



MINNESOTA STATE CAPITOL RESTORATION ARCHITECTS TO SPEAK ON FEBRUARY 27, 2007

Michael J. Bjornberg, AIA, and Robert D. Loveridge, Jr., FAIA, will speak at the next Cass Gilbert Society event, to be held on Tuesday, February 27, 2007, at the University Club, 420 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul, at 7:00 P.M.

Bjornberg, architect and project manager with Hammel Green & Abrahamson of Minneapolis, and Loveridge, architect and CEO of Schooley Caldwell Associates of Columbus, Ohio, head the joint team of HGA + SCA that is charged with the Minnesota State Capital Restoration Project. The team is a collaboration of architects, engineers, and designers, working in conjunction with specialty consultants to address historical research, code/life safety, security, energy efficiency, specialty lighting, acoustics, material conservation, historic painting, technology, and stone preservation. The team has combined restoration experience at fourteen state capitols. These include the Ohio

Statehouse, the Kansas Statehouse in Topeka, and the Utah Capitol in Salt Lake City. The experience gained with these projects is being incorporated into the Minnesota State Capitol restoration project

After 100 years, the Minnesota State Capitol suffers from overcrowding, antiquated systems, and changing government procedures. Work will include restoration of the rotunda and dome interior, stone conservation, upgraded building systems, creation of a new visitor center, installation of new security systems, restoration of public corridors, and rehabilitation of interior lighting. The design solution is exploring "found space" in the under-utilized basement and a modest underground addition.

Admission is free to Society members. There is a \$5.00 charge for nonmembers. Refreshments will be served after the lecture.

UPCOMING DEADLINES AND EVENTS

March 1, 2007 Photo submission deadline for National Trust conference materials;
lori_feinman@nthp.org

March 30, 2007 Application deadline for Preservation Leadership Training, Owatonna, Minnesota, June 23-30, 2007;
www.nationaltrust.org/plt

June 1, 2007 National Trust scholarship deadline;
amino@landmarkcenter.org

Participants in the Cass Gilbert Society tour to Austin, Texas, will be making a presentation in April, date to be announced.



Capitol dome under construction,
1901

Minnesota Historical Society

MEET THE OFFICERS OF THE CASS GILBERT SOCIETY FOR 2007

New officers and board members were elected at the annual meeting of the Cass Gilbert Society, held on November 9, 2006.

Newly elected president **Wendy Weimer** loves the luxurious homes that Cass Gilbert designed in Saint Paul and Helena, Montana, with attention to every detail. She finds it particularly appropriate that Gilbert's first Minnesota project was a comfortable home for his mother. Wendy is a member of the Virginia Street Church, which sits in the shadow of the Saint Paul Cathedral and admires Gilbert's handiwork, inside and out. Wendy initially joined the Cass Gilbert Society because good friends shared their passion and knowledge of historic art and architecture. As a retired educator, Wendy appreciates the Cass Gilbert Society lecture series, because there is always something new to learn about Cass Gilbert and his work.

Vice president **Cindy Stephani** became interested in architecture when working as a historic tour guide in Minneapolis and Saint Paul. The more she learned about Saint Paul, the more she learned about Cass Gilbert. Her favorite Minnesota building is the State Capitol. In 2000, Cindy became a tour guide at the Capitol with the Minnesota Historical Society. She loves sharing stories about that magnificent building and its architect with visitors. Cindy joined the Cass Gilbert Society board in 2005. Highlights have been participation in the TPT video, *Cass Gilbert: Standing the Test of Time*, and the trip to Helena, Montana, to see other examples of Gilbert's work.

Secretary **Betsy Bradley** is an architectural historian who works in the cultural resource and historic preservation consulting field. She spent several years working in New York City with Marjorie Pearson and became familiar with Gilbert's projects in that city. One of her favorite Gilbert buildings is the Brooklyn Army Terminal. She is the author of *The Works: The Industrial Architecture of the United States* (Oxford, 1999). She has taught historic preservation courses at St. Thomas University and is a member of the Taylors Falls Heritage Preservation Commission. With her husband Tom Bradley, an employee of the National Park Service, Betsy has lived in many locations in the United States.

Treasurer **Vincent Platt** is a retired attorney from West Publishing. He brings a wealth of experience to this detail-oriented position. Vince enjoys travel with his wife Carolyn Nayematsu, playing bridge, and designing and maintaining a lovely garden and koi pond at his Summit Avenue house.

For a complete listing of board members see the back cover.

Battle Hall, University of Texas
Designed by Cass Gilbert, 1911
University of Texas

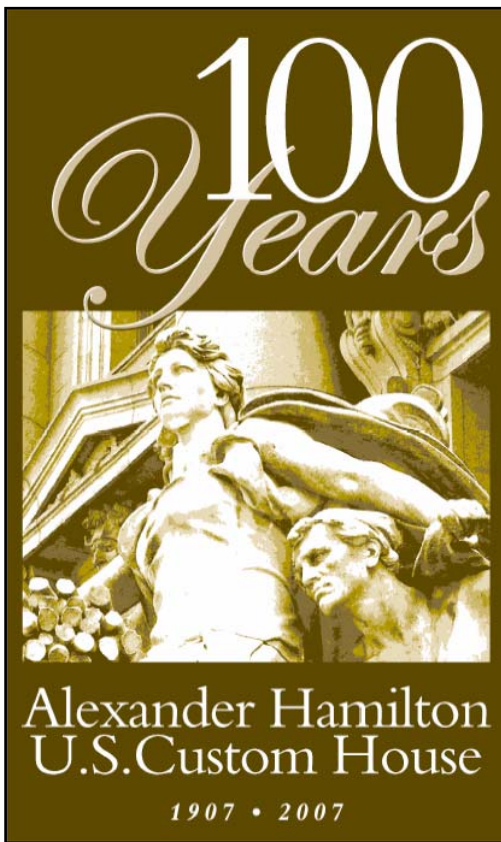


AWARDS AND GRANTS

Cass Gilbert: Standing the Test of Time received two regional Emmy awards in the categories of Best Documentary—Cultural and Best Photographer—Program, on October 21, 2006. This project was co-sponsored by the Cass Gilbert Society and Twin Cities Public Television.

