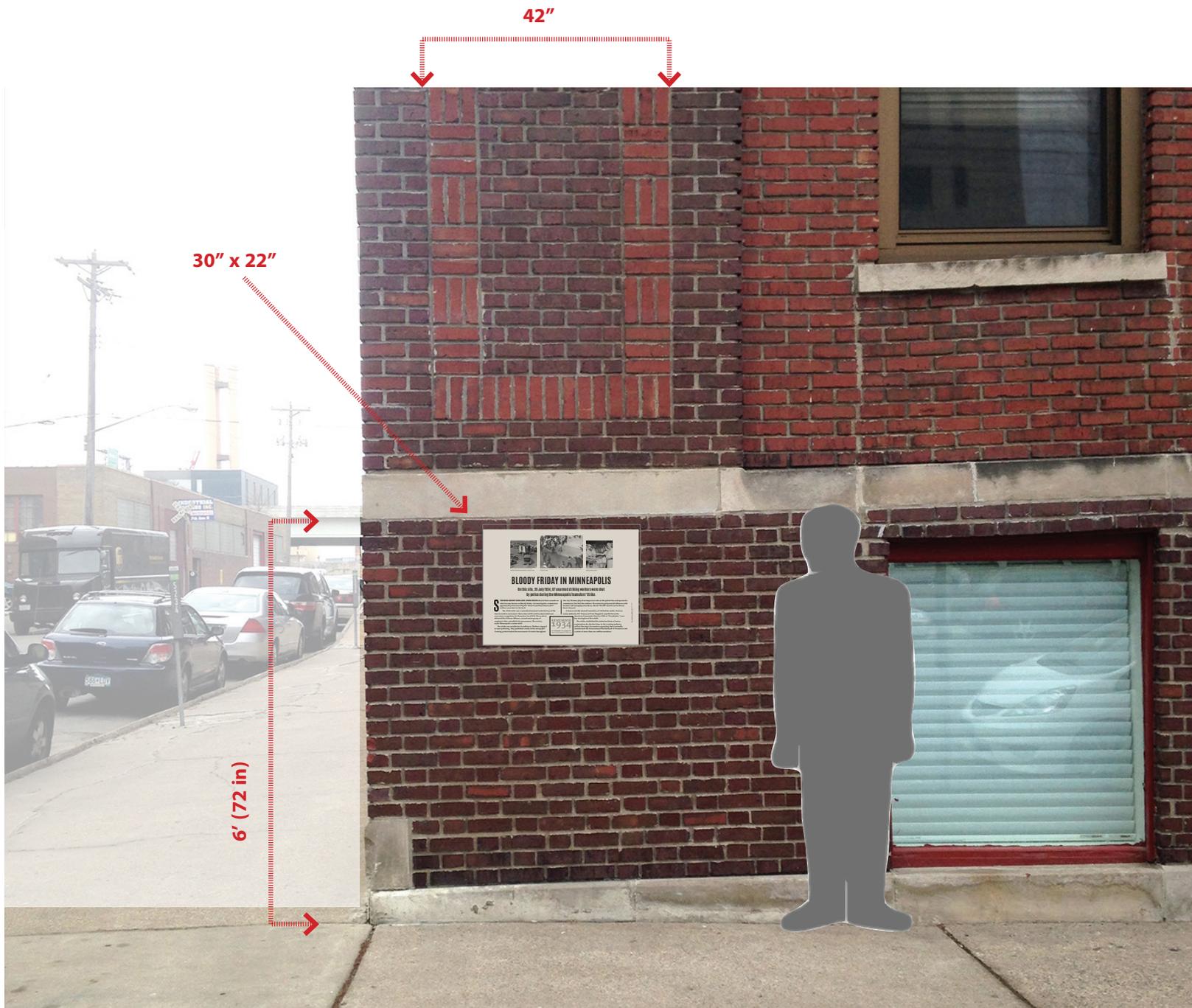
REMEMBER
1934

THE REMEMBER 1934 COMMITTEE
www.minneapolis1934.org

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BLOODY FRIDAY CHRISTIANSON JULY 2015

Remember 1934 Commemorative Plaque

Size: 30" x 22", Materials: Porcelain enamel, steel frame and backing



Remember 1934 Commemorative Plaque
Placement close up



Remember 1934 Commemorative Plaque
Placement with Building



Remember 1934 Commemorative Plaque
Placement with Building



Commemoration for Henry Ness in 1935 in front of 701 North 3rd Street-see background building with Sherwin Williams sign that remains today (globe with paint can).

