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Genius Loci, Parking Loco

By Bill Beyer

When my son was learning to read he began to observe, with escalating amusement, the ubiquity of the word "plaza" on roadway and building signs. We told him that plaza was just another word for place, transformed from Greek (broad street), via Latin and Spanish to relentless commercial Americana. One of my firm’s former architectural clients wanted to name a housing project “Plaza Place” until we noted the redundancy. He settled for "The Plaza," equally trite and two fewer letters to buy for each building sign.

The ancient Romans thought that a person was born into the world with a guardian spirit—a genius—and that each place was inhabited by its own special spirit and character for the impression it left on the mind—a genius loci. Certain places have been important throughout history, as locations for human gathering and reflection. Some of these are unchanged by humans; some are almost wholly man-made. Some places are grand; others simply magical. And then there are places for parking, the rudest of oxymorons.

The best places are where we prefer to spend our precious time, the only human resource still limited to 24 hours per day. Two years ago, AIA Minnesota published a volume called 100 Places plus 1, wherein architects and nonarchitects wrote short descriptions of their favorite Minnesota spots. The impressions written by nonarchitects shine. They convey unvarnished love and understanding of the essential spirit of place.

The electronic-information revolution has transformed the role of place in our lives. Radio and television began the change, and the World Wide Web has all but cemented the faceless placelessness of daily life. Virtually every possible human transaction has been attempted, if not perfected, in cyberspace. But is cyberspace anyplace? From banking to education to buying books and airline tickets, the burden of moving yourself to an actual place to transact business has been lifted. Have we gained anything save a dispirited convenience?

The idea of place has been discounted in the public realm and public life increasingly privatized. We have exchanged our front porches for garage doors, our grand retail banking halls for keystrokes. The stage for human activity was always the public marketplace, the public parks and squares where chance meetings enriched and ennobled daily life. Now we meet face to face, if at all, at sporting events, amusement parks, convention centers, airports, megamalls. At these scales, and conversely cocooned in our cars, the chance of serendipitous human contact is reduced to a shadow; the genius loci sacrificed in a crazed quest for convenient parking.

Surface-parking lots and garages were the first necessary big-box containers for our biggest and most cumbersome possessions—automobiles—which have become perpetual everyday places for us. Our cars conveniently remove us from the face-to-face messiness required in the transport of our bodies and things about town, and box us out from real places and contact with other people. With cellular information networks burgeoning, being stuck in traffic is no more inconvenient than being stuck at your desk, which will eventually guarantee that you will be stuck in traffic. Hail progress!

I spent a weekend in Portland, Ore., recently and reserved a few hours to walk the downtown area. Downtown Portland has unusually small city blocks—200 feet square as opposed to Minneapolis’s 330 feet. The scale and physical character of the two cities is therefore basically different. But what struck me most was the complete absence of the sour emptiness of surface-parking lots, which, on reflection, was the clear reason for my enhanced impression of the place. (Downtown Minneapolis may well lead the world in land devoted to surface parking.) And Portland long ago embraced the public realm for moving people by building light-rail transit. There is a lesson here.

Architecture is at its best and most powerful when making shared public places for people to interact, to transact, to act. As daily human activities are moved to virtual spaces, the value of our best real places must inevitably grow.

Nature’s beauty and human history inform and consecrate places. From the thunder of St. Anthony Falls to the bloody echoes of Gettysburg’s fields, from Rice Park’s perfect urbanity to a hillside beyond a majestic white pine. It should require no genius to realize that architects must be the guardians of such places and must be in touch with the resident spirits as we design.

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Washington Avenue North Bridge
Minneapolis
1891

By Robert Roscoe

The Washington Avenue North Bridge, as with all through-truss bridges, offers its users the unique experience of passing through the structure itself. For more than 100 years, automobile drivers, truck drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians have done just that with the Washington Avenue North Bridge.

Yet this spindly steel bridge over railroad tracks along Washington Avenue North in Minneapolis's Warehouse District may soon bite the dust—not because of frailty but because of obsolescence. Despite its repairable condition and its strong visual image, city planners and engineers have been unable to redesign this structure to meet current requirements.

Hennepin County, the government agency in charge of this roadway and bridge, is responsible to follow standards. The bridge, which set standards when it was built, no longer measures up. The structure, spanning the Burlington Northern railroad tracks that skirt the northwestern edge of downtown Minneapolis, provided enough clearance for millions of boxcars and tankers throughout the century, yet it now fails to meet new clearance requirements. And its width no longer provides the correct "geometrics" for current vehicular traffic.

The Washington Avenue North Bridge is known as a "through-truss" bridge, meaning its roadbed passes through the trusses that span the trackage channel. Three other similar nearby metal-truss bridges spanning the same path of railroad tracks have been demolished and replaced by concrete slabs topped by strips of perfunctory wrought-iron railings. The new proposed bridge for Washington Avenue North will follow suit.

The bridge’s potential loss goes well beyond its particular lacy and anachronistic character. Cast-iron and steel through-truss bridges in Minnesota are disappearing because the nature of these structures, built with many parts riveted or bolted together, require frequent maintenance compared to the concrete monoliths that replace them, says Charlene Roise, of Hess Roise Historical Consultants, which has conducted historical surveys of bridges throughout the Upper Midwest. Roise says that today’s bridge-engineering technology is largely unfamiliar with this truss type, as is engineering pedagogy.

Several other Minnesota through-truss bridges are also threatened with replacement due to perceived obsolescence: the Stillwater Bridge crossing the St. Croix River, and the Highway 61 Bridge over the Mississippi River outside Hastings.

The American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has established a set of standards to evaluate bridges by a sufficiency-ratings system that is closely followed by bridge engineering professionals, employing such criteria as the geometry of clearances, widths, etc. This criteria, in effect, often discriminate against truss bridges, even if their structural condition is sound.

Eric Delony, chief of the Historic American Engineering Record in Washington, D.C., has a passionate interest in and consummate technical knowledge of historic steel bridges. "You can squeeze more life out of these structures," he remarks, "by giving a little more effort, by clip-testing the metal members to determine actual strengths. There are methods to reinforce existing members or add extra members without altering design. More important, a closer reading of the AASHTO standards demonstrates the need for flexibility in evaluating historic structures." It should be axiomatic, he contends, that older structures be given more testing.

These structures, Delony observes, represent America’s historic growth, as engineers developed new technology in the late-19th century to quickly and cost-effectively assemble prefabricated, pin-connected, cast-iron components to provide river crossings throughout the expanses of the growing republic.

As in any profession, the new-versus-old dilemma in bridge-engineering frequently favors new technology by considering older elements unreliable. But Jay Wetmore, a structural engineer with Edwards and Keelsey Associates, who engineered the renovation of the Mendota Bridge near Fort Snelling, comments that bridge renovation involves a "confidence level" in evaluating sufficiency when all the components can’t be thoroughly analyzed. "With steel-truss bridges, you can’t check every connection," he states.

Continued on page 48
Architect Richard Smith grew up in Montana's Flathead River valley, exploring its forests, paddling its lakes and streams and marveling at the abundance and variety of its wildlife. So when he was asked to design a home perched above the waters of Flathead Lake, his inspiration was the majestic bird that makes its home in the same idyllic setting: the osprey.

Since the windows would be the key element in creating the look of a bird in flight, Richard spoke with all of the top manufacturers. More than one claimed they were impossible to build. Others were eliminated from consideration because their solutions compromised the design. Still others, because they couldn't provide the low maintenance finish the owner requested. Only one company rose to the challenge, Marvin Windows & Doors.

True to Richard's vision, yet mindful of builder Len Ford's timetable, Marvin's architectural department began designing the windows and creating the necessary production specifications. But a change in plans became necessary when the owner brought up his concerns about the frequent high winds coming off the lake. So Richard designed a special steel framework for the window openings and Marvin produced 24 direct glazed units with custom radii. Clad in the company's exclusive extruded aluminum, the windows conform to A.A.M.A. 605.2-92 standards;
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despite their unusual, non-standard configuration. Another 63 Marvin windows and doors in various shapes and sizes were also installed in this extraordinary home.

In the end, Richard Smith and Len Ford were as impressed with the process as they were with the product. And today, “the osprey house” is a required part of every boat tour of Flathead Lake.

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Minneapolis Heritage

The Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission announced nine winners of this year's Preservation Awards, which recognize projects, individuals and organizations that contribute to the city's history.

Winners include the Hinkle-Murphy Mansion, renovated by John Harriss Architects and Robert Roscoe of Design for Preservation; Pratt School Village Green by Archithesis, Inc., Close Associates, Stefan/Larson Associates, and Close Landscape Architecture; Hosmer Community Library by Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle; The Local by Shea Architects and Ryan Companies; Reedal House by Julie Mellow; Liepke House addition by Mullinger, Susanka, Mahady & Partners; and the Milwaukee Road Depot Freight House/Dunn Brothers Coffee by The Design Partnership and The Leonard Parker Associate, Architects, Inc.

Aside from honoring recent renovations, restoration and adaptive-reuse projects, the Heritage Preservation Commission gave awards for the new Street Pavers on Nicollet Island as well as community-education awards for the University of Minnesota Preservation Plan; the Seward Theater Project; and Theatre Live! Historic Theatre District Tour. The Steve Murray Award went to Barbara Flanagan, columnist for the Star Tribune.

St. Paul Heritage

The St. Paul City Council delivered 14 Heritage Preservation Awards to individuals, organizations and building projects that "promote and enhance the city’s historic character." The awards include nine historic buildings, three neighborhood-based organizations, one long-time preservation volunteer, and one cultural-heritage organization.

The neighborhood organizations are Upper Swede Hollow Neighborhoods Association for its "diverse efforts to build community in the lower Dayton’s Bluff area"; the Hamline-Midway Chapter of the Twin Cities Bungalow Club for its efforts to promote an important neighborhood asset: bungalows; and the William L. Ames School, "for responsible stewardship of their historic 1915 building, as well as for supporting and promoting neighborhood history initiatives."

The nine winning projects include seven houses, two of which were originally designed by Cass Gilbert. Non-residential winners include the Hamm Building, renovated by Elness Swenson Graham Architects and Oertel Architects; and St. Mary’s Romanian Orthodox Church, whose 1914 exterior was restored by MacDonald and Mack Architects.

Also honored was St. Paul resident Roger Brooks for his "ongoing volunteer leadership to promote preservation in St. Paul and throughout the state."

Finally, the Great American History Theater, along with its artistic director Ron Peluso and managing director Thomas Berger, was awarded for "dramatically and effectively promoting local history."

Architecture apparently does get better with age, as indicated by this year’s Honor Awards Committee's selection of two projects for the 25 Year Award. The winning entries include Ralph Rapson's St. Thomas Aquinas Church and Community Center (above), completed in St. Paul Park, Minn., in 1969. The church won an AIA Minnesota Honor Award in 1973, and has been featured in numerous journals and publications.

"St. Thomas Aquinas was ahead of its time in terms of meeting the liturgical needs of Vatican II: it would be a fine example of liturgical architecture if it were built today," says Ed Kodet of the Honor Awards Committee. "The overall space reflects and inspires worship. The church has all those things that make architecture great."

Also honored was the Prudential Building (top), designed by Setter, Leach & Lindstrom in 1955. This Minneapolis corporate headquarters was one of the region’s first post-WWII office buildings. Bypassing a glass curtain wall typically used by modernist corporate buildings, the Prudential Building employs Minnesota limestone and red granite punctuated by steel-frame picture windows.
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MILTON BERGSTEDT, a founding principal of BWBR Architects in St. Paul, died June 18 at age 91. Bergstedt, who graduated from the University of Minnesota's architecture program in 1932, founded Bergstedt and Hirsch architects in 1951, the precursor to BWBR. Throughout his career, which began in the midst of the Great Depression and grew during the prosperous post-WWII era, Bergstedt oversaw the design of numerous churches, YMCAs and office buildings. He was an ardent supporter of civil rights, an advocate for underprivileged youths, and served on such boards as the YMCA, Urban League and St. Paul Council of Human Relations. He received the AIA Whitney Young Citation for his work dismantling the barriers of prejudice, bigotry, segregated housing and exclusionary employment practices within the architecture industry.

Finnish School

The Finnish School, which employs wood platform-frame construction rather than balloon framing typically used by the Fins. Platform framing is faster and wastes less lumber than balloon framing. The 26,000-square-foot school will provide a variety of different learning environments, including a central, multipurpose gathering space. Warm ochre woods will contrast with the snowy landscape. The metal roof is in keeping with the region’s many metal-roof houses. Completion is expected in Fall 1999.

River designation

THE UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER, running from Bemidji to St. Louis, has been designated one of 14 “American Heritage Rivers,” by the Clinton administration this summer. Although the designated rivers will receive no direct financial funding, each of the American Heritage Rivers will be assigned a federal “navigator” to help river communities and regions solicit federal funds to preserve cultural and historic assets, and fuel economic development.

U of M scholarship

K EON LA VALLE BLASINGAME has received a full Minority Architectural Scholarship to the University of Minnesota to pursue a professional architecture degree. He is one of the first persons to complete the Architectural Youth Project, which offers minority high-school students hands-on orientation in individual architecture firms. Blasingame’s high academic qualifications and extracurricular achievements positioned him as an ideal candidate for the scholarship, according members of the Minnesota Architectural Foundation, which sponsors the scholarship.

Blasingame is a graduate of North High School in Minneapolis. In addition to Blasingame’s full scholarship, the Foundation awarded two partial scholarships to Pauv Thoul, a graduate of Washburn High School in Minneapolis, and Mario Abrams, a graduate of Duluth Denfeld High School.

Federal remodeling

The Federal Reserve Bank building, Gunnar Birkerts’ 1972 landmark in downtown Minneapolis, will undergo a $55 million renovation. Plans by FRM Associates and architects Walsh Bishop Associates call for replacing the multifaceted façade with a uniform curtain wall on the Nicollet Mall side, adding a 220,000-square-foot, 13-story addition on the Marquette Avenue side to nearly double the narrow floor plate to 35,000 square feet, and redesigning the granite plaza with a landscaped court. The building, which has remained vacant since the Federal Reserve moved to new quarters last year, is considered architecturally important because of its bridge-like, catenary-arch support system that suspends the office floors above ground. Local preservationists worried that the building would be razed because of expensive problems associated with the deteriorating curtain wall and asbestos removal. FRM says the building will be ready for occupancy by autumn 1999.
REQUEST FOR DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS
by the Minneapolis Community Development Agency
for the Hollywood Theatre Property and Vacant Site in
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• Proposals sought to develop the property in one of the following three ways: 1) rehab the theatre and develop site across the street; 2) rehab the theatre lobby only, incorporate with new construction on the site, and develop site across the street, or 3) redevelop a cleared theatre site and site across the street.

