

# Design Recommendations<sup>1</sup>

The Bottineau neighborhood is one of the oldest neighborhoods in Minneapolis. As part of our ongoing efforts to recognize and preserve its historical significance, the Bottineau Neighborhood Association requests that as you undertake exterior improvements to your building, that you consider the following design recommendations that highlight and promote the grand history of the neighborhood.

## Signage

- Awnings with signage
- Old-fashioned fountain signs – hang perpendicular from the building
- Stenciling on windows and doors
- Wood signs above storefront – painted letter allow for a cheap alternative
- Painted advertisements on the sides of buildings
- Free-standing sidewalk signs
- For businesses that use excessive signage, standardized frames to insert sale signs rather than pasting windows with such advertisements
- Removal of posted signs and banners from windows and exterior of buildings
- Maximize the percentage of viewable window space

## Exterior Lighting

- Goose-neck lighting above awnings & openings, such as doorways
- Historic or globe lighting
- Avoid flood lighting and fluorescents
- Avoid neon lighting, except when characteristic to building era

## Windows & Doors

- Restore original openings
- Allow visible access to the street
- Accent building with colored door and window trim
- Reintroduce smaller panes of glass and transom windows

## Building Materials & Color

- Remove infill, such as brick and bars in openings, to restore character
- Use a color that provides uniqueness to the existing color scheme
- Introduce flower boxes on second stories
- Avoid bright colors for the primary building color, rather use it in small quantities on areas such as door and window trim
- Remove cladding and clean brick surfaces

## Color Palette

- Most brand name paints have a historic palette
- Complimentary colors balance out and make an even contrast to view
- Avoid using monochrome palette on building

## Awnings

- Introduce awnings to second level
- Introduce a wider palette that compliments existing colors
- Use awnings for additional signage
- Canvas awnings are historic to the area
- Avoid plastic and unusually shaped awnings

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<sup>1</sup> Source – Design Recommendations: Central Avenue Business Guide, DJR Architecture, 2001