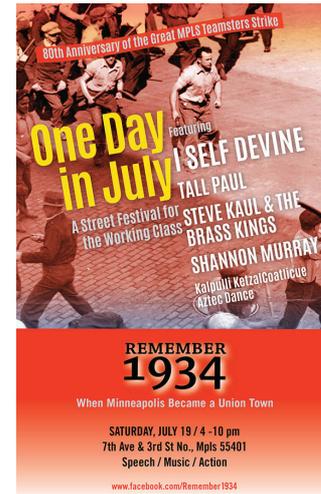
Remember 1934 Commemorative Plaque
History of the site



Teamster Local 120 walking to site, with truck and baggage



701 No. 3rd St. with David Riehle and building owners Cliff and Charlie Bruber



Poster for street festival



Street festival activities



Strike descendants



Posters at site of street festival with community



Members of the Remember 1934 Committee

Remember 1934 Commemorative Plaque
Community participation on 80th Anniversary-2014

Remember 1934 Commemorative Plaque

APPLICATION

Project Description

The application is for the installation of a plaque that is to commemorate the 1934 Minneapolis Truckers Strike. It is to be located on the north side corner on the 701 North 3rd Street building in the North Loop area of Minneapolis. This important labor history event has currently no significant memorial in the city for it. This proposal is for a plaque to be installed at the site of the "Bloody Friday" incident where several strikers were killed. It was a critical moment in the strike that led to the successful resolution and an agreement between workers and employers. The agreement provided that workers would have the right to have collective bargaining rights and be able to organize themselves within a union.

Specifics

The plaque is to be 30" x 22", made porcelain enamel for the text and imagery and steel framing, backing support. The design is provided with this application. It will be installed using 4 1/4 lag bolt in mortar, tamper proof screws-3 on top and bottom, 14 gage steel pan, 1.25 in stainless steel frame (angle) 3/16 in thickness. Finish: D8, non-directional, smooth orbital.

APPLICATION WORKSHEET

Property Owner/Applicant	Name	Clifford W. Bruber	
	Mailing Address Including City, State and Zip Code	701 North 3rd Street Minneapolis, MN 55401	
	Phone Number	612/414-0226	
	Fax		
	Email	Clifford Bruber <cliff.bruber@gmail.com>	
Applicant's Representative (This person will be the primary contact for staff, and is the authorized agent in place of the property owner)	Name	Keith Christensen	
	Mailing Address Including City, State and Zip Code	2437 Grand Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55405	
	Phone Number	612/419-9937	
	Fax		
	Email	kc@stcloudstate.edu	
Property Information	Address(es)	701 North 3rd Street, Minneapolis, MN 55401	
	Identification Number	22-029-24-24-0075	
	Legal Description	BRADFORD AND LEWIS'S ADDITION TO MINNEAPOLIS BLOCK 16 SELY 65 FT LOTS 40 41 AND 42 INCLUDING ADJOINING 1/2 OF VACATED ALLEY	
	Lot Area (sq ft)	65.00 X 170.00	
	Zoning classification(s)	B4N - Downtown Neighborhood District, and DP - Downtown Parking Overlay District.	
Name of Proposed Project (If applicable)	Remember 1934 Commemorative plaque		
Proposed Work (circle all applicable)	Preservation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	Rehabilitation	
	Reconstruction	Restoration	
Building Data	Gross floor area (square feet)	Existing:	22,000 SQ FT
	Building footprint area (square feet)	Existing:	10,500 SQ FT
	Building height 32 FT	Existing stories: Two	Existing feet:

