

Doug Ohman

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Artist Statement

My goal as a photographer is to capture images that tell stories. Many of my photos reflect a deep sense of nostalgic emotion. I have traveled the back roads of America to discover what many other photographers have overlooked. My greatest reward is sharing my vision with those who strive for a simpler way of appreciating the world around them. I am a freelance photographer who specializes in photographing landscape and historic architecture. Most of the images that I display and sell have been taken in the Midwest.



Biography

Doug was born and raised in Anoka, Minnesota. He developed a love of history and geography at an early age which translated well into a career as a photographer. Never taking a photography class or instruction, Doug learned his art through the time tested method of trial and error. In 1995, Doug started Pioneer Photography and five years later left corporate America to pursue his passion full-time. Today, Doug keeps busy publishing books, selling fine art and doing public speaking. He continues to explore the back roads of America with his camera.

“I believe that bringing a little sunlight to the older adult is an opportunity and an honor we all can all be a part of.” ~Doug

Pioneer Photography Presentations Shows

Doug will share stores and interesting historical information about some of Minnesota's most treasured buildings. Many of these buildings and sites have been featured in his book series "Minnesota Byways." Doug will also tell his own story on how he transformed his passion for history and love of photography into a successful career.

1. "Just Down the Road" - Historic Churches of Minnesota

Doug Ohman will take you on a journey around Minnesota exploring the history of many of the states oldest churches. He shares stories and experiences from his travels. You will meet many of the people that Doug has met in his quest of photographing nearly 2500 churches. Note: Doug will add (November & December) a special focus on Christmas at the country church through stories and music.

2. "School House Memories"

Travel back in time as Doug Ohman brings you back to a time when all eight grades were in one class-room. Reminisce school lunch, recess and of course "the three R's". Doug has many stories and photographs that will make you smile and laugh, but most of all remember a more gentle and simple era of education.

3. "Vanishing Landmarks"

Travel the back roads and small towns with photographer Doug Ohman as he explores the stories and history of Minnesota through historic buildings that are quickly disappearing. Doug will share information along with his own experiences about a variety of sites from Minnesota's oldest Courthouse to the last Civil War recruiting station.

4. "Heart of the Farm" – Barns of Minnesota

Doug Ohman takes you on a rural journey around Minnesota exploring the significance the greatest of all rural icons, the barn. From the early days of statehood through the era of agribusiness our barns tell a story. This story is told through photographs and histories that will bring you back to the farm and explain the importance our rural roots.

5. "Civic Pride" - Historic Courthouses of Minnesota

Visit many of Minnesota's 87 counties through the eyes of the lens. Doug Ohman has photographed every courthouse in the state and has learned many interesting stories that are quickly being lost to time. Enjoy the beauty and elegance of our most treasured civic buildings.

6. "Living the Dream" - Historic Homes of Minnesota

Take a tour with photographer Doug Ohman as he takes you to many of Minnesota's most elegant homes. Doug will share the stories and personalities that surround many of historic treasures. "If the walls could talk" will become reality in this most interesting slide program.

7. “Escape to the Lake” - Cabins of Minnesota

Enjoy a relaxing and scenic journey to the heart of Minnesota lake country. Photographer Doug Ohman will share his photographs of some of Minnesota’s most interesting and unique cabins. Many of his pictures will help bring back those wonderful memories of spending time at your favorite get-away. Doug will share stories, history and memories of this long time Minnesota tradition.

8. “Minnesota Byways”

Doug Ohman will take you along with him to his favorite locations from each of the Six “Minnesota Byways” books he has published. He will share the best photographs and stories from around the great state of Minnesota. The books include:

- Barns of Minnesota
- Churches of Minnesota
- Courthouses of Minnesota
- Schoolhouses of Minnesota
- Cabins of Minnesota
- Libraries of Minnesota

9. “State Parks of Minnesota”

Go on a Minnesota vacation with photographer, Doug Ohman as he explores many of the states most interesting state parks. Doug has visited all 66 parks and has photos, stories, history and personal adventures to share. His photography is featured in his new book *Prairie, Lake, Forest – State Parks of Minnesota*.

