

These are the written responses to this question in the DNR survey: "If you answered 'None of the above' in Question 11, please explain," presented in random order. Identifying names have been removed. Otherwise, they appear as written.

Leave the Interpretive Center as is.

Do not tear down the Manfred home.

I would like the DNR to keep the existing Manfred house as a local person from Luverne. It shows the history not only of the town but all the work Fred put into the area in which he lived at one time.

Demolition of this place won't do a justice for a town in which lives and breaths the history in it.

We need to preserve the Manfred house

Review plan to demolish house

Preserve the house.

I would prefer to repair the existing structure

Keep the house

Please restore and preserve the Manfred home as it is part of the literary and cultural history of this place.

Preserve the Manfred house

Please include this historic home in future p, and and development.

Please save the Manfred House. While growing up in the area, I frequented Blue Mound State Park and cherished the Manfred House. It is a piece of history and should be preserved.

Frederick Manfred expected the park system to maintain his house, not tear it down

We should preserve the Fred Manfred house.

I think it's important to save the house.

Preserve a culturally and architecturally significant house.

Preserve the house.

Do not destroy the Manfred home.

Preserve the Manfred house

It is criminal and shameful to tear down an iconic structure that gave so much to Minnesota.

I think the Manfred house should be saved. It is an historic house and we should not be ripping down all our history. And it's a beautiful house too, it's a tragedy it's been closed up these recent years and not maintained.

Save the Manfred house

We must keep the Manfred house, reconstruct it!

Denying the Luverne community an opportunity to fight for the Manfred House is a travesty. As I've previously stated this house is a part of Luverne as much as Blue Mound State Park is. If torn down, you will be tearing apart a valuable piece of the Luverne history.

It would be a disgrace to make a shelter house out of this unique beautiful piece of history !

Preserve the Manfred house

Please preserve The Manfred House.

The house is a historical landmark. Manfred would want it preserved, not destroyed. It has given us a chance to teach our kids about Manfred and Frank Lloyd Wright architecture style. I've been able to bring students there in the past after reading Lord Grizzly in book club. Please try to preserve the house.

Preservation.

The historic Manfred house should be preserved and used.

Keep Manfred house. Fix it up

Save the Manfred House - I remember growing up and getting to go see that wonderful place and learn about the history of one of the more famous area residents. The fact that it's even in jeopardy of being torn down is appalling, quite honestly.

do NOT NOT NOT NOT NOT NOT tear down his house you idiots

Paramount is the preservation of the Manfred House. Any plan that fails to preserve this historic, culturally significant property is unacceptable. It is a failure of leadership and responsibility that you did not include this issue in your poll.

do not destroy the Manfred House.

I think keeping the house is the best solution, as it is naturally built into the small cliff line behind it. The house serves as a landmark and gathering place for many, adding to the serene calm atmosphere there.

The house should be preserved

The Manfred house should be preserved.

The Manfred house should be preserved.

The Manfred house is a historic building that should be integrated into any future designs and kept as a historic building for years to come. This building can be fixed up and used as an entry point into the park instead of just discarded.

Keep the Manfred house

Save the manfred house

I believe rebuilding/preserving the house and using it as an interpretative and educational anchor for the park could help draw people to southwest Minnesota to visit this unique landscape that is often underappreciated by Minnesotans. This landscape is spectacular and deserve better interpretation of the rich history, plant biodiversity, and geology.

I really feel like the original structure should be as preserved as possible. This is the most aesthetic option, but I still don't believe the whole existing structure should be torn down but preserved - it should never have gotten to this point of demise to allow the argument for demolition!

THE DNR has railroaded the demolition of a significant landmark, until they promise to preserve the manfred house they do not deserve opinions on the trails.

Since none of your designs includes the Manfred House, your designs are all a disappointment.

Fred Manfred was a literary lion and to demolish this house removed that legacy. In addition the DNR has preserved many structures with far less historical significance along transmission routes and other public lands.

Preserve the historic home or rebuild portions of it. Get the necessary funding. This is a historic treasure. Much better than Buffalo chip throwing. We need to keep our history. What are you doing to preserve the memory of this famous Minnesota Author.

All three of these plans destroy a historical landmark that is a unique destination for many many people. The historical significance and location overlooking the town is a

rare jewel. I think funds to restore the building are just as important as the other improvements you are proposing.

Keep Manfred house. It would be a shame to lose this piece of MN history.

Save the historic house

Include the Manfred house in the plans

Current structure, Manfred House, needs to be preserved.