Remember 1934 Commemorative Plaque

APPLICATION

Notes on materials and installation/

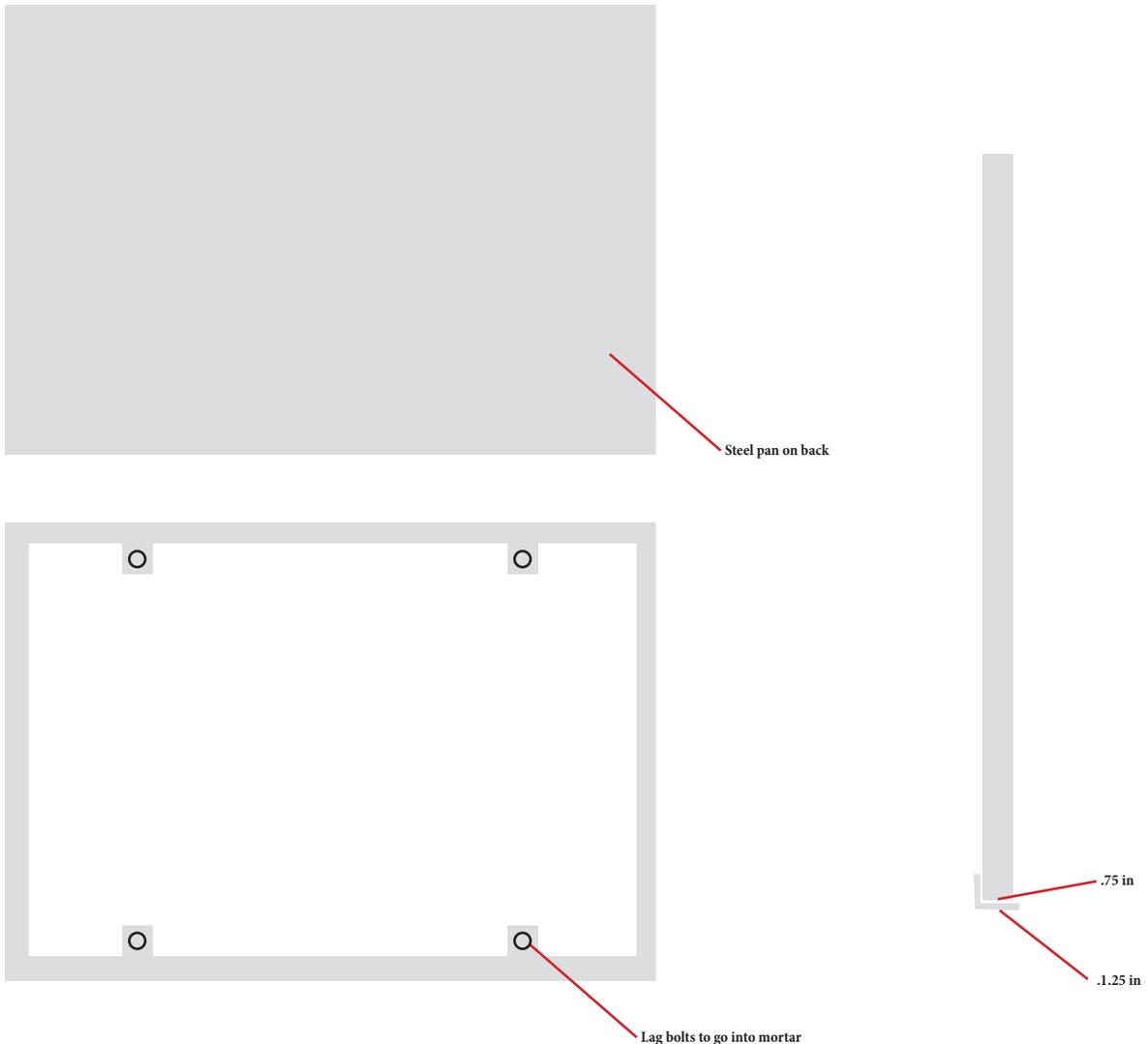
Panel
1 @ 30" x 22" x 1" flanged Vitratek Porcelain Enamel panel

Supplier
KVO INDUSTRIES
1825 Empire Industrial Ct # A, Santa Rosa, CA 95403
(707) 573-6868

Materials used for mounting and Installation

- 4 x 1/4 lag bolt in mortar
- tamper proof screws-3 on top and bottom
- 14 Gage steel pan
- 1.25 stainless steel pan
- 1.25 in. stainless steel frame (angle) 3/16 thickness
Finish: D8, Non directional, smooth-orbital

Supplier
Bo Jacobsson Studio
2010 East Hennepin Avenue Minneapolis, MN 55413
p: 952.540.7650
e: Bojacobsson65@gmail.com



FROM THE DESK OF
CLIFFORD W. BRUBER

March 4, 2015
Clifford W. Bruber
Owner/Operator
701 North Third Street
Minneapolis, MN 55401

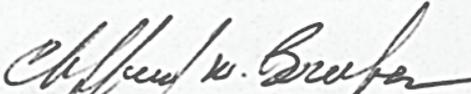
Dear Keith Christensen and the Remember 1934 group,

For years I have been fascinated with the history that surrounds our building and this neighborhood. I am delighted to hear that the history of the Minneapolis Truckers Strike of 1934 is gaining presence in this modern day.

As owner of the Sherwin Williams warehouse, I hereby grant permission to the Remember 1934 group to install a commemorative plaque on the exterior of my building.

I eagerly look forward to its installation and the continuing preservation of our local history.

Sincerely yours,


Clifford W. Bruber

Charles J. Bruber