10. “Scandinavian Churches of Minnesota”

Explore the rich Scandinavian heritage of Minnesota through the many unique churches. Doug will take you into rural communities, neighborhoods and small towns where Swedish, Norwegian, and Danish churches played and in many cases, continues to play an important role. He will share pictures, stories and personal experiences of his travels throughout the North Star state.

11. “Free to All” - Libraries of Minnesota

Enjoy a trip back in time when your small town library opened your eyes to the big wide world. Doug has photographed most of the historic libraries of Minnesota. He will share pictures, history and stories about these historic places of entertainment and learning. You will journey to many small towns and communities where the library has played a vital role for all of its citizens. Doug will also share his thoughts on the future of traditional libraries in the electronic age.

12. “Journey down the River” Part 1

Take a trip down the Mississippi River in Minnesota. The Mississippi River flows along for nearly 700 miles touching many villages, towns and cities in its route from Lake Itasca to the Iowa border. In this first program, Doug will highlight the many points of interest in the rivers upper reaches. This journey will take you from northern Minnesota to Little Falls (400 river

miles). Doug has explored much of the rivers history, culture and of course beauty through his photography and personal stories. Enjoy Americas best loved river from the front (bow) seat of a canoe.

13. “Journey Down the River” Part 2

Continue down the mighty Mississippi River as it makes its way from Central Minnesota to St. Paul. Along the way, you will travel with Doug by the highest dam on the river, stop in St. Cloud for a picnic lunch, and paddle into the Twin Cities. This trip will bring you through a number of Army Corps of Engineers locks and will glide you under some of Minnesota’s best loved bridges. See where Minnehaha creek flows into the river, and view Fort Snelling from the river. Doug will also show you through his photography how important the river is to the economic and environmental health of the state.

14. “Journey Down the River” Part 3

The trip continues south from historic St. Paul past some of the most interesting and historic river towns in Minnesota. Stop in at the St. James Hotel in Red Wing and clime Barns Bluff for some incredible river views. This part of the river is both recreational and commercial. You will see boats and barges of every size and realize how important a healthy river is to the communities along its banks. Stops along the way include the birthplace of water skiing and a visit to the Eagle Center in Wabasha. This program (part 3) completes the 700 miles that Minnesota claims the Mighty Mississippi River.

15. “Going to Work” - The New Deal in Minnesota

The 1930’s were an interesting time in our nation’s history. President Roosevelt helped to create a series of economic programs. The programs were Roosevelt’s responses to the Great Depression, and focused on what historians call the "3 Rs": Relief, Recovery, and Reform. Explore the back roads, State Parks, and urban settings with photographer Doug Ohman as he discovers the legacy foot print that remains from the WPA, PWA, CCC and the VCC.

16. “Forlorn Hope” – Cemeteries of Minnesota

Doug has explored a part of Minnesota’s history that many of us are fascinated with, but may know little about. Walk with Doug as he photographs cemeteries and uncovers stories of the forgotten. Learn where the only Revolutionary War soldier to die in Minnesota is buried. What is the difference between a cemetery and a graveyard? Doug will also share interesting history and meaning of the designs carved on old gravestones.

17. "Saluting the Civil War"

Doug has made a project of finding the graves and remembering those from Minnesota that served in this tragic but most interesting chapter in American history. From the historic Lakewood Cemetery to the forgotten back roads graveyards, Doug has photographed and researched hundreds of grave markers to ensure we never forget the sacrifices of these brave Americans. He will also share photographs of most of the Civil War monuments still found in the state. As a special addition, Doug will take you to several of national battlefields where the boys from Minnesota courageously served.

Call Doug @ 763-543-1049 to book a program