• Proposals may contemplate commercial, housing, or a mix of the two uses.

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• Two parcels, totalling approximately 35,000 sf - the theater at 10,668 sf and the other site at 23,870 sf.

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Lakewood revival

One of the Twin Cities' great hidden treasures, Lakewood Cemetery Memorial Chapel, sparkles anew with the completion of a $3 million renovation by architect Jim Miller while with Brooks Borge Skiles of Des Moines, Iowa. Completed between 1908 and 1910 by Minneapolis architect Harry Jones, the chapel was modeled after the Hagia Sophia in Turkey. The interior, by New York designer Charles Lamb, features a mosaic-tile dome of 12 angles and four larger figures representing Faith, Hope, Love and Memory. Artists fashioned the ceiling from more than 10 million tiles, no larger than a fingernail. Miller's year-long renovation included upgrading lighting and heating systems, building a new crematory, and restoring interior detailing.

Virginia master plan

In an effort to revive small-town Minnesota, Architectural Resources of Hibbing and Stanius Johnson architects, Inc., of Duluth are collaboratively preparing guidelines for restoring and upgrading the streetscape and storefronts in downtown Virginia. Stanius Johnson's efforts in the 10-block area involve documenting the history of the individual turn-of-the-century buildings and uncovering their original architectural character, often disguised under midcentury remodelings. Architectural Resources is undertaking streetscape landscaping and street improvements. The study will be completed this fall, at which time individual building owners will elect whether to renovate their buildings according to the architects' prepared recommendations.

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George W. Edwards is the first full-time executive director for the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota, a position made possible in part by the Statewide Initiatives program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Edwards assumed this new position last March after serving as executive director of the Atlanta Preservation Center for six years.

As leader of the Atlanta Preservation Center, Edwards’s accomplishments were many. He developed a historic-building redevelopment initiative, administered a historic-façade easement program and participated in various campaigns to preserve threatened historic structures. He also expanded a walking-tour program, organized AIA-sponsored workshops and promoted heritage education in local schools.

Prior to his position in Atlanta, Edwards directed Main Street programs in Eau Claire, Wis., and Hot Springs, Ark. He also spent a decade in higher-education administration, and worked as a municipal retail- and commercial-development specialist. After earning a B.A. in history and a M.Ed. in administration and counseling, he received his master’s in heritage preservation from Georgia State University.

Architecture Minnesota talked with Edwards about what brought him to Minnesota, the preservation needs in our state and how architects can be more involved in preservation concerns.

What enticed you to leave your position in Atlanta and join the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota?

It was the opportunity and the challenge to work with the Preservation Alliance and the board on a statewide basis. In 1984, when I went back to school to get my master’s degree in preservation, one of my career goals was to work as a statewide director of a preservation or Main Street program. The Alliance offered me an opportunity to do that in a state I consider to be an excellent place to live. People in Minnesota have always impressed me as being civic minded and willing to support causes if they see a purpose to the cause. I think preservation is one of those causes in Minnesota that ought to be sellable.

Still, preservation has been difficult at times to sell in this state. What do you see as the main challenges to preservation and heritage understanding in Minnesota?

One of our challenges as an organization is to get ourselves better known, so people realize there’s a statewide not-for-profit organization that will be their ally, is a force for education, and an advocate for local communities and preservation efforts at the state legislative level. Convincing people in Minnesota about the value of preservation, that there are historic things here worth saving, is perhaps another challenge. In my first few months here, I’ve picked up the feeling that people don’t think we’re a very old state, that we don’t have historic resources. Yet Minnesota communities are filled with turn-of-the-century neighborhoods, turn-of-the-century downtowns, and great courthouses, Carnegie libraries, city halls, public buildings and private buildings. Still, people say, “we’re not as old as the East Coast” or “we’re not as old as the south.” Preservation is not about how old you are—yes, we do have that 50-year criteria that’s been imposed on the preservation movement because of the National Register. But preservation is about saying what’s important to you and to an area. It’s about what defines your history. So we have plenty of resources to save as viable contributions to our future.

How do you propose to get more people excited about and interested in preservation?

People are already concerned about their neighborhoods and homes. So we have to channel that interest and help them learn how to properly take care of old houses so they aren’t muddied up with too much aluminum or vinyl siding, so they aren’t muddled up with inappropriate remodeling jobs. Preservation is becoming increasingly good at selling the idea that it’s not any more expensive to do it the right way as opposed to just doing it.

We also have to demonstrate how preservation can be economically beneficial. Studies throughout the country increasingly show that historic districts—designated National Register and local districts—of commercial buildings and residential structures are appreciating at rates faster than adjacent.

Continued on page 48
Gleeson Addition
Sioux City, IA
This scheme adds two bedrooms, a family room and a three-car garage to a contemporary house. The addition forms a courtyard entry and drops away from the prow of the hill. Designed by Dale Mulfinger, Ollie Foran and Connie Lindor.

Wosepka Residence
Alexandria, MN
This craftsman transformation of an existing lake home opens space vertically and extends it horizontally which enables a new porch to gracefully 'bridge' the lower level walkout. Designed by Eric Odor with Cenny Bantle.

Hasslen Remodel
Elk River, MN
This elegant stucco and stone house in Elk River was built in the early part of the century. It is in excellent condition but like many older homes suffers from an obsolete kitchen, no main level bath, and no garage. The garage addition was designed to mimic the simple shape and figure of the main house and provide for an identifiable side entry to the home. Inside there is a new enlarged kitchen as well as a powder room, entry alcove, and laundry. Designed by Tim Fuller with Chris Bubser and John Abbott. Construction by Prevost Construction in the fall of 1998.
Building a light-rail culture

In a car-dominated region, will the Twin Cities embrace light-rail transit?

By Camille LeFevre

For years, light-rail transit has been in the news. Plans for new rail lines have been approved and abandoned. Debates and town meetings have brought constituencies together to discuss the viability of light rail in certain areas. Land has been purchased and studies have been conducted. But only recently has the notion of LRT in the Twin Cities solidified into some semblance of reality. The impetus? Money.

Earlier this year, the federal government agreed to possibly pick up half the cost of a proposed $400 million light-rail line along Hiawatha Avenue, provided the Minnesota Legislature contributes to the project and a completed proposal is submitted on time. State legislators responded by including $40 million for light rail in the 1998 bonding bill and committing to another $60 million. While about $30 million has already been spent preparing Hiawatha for LRT, another $70 million is expected from the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority and the Metropolitan Airports Commission.

The realization of the Hiawatha line, however, hinges on the proposed federal funds. "An enormous amount of seed money, money the region never fully had access to," says Allen Lovejoy, team leader, Department of Planning and Economic Development, St. Paul. "The funding bodes well for getting LRT going. We've got enough money to be serious about it and enough money so people will think we're serious about it."

But is the Hiawatha line—reporting a new version of the streetcars that once served Minneapolis and St. Paul—the best place to start in an attempt to get people out of their cars and onto a new form of public transit? "Jumping in and getting a line built—provided it's a good line—is more important than building the optimum line," Lovejoy says. "But the Hiawatha line absolutely requires that we follow up with building a central line."

"The Hiawatha corridor is not the silver bullet that will turn around transit uses and congestion in the metro area, or even in that corridor," adds Bob Winter, director, Metropolitan Office of Rail Transit, Minnesota Department of Transportation. Hiawatha was chosen because it could potentially connect "many of the desirable trip generators" including downtown Minneapolis, the University of Minnesota, the airport, the Mall of America and the I-494 strip; because recent highway improvements accommodated a future light-rail line; and because it's ready for funding, which appears imminent.

Light rail along Hiawatha would be the first step in creating another member within a "family" of transit systems. Winter continues. "The role of LRT is to be kind of a backbone for a transit system in the whole metro area" that includes buses, taxis, car pools and highways.

Nacho Diaz, director, Transportation Planning, Metropolitan Council, agrees. "One single route isn't going to be the answer to all of the Twin Cities' transportation problems," Diaz says. "Our position has been that LRT should be one of the solutions. In addition to building LRT, we need to strengthen our bus system. We need to continue to better manage and enhance our roadway system. And we need to convince people they should make some adjustments in their lifestyle to avoid congestion: instead of driving everyday, they could use the bus or LRT a few days a week."

Therein lies the rub. Assuming light rail is built—first along Hiawatha then along such routes as those proposed through downtown Minneapolis, to the Mall of America, and out to Eagan, and through downtown St. Paul—will light rail be enticing enough to get commuters out of their cars and onto the train?

Four factors determine the type of transit people use, suggests Dick Wolsfeld, principal, BRW, a firm involved with LRT planning in the Twin Cities since 1979. The first factor is travel time; how long it takes to drive a car from door to door, compared to when you arrive at public

Continued on page 54
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Northern Crop Research Center, Fargo, ND
"We wanted...(the structure) to tie into other buildings at the University, so we used a color of brick found on the adjacent structure, plus two other colors predominant on campus. The patterning of the brick draws from the Scandinavian tradition of enlivening utilitarian structures with color and pattern, creating visual interest during the long northern winters."

- Loren Atles, AIA, Project Designer
- Hammel, Green and Abrahamson, Inc., Minneapolis
Photography: Tom Harrady

Burnsville Marketplace – Burnsville, MN
"Brick was chosen as the primary facing material...for all the long established, practical advantages; durability, low maintenance and cost effectiveness. Equally important...were the major aesthetic benefits. Brick was consistent with the surrounding context. The inherent design flexibility of unit masonry coupled with the available ranges of color and texture ensured us that Burnsville Marketplace would indeed age with interest."

- John Gould, AIA, Director of Design
- KKE Architects, Inc., Minneapolis
Photography: Lea Balcock

Bailey Elementary School
– South Washington County Schools, ISD 833, Dan Hoke, Superintendent
"Brick brought the appropriate scale to this building for a sense of strength and warmth. Its color provides a pleasing contrast to the brightly colored steel elements, and its long-term durability adds value."

- James Rydeen, FAIA, President
- Armstrong, Torseth, Shold and Rydeen, Inc., Minneapolis
Photography: Ralph Berberitz

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GOING BY RAIL

Cars and multilane highways are part of our culture, and they aren't going away. That may be a dim prospect to contemplate as we sit idle in heavy rush-hour traffic, inhaling car and bus fumes. For years—perhaps decades, if anyone has been keeping track—the Twin Cities have been talking about building a light-rail system to ease traffic congestion. The discussions have accelerated in the past year; it looks as though light rail is actually coming to town.

Well, it's about time. Rail is not some quaint vestige of the past; rail is the means to the future. The most progressive cities invest in the future to serve its citizens. Part of a city's public commitment is providing a sound transportation system. Such densely populated metros as New York City and Chicago have elaborate systems of commuter lines, subways and elevated trains. Even with rail, driving in those cities is a rush-hour challenge; imagine the congestion if there were no rail lines as thousands more cars jammed the streets. New York and Chicago maintain extensive public-transportation systems of trains and buses because the only alternative would be to drown in their own density. Washington, D.C.'s relatively new subway system is one of the cleanest and most efficient in the country.

Cities need to move residents and visitors quickly and economically if they hope to prosper. That's why this region needs a light-rail system. Highway congestion will only get worse. The Metropolitan Council predicts that the Minneapolis/St. Paul region will add another 650,000 people by the year 2020. You can bet most of those arrivals will not be living in downtown apartments and walking to work. They will be living in the fast-growing, outer-ring suburbs and commuting, adding to an already stressed highway system with 2.4 million more vehicular trips a day. We can't be productive if we're stuck in traffic.

Building more highways is not the solution to a growing population, nor is it economically viable. The Minnesota Department of Transportation expects to construct 12 miles of metro freeways over the next 20 years, as opposed to 139 freeway miles between 1970 and 1996. Current funds can maintain the highways, but not extensive growth.

Which is just as well. Increased highways only will encourage more people to drive. The Metropolitan Council and MnDOT are studying transportation alternatives that envision commuter-train service across old freight lines, bus-only transitways and a network of light-rail routes, among other options.

Most Twin Citians drive because there hasn't been a worthwhile public-transportation system in town since the trolleys were dismantled forty years ago. Buses add to the city-street congestion because of the lack of bus-only lanes. And, oh, such a pleasant experience it is to be stuck behind a bus when it's spewing out sooty exhaust.

Twin Citians boast that the region has shed its small-town image and joined the big leagues in the past decade, as seen in a downtown building boom, river-front development, an influx of high-end retail, expanded theater and entertainment options, and more sophisticated dining. We have a world-class symphony, renowned research university and lively arts scene. But we still lack a public-transportation system worthy of a big city.

Convincing people to abandon their cars and wait for the train may be the toughest trick of all in such a car-dominated culture. Many cities have developed rail lines over the years—from St. Louis to Portland, Ore., and Los Angeles—with varying degrees of success. The most successful public-transportation systems offer a network of riding options, in which rail is a foundation that includes buses, taxis, car pools and highways. But with the massive public investment involved in building the first line along the Hiawatha corridor—not to mention future lines and maintenance—the question remains: will Twin Citians hop the train? "If you provide a quality, fast, inexpensive alternative to cars, then people will ride it," says Dick Wolfsfeld of BRW in our Insight column (page 21).

Funding such a system will take commitment—but the investment will pay off in a more mobile and prosperous urban region.

ERIC KUDALIS
A former warehouse finds new life as an art museum

The 20-year-old Plains Art Museum is on a growth path since moving into its new home, a renovated 1910 post-and-beam warehouse in downtown Fargo, N.D. Hammel Green and Abrahamson performed the rather daunting task of converting the former International Harvester Warehouse into a pristine setting for art.

Old warehouses, with their raw sturdy aesthetic, long have proved ideal for adaptive reuse, finding new life as office buildings, shopping complexes, theaters and more. Yet the International Harvester proved particularly challenging as a potential museum space because art needs a climate-controlled environment, and the warehouse's large, double-hung windows and high ceilings offered little protection against fluctuations in temperature and humidity.

HGA responded by combining old with new. Working with associate architects Foss Associates of Fargo, HGA carved a hole out of the center of the warehouse and constructed a steel-frame, concrete-slab core to provide 9,000 square feet of gallery space on three levels, with storage relegated to the basement and mechanical above the galleries. Three separate 3,000-square-foot, white-wall galleries are divided between the permanent collection, regional art and traveling exhibits.