I'd like to see the house preserved and utilized

All the "design concepts" essentially obliterate the house! Can't we muster a creative spirit large enough to restore the house AND provide an interpretive center/trail head site worthy of the stature of Frederick Manfred? He was a big man with a generous capacity for seeing the land and its inhabitants in all their facets. Surely we can manage a restoration that honors an original voice and that speaks to the interests and needs of the future visitors.

Please preserve the Manfred House. Why would you tear down a historic building that still has use? The tear-down, build-new plan is absolutely the wrong direction for humans to be taking at this time. Blue Mounds is such a place of natural beauty, that's why I visit. The Manfred House is a beautiful old structure that has significance and history. Whatever new stuff you build in the park will not have significance and history. Plus, it's gentler to our Earth and animals to avoid tearing down this useful structure that's already there. New structures will have a way bigger carbon footprint. Wouldn't it be wise to preserve and protect?

Preserve the house.

Leave the house. Restore it and use it to educate

The preservation of the nationally historical significant house needs to a part of the plan! Stop the state sponsored demolition projects!

I want the house to be kept and maintained as is.

None of the designs included the Manfred House! It is part of the history here and I want to see resources developed to include it in the design.

Save and or entirely rebuild.

I do not want the existing structure destroyed.

This historic home reflects the importance of nature on humanity, it should be restored and preserved as part of our ecology and humanities.

Removing the landmark home of Fredrick Manfred will remove a currently under utilized historic feature of Blue Mounds from future generations of Minnesotans. This feature should involve the MN arts and culture, and DNR.

The Manfred house should be preserved. It's a historic treasure for the area.

In preserving the original house, list a historic site, add units for overnight stays, restrooms, rv parking, an interpreter center it would draw more of the public.

All concept go against saving a very important part of our history

You need to keep Manfred House.

I am appalled that you are intending to destroy this unique and culturally important building.

The Manfred house structure is an iconic design that must remain on the bluff overlooking Rock County. It is a priceless example of a modernist prairie home that cannot be duplicated. Please provide for the preservation of the structure. Some changes may be acceptable to minimize costs if necessary.

We lived in Luverne from 1960 to 1964 before the area was named a State Park. The Manfred family were personal friends of our family. We watched the school house come down and the stone moved back to the bluff where the house was built. We shared in the family's dreams and disappointments over the construction problems as the house progressed. We are pleased with the development of the property as a State Park and have visited it when we are in the area. The architectural design of the house is unique to the prairie/cliffside landscape in accord with Dakota environmental concepts. No other dwelling incorporates this architectural design in the Dakota area. Fred Manfred's novels vividly portray the encounter of the Dakota and white settlers in this area of Minnesota, Iowa, and eastern South Dakota. The loss of this architectural treasure would be devastating to the rich Dakota heritage in Southeastern Minnesota. Do not demolish the house - USE IT!

I think the best "value" to the residents of Minnesota would be to take steps to preserve the history and character of this important location by renovating the Fredrick Manfred house to be used as an interpretive center.

Preserve and restore the Manfred House

I support the total preservation of the historical Manfred House, and its use once again as a site for public events.

Study of the house has been superficial.

I would like to see the Manfred House preserved.

The Frederick Manfred house should be preserved and retained as the visitor/interpreter center.

The concepts do not allow for saving the Manfred House.

see above

The house should be saved and used as a museum!

Save this house!

I would like to see it preserved. Plz partner with SHPO and the MN Historical Society to gain funds for its preservation.

Again, first try raising private funds and express that to all people living and from Luverne using reunion addresses.

Fixing the current property would most likely be the same cost as these other design concepts. Using the space to rent/give guided tours/a museum to the owner, history of Blue Mounds, and species of plants and animals in the area would generate revenue for the space, including bringing the interpretive center back to its original location.

They do not address the preservation of the Manfred house.

Please save the Manfred house.

The historic Frederick Manfred house should be preserved and reused in a sustainable way. Demolition without formal consideration of alternatives is unacceptable.

The DNR has not even suggested ways to preserve the Manfred Home. That is one of the most unique aspects to the park!!

Preserve the Manfred House.

I am abjectly unfamiliar with the details.

The Manfred house is an historic and literary treasure. Why has no one asked about keeping the house.

Manfred house is a historical treasure it should be a center for history and culture of the area. Make it into a creative retreat even but don't tear it down!

The Interpretive Center should be listed in the National Register of Historic Places and preserved.

I wish to see the Manfred House preserved

I believe that the Manfred house should be rehabilitated and preserved.

