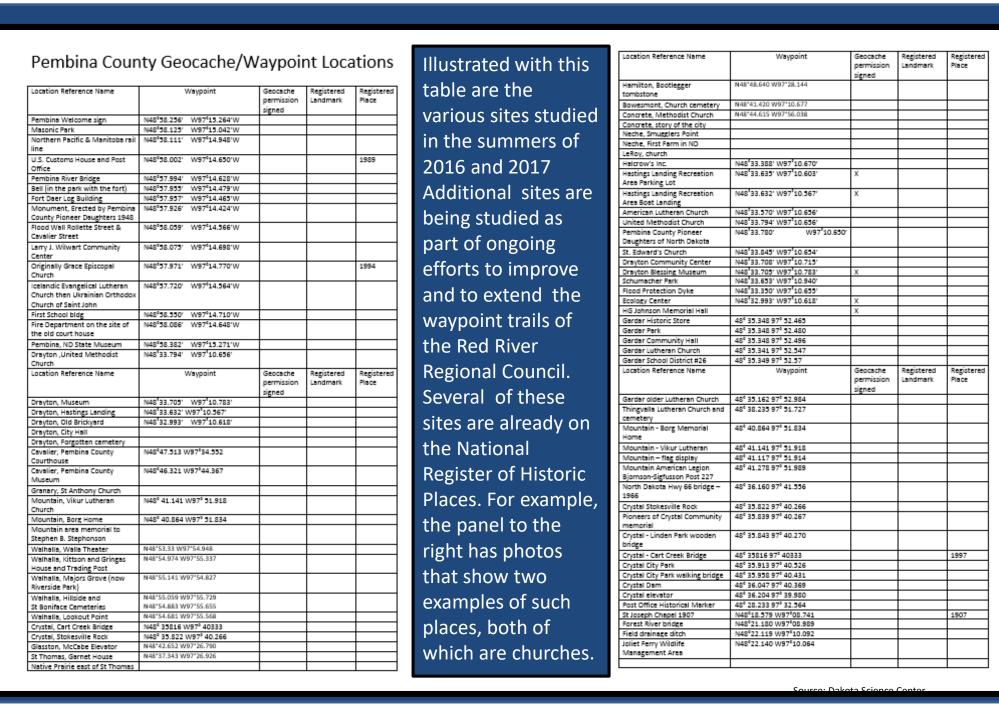
Heritage Tourism, Community Development, and Geospatial Activities in Northeastern North Dakota

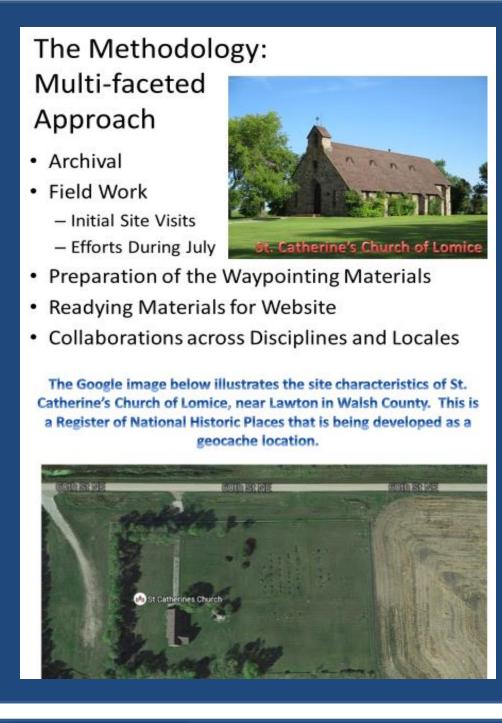
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Funding: Red River Regional Council and the Virginia George Inheritance Fund Communications Contact: douglas.munski@und.edu

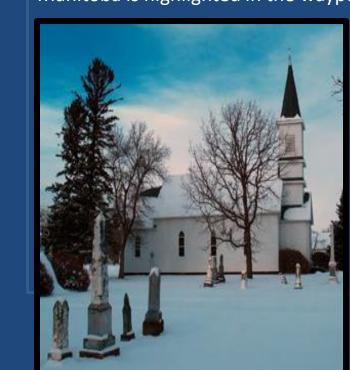
Rural Northeastern North Dakota's economic development increasingly includes tourism that generally focuses upon scenic amenities. Yet, cultural amenity-oriented tourism exists and is expanding, too. Uniquely, one form of heritage tourism is using waypointing and geocaching to inform people about local history and geography. Since the summer of 2015, waypointing and geocaching materials have been created for North Dakota's Red River Regional Planning Council. This collaboration involves the Pembina County Historic Preservation Commission, the Walsh County Historic Preservation Commission, the Dakota Science Center, and the University of North Dakota's Department of Geography and GISc plus private citizens who are avid geocachers. This poster is focused upon presenting the methodologies used to investigate the assorted sites in the two counties plus follow-up activities that are ongoing. This type of heritage tourism was highlighted in the summers of 2016 and 2017 as part of the Red River Regional Council's plans for promoting community-based approaches to visiting the area, notably to Canadian tourists, so to continue to diversify local economic development. Waypointing and geocaching activities for the summer of 2018 are well-underway, and more attention is being given to expanding this form of community development in this region of the Peace Garden State.