This modern core stands apart from the existing warehouse, creating a visual counterpoint to the warehouse's historic interior. "It was important that the new elements be read as distinct from the original, thereby enhancing the significance of each," says Dave Bercher, project designer, HGA.

Visitors enter the three climate-controlled galleries through the old part of the warehouse, where support and administrative functions are stationed along the periphery to utilize light and air from the large windows. A skylit lobby, museum shop and cafe are on the first floor, with offices and library on the second, and two studios on the third. Upper-level balconies overlook the lobby. Material gutted from the atrium reappears in such places as a timber-frame canopy shielding the front entrance.

The 56,000-square-foot facility enables the museum to expand its mission, which was inhibited by the cramped setting of its former home in a Carnegie library in Moorhead.

By Eric Kudalis
The architects devised a modern, climate-controlled gallery core (top), which they inserted into the center of the building. The white expanse of the gallery core provides a backdrop (above) to the atrium, which is encircled by balconies (opposite). Section (right) shows the placement of the new core within the existing building.

Minn., just across the Red River. The regionally focused museum reaches out to North and South Dakota, western Minnesota, Montana and Manitoba with traveling exhibits, educational programs and artist sponsorships. The third-floor studios will be used in part for artist-in-residence programs.

Museum director Terry Jelsing says that the organization, with a staff of 25, is committed to creating a multidisciplinary approach to art and encouraging people to visit the museum for reasons other than just viewing art. The atrium is an ideal performance space, Jelsing says. The “rush-hour” concert series, for instance, has proved successful on Thursday evenings between 5 and 7 p.m., with different musical groups and performers appearing in the atrium as an after-work crowd of up to 300 people casually socializes.

Since moving into the facility within the past year, the museum has experienced a marked increase in attendance, Jelsing reports. HGA’s deft adaptation has allowed the museum to broaden its artistic reach.

Plains Art Museum
Fargo, N.D.
Hammel Green and Abrahamson
Foss Associates (Associate Architect)

wanders along the balconies, and moves in and out of galleries. The goal, says Jelsing, to encourage people to attend a museum who normally wouldn’t.

East-West Section
An addition activates a North Shore college

Lake Superior Technical College pulls several Duluth-area colleges under one roof: the Duluth Technical College, Duluth Community College and the University of Minnesota-Duluth Dental program. All find new and more commodious accommodations in The Leonard Parker Associates, Architects, Inc.‘s addition and renovation of the Technical College’s existing 200,000-square-foot academic building overlooking Lake Superior.

The shoe-box style building, which is the college’s primary facility, had undergone several renovations and additions over the years, most to the detriment of any clear circulation pattern. In fact, students couldn’t get from the east half to the west half from the lower level. In addition, the building lacked an official front door from the parking lot. The building, in short, lacked order and identity.

TLPA stepped in with a 70,000-square-foot addition and an 11,000-square-foot renovation, the first phase of an overall master plan that will include further construction and renovation. The curving addition pulls away from the main building on the south side to create a two-level atrium and central gathering space between the old and new. The atrium accomplished several goals. In a commuter school with many adult students who have little personal connection to the college, the atrium functions as an informal gathering space that fosters a sense of academic community. The atrium also resolves the circulation problem by establishing a ground-level connection between the wings. When completed in phase two, the atrium also will provide the missing main entrances from the parking lots on the east and west sides.

The addition includes science labs, general classrooms, computer labs, a learning-resource center and drafting/CADD facilities. Most of the renovation work involved upgrading dental labs, although future plans will rework...
Aside from basic programmatic consideration, the architects activated the existing plain-Jane brick box by designing such architectural flourishes as a silvery, glazed-tile wall capped with anodized aluminum that sinuously curves through the atrium on the first level, reflecting light from the north- and south-facing clerestories. The atrium is topped with a nautical, bow-shaped ceiling framed in warm deck wood and supported by an elaborate steel-truss system that follows the undulating wall form. Other seaworthy imagery surfaces in the steel, gang-plank bridges that span the addition and the existing building.

For students and faculty, the addition and light-filled atrium provide much-needed public space in an inviting architectural setting.  

E.K.

Lake Superior Technical College
Duluth, Minn.
The Leonard Parker Associates, Architects, Inc.

The two-level atrium (above) reinforces the circulation pattern between the building's different sections. The truss ceiling (opposite) follows the atrium's undulating wall, while large windows overlook Lake Superior. The architects added labs (above) and renovated some interior spaces of the existing building. Plans (right) show the relationship of the addition to existing structure.
The architects restored and duplicated much of the exterior terra-cotta detailing (top), and repaired the storefronts and transoms. Upper-level corridors (above) have been renewed to their 1920s character. The lobby (opposite), with its tile ceiling and marble floors, is one of St. Paul’s interior prizes.

The Hamm Building, one of downtown St. Paul’s most recognizable landmarks, was completed in 1920 during the thriving era of architectural detailing, an art form that apparently advanced full-throttle with this building. Few structures in the Twin Cities have such an actively decorated façade. Designed by the St. Paul firm of Tolz King and Day in the Chicago commercial style, the 6-story, steel-frame building features cast-iron storefront windows with prism-glass transoms that give rise to a highly decorated terra-cotta façade depicting cherubs, floral urns and festoons. In the summer, bright-yellow awnings lend the building a genteel character as they shade the upper office floors.

Over the years, the building suffered the usual indignities of time, seen in the crumbling terra cotta and column caps, leaking transoms and roof, and corroded storefronts. A downtown gem to be sure, but one that was sorely in need of help. Yet with a just-completed three-year, $15 million renovation by Oertel Architects and Elness Swenson Graham, both of Minneapolis, the Hamm Building will remain an important downtown attraction, its tattered façade now assuming a more dignified demeanor.

Most of the exterior work involved restoring the ironwork and transoms along the storefronts, and repairing the terra cotta. Because of leaking, the transoms had been covered up for years with plywood. The architects peeled away the plywood and replaced
the glass tiles with a decorative glass where necessary. Because the original glass is no longer manufactured, they chose a facsimile: if you look closely at the transoms, you see the difference between the old and new. To guarantee against water damage, the architects further backed up the glass tiles with a clear-glazed unit.

Beyond the storefronts, the design team got down to the real bones of the project—fixing the terra cotta.

"About 20 percent of the terra cotta was damaged," says Jeff Oertel. "But because of the expense of terra cotta, we needed a cost-effective solution. We replaced about 200 pieces of terra cotta, plus we repaired about 300 pieces through a dry-pack, mortar-repair method, which is essentially duplicating the terra cotta with mortar. The dry-pack method is much less expensive." The design team also replaced many of the column capitals.

Because of a limited budget, the project was not a strict exterior restoration. The Seventh Place Mall side, for instance, had been altered in 1965 when the owners removed the elaborate Spanish-style, terra-cotta ornament fronting a theater and substituted it with a uniform limestone front. In addition, a 1970s remodeling replaced all the building's windows, which Oertel says are not aesthetically compatible with the architecture. The windows remain, nonetheless, because they are in good condition.

Moving inside, the architects used a lighter repair hand in the lobby off St. Peter Street. A somewhat small space measuring 45-by-36-feet, the lobby is rich in ornament, from the intersecting, barrel-vaulted Gustavino-tile ceiling and five original iron chandeliers to the polished marble floors and decorated terra-cotta walls. Although the lobby was in good shape, Oertel and team replicated the original iron railing along the marble stairs leading to a mezzanine level, replaced marble pieces in the adjacent corridors where necessary and added new elevator doors. Future work may involve replacing the ceiling's gold leaf.

Even so, some of the renovation doesn't go far enough, no doubt due to budget-restricted design decisions. The mezzanine level, added in the mid-'60s when the theater interior was destroyed, remains a midcentury blemish on the building with its bland decor of carpeting, acoustical-tile ceiling and fluorescent lights. Fortunately, you don't see the mezzanine if you avoid venturing up the lobby staircase.

As for the upper-floor offices, the architects performed a gut job to create modern offices while retaining the 1920s character in the corridors and public spaces. They tore up carpeting to reveal terrazzo floors and pulled down the acoustical-tile ceiling. Beige tones, dark wood, marble trim and 1920s-era ceiling fixtures and archways establish a tone appropriate to the building's origin.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Hamm Building was underutilized with a meager 30-percent occupancy rate before the renovation. The occupancy now stands at about 90 percent, a big payoff for the renovation investment. This spring, the city of St. Paul honored the building with a 1998 Heritage Preservation Award, a testament to the architects' successful efforts at restoring part of the city's history.  

E.K.

**Hamm Building**
**St. Paul**
**Oertel Architects/Elness Swenson Graham**
Local attraction

A pub and upscale restaurant capture a bit of Irish custom

In Ireland, "the local" refers to the neighborhood hang-out or bar. Every neighborhood or street has one and no more description is necessary when saying you’re heading down to “the local.” Owners Kieran Folliard and Henry Cousineau sought to capture a bit of that Irish tradition in their new restaurant and bar at the corner of Nicollet Mall and 10th Street in downtown Minneapolis, aptly named The Local.

Housed in the former Essex Building, a 1912 commercial structure that remained vacant for eight years after Bjorkman’s Furs moved out, The Local is part of a growing...
trend of dark-wood, pub-style restaurants in downtown Minneapolis trying to capture a casual European charm. Within two blocks south from The Local on Nicollet Mall are two established Minneapolis favorites, The Times Bar and Brit’s Pub, which often draw from the Orchestra Hall crowd and hotel business along the south Mall. Along with numerous other cafes and bars concentrated within several blocks of each other, and a planned restaurant in the street-level section of the new Target Headquarters catty-cornered from The Local, the competition along south Nicollet Mall is getting feisty.

Unlike the elbow-room intimacy of the Times Bar, The Local is a large space with 20-foot-high ceilings and nearly 7,000 square feet of dining/bar area that stretches 140 feet from front to back. Neighborhood pubs in Ireland are not necessarily known for their soaring ceilings and expansive floor plans.

Shea Architects’ challenge was to scale down that large, empty shell. The Minneapolis architecture firm broke the restaurant into three distinct components, positioning a casual cafe toward the front corner along 10th Street; an 80-foot-long bar made of Louisiana willow on the opposite side; and a formal, white-tablecloth dining room in the back corner alongside high windows facing 10th Street. Little gathering spots further offer intimacy. Column ledges allow customers to lean back with their beer. A fireplace at the back on the bar side comes furnished with conversational seating. There’s even a so-called “kissing room,” a private space near the restrooms carved out of leftover space. A curtain opens to a small room just big enough for a sofa and a couple of extra chairs, where customers can hide away for conversation, and well...whatever.

The dark woods and carved detailing throughout the restaurant warm the interior. Shea Architects worked with Aaron Carlson Company to build snugs opposite the bar. Aaron Carlson Company also constructed the bar, one of the largest in the Twin Cities (opposite). Snugs across from the bar (top) offer private spaces, as does this seating area surrounding a fireplace (above).
girl on a swing and rather creepy looking chameleons lurking beneath her, carved from Peruvian walnut. A smaller, curving bar in the cafe section is less detailed, perhaps to focus attention on the brightly painted mural by John Erste, which depicts scenes of Irish pub life.

Creating an Irish pub out of such a large space is a bit of a Herculean task. The casual cafe, in particular, feels cavernous with its high ceiling and tables spaced far apart. Perhaps the bustle of a busy night will fill that void, although the mural does much to enliven the room. The formal dining room, which customers enter through the cafe or from 10th Street, is more successful with its burgundy walls, area rugs over terrazzo floors, hanging light fixtures, carved wood elements and heavy curtains draping tall windows. The architects added enough elements to visually fill the dining room without going overboard on bric-a-brac. The most appealing section of The Local is the bar side, where the deep-tone woods and snugs and various conversation nooks present an inviting, comforting environment.

You may have to go to Ireland to find the real thing, but The Local is still a good place to hang out for a while.

E.K.
A Garden’s Birthday Bash
When the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden opened 10 years ago this September, it became an instant Twin Cities attraction with its landscaped outdoor rooms displaying work by such renowned artists as Kinji Akagawa, Deborah Butterfield, Jackie Ferrara, Ellsworth Kelly, and Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen. It’s nearly impossible to imagine the Twin Cities without this 11-acre garden fronting the Walker Art Center/Guthrie Theater complex. Many sculptures have become iconic Minneapolis images, including Oldenburg/Bruggen’s Spoonbridge and Cherry, Siah Armajani’s Irene Hixon Whitney Bridge connecting the garden with Loring Park, Frank Gehry’s Standing Glass Fish within the glittering Cowles Conservatory, and the 300-foot-long Alene Grossman Memorial Arbor. Architect Edward Larrabee Barnes, in association with landscape architect Peter Rothschild, designed the original 7 1/2-acre garden as a series of formal rooms, while Michael Van Valkenburgh took a looser, less rigid design hand with the 3 1/2-acre expansion in 1992. The Walker and Minneapolis Park Board cap off a summer-long anniversary celebration with an all-day Cherry Jubilee Saturday, Sept. 12, at which Dutch artist Joep van Lieshout unveils his sculptural addition to the garden, The Good, The Bad and The Ugly, a full-scale wooden house and fiberglass mobile art lab.

Photos by Don F. Wong and Walker Art Center
Minneapolis Prairie School

William Gray Purcell and George Grant Elmslie were among the leading voices of the Prairie School, as illustrated with some of their best work in this guided walking tour through south Minneapolis. 

T

hey are scattered widely over south Minneapolis but are linked by a common pedigree. A select handful of houses—mostly near the Chain of Lakes—can claim an important place in architectural history; these houses mark the beginning of modern architecture.

Chances are you have already noticed one or two of these delightful homes. Maybe you wondered if they were designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. If so, you were close to the mark.

From 1907 to 1921, the Minneapolis-based architectural firm headed by William Gray Purcell and George Grant Elmslie carried a torch for the Prairie School. Though Frank Lloyd Wright was the guiding light of the Prairie School, Purcell and Elmslie during the years of their partnership were its most prolific interpreters.

In 14 years, more than 50 of the firm’s designs were built from coast to coast. Most of these were private homes, and the greatest concentration of them—about 20 buildings—can be found in our own neighborhoods.

Compared with other homes of that era, a Purcell and Elmslie design appears streamlined and simplified. The exterior is a clean and well-balanced composition of rectangles and triangles. Where ornamentation occurs, it is understated and based on natural forms. The firm was partial to delicate geometric and floral patterns realized in stained glass, thin panels of sawn wood and terra cotta.