Prefer to save the historic home
It belongs to everyone and should not be torn down

The Manfred structure should be kept, maintained and incorporated into the history of the park in the same way that the quarry, the park and ranger buildings and even the buffalo herd are kept, maintained and incorporated into the heartbeat of this beautiful park.

It increases impacts to natural features and biodiversity and sacrifices a culturally important historical structure

Read.

We need to keep the Manfred Home on the property and preserve it. Part of the funding for the DNR comes from the Legacy Amendment - the Manfred House is part of that legacy and needs to stay.

See above

Why do we have to change it.

Preserve the Manfred House!

Once again, need a plan to incorporate the Manfred house.

I reiterate: Across the world preservationists have been saving significant structures that help define the history of an area. Removing Manfred's home must not be part of the plan.

The Manfred home is far too important to demolish. Please restore for future generations to enjoy.

Preserve the Manfred House!!

Preserve the historic house

The house should be maintained.

I would like to see the interpretive center or Manfred home restored and functional in that space. It is an important piece of the history of the Blue Mound State Park and community of Luverne.

The historic home of the native Minnesota author should be preserved and on the National Historic register.

Use the existing Manfred House. Demolition and reconstruction activities will be more degrading to existing natural resources than leaving/improving the Manfred House.

Keep the Manfred building.

None remove all the structure.

Please save the house!

They do not honor the legacy of Fred Manfred.

Do NOT tear down the Manfred house! It is an historic addition that should be preserved!

Preserve the current design

Preserve the historic Mansfield house

Please restore the Manfred House/Interpretive Center. It is what he intended when he made the gift.

Preserve the house!

Please keep and maintain the Manfred House in this park. I have been to the house and it is a reminder of the powerful voice that Manfred gave to the land and its former inhabitants. Humans can coexist on this landscape and have for hundreds of years. Frederick Manfred's literary legacy is powerful. He has told the story of the land and its people. Without his knowledge and storytelling, many people would never know and understand the story of the native dwellers and wildlife. Can you imagine tearing down Hemingway's house in Key West Florida? How many thousands of people have been inspired by visiting that house and been inspired to protect the seas? The homes of great American writers are educational sites. Students and adults can learn and be inspired by his writing. Don't remove any trace of him. The land endures but without its champions, like Manfred, it is even more endangered. Look at the photograph taken by Jim Brandenburg of all the people sitting outside at the Manfred House. You can see the horizon and the great expanse of prairie from there. I'm sure you can easily imagine a young person visiting that house, standing outside and looking out at that horizon and thinking "I am going to do everything I can to preserve the prairies and to respect the stories of the people who once lived here." Don't deprive future generations of writers and environmentalists of that chance.

Leave Manfred house there

Preserve the historic Manfred house

Same response as before...update the house

I didn't see any options for a design concept.

It's an incredible building. Please preserve it.

Public money should not be spent on the destruction of an historic building. Manfred House represents the literary and architectural heritage of Minnesota and its placement in the midst of Minnesota's dramatic beauty is a testament to the harmony that Minnesota embodies.

Compare is to Europe—we are very quick to demolish. Fred knew this was a special place, why not mesh his history with the geographic significance. This place then would serve a dual purpose.

Please re-investigate going with the Manfred house as the base - so unique and a draw in and of itself!

They all It destroy the historically significant house without ever having had it evaluated by a qualified specialist in historic preservation.

Save The Manfred House - Period. It provides a window to important history for the entire area.

Preserve the Manfred House!

Dredge out your upper pond. Rebuild your dam. Develop your attractions open more full hookup camping sights. Make the park an attractive destination that will be enjoyed and appreciated by future generations. Give us a reason to travel to sw mn.

It's a part of our town, county & state - keep it!

Frederick Manfred's house should be saved and maintained for use in the park.

I believe wholeheartedly that the existing build be preserved with the natural landscape as originally created

I want you to consider using the existing structure as a base for new designs.

See previous responses.

I would like to see the Manfred house repaired and put back to being a nature center.

You need to keep Fredrick Manfreds house, without that house and the views it provided him, Blue Mounds would never have existed as a state park.

I would like to see the house restored and maintained. It is a historical one of a kind treasure that is special to the area.

Don't tear down the Manfred house. Fix it up. Keep its history alive. Quit tearing down historical buildings and losing our nations history. That is one reason our country is the way it is.

As a society we are too quick to eliminate our history for expediency.

Save the house currently there.

Preserve the house

Please restore the house.

Save the Manfred House. Preserve the historic value of it to the area.

Find a way to save the house.

This historic structure was entrusted to the State to care for and maintain. It should be properly restored without consideration of cost.

