

HUTMACHER FARM



PROJECT:

This western North Dakota farm was built by Ukrainian-German immigrants in 1926. Abandoned in the early 1980s, the stone and earthen buildings fell rapidly into disrepair. Under leadership from Preservation North Dakota, a Save America's Treasures grant was secured to stabilize the buildings.



PROBLEM:

Of particular concern was the replacement of the pitched earthen roofing, comprised of local materials including branches, brush and straw thatch.



SOLUTION:

Adapting technologies derived from the ancient Hopi village of Oraibi in Arizona, Crocker Ltd designed and implemented an earthen roof over thatch. The layered clays are carefully devised to alternately shed, absorb and release moisture while resisting the harsh climatic conditions of the northern Great Plains.



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