A Prairie School design intended to express the highest principles of the American dream: honesty, straightforwardness, and an uplifting and unfolding of the spirit, in part through close connection with nature. Accordingly, building materials are presented in earthy, natural colors. Eighty years after construction, Purcell and Elmslie’s designs still appear fresh and innovative.

The following guided tour—in an order convenient for driving or biking—includes the most outstanding south-Minneapolis designs of Purcell and Elmslie (or P&E, as the architects called their own firm). As is customary, the buildings are referred to by the names of the original clients.

Except as indicated, these buildings are privately owned and occupied.

The tour begins with one of the firm’s smallest designs. Mr. Mueller was a landscape designer and this was his suburban hideaway. Note the original board-and-batten siding. Wide boards alternate with narrow ones that project an inch or so. This is a typical Prairie School motif used as subtle decoration and to accentuate the horizontal massing of the building. The projecting polygonal bay is typical P&E and appears again later in the tour.

Charles S. Parker House, 1912–13, 4829 Colfax Avenue So.
Here is a good example of a basic Prairie School design tenet: a house should seem to grow naturally from its site. Notice how the rise of the hill is echoed by the lines of the terrace wall and by the gable. The gable peak becomes the virtual crest of the hill. Another typical Prairie School element is the broad overhang of the eaves. This was an early attempt at energy efficiency as the eaves protect the interior from direct sun in the summer yet let in the lower winter sun for maximum warming. This house also exhibits several typical P&E ornamental motifs. The steep, dramatic gable was one of two roof outlines favored by the firm. The beam-with-pendants motif that adorns the front door frame is one of Elmslie’s signatures—as is the delicately fret-sawn wooden frieze.

Harold Hineline House, 1910, 4920 Dupont Ave. So.
Here is a good example of the care P&E gave to relatively inexpensive projects. Notice that this and several of the other houses are placed as far north as possible on their narrow lots to take maximum advantage of sunlight. This works in concert with the bands of casement windows that fill the house with light. To quote the great architect Louis Sullivan, with whom both Purcell and Elmslie worked, “form follows function.” Color was always an important part of a P&E design, and this composition in brown board-and-batten with plum-tinted stucco displays P&E’s naturalistic approach.

Wakefield House, 1911, 4700 Fremont Avenue So.
Here the hipped roof, the other of the firm’s favorite roof forms, adds to the horizontal feel of the design. While this exterior is less streamlined than some of the firm’s work, the house is

William Gray Purcell (left) and George Grant Elmslie (right)
Architects William Gray Purcell and George Grant Elmslie, Minneapolis-based exponents of the Prairie School, were nothing if not men of principle. As such, the amount of care they put into designing a home was the same regardless of size or cost. Two of their south-Minneapolis houses prove the point gracefully: the cozy home built at 212 W. 36th St. in 1915 for C.T. Backus, and the much larger dwelling built at 1635 W. 26th St. in 1910 for E.L. Powers.

**Backus House**

In the Backus house, almost the entire first floor is visible from the living room. The front entry area, living room and dining room form an open L-shaped space. The effect is an optical illusion. Though the overall dimensions of the first floor are only 25-by-27 feet, the feeling is of flowing space. Unity in the design is enhanced by dark-stained oak strips near the top of the white plaster walls. These simple, unadorned strips sweep in long horizontal bands from one area into the next.

Integrated into the design are an entire wall of built-in cabinets

*Rolf Anderson (right), owner of the Backus House, with pictures of the Backus family. The slatted screen (right) is seamlessly integrated with the overall interior trim. The dining room has a built-in oak storage wall.*

**Maurice Wolf House, 1912, 4109 Dupont Ave. So.**

This is an interesting composition of rectangles. The house has lost some of the sense of horizontal scale because the original low hipped roof line was capped years later by the widow's walk railing. Also, the original exterior color scheme has been altered substantially. Notice again the beam- with-pendants design, which may be Elmslie's visual metaphor for the idea of balance in the universe. Another typical P&E design motif shows up in the entrance porch: the slatted screen. P&E used this effectively both in interior and exterior settings to divide—yet not completely separate—two spaces. Also note the slightly labyrinthine entrance to the sidewalk; a P&E design included not just the house but the entire lot. The architects wanted visitors to understand that they were entering a different realm. The noticeable droop in the wide eaves, due to sagging timbers, is a common problem faced by Prairie School house owners.

**C.T. Backus House, 1915, 212 W. 36th St.**

Here is one of the most concise and beautiful...
statements of Prairie School design ideas found anywhere. Notice how the rectangles in the façade form an asymmetrical yet balanced composition. The color scheme, which thankfully has been maintained through the years, places the deep brown of the wood against a delicate rose tint in the stucco. Stucco on the front retaining wall covers originally unpainted concrete blocks. An arbor, gentle symbol of the bounty of nature, protects the entrance lovingly. A low hipped roof with sheltering four-foot eaves caps the design. The fence, constructed years after the house, echoes the design of slatted screens inside. (See the accompanying story for a look at the interior of this house.)

**Stewart Memorial Church, 1908–’09, 116 E. 32nd St.**

The church’s original beauty shows through despite the ravages of time and the affront of freeway construction. The design was done almost entirely by Purcell before Elmslie came from Chicago to join the firm. As such, it gives us an idea of the difference between the two men’s ornamental design styles. Purcell’s ornament here seems relatively static compared to Elmslie’s fluid and mercurial ideas. The basic ornamental motif, a cross in a square, is an ancient Christian icon. Alternately, this motif can be interpreted as a tesseract, which was intended as a visualization of a four-dimensional object as it “intersects” our three-dimensional world. The tesseract, which shows up again in the next stop on the tour, and the idea of a fourth dimension, were popular topics of discussion in progressive philosophical circles at the time. The Sunday-school wing, not designed by P&E, was added in the 1920s. The Redeemer Missionary Baptist Church congregation, which has owned the building since 1985, is restoring the church and welcomes contributions, which may be sent to the address shown here.

**Goetzenberger House, 1909, 2621 Emerson Avenue So.**

Here again, we see a Purcell-without-Elmslie design and the result is predictably a little blocky. Brown-with-yellow is probably not the original color scheme but it certainly sets off the ornamental details well. Notice again Purcell’s use of the cross-in-square or tesseract design (choose your own interpretation).

**E.L. Powers House, 1910, 1635 W. 26th St.**

As in the Mueller Studio, the polygonal bay domi-

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**Powers House**

Though the Backus house had to fit a tight budget, the original cost of the Powers house in 1910 was estimated by Purcell between $15,000 and $19,000. This was expensive for a house at the time and gave P&E an opportunity to make a major statement of their collaborative artistry.

Notwithstanding its generous proportions, the interior of the house seems warm and intimate. This is partly due to differences in ceiling heights that help to create varying moods. The small entry area has a low ceiling. “Somehow described this as womblike,” says Maureen Labenski, who, with her husband Ed, recently retired and sold the house. On the main floor, variations in ceiling height subtly suggest the division of the open space into functional units. “It’s interesting to have a large group of people in this house,” she says. “The ceiling heights really do ‘work.’ At first, people tend to mill around rather formally in the dining room and living room where the ceilings are higher. But, as people get more comfortable, they gravitate over to the window seat or the fireplace or the sun room—the more informal places that have much lower ceilings.”

A balance between unity and variety, Elmslie’s ornamental scheme for the house is a match for the spatial design. Just as in the Backus house, the major interior theme is the contrast between dark oak panels and light-colored wall surfaces—a rose-tinted tan in this case. However, while Elmslie’s treatment for Backus was an exercise in economy, the Powers house is quite sumptuous. True to Prairie School
nates the public façade. Notice that the entrance is at the side. This affords privacy and shelter but also places ingress at a strategic point between the dining room and living room. Therefore, even with a relatively narrow house, no room becomes a passageway to reach other rooms. (See the accompanying story for a look at the interior of this house.)

William and Edna Purcell House—now called Purcell-Cutts House, 1912-'14, 2328 Lake Place

It is said that the doctor who treats himself has a fool for a patient. Architects, however, often seem to produce their best work for themselves and this house, designed for Purcell and his wife, is certainly proof. It is recognized worldwide as one of the great examples of the Prairie School and you can see why immediately. The façade is cubist in its composition of dark and light rectangles. On sunny mornings, the consciously Japanese-style fountain in the front yard projects dancing reflections on the living-room ceiling. The art-glass windows are especially fine. Elmslie’s stencil pattern near the top of the wall is continued inside in almost every room. The house was restored to its original condition after being willed to the Minneapolis Institute of Arts in 1985 by its last private owner, Anson B. Cutts, Jr. The house is open to the public at no charge the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is well worth a visit. Group tours are also available by appointment. For details and reservations, call the Institute’s Visitor Information Center at (612) 870-3131.

If this short tour has whetted rather than satisfied your appetite for Purcell and Elmslie, there’s plenty more where these came from—several in the Twin Cities and many more within a day’s drive. Many P&E small-town banks are especially interesting. For further reference consult A Guide to the Architecture of Minnesota, by David Gebhard and Tom Martinson, published by the University of Minnesota Press and available, among other places, at the Minnesota Historical Society. Included are dozens of maps that eliminate frustration in finding buildings. Though the book covers all periods and styles, its P&E citations were written with special care—no surprise since the late Gebhard wrote his University of Minnesota Ph.D. dissertation on Purcell & Elmslie’s work.

tenets, Elmslie derived his design motifs from nature. A classic example of his style is the delicate floral pattern in leaded iridescent glass in doors between the living room and sun room. In each of four glass panels, a long stem culminates in a single bloom. Elmslie’s subdued colors in glass were a conscious reaction against Victorian designs which had tended toward brilliant displays of color. Most of the window area in this design is clear glass; the floral design floats airily in the middle. The effect is that of a screen to see through rather than a picture to look at. The sun room is small and intimate, yet, even with the doors closed, the glass design allows a feeling of connection with the rest of the house, thus contributing to the overall goal of openness.

The Powers house includes several wonderful examples of one of Elmslie’s specialties: thin panels of fret-sawn wood. Nearly identical one-foot-square oak panels are set into the front door and the dining room’s built-in buffet. The motif of garlands of foliage swirling around a shield like design speak of man’s place in nature.

Another of Elmslie’s favorite ornamental media was stenciling. He used repeating stencil patterns as accents inside and outside many P&E buildings. These were usually complex geometric designs, again highly abstracted from nature, incorporating several colors. With the help of Alan Lathrop of the Northwest Architectural Archives (part of the University of Minnesota Library System), the Labenskis located the original stencils for their house and have had the patterns reproduced on their dining-room walls. Though the entire house is alive with ornamentation, Elmslie’s work has a definite focal point: the fireplace—the ultimate symbol of family unity in Prairie School design vocabulary. The fireplace is contained within a cozy inglenook and framed by built-in upholstered benches. In turn, this setting frames the house’s centerpiece: a richly colored display of terra-cotta panels inlaid above the fireplace. Here, fantastic garlands of dark-green oak leaves surge and entwine around clusters of sand-colored acorns. The symbolism is strong and clear. Reverence for nature, family togetherness and the freedom of flowing space all are integrated to achieve the ultimate goal of Purcell and Elmslie: the ennoblement of American life.

Built-in, bow-window seat (above) is oriented toward Lake of the Isles. Brick and terra-cotta fireplace with inglenook (left) is literal and symbolic centerpiece of the house.
RETHINKING THE HOUSE

As new suburban houses get bigger and bigger, a Minneapolis architect argues for economy of space and quality of design.

The following is excerpted from *The Not So Big House: A Blueprint for the Way We Really Live*, by Sarah Susanka with Kira Obolesnky, with permission of the publisher, The Taunton Press, Newton, Conn. The book is available at area bookstores this October, or by ordering directly through the publisher at 63 So. Main St., P.O. Box 5506, Newton, Conn., 06470-5506, phone (800) 888-8286.

For a residential architect, going to a party in a new house is like test-driving a new car—it’s a chance to see how the house works under real-world conditions. When my husband and I recently attended the wedding reception of an old college friend, we were among 40 guests at the hosts’ first big party in their new suburban home. The house was outfitted with all the trappings of a dream home—an impressive front foyer, an elegant living room, and a formal dining room. It seemed the perfect place for a wedding reception. If ever there were an occasion when the formal rooms of a house would be well used, this was it.

The reality was quite different, however—yet strangely predictable. During the entire party, the living room remained vacant except for the occasional guest who walked through to admire the art as if viewing pictures in a museum. Even the dining room, which was filled with a splendid display of food, was empty. Where was everybody? Crowded into the kitchen, where they were leaning on every possible surface; or in the well-used family room, which had an assortment of comfortable furniture.

Every half hour or so the hostess would try to coax people out of the kitchen by calling out, “The food is in the dining room!” Whenever someone actually ventured into the dining room and returned with a plate of food, invariably there was a chorus of, “Where did you get that?”

Even though the family room and the kitchen are the most popular places in a home, many houses still feature beautifully appointed formal living and dining rooms that sit empty most of the time, awaiting the arrival of guests. Although life at the end of the 20th century is quite informal, Emily Post still rules over the floor-plans of our houses, making sure that they suit their manners.

In most houses, the formal rooms for dining and living are dinosaurs—leftovers from the turn of the century when Victorian house design followed the social code of the day. Visitors were ushered into a formal parlor. Dinner was served in a formal dining room, typically located a circuitous distance from the kitchen. Children were seen and not heard. One hundred years later, these formal areas still define the house. It’s as if visitors are presented with a stage set, while the people who live there spend their time backstage. We’ve put all the resources necessary into creation of the living room for our guests while we do without new carpeting in the family room. The front door is used twice a year, usually for parties, and the people who live in the house enter through the back door, past piles of dirty laundry and bags of bottles ready for recycling. The irony is that, even when guests do come over, they avoid the formal spaces created for them because they’re too formal.

Yet we continue to live informally in houses designed for more formality. Since World War II, there’s been an attempt to incorporate more informal places into our houses. Remember the den? The basement rec room? How about the wet bar, the party room, the pool room? Many 1970s suburban homes offered one or more of the assortment, but the formal living and dining rooms are still at the core of the footprint of a house. And beginning in the 1980s, a vast variety of rooms joined the roster of must-have spaces, including great rooms, entertainment rooms, lavish master suites, and spaces for the newfound fitness craze.