The Manfred House needs to be included in whichever concept is chosen.

Preserve the Manfred House!

The Manfred House should be preserved.

My grandparents home was not to far from there, an aunt lived in Hardwick. I recall visiting this area in younger years and am appalled that there are plans to tear this historic building down.

The homestead should be preserved as a significant historical site.

Fred Manfred's home is an important part of our history and it should be preserved.

I wish to see the Manfred house preserved; it is historic and needs to be preserved.

Save the Manfred house

preserve the house

Same answer

I don't believe you have fully explored the possibility of restoring the historical architecture..You make many definitive statements that appear to be backed by a single opinion without consultation or input from preservationists.

The Manfred house should be preserved.

The demolition/deconstruction of the Manfred House takes away the history and stories of what has happened at that site. We can't demolish our old buildings, because with them goes the stories of our culture.

This property was given to the DNRC and should honor this agreement by preserving this HISTORICAL landmark.

The Manfred house should be preserved as part of the landscape and the history of the Blue Mounds State Park, period!

Fix the building

Please save the Manfred Home - the history of the building is VERY important to our community.

As a Rock County resident and MN taxpayer, I strongly feel the Manfred house should be preserved. The common sense approach would allow for fundraising to pay local contractors to repair and preserve the facility as was the intention when Fred sold it to MN DNR.

DO NOT DESTROY THE MEMORY OF FRED MANFRED.

We should preserve our history not destroy it. We have history in our Blue Mounds and an exceptional option of promotion with that of Manfred gifts. Once it's gone it's forever gone and replicas are never as true as an original masterpiece

I want to see the Manfred House preserved.

Don't take down the historic house

I feel there should be a stronger commitment to preserve more of the original home site. It is a cultural landmark and because of expediency and other political considerations the big picture is lost, it is common to not recognize this. There has been considerable effort and private expense in preserving the local Sioux Quartzite structures in Luverne. I feel it should be a cultural commitment to retain more of the character of the house structure. A compromise between the complete dismantling and a complete rebuilding seems appropriate. A design which allows free air to flow through large open spaces should remedy the water issue. Much emphasis could be placed here to explain the prairie flora and fauna (especially the bison herd) which is the main focal point of the park.

Much local private effort and funding has been a serious commitment in preserving the nearby Touch the Sky Prairie. Millions of dollars have been invested to preserve the natural prairie heritage. It seems there could be some effort here at the Manfred home site to do something to preserve this important cultural heritage. I think some basic measures should be taken to preserve what is there now and have a historical preservation architecture firm or group determine its future. I think this firm does not

have the qualifications to assess value, process or direction.

Do not remove the Manfred house

Frederick Manfred was a great writer and built a unique house. I would like to see the house preserved and used as a way to help people learn about the Blue Mounds in general and the equinoctial wall in particular.

None of these designs include the Manfred House. It should remain where it is.

Of course this park needs and ought to have an Interpretive Center. While some of Manfred's work is dated, and perhaps not as relevant as the indigenous story of the land, the house is beautifully designed to fit in the landscape and has historical value. If it is torn down, someone will eventually want to build another one which will cost millions. Keep the house, get funding from the legislature or perhaps sponsor an architectural design contest to update it. It's a valuable asset and feature of the site.

Demolition of a National Register-eligible historic resource should not be included in the only available options.

Restore the Manfred House!

Keep the structure currently there by preserving its integrity and beauty.

It is disturbing to hear that the iconic Manfred House will be demolished and only the footprint left. I understand it has been closed for sometime due to safety reason. Why not work with the family and others who might be able to start a Friends of the Manfred House. This area is so synonymous with Frederick Manfred. I do not want to see that taken away.

At one time, the Bonanza Education Center at Big Stone Lake State Park was also slated for demolition, until the general public and local communities found out about it. Bonanza Education Center serves a very valuable role. The Manfred House is a similar venue. Why tear it down?

See Star Tribune article and thoughts of Freya Manfred and Jim Brandenburg.

I believe it is best to keep the Manfred House standing. It should not be destroyed with its cultural relevance.

Reconsider demolishing the house. Restore it instead.

Keep the original structure as is...

I think the money needs to go towards saving a piece of our history and save the Manfred House

I want to preserve the Fred Manfred house.

The Manfred House is culturally significant. Find a way to preserve and utilize it.

Preserve the Manfred house

The Manfred house should be kept as a historical spot to celebrate the architecture and local rock used along with a spot to recognize and learn about the author.

