

Save Sturgeon Bay's 1901 Teweles & Brandeis Grain Elevator

"The Teweles and Brandeis grain elevator is an excellent, highly intact example of a grain processing and storage building of a type that was once frequently encountered in communities in Wisconsin....It is now the only surviving historic resource in the city that can attest to the city's historically important role in agriculture production in Door County."

-Wisconsin Historical Society

"The Teweles & Brandeis granary is a treasure."

George Evenson, Door County Historian

The Granary, listed on the State Register of Historic Places in August, 2017, is expected to be listed on the National Register in the coming months.

The Sturgeon Bay Historical Society (SBHS) has raised the \$150,000 in private funds needed to stabilize the Granary for future use, eliminating the need to spend \$75,000 in taxpayer dollars to tear it down. We are also pleased to announce that SBHS has received a commitment of \$1,250,000 specifically for the repair, restoration and future maintenance of the historic 1901 Teweles & Brandeis grain elevator, for public benefit. For details which will govern the implementation of this gift, and to join SBHS efforts, please visit www.centerlineforum.org/historic-granary.



"The liveliest place out of the business streets is down at the elevator where hundreds of teams are to be found daily delivering...products of the farm. The farmers never had such a cinch..."

The Advocate, October 11, 1902

The Granary has 19 separate bins and an aggregate capacity of 30,000 bushels. Some of the bins were filled and emptied almost daily; others held grain "until the owners feel disposed to put the cereal on the market."

The Advocate, August 17, 1901

The Granary was built on a dock surrounded by water to allow large ships to pull up. Later, a spur from the Ahnapee & Western main line was run to the granary so crops could be loaded onto rail cars as well.

A belt-and-bucket vertical conveyor system (still operational), took incoming crops from the "boot" -- where farmers dumped them -- 90 feet up to the headhouse in the cupola. From there, the crops were distributed into the bins or cribs. Chutes below the cribs were opened to distribute out-going grain.

Isidor Brandeis is credited with making Bay View (Sturgeon Bay's west side) a year-round settlement. "Prior to his arrival in this community, it was the custom to 'shut up shop' in the latter part of October, when everything had been marketed."

Door County Advocate, March 24, 1953

The Granary's iron cladding kept the wooden structure safe from sparks from steamboats and locomotives.

"A consignment of peas recently went from here to Havana, Cuba, where they will be made into soup for the Cubans, no doubt. Teweles & Brandeis'...goods will find a ready market all over the civilized world. This is a pretty good thing for Door County also."

The Advocate, 1903

"A car now stands on the Teweles & Brandeis sidetrack which is being loaded with provisions for the [earthquake victims] of San Francisco, contributed by the people of Sturgeon Bay, and the farmers of Door County."

Door County Democrat, April 28th, 1906

The Granary was state-of-the-art and a source of community pride. It received a coat of fresh paint every few years.

At one time, downtown Sturgeon Bay had a milk condensery, a cherry processing plant, a brewery, refrigerated warehouses, a seed warehouse and several grain elevators. They are all gone.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Visit www.centerlineforum.org/historic-granary

Once it's gone, it's gone.