The Cass Gilbert Society has received a **State Grant-in-Aid** from the Minnesota Historical Society to update and improve its website. The \$3,000 award must be matched by the Society. Marjorie Pearson will manage the project, while the redesign and programming will be carried out by Factor of 4. More details on the new design and improved content will be provided in the next issue of the Newsletter.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE 1907-2007



As part of the anniversary celebration of the U.S. Custom House in New York, Cass Gilbert Society member and University of Illinois professor Sharon Irish will lecture at the U.S. Custom House on Thursday, February 15, 2007, on *“Cass Gilbert as Interloper.”* When in 1899 architect Cass Gilbert’s design won the competition to build the U.S. Custom House in New York City, he excitedly wrote to his wife in Minnesota that “our ship has come in.” Gilbert, viewed as a Midwestern interloper in New York City design circles as well as by local and state politicians, was not welcomed when he boldly moved his practice to New York. During the lengthy design and construction phases of the Custom House, Gilbert strengthened his ties to talented designers, powerful contractors, and skilled engineers, many of whom continued to help his office thrive through building skyscrapers in the city. With the renovation of the Custom House in the 1990s for use by the National Museum of the American Indian, “interloper” and “ships coming in” have gained resonance, as Professor Irish looks again at this Beaux-Arts building at the end of the Wiechquaakeck Trail, one of the Algonquian trade routes.

A NOTE FROM MARJORIE PEARSON

I have been privileged to serve as president of the Cass Gilbert Society for the past four years. Let me offer my thanks to all the officers, board members, and committee chairs, as well as the membership at large, who have helped to further the work and mission of the Society. Eva and John Cross, who provided the challenge grant for *Cass Gilbert: Standing the Test of Time*, and Herb Grika, who has continued to record our lectures and make copies available, deserve special recognition.

I am continuing to serve the Cass Gilbert Society as editor of the Newsletter and website coordinator. Please continue to send information to P.O. Box 4066, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104, or info@cassgilbertsociety.org.

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

Place
Stamp
Here

Our Mission

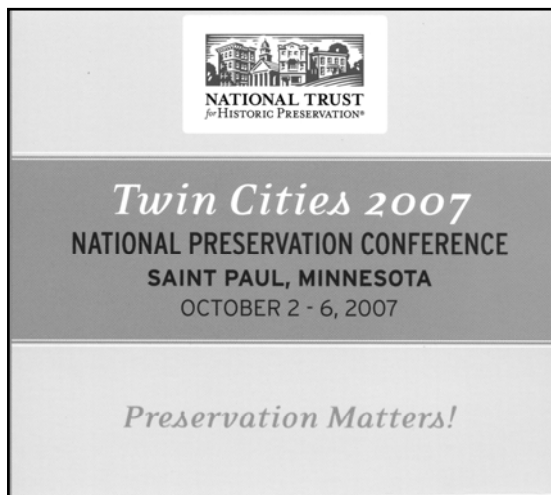
To preserve our cultural heritage through advancing scholarship in and appreciation of Cass Gilbert's influence on American architecture.

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.

Officers and Board

Wendy Weimer, *President*
Cindy Stephani, *Vice President*
Betsy H. Bradley, *Secretary*
Vincent Platt, *Treasurer*
Bonnie J. Alton, *Member at Large*
Mary Michael Connolly
James Groskopf
Nicholas Marcucci
Donald Ostrom
Marjorie Pearson, *President Emerita/Newsletter*
Jean Vellen, President Emerita
Joan Wilkosz
Linda Bjorklund, *Fundraising*
Jim Hirsh, *Legal Advisor*
Lana Mahoney, *Programs*

Have you renewed your membership for 2007? Would you like to renew your membership or join the Cass Gilbert Society? See the form enclosed with this Newsletter or the Cass Gilbert Society website, www.cassgilbertsociety.org.



SAVE THE DATE
National Trust Preservation Conference
October 2-6, 2007



CASS GILBERT SOCIETY

2007 Membership Form

Mission Statement: To preserve and enhance the nation's cultural history through advancing scholarship in and appreciation of Cass Gilbert's contribution to American architecture.

Benefits of membership in the society include regular lectures about Cass Gilbert and his work; a quarterly newsletter; the opportunity to become familiar with Cass Gilbert-designed buildings across the country, including the Minnesota State Capitol; an opportunity to meet others who are interested in architectural history and preservation; and so much more.

Please consider joining the Cass Gilbert Society at one of the following membership levels.
Annual membership runs from January - December.

_____ Individual \$25.00

_____ Household \$35.00

_____ Contributor \$50.00 - \$149.00

_____ Corporate \$50.00

_____ Sponsor \$150.00 +

Name _____

Address _____
Street City, State, Zip Code

Phone _____

Email address _____

Please make check payable to Cass Gilbert Society and mail to Cass Gilbert Society, Inc., P.O. Box 4066, St. Paul, Minnesota 55104-4066.

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

Check here if you don't want to be in the Cass Gilbert Society Directory.

Volunteers are always needed. If you would like to volunteer, please check the committee(s) of interest to you.

_____ Lecture Series
_____ Newsletter
_____ Fundraising
_____ Research
_____ Other

_____ Special Events
_____ Public Relations
_____ Membership
_____ Archives