Any option of destroying the historic Manfred home is not acceptable. Removing the historic Manfred home is a terrible idea. Further input from the historical society and input from preservation specialists needs to be obtained. As you know state legislative bonding bills are designed to meet these kinds of community needs such as building restoration.

To remove a historical building is not acceptable.

Preserve the Manfred home!!

Maintain the Manfred house for future generations

I want to see the house preserved.

None of your options preserve the Manfred House, so the concepts should be rejected and new concepts developed that preserve the house

would like to see the Manfred home & and especially the Manfred name kept in any future design. Manfred was always a part of the history of this area and the history of Luverne and the quarry/rock county.

Preserve the Manfred House

One last time, do not demolish the Manfred house.

I believe the Manfred House should be preserved.

I would like to see the Manfred house preserved in addition to a trailhead at this location.

I would like to still consider leaving the Manfred house if at all possible

Please preserve the existing structure and make repairs as necessary.

Preserve the home

Save Manfred's home, should be a retreat for writers.

Preserve the house and use it as is.

The best value for the use of public dollars would be to add only the structure near the parking lot. A rest room would be good for those setting out to explore the many trails and 'out of the way' spots of beauty along the cliff line. It is easy to hike up there for an afternoon so a toilet would be good. A bike rack would be nice too. Mr. Manfred is to be remembered for his literary works, and much less for his home. Should it ever make it to the historic register, the building does not need to physically be there. Like all other structures that were part of the Blue Mounds (all the structures during the early 1900's used for quarry blasting) all that remain are a few remnants and a few plaques. Put a nice plaque near the trailhead with the appropriate tribute to Mr. Manfred's writing. And to the man who was the best steward of the land, my dad Vernon Noll. He did not scar the landscape and farmed it wisely and without disruption to the beautiful land. I have many wonderful childhood memories of growing up in the "Blue Mounds." Please allow all future generations to enjoy it like I did: without structures at the top of the cliff line, obstructing the beautiful rock outcroppings.

Save the Manfred

Prefer to keep the house and use it for future generations.

Preserve the entire structure

Do not destroy Manfred House

Manfred House should be restored.

I'm all for it being preserved. No new concepts.

I would love to see the Manfred house stay

Preserve the Manfred Home

The Manfred House should be renovated and used, not demolished.

I think the Frederick Manfred house should be preserved. He donated this unique house to the state & would not want it destroyed. The rock in it is local and it blends in with the surrounding land.

Any proposal that doesn't include restoring the original Manfred Home is unacceptable.

Keep current structure.

Please leave the Manfred house

It means so much to everyone from the Luverne area

Preserve the house

Keep the original house

See answer to #5

The TKDA condition assessment probably overstated the case to tear the house down. Without gaining entry to the interior of the structure it was irresponsible to condemn a structure that may be eligible for listing on the National Register. It looked like the assessment team was climbing on the roof, so admitting them to assess the interior would not have presented any more safety risk.

The original house which stands on this property (now apparently collapsing from complete failure to care for the building) is not only the former home of a great Minnesota writer, but a structure which allowed for visitors to view the land from an elevated perspective, as well as to use for events and staff offices. Saving and protecting that building would have been the best use of tax dollars. Good lord! Public dollars!! Get historical preservationist dollars involved. Don't make mistakes that can't be remedied. There are many of us who would help.

Want the area to be in its natural state

Please keep this site as it was intended by the donor.

We're getting tired of just looking at DNR's weeds and lack of maintenance.

I want the Manfred House preserved.

I'd like to see a concept that incorporates the existing Fredrick Manfred structure. I like the concepts but the history of the area should be incorporated.

Any changes in the site should leave the Manfred House there with improvements needed to save the structure

Same answer as above. Thank you for asking the Minnesota public tax payers to weigh in on this major project.

Keep house and renovate

Keep the house. Don't destroy history.

LEAVE THE MANFRED HOUSE

The Frederick Manfred House should be preserved.

The Manfred house should be preserved.

Fred Manfred spoke to me class in Luverne high school. His house has historic value. Please maintain it fir the public. Don't tear it down.

Leave the historic home.

I would like to be certain that the Manfred house is not able to be preserved before any other options are considered.

In order to meaningfully seek input from the public, the MN DNR needs an alternative that retains the Manfred House in some form.

Save the Manfred house

Save the house!

Spend the money in the park.

The DNR should maintain the historic Manfred House as an important feature of Blue Mounds State Park.

need a concept that preserves the Manfred House.

Preservation of existing structures of historical significance should be top priority.

If you spend nearly half a century not maintaining the Frederick Manfred house, you really cannot use the excuse, "It's run down and needs to be fixed up." Shame on the DNR - this is a breach of faith.