Essentially, however, today’s houses still wear the architectural equivalent of a hoopskirt, even if the accessories seem more contemporary. While we’ve been busy evolving over the past century, most of our houses have not. Their evolution has been constricted by outdated notions of what we think we need and what the real-estate industry says we need for resale. At the turn of the new century, most houses are designed for the turn of the last.

It’s time to rethink our houses and to let them become expressions of the way we really live. A Not So Big House can be Not So Big because the “dinosaur” rooms are replaced with spaces that reflect the way we eat and the way we live. The floor-plan of the Not So Big House is a map, not a fossil, that reveals the lives of the people who live in it today.

RETHINKING THE ROOM

When I was 10 years old, my elementary school teacher assigned the class a puzzle, which she wanted us to solve by thinking creatively. The solution offers the essence of how to think about design. Here’s the problem: Without taking pen off paper, and using only four straight lines, connect the nine dots shown at the top of the facing page. At home I spent hours on the problem and grew increasingly frustrated. I knew my teacher wouldn’t lie to us, that there must be an answer. Yet it appeared to be an impossible assignment. During the middle of the night, however, I awoke with the answer clear in my mind. I reached for the problem and magically connected the dots with four straight lines. What I discovered was that, if I stayed within the box created by the dots, I couldn’t solve the problem. Once I broke the confines of the outline, the problem solved itself. (If you have trouble solving the problem, you’ll find the answer on the very last page of the book—but don’t give up yet.)

Is there a way to think beyond ordinary boundaries to create a house that works better for us? This is the secret to designing a Not So Big House—the ability to think creatively, responding to needs and wishes, not to preconceived notions of what a house should be.

Most people speak in terms of square footage and number of rooms when asked to describe a house: four bedrooms, three baths, 3,000 square feet. The idea that a house is composed of rooms for separate activities is fundamental to how it’s been de-
fined. But a room is an artificial construct, an attempt to put boundaries around space. The idea of the room can be replaced with the notion of places for various activities. What is your favorite place in your home? Is it a comfortable chair near the fireplace where you can enjoy a glass of wine and unwind after a day of work? Mine is a little book nook, a place just big enough for one that's carved into a corner of the living area. This place offers a cozy spot to read and a place to watch what's going on in the rest of the house.

In a Not So Big House, each space is defined by the activities that take place there. Think about what happens in the family room: There's a place to watch TV, a place to enjoy the fireplace, a place to do homework, a place to pay bills, a place to play Scrabble. When we think of the family room in this way, it's no longer merely a space bounded by four walls and a ceiling. It can be defined another way altogether: as a series of alcoves, each offering shelter around an activity and surrounding a central sitting area. When this kind of thinking is extended to the entire house, a new definition emerges. A house is a sequence of places for all the different activities that happen there.

One reason houses have become too big is that they are planned with the idea that there needs to be a separate room for each activity. But look carefully at how you really live in your house and you'll discover how much space goes unused. A house is Not So Big when it's composed of adaptable spaces, each designed to share various functions, each in use everyday.

If you rethink the formal living room, formal dining room, kitchen, and family room, you'll discover a different model altogether, not unlike the way the nine dots are connected in the exercise mentioned previously. The core of the Not So Big House is an interconnected area that encompasses kitchen, living, and dining functions. All of these areas, which are physically and visibly open to each other, are shared by family and friends.

**PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SPACES**

A realtor who had recently purchased a striking contemporary remodel of an older home called me with an odd complaint. Ever since she and her husband moved into the house they had been fighting. An architect is typically not a marriage counselor, but I agreed to take a look. The house, with its white walls, high ceilings, and contemporary feel, was ready for the pages of Architectural Digest. But as my tour progressed, the couple's problem became clear. There wasn't a single door inside the house, not even on the bathroom, which very stylishly featured a soaring arch to mark its entrance. The master bedroom had a half-wall that looked over into the living room. There was no privacy in this house for anybody, which clearly was creating tension between husband and wife.

The remodeling was fairly straightforward. Rather than build walls, we extended the half-walls with glass to provide acoustic privacy and to preserve the striking lines of the design. As for the bathroom, we added a door and filled the archway with a window that still allowed light to stream in. Another client, living alone in a brand-new 5,000-square-foot house, called me because she wanted to plan an addition. When we met she confided that the house, believe it or not, felt too small to her—and she was right! In spite of its high square footage, the house was incredibly claustrophobic. There were countless rooms, each designated for a specific activity, and equally countless doorways that, when open, offered dead-end views of walls. There was nothing to look at beyond each room, no view of any other interior spaces—and deliberately so. In planning the house, the woman, who considered herself to be a terrible housekeeper, had wanted to make sure that her guests could not see into any of her messy rooms. She hadn't recognized that her need to add on was a direct result of this strategy.

Rather than add on, we reconfigured part of the existing space by opening up the maze of rooms into an open, public space. We kept the balance of rooms intact. As for the housekeeping issue, I gently suggested that she consider hiring some cleaning help.

To make any floor plan work, there has to be a balance between open spaces and closed, between public and private. Sometimes we feel like being with others, and other times we need solitude. A house should offer a hierarchy of spaces, each appropriate to its function and to our mood. The Not So Big House has at its core a public space composed of living, dining, and kitchen functions. It also allows for private spaces, which are acoustically or visually separate from the open areas.

One of my partners designed a house for a professional couple who wanted spaces for the family to gather together, as well as places for adults only. The light-filled living area...is the most public space in the house because it's visible from the kitchen, from a more secluded sitting area, from a second-floor loft, and from an exterior deck. When the adults need privacy, they retreat to the sitting area just down the hall.

How public or private a space is depends on both its scale and its visibility. If a place is to be used, people need to be able to see it. A space that's visible from as many places as possible automatically becomes a public area. If a space is to be private, remove it from sight and locate it away from the main traffic areas—or put a door at its entrance. "Out of sight, out of mind," is a truth in house design.

When there is a proper balance between public and private places, something quite natural happens. All the spaces in the house begin to be used every day. The patterns of life are no longer constrained by the floor plan; they are expressed by it.
Reassessing one of its most valuable natural resources, St. Paul is set on reestablishing

River town

Second in a two-part article exploring Minneapolis and St. Paul’s downtown river fronts

By Todd Willmert

St. Paul’s origins emerged as the Mississippi River’s northernmost navigational point. Minneapolis coalesced around St. Anthony Falls and the power source it supplied, while its twin evolved as a Mississippi port city. Developing within a unique river basin and flood-plain system—limestone bluffs provide dramatic views all around—St. Paul’s natural attributes guided initial development. Breaks in the natural limestone walls gave access to the Mississippi, creating dialogue between river valley and city form.

While St. Paul prospered because of its Mississippi River location, industry with the accompanying roads, levees and railroads long have masked city-river connections. Yet with industrial uses declining along the river, St. Paulites are reconsidering the relationship between the built and natural environments.

Regaining St. Paul’s distinctive character is the motivation behind the Mississippi Development Framework, a guidebook for growth formulated between 1995 and 1997. Developed through community charrettes and a broad, inclusive multidisciplinary team—led by Toronto-based urban planner Ken Greenburg working in conjunction with the City of St. Paul, the St. Paul Riverfront Corporation, the Capital City Partnership and other agencies and foundations—the framework proposes reinforcing St. Paul’s connections to the Mississippi River.

The framework builds on St. Paul’s Mississippi River location, yet its success depends upon reinfocing neighborhoods. With names like Swede Hollow and Frogtown, or the vivid images conjured by F. Scott Fitzgerald’s Summit Avenue, St. Paul is a memorable aggregation of places. Recognizing that the best cities are composed of mixed-use neighborhoods—where one can live as well as shop and recreate—the framework fosters a series of urban villages throughout St. Paul. Advocating greater connection between neighborhood nodes, downtown and the river, the framework proposes a St. Paul of adjacencies instead of separations.

St. Paul’s strong neighborhoods and Mississippi River location come together in plans for the Upper Landing area—highlighted in the framework. The Upper Landing was the site of St. Paul’s Little Italy, a small community that was subsequently re-placed by industry. Anchored by the High Bridge and NSP Plant to the west and the new Science Museum to the east, and sandwiched between the Mississippi and Shephard Road, the zone is bounded by industry and culture, nature and infrastructure. The Upper Landing’s proximity to downtown, as well as to Irvine Park and Rice Park and natural and cultural amenities, makes the site ripe for revitalization.

The framework suggests that appropriate planning can highlight the brownfield site’s advantages—the city and Mississippi at hand—while negating drawbacks. Landscaping and building mass can shield the site from Shephard Road, rail lines and the NSP Plant, focusing attention toward the Mississippi. Beyond this, there is an opportunity to forge connections, allowing city neighborhoods to spill down to the River. Rice Park’s cultural quarter—the Landmark Center, the Ordway Music Theater and St. Paul Public Library and James J. Hill Reference Library, as well as Ellerbe Becket’s Science Museum under construction nearby—seamlessly can tie into the Upper Landing’s proposed mixed-use development through landscaping and pathways. Lookout platforms and pedestrian bridges will provide visual and physical links to Irvine Park, tying this adjacent neighborhood to the Mississippi and Upper Landing.

The Upper Landing proposal becomes more plausible in light of newly completed, current and proposed construction projects. The emergence of a cultural precinct—the institutions near and on Rice Park—and its proximity to the Mississippi River gives momentum toward Upper Landing development. The newly completed RiverCentre, by Hammel Green and Abrahamson, is another step toward river enhancement with its extroverted façade of floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the river. In addition, such infrastructure projects as the recently opened Wabasha Street Bridge give further impetus to Upper Landing investment.

For all the framework’s emphasis on renewing the Upper Landing and weaving it into the existing urban fabric, the site’s history as a flood plain still plays an important role in storm-water management. The plan features surfaces that absorb run-off and wetlands that filter water before it reaches the Mississippi River. The Twin Cities are replete with storm sewers that unceremoniously dump water into the Mississippi River. The proposed handling of storm water at the Upper Landing is thus a welcome change, one consistent with the framework’s emphasis on environmental concerns.
connections to the downtown river front

With a holistic attitude placing importance upon natural processes and ecology, the framework recognizes St. Paul's context within the Mississippi River Valley. The ultimate goal—to "reattach the city to its soul, the Mississippi River"—is not unlike Cass Gilbert's original ideas for St. Paul. His Capitol, poised on a hill, is the city's focal point, from which avenues radiated and cascaded down to the Mississippi, creating a dialogue between city and river. Unfortunately, I-94, slicing the civic corridor from the river, compromises Gilbert's original vision. The framework proposes healing the severed connection between the Capitol and the Mississippi by revamping the Wabasha Corridor Precinct, a district that has been in decline for decades.

The framework's goal is to reestablish Wabasha, St. Paul's historic main street, as a green, pedestrian-oriented link between the Capitol, the Mississippi and the West Side neighborhood beyond. Covered pedestrian walkways over I-94 and important institutions housed between the Capitol and the Mississippi, like the Fitzgerald Theater, the Children's Museum and a renovated World Trade Center, are already reactivating the Wabasha Corridor, with further initiatives in the planning. The framework recognizes opportunities to expand the public realm, strengthen the street edge and establish connections to Rice Park, Lowertown and other adjacent neighborhoods. Once a forbidding stretch between the Capitol and the Mississippi, Wabasha will become a welcoming street punctuated with parks and public spaces, as outlined by the proposed framework.

In considering the framework's goals for Wabasha, the Upper Landing and other districts, one cannot help recall Gilbert's contemporary, Daniel Burnham, and his thoughts that a "noble, logical diagram once recorded will never die." Gilbert's ideas of procession and vistas are inherent in the Capital City layout and design, concepts which the framework reinterprets. Closer to this day, Benjamin Thompson's 1992 image of a "greened" river valley, another powerful concept, captured the imagination of St. Paul citizens.

There are, of course, nuances and compromises necessary in implementing Gilbert's and Thompson's ideas, but the framework vividly flashes out specifics, becoming a primer for design. A related interactive CD further enables citizens and professionals to better visualize design and planning opportunities. Together, these tools allow framework concepts to assert themselves, to inform St. Paul growth and development. Daniel Burnham was, of course, involved in turn-of-the-century plans for Minneapolis, but his admonition to make no small plans applies equally to St. Paul and the Framework's comprehensive vision.

The ABCs of Urban Planning

Planning concepts today stem from the need to consider historic buildings, the existing urban fabric and environmental degradation while engaging public input. St. Paul's rejuvenation involves the following:

- Adaptive Reuse goes beyond simple renovation. More often, a building's original use—for instance as a warehouse or fire station—no longer exists. Converting such structures into offices, retail and/or housing breathes new life into the structure while preserving and enhancing the building shell and reinforcing the urban fabric. The adaptive reuse of the old St. Paul Post Office and Federal Courthouse, which is now used for cultural/civic purposes as Landmark Center, is a prime example of this strategy. On the other hand, the Hamm Building is being renovated, retaining its original use as an office building.

- Brownfield refers to an unused or underutilized industrial site. If contaminated by industrial waste, remediation is needed before construction commences. Despite the costs associated with clean-up, brownfields still offer advantages. For instance, infrastructure—roads and transit systems, sewers and electric grids—are in place at brownfield sites. Factoring in social, environmental and other costs, brownfield development is often cheaper than greenfield development and urban sprawl. St. Paul's plans for the Upper Landing site manifests the ideas behind brownfield remediation and development.

- Charrette literally means "small cart" in French, with a secondary use evolving from Paris's Ecole Des Beaux Arts. Instructors assigned turn-of-the-century architecture students projects to be completed in short time frames. When time was up, work was collected in a charrette and ferried to the jury room. In the St. Paul Framework, charrettes—intense brainstorming sessions where professionals and residents consider, discuss and develop ideas—were conducted for four neighborhoods: Wabasha Corridor, Upper Landing, Rice Park-Civic Center and West Side, with a fifth exploring environmental themes.

Such terms as brownfield and greenfield colorfully address prime issues, succinctly expressing the many factors at stake when constructing in the urban core vs. suburban rings. Charrette, on the other hand, ironically describes the planning mode of the moment—the authoritarian nature of French planning being anything but participatory. It is impossible to imagine Napoleon III and Baron Haussmann publicly discussing plans for their rapid transformation of Paris into a city of uniform façades, grand boulevards and endless axes between 1850 and 1870.

Whatever their derivation, terms like adaptive reuse, brownfield and charrette clearly evolved as a backlash against modern planning's excesses, with the emphasis on demolition over reuse and imposition upon the urban fabric and community values rather than an integration with them.

