

Grand Rapids Model Railroad Historical Society

Our Mission

The **Grand Rapids Model Railroad Historical Society** was established for the purpose of promoting and preserving the hobby of model railroading , the history of railroads and railroading in the Grand Rapids area and providing a forum for the exchange of information about railroads in general.

It is a goal of the Society to construct an operating scale model railroad "layout" to illustrate the history of the areas railroads in a three dimensional form. The layout will be designed to represent the Pere Marquette Railroad circa, 1945 as it existed between Grand Rapids and Bay View, Michigan (known as the Petoskey Division), Baldwin and Ludington, Michigan (known as the Ludington Division) and Detroit, Michigan and Chicago, Illinois (known as the Chicago Division and The Grand Rapids Division).

This layout along with collections of railroading, photo collections, books and periodicals and various railroad memorabilia will form the basis of a Western Michigan Railroad Museum and Library to be operated by the Society for use by its members as well as the public. The Society will be open to the public at specific times and during special local events to educate the public as to the history represented by the layout and other displays.

To reach our goal the Society is refurbishing the historic former Michigan State Fish Hatchery building located on the grounds of Dwight Lydell Park in Comstock Park, Michigan. The facility will provide barrier free access, and has adequate space for the construction of the operating layout, meeting space and space for our information library and museum. The location of this facility provides easy access from surrounding communities as well as adequate off street parking for our members and the public during our events.