The design for the interpretive center itself is uninspired... squat, functional, ugly. The original Manfred house is Prairie Style, well-integrated into its surroundings. The writing "teepee" affords beautiful views of "Siouxland," especially when storms sweep the prairie. The original house is unique; the DNR should make every effort to refurbish and protect it.

Leave the house

Please find an alternative that preserves the house.

See #5 and answer on the previous page. I did not appreciate that the design engineers were not allowed to enter the house!

Preserve the Fred Manfred house!

Our predecessors saw the value of the Manfred House for the public good, and meant for it to belong to us all. It's a dereliction of duty to destroy such a special building forever. Future generations will lose this unique connection to twentieth century American literature. It can be so difficult to encourage art in rural areas. This house is an instant home for such efforts, a heart for the community. Please work with the Save the Manfred House group to find a way to save the house. It would be wonderful to be able to gather inside the house for community events independent of weather conditions.

Preserve

I believe it should be preserved.

Leave it as is!

Do not add anything. Do not tear down the historical site. Refurbish it and do not destroy it.

The Minnesota Historical Society concluded that the house is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The home is of Frederick Manfred, a Minnesota writer who spoke at Sinclair Lewis's graveside service.

The Manfred House should be preserved.

Stop destroying history.

Save the house 🏠!!!

Please do not tear down the Manfred house.

see above

Fix the structure for future generations as it was originally designed. My family has learned a lot from this site and it is unique.

This was the home of a famous author. All efforts should be made to raise the funds to save and restore this building.

Would like to see flush toilet rather than vault. Would like to see Manfred house saved - my children attended nature programs and activities there in the 90's. Do not care about snake habitat. We hike there often through all entrances to the park. Not putting the dam back in was a disappointment to our family. We used to kayak, swim, fish there.

Maintaining habitat, information for the public about habitat, historical places outweigh recreational use--why? Because historical sites are so often destroyed, and habitat is disappearing fast in Minnesota and around the world.

Please preserve the Manfred House

Refer to answer #1

As I have mentioned I am against tearing down the historic house. If it wasn't for Mr Manfred this land would probably be a field right now. To honor his legacy and to honor the land he preserved the house should be preserved.

Preserve the Manfred house!

It is historical, keep it.

Save the Manfred house.

This house needs to be preserved!!!

Please restore the Manfred house and retain it.

Repair the structure and open it back up. Part of our history.

My next choice is 3, then 2, then 1

I'd like to see the house saved and updated

Save the Manfred house.

The existing visitor center/Manfred House is one of the characteristics that would draw me to the site. Based on the photographs I have seen, it reminds me of the Temppeliaukio Church in Helsinki, which is also built into the rock and which dates from the same approximate time period. That building in Helsinki is a spiritual and reflective place, and one of the most-visited attractions in Helsinki (see <https://www.myhelsinki.fi/en/see-and-do/sights/temppeliaukio-church>). To think that there is an opportunity to visit a similar structure at a state park in MN is a definite draw and one that I and my family would make a special effort to visit.

Preserve the house and its history as the foundation for one of Minnesota's greatest authors.

We need to save the existing structure

"Please preserve the Manfred House for future generations."

The Fredrick Manfred house has historical and literary significance and should be preserved

Save and repair the house

The Manfred House is a part of the area's history. Why would you want to tear down something that is as exquisite as this house? There isn't a house like that and the fact it is built into the rock quarry wall makes it even more rare. It would be a mistake.

This home has serious historical significance. Please make a plan that includes the opportunity to preserve it.

The area has great hiking trails though am saddened that the beach is gone. Please do not destroy the Manfred house too!

It seems like the obvious choice of renovating the main building has been completely dismissed and the only reason is a single evaluation that it is too "expensive". In corporate speak, this is quite simply making your conclusion reflect what you want to do. There is cultural significance to this structure that should be considered. It feels like no consideration has been given to preservation, and that simplifying things for park use is the only perspective used. Get more creative!

Preserve the Manfred House

I believe this house is both a State and National Treasure and needs to be preserved. Okay to use it as an interpretive center.

See explanation provided in response to question 8.

Save the current building.

I lived in Luverne for 31 years and taught in the public school for 26 years. One of my most cherished memories is going out to the Manfred house to attend the Blue Mound Writer's Series on summer evenings. To not preserve the Manfred House in its beautiful setting is to erase an important part of the history of Blue Mound State Park and Southwest Minnesota.