Downtown St. Paul should be comprised of a series of linked "urban villages."


endangered species
Continued from page 7

Restorations of historic concrete bridges have been successful. In particular, the renovation of the Mendota Bridge and the Robert Street Bridge in St. Paul preserved important historic features and sensitively incorporated new elements. The Preservation Alliance of Minnesota gave Preservation Excellence awards for both of these projects.

Delony believes we may see more older steel bridges preserved rather than replaced by the concrete stretches of homogeneity. A growing movement of structural engineers is committed to older bridges. What is needed, according to several engineering professionals, is for public-agency engineers, who see risk as the flip side of confidence, to assume the same confidence level Wetmore says older bridges deserve.

"If you [engineers] do more testing, you increase the confidence level," Wetmore says.

Beyond the technical aspects of these bridges' metal tendons, there is aesthetic value arising from pure physics of tensile and compressive streams, once molten and now thin solids, overcoming gravity in a finite stretch of space. But in the hierarchy of built structures, buildings receive greater importance than bridges. If the architecture of buildings creates a dense prose to enclose space, then the economy of structure we see in bridges makes for a poetry of purpose.

The Washington Avenue North Bridge's idiosyncratic attributes, unfortunately, don't conform with the notions held by people in charge of determining the bridge's survival. Too many public planners apply a civic sandpaper throughout the urban environment, smoothing down its irregularities to replace poetry with predictability. It's our civic leaders who need more testing. AM

up close
Continued from page 19

nonrated districts. People realize that those designations carry recognition, prestige and protection of property values. And everybody likes to see their property appreciated and appreciating. So we have to let folks know their history is significant and worth saving.

What other preservation priorities exist in the state?
At this point we have some legislative needs. We need the types of laws on the books that will protect our resources, and afford some economic incentives to owners of historic residential and commercial properties. Another priority, as I've already mentioned, is to educate people all over the state as to the value of preservation and that includes educating children about historic preservation through programs in the schools.

Do you think there is some particular notion of preservation that has kept people from getting more involved?
Preservation, from time to time, has suffered from a public-relations crisis. People don't necessarily know what is old. They think historic is only the big Victorian house and old brick commercial building. Also, there is always concern about the additional layer of government. If we're talking about historic zoning and incentives for protection, then we're talking about government being involved. People continue to be somewhat leery of another overlay of regulation. We have to
Learn from our “Portfolio”

For over 100 years, architects who are members of AIA Minnesota have designed outstanding architecture. From Cass Gilbert’s design of our State Capitol to the new buildings featured in this issue of Architecture Minnesota, Minnesota architects have a rich and celebrated tradition of designing beautiful, functional and playful buildings for use by all of us.

The “Portfolio of Renovations & Restorations” on the following pages will introduce you to many AIA Minnesota firms who have expertise in this area and who have chosen to support the publication of this particular issue.

When it comes time to find a firm for your building project, be sure to consider these firms, each of which is owned and operated by members of AIA Minnesota, our state’s Society of the American Institute of Architects.

If you need assistance in finding an architect and utilizing a fair and thorough selection process, please contact AIA Minnesota at 612/338-6763. We have brochures and suggested selection methods that can save you time and money, as well as enable you to find just the right architect for your project.

Our internet address is www.aia-mn.org. Check us out!

Peter Rand, FAIA, Publisher

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At Paulsen Architectural Design and Mankato-Kasota Stone, we believe that architecture isn’t about the latest in technical drafting, building technologies or even project management styles. Architectural design is about the process of architects, suppliers and clients working together to balance complex requirements with bold project solutions that are both functional and beautiful.

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Paulsen Architectural Design
818 North Willow Mankato, MN 56002
507.625.2746 FAX 507.625.2748

Intergovernmental Center
Mankato, Minnesota
Stone Contractor: Mankato/Kasota Stone Inc.
Stone Type: Cream Veine Slight Tint Bonding; Cream Veine Honed Panels; Cream Veine Honed leders and sills
General Contractor: Easwich Construction, Inc.
CONGRATULATIONS TO INCARNATION LUTHERAN ON THE COURAGE TO RENOVATE AND EXPAND THEIR EXISTING WORSHIP FACILITY.

Architect: Station Nineteen Church Planners and Architects
Contractor: Faulkner Construction Inc.
Interiors Jenny Anderson
Acoustical Consultant: Kvernstoen, Kehl & Assoc.
Completed: 1997
up close
Continued from page 48

convince people that yes, there’s another layer of government, but the nice thing about preservation guidelines or districts is that citizens choose to do it and in many cases design the regulations they will live by. When you do this, unlike with many other regulations, you’re going to receive a corresponding return on your investment.

How do you think Minnesota compares to other states in terms of public awareness, the viability of preservation groups and resources saved?
When you look around the state there are remarkable accomplishments here. We have a large number of historic-preservation commissions around the state, which indicates that communities recognize the value of having historic districts. We have a great number of historical societies, which are valuable allies to preservation because they help educate people about history.

What we don’t have in Minnesota is a formal network of preservation organizations. On the East Coast, you see increasing numbers of locally based preservation organizations. Right now, the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota is the only nonprofit preservation organization with staff in the state. We’re going to have to grow and create the network for working with people.

How do you hope to accomplish that?
We have to increase our membership. By the end of the year 2000, I hope we have at least 2,000 members from all over the state, in every community and every county. Members can be our advocates, our eyes and ears. At the same time, we need to grow the capacity of this office, to be able to deliver more assistance when communities call for help. We also need to educate people so they are prepared to respond to preservation crises on their own and call on us when they need more assistance. So often preservation has been in the reactive mode. We need to establish a series of proactive workshops on saving historic neighborhoods and buildings, informing people about strategies for designation and the use of tax credits and incentives before the crises occur.

How do you think you can get architects more involved in preservation, and what kind of relationship would you like the Alliance to have with architects?
Our office is currently housed in the AIA Minnesota offices and [executive vice president] Peter Rand is on our board, so we have some built-in connections. But I’ve already seen interest from the architecture community.

For instance, architects responded admirably to calls for help that came from St. Peter this year after a tornado devastated that community. That response was out of a sense of concern for this historic community. AIA also has a strong historic-resources committee. So I think there already is a connection between the Alliance and AIA. It’s just up to the two of us to learn how to enhance that relationship to our mutual benefits.

How do you hope to make your mark here?
I intend to build a very strong, effective statewide organization that involves a lot of people, serves our citizens, and allows them to preserve and continue to utilize historic districts, homes and buildings in their communities. We welcome anyone’s interest in this organization, and encourage them to call us and get involved.

AM

The firms listed on the following pages include design professionals who are members of the American Institute of Architects. They offer a broad range of architectural, space planning and interior design services. Individually, each firm has special areas of expertise and project competence. Their capabilities range from homes to corporate headquarters, from hospitals to schools, restaurants to retail facilities, justice facilities to libraries, etc.

I invite you to contact these firms to discuss with them your specific project needs.

Peter A. Rand, FAIA
Publisher

insight
Continued from page 21

transit and how long it takes transit to deliver you to your destination, Wolsfeld says. The second factor is frequency; how frequently the transit service runs. Third is comparable costs: what it costs to drive and park the car versus transit fare. The fourth, and most critical factor, Wolsfeld adds, is the quality of the ride. “What’s been shown over and over is a lot of people won’t ride something that’s dirty and not well-maintained,” he explains. “If you provide a quality, fast, inexpensive alternative to cars, then people will ride it.”

The riding experience, however, has to start before you board the train, adds David Showalter, senior associate, BRW.

“The experience actually begins when you leave the door of your home,” he

Continued on page 60

legend

AIA American Institute of Architects
APA American Planning Association
ASID American Society of Interior Designers
CCS Certified Construction Specifier.
CID Certified Interior Designer
CSI Construction Specifiers Institute
FAIA Fellow, American Institute of Architects
FASID Fellow, American Society of Interior Designers
FCSI Fellow, Construction Specifiers Institute
IFMA International Facilities Managers’ Association
IIDA International Interior Designers Association
PE Professional Engineer
ALTUS ARCHITECTURE, LTD.
4926 Lincoln Drive
Edina, MN 55436
Tel: 612/935-4344
Fax: 612/935-4303
E-mail: altusarch@iol.com
Established 1995

Timothy A. Alt AIA

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects 2.5
Housing/Multiple 5
Residences/New & Remodel. 70
Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial 20
Commercial/Office Interiors 5

Immedia, Graphics, Minneapolis, MN; Freitag/Pomeroy Residence, Minneapolis, MN: Rued Residence (Addition), Eden Prairie, MN; Eaton Corporation (Masterplan with Opus), Eden Prairie, MN, Murphy Residence, Edina, MN

THE ANDERSON ARCHITECTURAL PARTNERSHIP
3575 Owasso Street, Ste. 301
Shoreview, MN 55126-3546
Tel: 651/483-9646
Fax: 651/483-9646
E-mail: taqp@islnet.net
Internet: www.islnet.net/taqp
Established 1998

Mark Carsten Anderson AIA

Churches/Worship 5
Education/Academic 10
Residences/New & Remodel. 5
Retail/Commercial 5

St. Odilia Catholic Community, Shoreview, MN; Hallow Place Chapel, Ardmore, OK; Johnson Residence, Dallas, TX. Project while a staff member at another firm: Glad Tidings Church, Vancouver, WA

ANKENY KELL ARCHITECTS, P.A.
821 Raymond Avenue, Ste. 400
St. Paul, MN 55114
Tel: 651/645-6306
Fax: 651/645-6079
E-mail: akmall@ankenykell.com
Established 1976

Donald W. Ankeny AIA, CID
Diana A. Kell FAIA, CID
Christine Meyer IDS, ASID, IIDA

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects 20
Interior Designers 10
Administrative 5
Total in Firm 30

Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial 20
Retail/Commercial 15
Manufacturing/Industrial 10
Medical/Healthcare 10
Education/Academic 15

Ice Arenas/Recreational Community Centers

University of Minnesota Women’s Ice Arena and Tennis Center, Minneapolis, MN: University Center Rochester, Rochester, MN; Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood, MN; Century Plaza Infrastructure/Remodeling, Hennepin County, Minneapolis, MN; Phoenix Coyotes Training Facility, Scottsdale, AZ

ARCHITECT STEVE ERBAN
3748 Oakgreen Avenue N.
Stillwater, MN 55082
Tel: 651/439-8886
Fax: 651/439-8994
Established 1972 (93)

Steve Erban AIA

Firm personnel by Discipline
Architects 3
Administrative 2
Total in Firm 5

Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial 5
Churches/Worship 95

Holy Family Catholic Church, Duluth, MN; King of Kings Lutheran Church, Roseville, MN; St. Patrick Catholic Church, Centuria, WI; St. Luke Lutheran Church, Little Chute, WI; Family of Christ Lutheran, Andover, MN; Creative Office Gardens, Lake Elmo, MN

FREDERICK BENGTZ/MILO THOMPSON/ROBERT RIETOW, INC.
2680 Foshay Tower
Minneapolis, MN 55402
Tel: 612/332-1234
Fax: 612/332-1813
E-mail: info@bt-architects.com
Internet: www.btr-architects.com
Established 1971

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Milo H. Thompson FAIA, CID
Robert C. Rietow AIA, CID
Robert S. Rietow AIA, CID
R. Bruce Cornwall AIA, CID
Ann Voda AIA, CID

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects 6
Interior Designers 5
Other Technical 9
Total in Firm 22

Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial 5
Retail/Commercial 25
Churches/Worship 20
Municipal 5
Education/Academic Libraries 20

Mount Zion Temple Education/Administration Wing, St. Paul, MN; North Hennepin Community College Learning Resource Center, Brooklyn Park, MN; Marshall Field’s Home Store, Chicago, IL; Dayton’s Department Store, Maplewood, MN; Winona State University Library, Winona, MN

BOARMAN KROOS PFISTER VOGEL & ASSOCIATES
222 North Second St.
Minneapolis, MN 55401
Tel: 612/339-3752
Fax: 612/339-6212
E-mail: bkp@bkm.com
Established 1973

J. Owen Boorman AIA
David R. Kroos AIA
Peter J. Pfister AIA
Gary J. Vogel AIA
David T. Runyan AIA
Richard C. Micksch CID, IIDA

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects 20
Interior Designers 6
Engineers 9
Other Technical 9
Administrative 6
Total in Firm 50

Continued on next column

Housing/Multiple 10
Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial 40
Manufacturing/Industrial 20
Municipal 20
Federal 15

—- Kenney & Lange, Minneapolis, MN; OCB Realty, Eden Prairie, MN; National Multiple Sclerosis Society, St. Paul, MN; NBC, Minneapolis, MN; Norwest Master Trust, Minneapolis, MN

BWBR ARCHITECTS
400 Sibley Street, Ste. 500
St. Paul, MN 55101
Tel: 651/222-3701
Fax: 651/222-8961
E-mail: bwb@bwbr.com
Internet: www.bwb.com
Established 1951

C. Jay Steier AIA
Willard F. Johnson AIA
Terry L. Anderson AIA
Stephen P. Patrick AIA
Timothy J. Sessions AIA
Peter G. Smith AIA
Brian B. Buchholz AIA, CID

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects 59
Interior Designers 8
Other Technical 5
Administrative 18
Total in Firm 94

Housing/Multiple 10
Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial 10
Manufacturing/Industrial 10
Medical/Healthcare 40
Churches/Worship 5
Municipal 15
Education/Academic 5
Recreation/Sports Facilities 5

—- Rutherford Elementary School, Stillwater, MN; Lawson Commons/Lawson Software Corporate Headquarters, St. Paul, MN; United/Children’s Hospital, St. Paul, MN; Medtronic Heart Valve and Cardiac Ventures Relocation: Augsburg College, James G. Lindell Library and Information Technology Center, Minneapolis, MN
ELLEN SWENSON GRAHAM ARCHITECTS INC.
700 Third Street South
Minneapolis, MN 55401
Tel: 612/339-5508
Fax: 612/339-5382
E-mail: tehn@esgharch.com
Established 1973

Other Offices: Dallas, TX; Phoenix, AZ

David Graham AIA
Mark Swenson
Rosanne Lange CID
Khosnow Rezai AIA
Diane Oirts CID

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects 41
Interior Designers 3
Other Technical 4
Administrative 10
Total in Firm 58