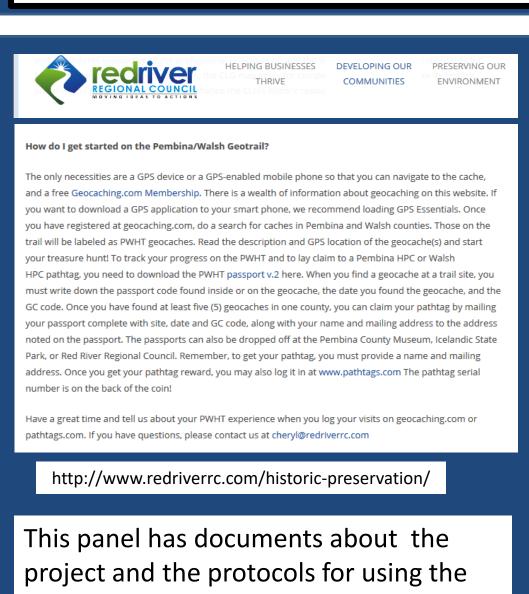
Geocaching and waypointing can be done as a tourism activity in any season of the year, including winter as illustrated by the scene below of the Vikur Lutheran Church at Mountain. This National Register of Historic Places listed church is probably the oldest Icelandic church in the United States. It was built in 1885 and continues to have religious services.

Mountain is one of the most significant Icelandic ethnic areas of North America. The migration of the Icelanders into this part of northeastern North Dakota from Manitoba is highlighted in the waypointing materials for



here. Indeed,
August the Deuce is
an annual ethnic
heritage event that
draws tourists
even from the
homeland of
Iceland. This
year's event is
slated for August 35, 2018
https://www.nps.gov/nr/
feature/places/13000862
.htm

the site shown



This panel has documents about the project and the protocols for using the regional geotrail (highlighted above) and the cover of the passport (to the right above). Directly to the right is an ad for Geocaching 101 that indicates the where, when, and what of the council event sponsored as part of celebrating in 2017 the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act.

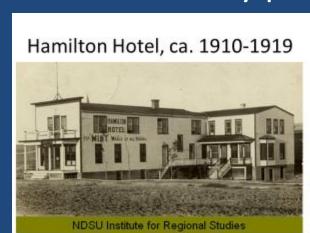




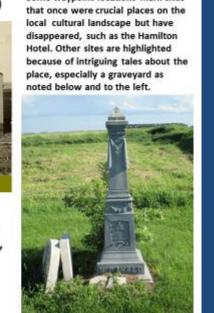
3rd Annual Ideas to Actions Summit
November 2, 2017

This project received the 2017 Community Builders Catalyst Award from the Red River Regional Council.

Telling the story of a place helps to encourage repeat visits by tourists to learn more once they become aware of the area's heritage. It promotes both economic development and community pride.



What is the story here about the "Bootlegger's Gravestone" in the Hamilton Cemetery?



Below is a Google image of the Lower Pembina River's course between Walhalla (far left) to Pembina (far right). It is anticipated that some of the 2018 field season will include follow-up visits in this area which is known by the vernacular regional name of the Rendezvous Region. That appellation is a homage to the importance of the fur trade to the settlement of the area by the Metis, a key ethnic group that bridge European and indigenous cultures. Also on the list of sites for the 2018 field season are places in Cavalier, the county seat of Pembina County.



small town

on many

general store. It

is a popular stop

waypointing visits

Pembina County.

to this part of

For access to bibliographic citations and related documentation, notably about the waypointing sites (see table to the upper left), please visit the Dakota Science Center's website at www.dakota-science.org



Acknowledgements

Red River Regional Council
Pembina County Historical Society
Walsh County Historical Society
University of North Dakota Chester
Fritz Library's Orin B. Libby Special
Collections
North Dakota Parks & Recreation's

North Dakota Parks & Recreation's Icelandic State Park Red River Geocachers Special thanks is given to the Virginia George Inheritance Fund for its support to the 2016 and 2017 field seasons and for its continuation of the funding for the 2018 fieldwork and in 2018-19.