The Fred Manfred house is a prairie gem, the home of a significant Minnesota writer about prairies and their inhabitants. The house is part of the park and must be preserved with it. Both are part of our heritage and both preserved together will appeal more to visitors.

Save the Manfred house

No design will be sufficient unless the preservation of the Manfred house is accounted for as part of the plan.

Historic preservation and restoration of the Manfred home is essential. None of the options given provide for that end.

Please save and maintain the Manfred house.

You are ignoring the importance of the Manfred House

Please preserve the Manfred House for future generations.

I have given my opinion in the above comments. I would feel very sad if this home is not saved. Manfred was a great man and he should be recognized for what he did for SW Minnesota and NW Iowa. He wrote many of his books right there in this house. We need to save this!!!!

I believe the house is of historic interest and should be saved.

Preserve the Frederick Manfred House. Fix the drainage and plumbing issues. Bring it to code for ADA, safety.

If these involve extensive alteration or removal of the house it would be a tragedy.

We can do more to preserve not only the landscape but our shared literary history. Please don't demolish the Manfred house.

All measures to keep the house should be exhausted first. The DNR has not been open and forthcoming about the process.

I would like to see the Manfred house preserved

I do not support the trail head concepts as I believe the Manfred house should be preserved. It is eligible for the Registry of National Historic Places and should be preserved as such.

No

I do not wish for the Interpretive Center to be "mostly removed." The historic Manfred House is a place that I hold dear in my heart. As a young child, I would visit Blue Mounds State Park frequently with my grandparents who lived in Luverne at that time. It was always a special treat for me, as I grew up in Minneapolis and visiting my grandparents in the summers was one of the things that I looked forward to most.

One of my most cherished memories was when I was about nine years old and my grandma and grandpa took me and my younger cousin out for an evening walk at the Park. As we started walking up towards the Manfred House, my little cousin stepped on a prickly pear and started to cry; my grandma ended up having to drive him all the way back home to Luverne to get a tweezers. But, because it was one of my favorite things to do, my grandpa agreed that he would stay behind and walk with me. I didn't know it at that time, but my grandpa was in the early stages of Alzheimers. I remember walking up atop the Blue Mounds above the hill behind the Manfred House and sitting down on a rock with my grandpa to watch the sunset. As we sat there, my grandpa told me that whatever happens, he wanted me to know that he loved me and I remember thinking that he seemed worried about something that he wasn't saying.... This was the last memory that I have of my grandpa when he was still able to remember my name. I am now 25 years old, but the memory of sitting there on a rock atop the Manfred House with my grandpa is something I will never forget. It means everything to me.

I know that I am not alone in having cherished memories at the Manfred House. And, I know that if this historic place were to be torn down without first considering public opinion, I would not be alone in forever losing a touchstone back to these memories. I ask that you please do everything in your power to first consider any alternative options for the reconstruction of the Manfred House and take note of the public opinion regarding the invaluable worth of the house itself as a historic location.

Thank you.

Signed,
[name removed]

Retain the existing structure

As above, rebuilding, redesigning, and restoring the building.

The chosen design concept needs to preserve the Frederick Manfred house.

Please preserve the Manfred House for visitation and educational purposes.

We can't say this enough times - The Manfred Home should be preserved as a memorial to one of our state's best known authors of prairie history.

As I've said, I would prefer to see the Manfred house remain on site, so that future generations can use it for literary and community purposes.

Preservation of history to the area...DO NOT DESTROY! WILL NEVER GET IT BACK.

Save the house! It is a jewel.

The Manfred house is unique and iconic. Save it!!

The Manfred House is a treasure! I really should be preserved.

Please do not demolish the existing historical home!!

Preserve the Fred Manfred house

Save the Manfred house

I prefer restore historic Manfred House. New would be more disturbing to nature surrounding it.

Save and restore the building

Restore the Manfred House as an interpretive center to showcase all that the beautiful park (and area) holds.

I would like to see Fred Manfred's house preserved.

keep the manfre house

Spend the time and money to actually get the park to the beautiful place it used to be! Its been declining over the years as this beautiful place gets less and less cared about

because the DNR seems to only want it to exist and not have to deal with it!
If its not making money its because the DNR is blowing it off and not trying! You have to spend money to make money to make people WANT to come to the park.

The Manfred house should be added to the National Register of Historic Places and restored/preserved to the extent possible. Other amenities should not replace the structure, but instead enhance it.

None of the above options will continue to preserve the historic Manfred house and it's rich local history. The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office has referenced the importance of this building by concluding that the building is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Which as we know is the government's official list of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects deemed worthy of preservation for their historical significance. I strongly believe we must preserve our history and would not be satisfied with any other option.

