



HELEN POST CURRY TO SPEAK ON OCTOBER 5 AT THE UNIVERSITY CLUB

Join the Cass Gilbert Society when Helen Post Curry, a great-granddaughter of Cass Gilbert, presents **Cass Gilbert in Connecticut: A Personal View**. As a very young child, Helen Curry had tea with her great-grandmother in the dining room of the Cannonball House, the Ridgefield, Connecticut, home of her great-grandparents. Cass Gilbert added the dining room wing to what had been the eighteenth-century Keeler Tavern, as well as making other enhancements to the site. Among his important works in Connecticut were three imposing buildings—the Waterbury City Hall, Waterbury National Bank, and the Chase Companies Headquarters—all in Waterbury, Connecticut. Ms. Curry will provide a personal perspective on her discoveries and experiences of Cass Gilbert's work and will recount some family stories.

Helen Post Curry, a resident of New Canaan, Connecticut, is

the founder and executive director of the Labyrinth Project of Connecticut, Inc., the founding president of the Labyrinth Society, and author of *The Way of the Labyrinth* (Penguin, 2000). She is serving as the executive producer for a proposed film about Cass Gilbert's life and work. The film will be produced and directed by Eyepop Productions of New York.

Join us at the University Club, 420 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, on Tuesday, October 5, 2004, at 7:00 P.M. Admission is free to Society members. There is a nominal charge for nonmembers. Refreshments will be served after the lecture. Support for Cass Gilbert Society lectures is made possible in part with funding from the Minnesota Humanities Commission in cooperation with the National Endowment for the Humanities.



Rick and Jean Velleu with Helen Curry standing in front of Cass and Julia Gilbert's gravestone.

Courtesy of Jean Velleu

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Marjorie Pearson

Because Helen Curry's schedule has allowed her to visit Saint Paul in October, our two fall talks will occur within a month of each other. Consequently, there will be no lecture in November, but we hope to see many of you on our fall tour.

The Cass Gilbert Society and our September 14 lecture were featured in an article by Frank Jossi in the September 2004 issue of *Avenues*, Saint Paul's News and Arts Monthly.

We are anticipating a number of exciting happenings in 2005. Events to celebrate the centennial of the Minnesota State Capitol will occur throughout the year. As I announced in the last Newsletter, the Cass Gilbert Society is partnering with the University of Minnesota College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture to organize a fall symposium and related tours on the architecture, image, and meaning of the Capitol to citizens across the state. The University of Minnesota Press will be publishing a long-anticipated catalogue of the work of Cass Gilbert's Saint Paul Office. Initial work for the catalogue was carried out by Tom Blanck

and Charles Locks, assisted by a grant from the Butler Foundation to the Cass Gilbert Society. An extensive background essay for the catalogue is being written by Katherine Solomonson, Associate Professor of Architectural History.

We are also planning a fall trip in 2005 to Helena, Montana, in conjunction with the annual Montana historic preservation conference. Because of his work for the expanding Great Northern Railroad, Montana has a number of significant Cass Gilbert buildings. We will let you know more about the trip in the coming year.

Earlier this year, we received word from Gilbert scholar Sharon Irish that the Austin, Nichols and Company Warehouse on the Brooklyn waterfront was being threatened by architecturally inappropriate additions. Designed by Cass Gilbert in 1909, the building is a major early example of reinforced-concrete construction. Tenants of the building have organized a campaign to have the building designated a New York City Landmark and to defeat a proposed variance that would be required for the building additions.



Austin, Nichols and Company Warehouse in Brooklyn
Courtesy of Martina Salisbury

Cass Gilbert Society Fall Tour

CASS GILBERT ON SUMMIT HILL AND RAMSEY HILL

Sunday, October 17, 2004 – 2:00 P.M.

We will meet by the Nathan Hale Statue at the intersection of Summit Avenue, Portland Avenue, and Western Avenue.

