

EXHIBITS & PROGRAMS

Building a new History Center in Chippewa Falls allows the opportunity to provide new educational programs telling the story of this area's impact locally, nationally and internationally. This includes exhibits, seminars, lectures, group discussions and genealogy research.

The History Center will include a combination of long term, short term, traveling, and multimedia exhibits. This variety will keep the History Center experience dynamic and interesting for visitors.

Exhibits will tell the historical stories of Chippewa County's communities, including Bloomer, Boyd, Cadott, Chippewa Falls, Cornell, Jim Falls, Holcombe, Lake Hallie, New Auburn, Stanley and Tilden.

Planned Themes & Exhibits Include:

The People. The story begins with the Native Americans, then the fur traders, quickly followed by the immigrants from Europe. What each generation brought to the Chippewa area provides many fascinating stories, including stories of individual citizens.

Timber. Having one sixth of the world's white pine led the Chippewa County area into supplying the growing Midwest with the lumber needed to construct buildings. Our extensive collection of artifacts from the lumbering era and our new mobile lumberjack museum will enable us to tell the story of the impact of lumbering on the Chippewa area.

A River. The Chippewa River and the role it played in the Chippewa area provide many stories. They range from carrying logs to the largest saw mill in the world to using large dams and the river's elevation drop to create electric power and lakes to provide recreation opportunities.

Farming. Agriculture has been an important part of the Chippewa story. The crops included tobacco, sugar, beets and vegetables. Each crop had its specialized equipment and processes. It was the summer occupation of many lumberjacks during the lumbering era. Agriculture today is still a major part of the area's economy.

Made in Chippewa. From the lumbering era to the present, many products have been made in the Chippewa Area. All require people, tools, materials, innovation and a market to buy these products. The story of the changes and development over the past century will provide easily altered exhibits.

In addition to the above, other themes will be explored and exhibited.