— Work %
Office Bldgs/Financial 20
Retail/Commercial 10
Municipal 4

— Apogee Enterprises Expansion,
Bloomington, MN; Fourth Shift Corporation,
Richfield, MN; Furber, Tanner, Zahn PLLP,
Minneapolis, MN; CPA Society, Bloomington, MN;
Lapp, Laurie, Libera, Abrahamson & Thompson, Minneapolis, MN

EDWARD FARR ARCHITECTS
7710 Golden Triangle Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55344
Tel: 612/943-9660
Fax: 612/943-9665
E-mail: e.farr@edwardarch.com
Internet: www.edwardarch.com
Established 1991

Other Architects/Residents
— Edward A. Farr AIA, CID

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects 7
Interior Designers 2
Other Technical 5
Administrative 2
Total in Firm 16

— Work %
Office Bldgs/Financial 70
Retail/Commercial 20
Municipal 10

— Ination Enterprises Inc: Discovery R & D Building, Oakdale, MN; Manhattan Civic Center/Arena, Mankato, MN;
Gustave Adolphus Student Housing, St. Peter, MN; Avalon at Devonshire,
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300 Lasalle Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55402
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Fax: 612/376-2771
E-mail: By Individual
Internet: www.ellebebecket.com
Established 1999

Other Offices: Kansas City, MO; Washington D.C., Phoenix, AZ;
San Francisco, CA; Russia, United Kingdom, Egypt, Japan

Robert Degenhardt PE
Jean Prior
Sandy Strand CID
Janice Linster CID, IDIA, ASID

— Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects 293
Interior Designers 30
Engineers 135
Other Technical 61
Administrative 112
Total in Firm 649

— Continued on next column

EDGAR ASSOCIATES, P.A.
316 W. Becker Avenue
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Willmar, MN 56201
Tel: 320/235-0860 or (800)650-0860
Fax: 320/235-0851
E-mail: engararch@willmar.com
Internet: www.edgararch.com
Established 1979

— Richard P. Engar AIA, CID
Jeffrey M. Niguel AIA, CID
Stan L. Simon PE

— Continued on next column

EDWARD FARR ARCHITECTS
7710 Golden Triangle Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55344
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Fax: 612/943-9665
E-mail: e.farr@edwardarch.com
Internet: www.edwardarch.com
Established 1991

Other Architects/Residents
— Edward A. Farr AIA, CID

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects 7
Interior Designers 2
Other Technical 5
Administrative 2
Total in Firm 16

— Work %
Office Bldgs/Financial 70
Retail/Commercial 20
Municipal 10

— Ination Enterprises Inc: Discovery R & D Building, Oakdale, MN; Manhattan Civic Center/Arena, Mankato, MN;
Gustave Adolphus Student Housing, St. Peter, MN; Avalon at Devonshire,
Bloomington, MN; Holy Family Senior Housing, New Richmond, WI

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Other Offices: Kansas City, MO; Washington D.C., Phoenix, AZ;
San Francisco, CA; Russia, United Kingdom, Egypt, Japan

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Jean Prior
Sandy Strand CID
Janice Linster CID, IDIA, ASID

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Interior Designers 30
Engineers 135
Other Technical 61
Administrative 112
Total in Firm 649

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316 W. Becker Avenue
PO Box 956
Willmar, MN 56201
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Fax: 320/235-0851
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Internet: www.edgararch.com
Established 1979

— Richard P. Engar AIA, CID
Jeffrey M. Niguel AIA, CID
Stan L. Simon PE

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7710 Golden Triangle Drive
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Tel: 612/943-9660
Fax: 612/943-9665
E-mail: e.farr@edwardarch.com
Internet: www.edwardarch.com
Established 1991

Other Architects/Residents
— Edward A. Farr AIA, CID

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects 7
Interior Designers 2
Other Technical 5
Administrative 2
Total in Firm 16

— Work %
Office Bldgs/Financial 70
Retail/Commercial 20
Municipal 10

— Ination Enterprises Inc: Discovery R & D Building, Oakdale, MN; Manhattan Civic Center/Arena, Mankato, MN;
Gustave Adolphus Student Housing, St. Peter, MN; Avalon at Devonshire,
Bloomington, MN; Holy Family Senior Housing, New Richmond, WI

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Fax: 612/376-2771
E-mail: By Individual
Internet: www.ellebebecket.com
Established 1999

Other Offices: Kansas City, MO; Washington D.C., Phoenix, AZ;
San Francisco, CA; Russia, United Kingdom, Egypt, Japan

Robert Degenhardt PE
Jean Prior
Sandy Strand CID
Janice Linster CID, IDIA, ASID

— Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects 293
Interior Designers 30
Engineers 135
Other Technical 61
Administrative 112
Total in Firm 649

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Fax: 320/235-0851
E-mail: engararch@willmar.com
Internet: www.edgararch.com
Established 1979

— Richard P. Engar AIA, CID
Jeffrey M. Niguel AIA, CID
Stan L. Simon PE

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1201 Harmon Place
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Internet: www.hg.com
Established 1953
Other Offices: Milwaukee, WI

— Anita Barnett
CED, IIDA
— John Crosby
CID
— Joe Mayhew
— Laurie Parriott
ASID, CID
— Lisa Rodweiler
IIDA
— Chris Vickery
CID

— Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects
Interior Designers
Engineers
Other Technical
Administrative
Total in Firm
57

— Work %
Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial
Retail/Commercial
Manufacturing/Industrial
Churches/Worship

— St. Anthony Regional Health Center, Carroll, IA; St. Cloud Hospital Addition Renovation - Centra Care, St. Cloud, MN; Edgewood Cables Senior Housing, Kokomo, IN; Glencoe Area Health Center, Glencoe, MN; Regina Surgery Center, Hastings, MN; Pioneer Memorial Hospital & Nursing Home, Viiborg, SD
IA TWIN CITIES
376 Summit Avenue, # B
St. Paul, MN 55102
Tel: 612/224-1922
E-mail: JRevent@aol.com
Internet: HAGlobal.com
Established 1984
Other Offices: In California - San Francisco (Corporate Headquarters); Los Angeles, Silicon Valley, Costa Mesa, New York, NY, Boston, MA; Dallas, TX, Chicago, IL
Washington, DC; London, UK

— Jim W. Reents
AIA, ACP
— Dick Daniels
AIA, NCARB
— Larry King
AIA
— Lynn Wallack
RA, NCARB
— Eric Regh
AIA, IIDA
— David Manning
AIA

— Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects
Interior Designers
Other Technical
Administrative
Total in Firm
65
— Work %
Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial
100
— United Healthcare's Eden Prairie Facility, Eden Prairie, MN; Shanghai Stock Exchange, Shanghai, China; VISA International Corporate Campus, San Francisco, CA; Alex Brown/Bankers Trust, Baltimore, MD; Levi Strauss & Co. World Headquarters, San Francisco, CA
KKE ARCHITECTS (Spaces Interior Design)
300 First Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN 55401
Tel: 612/339-4200
Fax: 612/342-9267
E-mail: info@kke.com

— Stephen J. Lanak
CID
— Roxanne L. DeCoster
CID

— Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects
Interior Designers
Engineers
Other Technical
Administrative
Total in Firm
12
— Work %
Housing/Multiple
10
Residences/New & Remodel.
15
Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial
50
Manufacturing/Industrial
10
Churches/Worship
15

— United Properties Co., Bloomington, MN; VHA North Central, Bloomington, MN; St. Paul Area Council of Churches, St. Paul, MN; Bluefin Bay and Bluefin Pointe Resorts, Tofte, MN; Mt. Carmel Ministries, Alexandria, MN

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Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076
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Fax: 651/451-0917
E-mail: kmww@komw.com
Established 1985

— James H. Krech
PE
— Daniel J. O'Brien
AIA, CID
— Brady R. Mueller
AIA, CID
— Brian C. Wess
AIA, CID, CCS
— Cindy L. D. Nagel
CID

— Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects
Interior Designers
Engineers
Other Technical
Administrative
Total in Firm
6
— Work %
Housing/Multiple
5
Residences/New & Remodel.
5
Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial
25
Retail/Commercial
20
Manufacturing/Industrial
30
Churches/Worship
10
Municipal
5


JAFVERT MUELLER ARCHITECTS, INC.
3600 W. 89th Street, Ste. 175
Bloomington, MN 55431
Tel: 612/897-5001
Fax: 612/897-5073
E-mail: JMARCHIT@aol.com
Established 1972

— Lloyd Jafvert
AIA
— Steven Mueller
AIA

— Firm Personnel by Discipline
Architects
Other Technical
Administrative
Total in Firm
3
— Work %
Senior Healthcare Housing
40
Medical/Healthcare
55
Healthcare - Interior Design
5

KODET ARCHITECTURAL GROUP, LTD.
15 Groveland Terrace
Minneapolis, MN 55403-1154
Tel: 612/377-2737
Fax: 612/377-1331
E-mail: kodore@ix.netcom.com
Internet: www.kodet.com
Established 1983

— Edward J. Kodet, Jr.
FAIA, CID
— Kenneth Stone
AIA, CID
— Joan M. Biren
AIA, CID

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<table>
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<tr>
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<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
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<th>WEBSITE</th>
<th>ESTABLISHED</th>
<th>SERVICES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LHB ENGINEERS &amp; ARCHITECTS</td>
<td>21 West Superior Street, Ste. 500</td>
<td>Tel: 218/727-5446</td>
<td>Fax: 218/727-3456</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lhbcorp.com">www.lhbcorp.com</a></td>
<td>Established 1965</td>
<td>Architectural Planning, Remodeling, Minnetonka, MN; Non Educatior/Academic, Municipal, Medical/Healthcare, Office/Bldgs/Banks/Financial, Residences, Total Administrative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROBERT LUND ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS, LTD.</td>
<td>4829 E. Lake Harriet Parkway Minneapolis, MN 55409</td>
<td>Tel: 612/927-0680</td>
<td>Fax: 612/927-0392</td>
<td><a href="http://www.rlaarchitects.com">www.rlaarchitects.com</a></td>
<td>Established 1987</td>
<td>Other Offices: Sag Harbor, NY; BlogPersonnel by Discipline Architects 1, Other Technical 3, Administrative 1, Total in Firm 5, Work % 15, Housing/Multiple 15, Residences/New &amp; Remodel. 60, Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial 5, Retail/Commercial 5, Municipal 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On Track Corp., Office Space Planning and Design, Eden Prairie, MN; HealthEast: St. John's Hospital Addition, Renovation, Expansion, Maplewood, MN; Century Manufacturing, Office Renovation, Bloomington, MN; Mn/DOT Transportation Management Center Planning and Design, Roseville, MN; HealthEast: Midway Hospital Adaptive Reuse to Corporate Office Building, St. Paul, MN
saying, “Access points are necessary so people can easily get to the train stations. Buses will service LRT, so getting people from one mode of transit to another, and quickly, is really vital. Then, stations have to be comfortable, designed to be familiar, easy to move around in, well-lit, secure and placed in the right locations to maximize ridership.”

“Transit-friendly land use” around stations and corridors can also expand the use of transit, says Winter. “Rather than building a strip mall, you build an office plaza or some high-density housing—land use that generates a density of people using LRT,” he says. Wolfsfeld agrees. “If you could just put in dwelling units with an orientation toward a transit station, that would create lots of transit trips—enough to make a system successful,” he says. Such development could also entice some people to stay in the city, and thus be a factor in helping to curb urban sprawl.

Wolfsfeld cites Grand Avenue in St. Paul, and Hennepin Avenue and Lake Street in Minneapolis as examples of urban environments enjoyed by certain segments of the population. LRT stations next to residential, retail and office buildings, he says, could create similar hubs and an urban lifestyle some people would find attractive.

“Talks a lot of discussion in city planning about population density in the metro area and how LRT can be effective in helping to increase it,” Showalter says. “We’re searching for ways to create the kind of density opportunities that are marketable and people will buy into. That comes around again to the whole idea of station planning and design, and opportunities for commercial, retail and residential development around those sites. LRT can be an impetus to achieve those.”

Business can also influence the ridership and thus the success of LRT. As businesses ponder relocation, expansion and a labor shortage, says Lovejoy, “human-resource people are telling higher-ups that they need access to a larger labor pool or they won’t get the best people. The way you do that is to have a central geographic location, with plenty of opportunities for accessibility—places to park the car, access to transit of all kinds—and with a lot of amenities—restaurants, shopping and the like. It’s in business’s self interest to do this, because they’re often expected to help provide transportation for their employees, primarily parking.”

In essence, creating a user-friendly transit system isn’t only about LRT, but about building a multifaceted transit system, sustaining it and fostering a culture that will welcome it. All of which, once again, comes down to money. “How willing is our culture to spend money to sustain a good transit system?” Lovejoy asks. “There will be federal money to build LRT; will there be money to sustain LRT? The majority of major metro regions with LRT have a dedicated tax source for transit, which helps with sustaining it.” We do not have that in Minnesota and it will be an enormous battle at the legislature to get it.”

Winter agrees. “There needs to be an operating fund for the future, over and above what exists today,” he says. “It’s about the way you operate LRT that keeps it a success.” Such an operating fund must cover maintenance and security on trains and transit stations, but also provide for ongoing public-awareness campaigns about the benefits of transit.

“There needs to be an educational and marketing process, to make people aware of what’s going on,” Diaz says. For example, he says, working with employers to convey messages to their employees that transit is an important mode of transportation, through such incentives as discounted fares or employer-subsidized fares, is one way “in which you can create an atmosphere conducive to using transit.”

