



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

February 2nd, 2017

Wisconsin Historic Preservation Review Board
c/o Ms. Peggy Veregin
Wisconsin Historical Society
816 State St.
Madison, WI 53706

Dear Ms. Veregin and members of the Historic Preservation Review Board,

As elected officials who represent Monroe County, we are cognizant of the importance of preserving elements of the region's past even as we look toward the future. For that reason, we are writing to support the nomination of the Tomah Boy Scout Cabin to the Wisconsin State Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places.

The Boy Scouts of America were founded in 1910 to instill in young men the principles of courage, self-sufficiency, and patriotism by exposing them to lessons in outdoor skills and survival. As part of their training, many Boy Scout troops undertook the project of building a log cabin, and worked with their communities to attain the resources to do so.

Construction of the Tomah Boy Scout Cabin began in 1934. The City of Tomah donated land in the corner of Buckley Park, the Tomah Lions Club and several local businesses provided money and manpower to aid in construction, and unemployed Monroe County workers were given jobs to work on the cabin through funding from the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), a New Deal era agency that was the predecessor to the Works Progress Administration (WPA).

Today, over 80 years after its construction, scouts continue to utilize the cabin. The cabin is a testament to the strength of the Tomah community and to the longevity of the Boy Scouts. It deserves to be listed in the Wisconsin State Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Patrick Testin
State Senator
24th Senate District

Nancy VanderMeer
State Representative
70th Assembly District