



The 1914 Town Hall is actually Eagan's second Town Hall. The first, built in 1896, was located at the southwest intersection of Pilot Knob and Lone Oak Roads. It burned down in 1914.

This second Town Hall was built at its Pilot Knob and Wescott Road location for \$1,047. The site, approximately 1/3 acre purchased from Michael Englert, was chosen because it was as close as possible to the center of the Township.

This building served as a location for the annual town meeting and elections until 1965. All other township business was usually conducted at the home of the Town Clerk.



Town Board Supervisor, Herb Polzin (later Eagan's first Mayor) gavels a Township meeting to order in the late 1950s at the Town Hall. Seated to his left with his hand raised is Town Clerk August Rahn. The original voting booths with flour-sack curtains can be seen behind them.

The photos below show Eagan citizens in attendance at the same Town Board meeting. The pot-bellied stove which used to heat the Town Hall is still in place today.

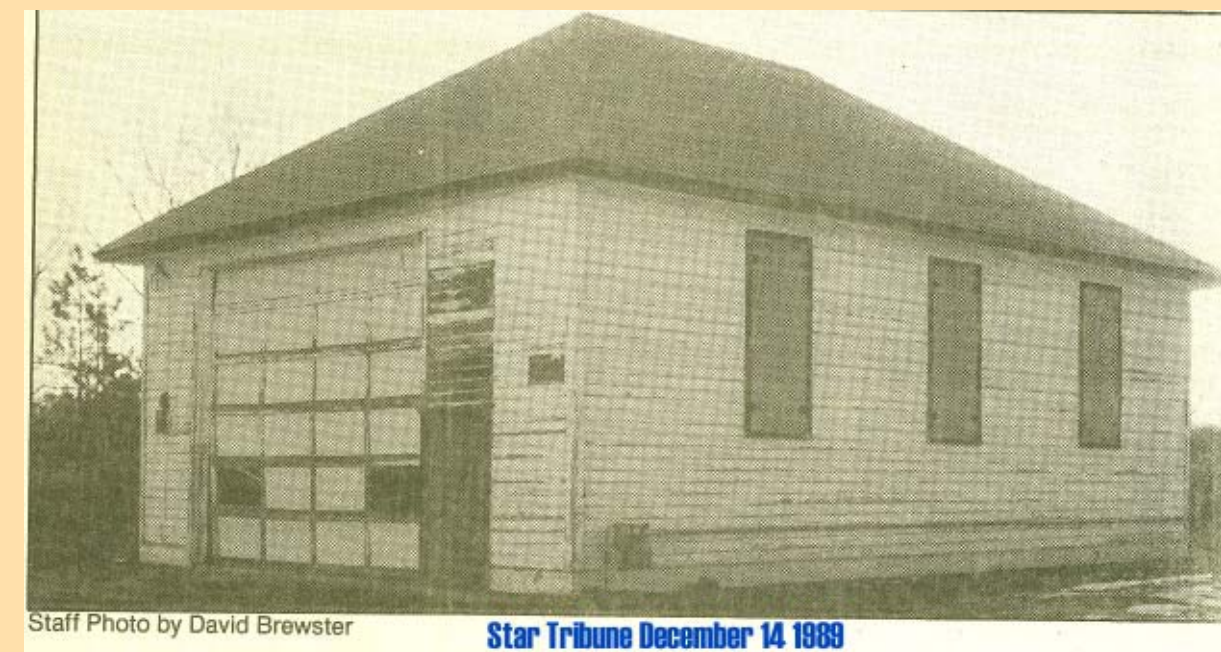
Photos by John Szarkowski from his book *The Face of Minnesota*, reprinted courtesy of the Minnesota Historical Society and U of M Press.



Even in the 1950s and 60s, a pot-bellied stove heated the Town Hall. There were 10 rows of seats made from unpainted 12 foot planks.

# Eagan's 1914 Town Hall

After a new City Hall was built across the road to the north in 1965, this building was equipped with a garage door so it could be used to house street maintenance equipment.



A leaking roof and peeling paint led to talk of tearing the old Town Hall down in the 1970s, before residents stepped in and agreed to save it. Fortunately, the original front windows and door as well as the wood flooring were retained.

In 1988, a widening project on Pilot Knob Road left the Town Hall too close to the road. The Town Hall was moved back 100 feet at a cost of \$10,500.

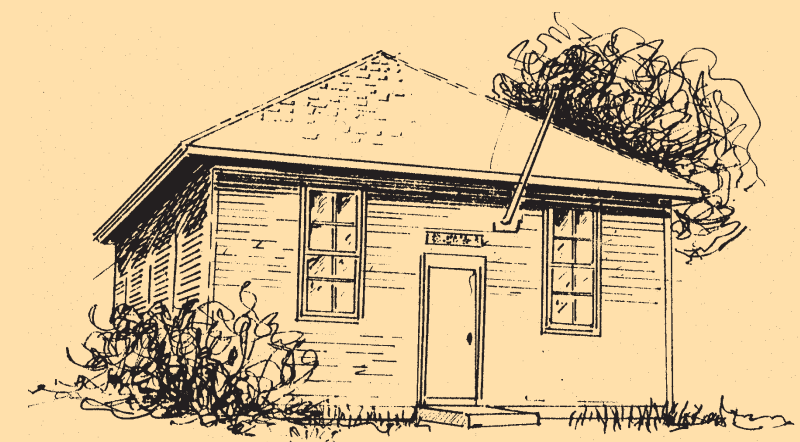
The 1914 Town Hall is owned by the City of Eagan and operates as a historical museum under the direction of the Eagan Historical Society.



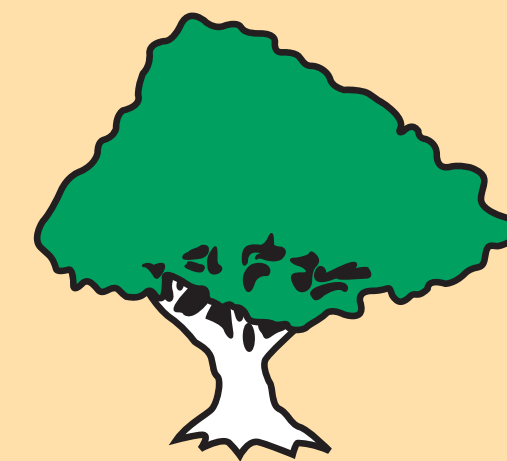
In 1990, the City of Eagan received a "Celebrate Minnesota Grant" of \$7,500 from the State. In addition, the City received a donation of \$17,500 in time and money from the Eagan Rotary Club. The renovation was supervised by Ted Wachter, Historical Society Chair and longtime Councilmember (serving from 1972-1998).



The Eagan Historical Society now uses this building as its museum to display artifacts and other material to preserve the history of the City of Eagan. The Historical Society also conducts tours and hosts open houses for the public.



*Eagan Historical Society*



**City of Eagan**

*This sign was erected in 2008 by the Eagan Historical Society and the City of Eagan.*  
[www.cityofeagan.com/history](http://www.cityofeagan.com/history)