The tour features ten houses and two churches designed by Cass Gilbert between 1882 and 1897. They range from the Shingle Style house Gilbert designed for his mother Elizabeth to the Venetian Renaissance inspired villa he designed for Crawford Livingston. Also included are the home of his early partner, James Knox Taylor, and the home of his chief draftsman and protégé Thomas Holyoke. Other buildings that have a personal or professional connection to Gilbert will also be mentioned.

Please join us for an afternoon of Cass Gilbert architecture and history.

Register today for the walking tour. Complete the form, attach your check and mail to the address below. For additional information, contact: Marjorie Pearson, 612-338-1987.

The cost of this event is \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers. Make your check payable to the Cass Gilbert Society, Inc. Pre-registration is encouraged.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Mail to: The Cass Gilbert Society, Inc., P.O. Box 4066, St. Paul, Minnesota 55104

CASS GILBERT SOCIETY FALL TOUR, OCTOBER 17, 2004

The Fall Tour is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, October 17, 2004. It will focus on Cass Gilbert's work on Summit Hill and Ramsey Hill, an area of Saint Paul last toured by the Society in 1999. The tour features ten houses and two churches designed by Cass Gilbert between 1882 and 1897. They range from the Shingle Style house Gilbert designed for his mother Elizabeth to the Venetian Renaissance inspired villa he designed for Crawford Livingston. Also included are the home of his early partner, James Knox Taylor, and the home of

his chief draftsman and protégé Thomas Holyoke. Other buildings that have a personal or professional connection to Gilbert will also be mentioned. The tour will begin at 2 P.M. by the Nathan Hale statue at the intersection of Summit, Portland, and Western. The cost of this event is \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers. Please return the enclosed reservation form to secure your place. For further information, call Marjorie Pearson at 612-338-1987 (days).



Elizabeth Gilbert House, 471
Ashland Avenue, Saint Paul, 1884
Photograph by Marjorie Pearson



C. P. Noyes House, 89 Virginia Street,
Saint Paul, 1889
Photograph by Marjorie Pearson

CASS GILBERT SOCIETY, INC.
P.O. Box 4066
St. Paul, Minnesota 55104-4066
www.cassgilbertsociety.org



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Our Mission

To preserve our cultural heritage through advancing scholarship in and appreciation of Cass Gilbert's influence on American architecture.

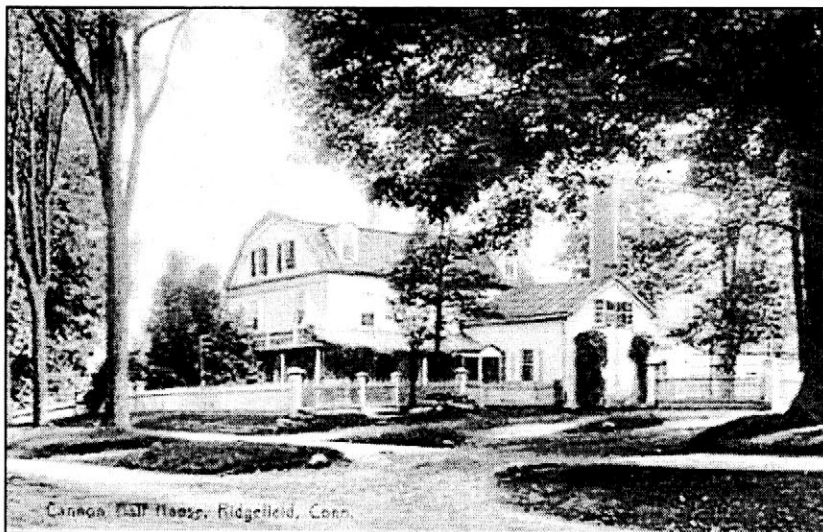
The Cass Gilbert Society, Inc., is a non-profit tax-exempt organization under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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Have you renewed your membership? Would you like to join the Cass Gilbert Society?

See the Cass Gilbert Society website, www.cassgilbertsociety.org, for more information and a membership form, or send a check for \$25.00 for an individual/household membership to the **Cass Gilbert Society, P.O. Box 4066, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104.**



Keeler Tavern also known as the Cannonball House, Cass Gilbert's Connecticut home