Please see answer #9. Would only be fair to include an option which included restoring the Manfred Home.

I grew up in Luverne, and frequently visit as my parents still live there. The Fred Manfred house has always been a staple of the Blue Mound State Park. Walking up to the trail head, and walking past the home has always brought a smile to my face. I remember going there as a young child. As a teenager. And as an adult. This place needs to be protected and kept as a treasure.

Already have offered ideas

Preserve the Manfred House

Restore the Manfred House Interpretive Center

The Manfred house should not be torn down.

The historical value of the house should be preserved and educate future generations about it's significance and value. There are many stories to be shared about the house and the original owner.

A remodeled building makes more sense than nutcrackers in town

None of these concepts deal with the maintenance of the Frederik Manfred house. Manfred was an important Minnesota writer and more an attempt needs to be made to keep his home as part of the Eagle Rock Vista facilities

I prefer it stays the way it is

Preserve the house

The Manfred house needs to be preserved and included in any future plans

The importance of expanding the natural beauty and potential educational application is indisputable. BUT, do not forget the human story of a man and his dreams--of sharing his writings with the world. Siouxland is a captivating language concept and provides a reverence needed for children who experience Blue Mound.

You need to design a plan that saves and uses the Manfred House

The Manfred House, a National Register-eligible property, and key part of this site, should be preserved, maintained, and used in its historic form for public programming. It is an integral site to the history of Luverne and honors one of our region's best authors. As a native Luvernite, I grew up with this site and have spent countless hours in the park, walking its trails and enjoying the prairie (with the house there). I know it hasn't been regularly maintained over the years; that was obvious while I was growing up and since. It disturbs me that the DNR would put out this survey and NOT have an option to preserve the house.

There are no cost figures associated with the three design concepts, so no comparison is possible with renovation of the existing structure. Furthermore, the intangible value of the existing structure has not been taken in to account in the planning process itself.

The Manfred house is a local historical structure, is beautifully woven into the fabric of the landscape, and has significant potential to enhance this area of the park.

Please restore and preserve the Manfred House/visitor center.

None include a plan to save the historic Manfred House. Why not?

Don't be so short-sighted with the "best value for the use of public dollars" option. That almost leans towards the "loaded survey question" type of thing. Think in a more visionary and long-term way. Think creatively. The public that is interested in saving this structure can be leveraged and brought into the project. Donations. Work. Pro-bono. Etc. Be creative. VISIONARY. Tearing it down is the lazy and ugly thing to do.

See above

Please preserve the Manfred house.

I think the Manfred House should be preserved & saved as a Historical site

Leave it as is. Fred Manfred would want it to serve visitors to the park. There is history involved and we can't just erase history.

I would like the Manfred house to be preserved.

The original structure and design should be kept and used as a visitor/museum/education center. Nature/history about Manfred/photos and local history can be combined with education about pioneer life for visitors.

I think the Manfred house should be kept and restored!

Public dollars would be better spent in creating this as a historical landmark, invest in taking care of the home (if the home is in bad shape- the Minnesota DNR is responsible) and invest money in the pond with the state park.

Save the house!

The Manfred House should be preserved as the historic home of author Frederick Manfred.

Manfred House needs to be addressed first.

I am disappointed that none of the concepts entail any sort of preservation of the existing building - and that there is really no mention of the building in this process! It feels disingenuous at best, and I'm not convinced the DNR has made good faith efforts at preservation. At a minimum, the communication with the local community has been atrocious.

I don't think the Manfred house should be destroyed. It should be preserved as he preserved celebrated this land.

take your time to find the funds and support necessary to restore Manfred's home and link it with the history of the Blue Mounds.

See question #5

Preserve the Manfred house.. this is a significant piece of history.

The band Fred home is historical and needs to be preserved.

I was born and raised within a few miles of the park and it is imperative to save that home as he is a famous author from the area and also because of the uniqueness of the structure.

Preserve the Manfred house

None of your concepts include the restoration and preservation of the Manfred Interpretive Center. Therefore, none are acceptable alternatives.

I believe the house should be kept, and update the maintenance problems.

I am a founding member of Preserve Historic Dinkytown. Manfred and his family lived, in earlier years, lived in Dinkytown where Manfred pursued a writing career, worked on Humphrey's campaign. He wrote a notable profile of "Dinkytown". We are aware

of his network of words, students, fellow writers and visions, as thick as the prairie grass under his feet at Blue Mound -- and hope to be able to visit and celebrate with you, the restored home and interpretive center.