Ensuring LRT is as successful in the Twin Cities as it has been elsewhere boils down to two things, according to Diaz. First, transit has to be distinctive and visible, he explains, “so you know where the line is, where it goes and that it has visibility in the community.” Second, he continues, “when a community makes a commitment to that type of service, it’s also committing resources to make a good product.” Both criteria go a long way. Diaz concludes, in making LRT attractive and public response enthusiastic.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANKENY KELL ARCHITECTS, P.A.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>821 Raymond Avenue, Ste. 400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Paul, MN 55114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: 651/643-6804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 651/643-0870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:akmail@ankenykell.com">akmail@ankenykell.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Established 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Ronald W. Ankeny AIA, CID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Duane A. Kell FAIA, CID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Christine Meyer IDS, ASID, BIDA</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Scott Newland AIA</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Bob Adkins, AIA</td>
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<tr>
<td>- John Anderson ASID, CID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Jane Bishop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>- Debora Erzeck CIDA</td>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>400 Clifton Avenue S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55403-3299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: 612/871-5703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 612/871-7212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: archalliance.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Established 1970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Tom DeAngelo AIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Carl Renick AIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Dennis LaFrance AIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Peter Vesterholt AIA</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4510 W. 77th Street, Ste. 101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edina, MN 55435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: 612/893-9020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 612/893-9299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:GENERAL@bhyoung.com">GENERAL@bhyoung.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Established 1971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Kim Dennis BIDA, CID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Kathy Young CID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Darcy Field CID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Jill Breccourt CID</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Karen Hasting CID</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Patrick Giordana AIA</td>
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<td>- Bob Adkins, AIA</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>235 E. Lake Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayzata, MN 55391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: 612/404-9600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 612/404-9700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Suzy Anderson ASID, CID</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>- Debora Erzeck CIDA</td>
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<td>- Claudia Reichard CIDA</td>
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<td>- Richard Sutton AIA, CID</td>
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<tr>
<td>1422 West Lake Street, Ste. 300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: 612/822-1211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 612/822-1006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:edesign@mr.net">edesign@mr.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Established 1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Debora Erzeck CIDA</td>
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<tr>
<th>Directory of Interior Design Firms</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elnes Swenson Graham Architects Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700 Third Street S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: 612/339-5508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 612/339-5382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:telhe@esarch.com">telhe@esarch.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Established: 1973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Offices: Dallas, TX; Phoenix, AZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Graham AIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Swenson AIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roxanne Lunge CID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khooshrow Rezaei AIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane Orris CID</td>
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<tr>
<td>Firm Personnel by Discipline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interior Designers: 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Imation Enterprises Inc. Discovery R &amp; D Building, Oakdale, MN; Mankato Civic Center/Arboretum, Mankato, MN; Gustavus Adolphus Student Housing, St. Peter, MN; Avalon at Devonshire, Bloomington, MN; Holy Family Senior Housing, New Richmond, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IA Twin Cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>376 Summit Avenue, #B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Paul, MN 55102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: 651/224-1922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:JReents@aol.com">JReents@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet: <a href="mailto:IA@Global.com">IA@Global.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Established: 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Offices: In California - San Francisco (Corporate Headquaters), Los Angeles, Silicon Valley, Costa mesa; New York, NY; Boston, MA; Dallas, TX; Chicago, IL; Washington, DC; London, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim W. Reents AIA, AICP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dick Daniels AIA, NCARB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry King AZA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynn Wallack RA, NCARB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Regh AIA, IDIA</td>
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<td>David Mourning AIA</td>
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<tr>
<td>KJE Architects (Spaces Interior Design)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 First Avenue North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: 612/339-4200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 612/342-9267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@kke.com">info@kke.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Established: 1968</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephen J. Lukan CID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roxanne L. DeCoster CID</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOYER, SCHRER &amp; ROCKCASTLE, LTD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119 North Second Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: 612/375-0330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 612/342-2216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@msrd.com">info@msrd.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet: <a href="http://www.msrd.com">www.msrd.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Established: 1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Meyer AIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffrey A. Scherer FAIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garth Rockcastle FAIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynn Barnhouse CID</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Leonard Parker Associates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>430 Oak Grove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: 612/871-6864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 612/871-6868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:TLIPA@aol.com">TLIPA@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Established: 1958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Offices: Seoul, Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leonard Parker FAIA, CID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Huh FAIA, CID</td>
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<td>Gary Mahaffey FAIA, CID</td>
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<td>Francis Bulubian AIA, CID</td>
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<td>Ray Greco AIA, CID</td>
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<td>Halland, Lewis, Nielan, Sipkins &amp; Johnson, P.A., Minneapolis, MN; St. Cloud State University Learning Resources Center, St. Cloud, MN; Brovick &amp; Co. (Gourmet Wine &amp; Food), Minnetonka, MN; Pension Fund Hotels, Chong Ju, Korea; Kepe Cultural Center, Seoul, Korea</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOYER, SCHRER &amp; ROCKCASTLE, LTD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119 North Second Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: 612/375-0330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 612/342-2216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@msrd.com">info@msrd.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet: <a href="http://www.msrd.com">www.msrd.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Established: 1981</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Meyer AIA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeffrey A. Scherer FAIA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garth Rockcastle FAIA</td>
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<td>Lynn Barnhouse CID</td>
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<td>Medical/Healthcare: 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Leonard Parker Associates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>430 Oak Grove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: 612/871-6864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 612/871-6868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:TLIPA@aol.com">TLIPA@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Established: 1958</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Offices: Seoul, Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leonard Parker FAIA, CID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Huh FAIA, CID</td>
</tr>
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<td>Gary Mahaffey FAIA, CID</td>
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<td>Francis Bulubian AIA, CID</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Halland, Lewis, Nielan, Sipkins &amp; Johnson, P.A., Minneapolis, MN; St. Cloud State University Learning Resources Center, St. Cloud, MN; Brovick &amp; Co. (Gourmet Wine &amp; Food), Minnetonka, MN; Pension Fund Hotels, Chong Ju, Korea; Kepe Cultural Center, Seoul, Korea</td>
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### DIRECTORY OF INTERIOR DESIGN FIRMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Firm Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City, State, Zip</th>
<th>Contact Person(s)</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
<th>E-mail Address</th>
<th>Established Year</th>
<th>Services Offered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PERKINS &amp; WILL</strong></td>
<td>701 Fourth Avenue S., Ste. 100</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55415</td>
<td>Tel: 612/339-1102</td>
<td>Fax: 612/339-5040</td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@perkinswill.com">info@perkinswill.com</a></td>
<td>1935</td>
<td>Other Offices: Chicago, IL; Atlanta, GA; New York, NY; Charlotte, NC; Miami, FL; Los Angeles, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gary E. Wheeler FASID, IIDA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Steven F. Engholm</td>
<td></td>
<td>Firm Personnel by Discipline, Interior Designers, Architects, Other Technical, Administrative, Total in Firm, Work %, Residences/New &amp; Remodeled, Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial, Retail/Commercial, Medical/Healthcare, Education/Academic, Total in Firm, Work %, Total in Firm, Work %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RAMSEY ENGLER LTD.</strong></td>
<td>3353 Excelsior Blvd.</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55434</td>
<td>Tel: 612/339-8050</td>
<td>Fax: 612/339-7585</td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:Steven@ramseyengler.com">Steven@ramseyengler.com</a></td>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Firm Personnel by Discipline, Interior Designers, Other Professional, Administrative, Total in Firm, Work %, Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial, Engineers, Other Professional, Administrative, Total in Firm, Work %, Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial, Manufacturing/Industrial, Medical/Healthcare, Education/Academic, Interior Architecture, Total in Firm, Work %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RSP ARCHITECTS LTD.</strong></td>
<td>120 First Avenue North</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55401</td>
<td>Tel: 612/339-8313</td>
<td>Fax: 612/339-6700</td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:rpsrch@msn.com">rpsrch@msn.com</a></td>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Firm Personnel by Discipline, Interior Designers, Architects, Other Technical, Administrative, Total in Firm, Work %, Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial, Manufacturing/Industrial, Medical/Healthcare, Municipal, Education/Academic, Government/Military, Total in Firm, Work %, Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial, lionizing Facilities, Living Facilities, Total in Firm, Work %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>POPE ASSOCIATES INC.</strong></td>
<td>1360 Energy Park Drive</td>
<td>St. Paul, MN 55106</td>
<td>Tel: 651/642-9200</td>
<td>Fax: 651/642-1101</td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:pope@popearch.com">pope@popearch.com</a></td>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Firm Personnel by Discipline, Interior Designers, Architects, Other Technical, Administrative, Total in Firm, Work %, Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial, Retail/Commercial, Manufacturing/Industrial, Medical/Healthcare, Municipal, Education/Academic, Government/Military, Total in Firm, Work %, Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial, lionizing Facilities, Living Facilities, Total in Firm, Work %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SETTER LEACH &amp; LINDSTROM</strong></td>
<td>1100 Peavy Building</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55402</td>
<td>Tel: 612/339-2454</td>
<td>Fax: 612/339-8741</td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:ncameron@setterleach.com">ncameron@setterleach.com</a></td>
<td>1917</td>
<td>Firm Personnel by Discipline, Interior Designers, Architects, Engineers, Other Professional, Administrative, Total in Firm, Work %, Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial, Manufacturing/Industrial, Municipal, Education/Academic, Total in Firm, Work %, Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial, lionizing Facilities, Living Facilities, Total in Firm, Work %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUSAN STAFNE DESIGN P.A.</strong></td>
<td>416 West County Road D</td>
<td>New Brighton, MN 55112</td>
<td>Tel: 651/631-3196</td>
<td>Fax: 651/631-3628</td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:susan.stafne@msn.com">susan.stafne@msn.com</a></td>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Firm Personnel by Discipline, Interior Designers, Administrative, Total in Firm, Work %, Senior Care (Nursing Home, Congregate &amp; Assisted Living Facilities), Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial, Medical/Healthcare, Sacred Heart Convent, IL; Fairview Southdale Hospital, Minneapolis, MN; Mayo Foundation, Rochester, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WALSH BISHOP ASSOCIATES, INC.</strong></td>
<td>920 Second Avenue S., Ste. 210</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55402</td>
<td>Tel: 612/338-8799</td>
<td>Fax: 612/337-7585</td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:WBB@walsh-bishop.com">WBB@walsh-bishop.com</a></td>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Firm Personnel by Discipline, Interior Designers, Architects, Other Technical, Administrative, Total in Firm, Work %, Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial, Retail/Commercial, Manufacturing/Industrial, Total in Firm, Work %, Office Bldgs/Banks/Financial, lionizing Facilities, Living Facilities, Total in Firm, Work %</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SHEA ARCHITECTS, INC.</strong></td>
<td>100 North 6th Street, Ste. 650C</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN 55403</td>
<td>Tel: 612/339-2257</td>
<td>Fax: 612/349-2930</td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:kathy@shearch.com">kathy@shearch.com</a></td>
<td>1978</td>
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AIA Documents Make Life Easier.

A-SERIES DOCUMENTS: Owner-Contractor Series

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<tr>
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<td>Owner-Contractor Agreement Form-Stipulated Sum (11/97) with instruction sheet</td>
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<td>Owner-Contractor Agreement Form-Stipulated Sum-Construction Manager-Advisor Edition (1992)</td>
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<td>Combination Document Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Contractor for A Small Project and General Conditions of the Contract for Construction of A Small Project (1993)</td>
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<td>A111</td>
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<td>Owner-Contractor Agreement Form-Cost Plus Fee (11/97) with instruction sheet</td>
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<td>Owner-Construction Manager Agreement Form where the Construction Manager is also the Constructor (1991)</td>
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<td>Owner-Construction Manager Agreement Form where the Construction Manager is also the Constructor-Cost Plus Fee (1994)</td>
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<td>Owner-Contractor Agreement for Furniture, Furnishings and Equipment (1990) with instruction sheet</td>
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<td>A177</td>
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Other Series:
B-SERIES DOCUMENTS: Owner-Architect Series
C-SERIES DOCUMENTS: Architect-Consultant Series
D-SERIES DOCUMENTS: Architect-Industry Series
G-SERIES DOCUMENTS: Architect's Office & Project Forms

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Location: St. Paul, Minn.
Client: The Markham Company of St. Paul
Architects: Oertel Architects/Elness Swenson
Graham Architects
Engineers: BKBM Professional Engineers
Contractor: Witcher Construction
Environmental testing: Braun Intertec
Photographers: Don F. Wong and Saari & Forrai

Lake Superior Technical College
Location: Duluth, Minn.
Client: Minnesota State College and University
Principal-in-charge: Gary Mahaffey
Project manager: Steve Huh
Project architect: Aaron Parker
Director of design: Leonard Parker
Structural engineer: Meyer Borgman Johnson
Mechanical engineer: Gausman & Moore
Electrical engineer: Gausman & Moore
Contractor: Max Gray Construction
Landscape architect: Damon Farber
Acoustical consultant: Kvenstoen Kehl
Data Communications: Data Core Engineering
Programming: ECS, Inc.
Photographer: George Heinrich

The Local
Location: Minneapolis
Client: Waterford Limited Partnership
Architects: Shea Architects (Interior), Ryan Companies (exterior)
Principal-in-charge: David A. Shea

Plains Art Museum
Location: Fargo, N.D.
Client: Plains Art Museum
Architect: Hammel Green and Abrahamson
Design principal: Dan Avchen
Project manager/museum specialist: Gary Reetz
Project designer: Dave Bercher
Design team: Loren Ahles, Nina Broadhurst, Chuck Mrotek, Tom Whitcomb, Tammy Angaran
Associate architect: Foss Associates (Fargo)
Principal: William Cowman
Project architect: Joel Davy
Project team: John DeVries, Rochelle Conzemius, Pat DeLaPointe, Fred Drenkow
Interior architect: Hammel Green and Abrahamson
Landscape architect: Hammel Green and Abrahamson
Mechanical engineer: Hammel Green and Abrahamson
Electrical engineer: Hammel Green and Abrahamson
Structural engineer: Foss Associates
Contractor: Lee Jones and Sons, Fargo
Photographer: Peter Aaron/Esto

Project managers: Quintin J. Scott (Shea), Tom Wasmoen (Ryan)
Project architect: John Merten
Project designer: John Merten, Quintin Scott, Kari Thies, Kirk Fadner, Rolly Stevens
Mechanical engineer: Master Mechanical, Inc.
Electrical engineer: Egan McKay, Inc.
Contractor: Ryan Companies
Interior design: Lisa Cane
Lighting Consultant: Schuler & Shook
Photographers: Don F. Wong and Mike Parker

Contributors

Bill Beyer is a principal of Stageberg Beyer Sachs, Inc., in Minneapolis.

Jack El-Hai, who writes our Lost Minnesota column, is a Minneapolis writer whose books include Minnesota Collects and The Insider's Guide to the Twin Cities.

Richard L. Kronick is a Twin Cities-based writer.

Camille LeFevre is a regular contributor of Architecture Minnesota and is editor of The Prairie Reader.

Robert Roscoe is head of his own firm, Design for Preservation, a commissioner on the Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission, and editor of Preservation Matters, published by the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota.

Sarah Susanka is a founding principal of Mulfinger, Susanka, Mahady & Partners in Minneapolis.

Todd Willmert is with Cuningham Group in Minneapolis.

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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1998 65
Today a bed of brightly colored flowers and an entrance gate hugging 36th Street at Hennepin Avenue are what many people imagine when they think of Lakewood Cemetery, one of Minneapolis’s oldest burial grounds. But for the first 42 years of the cemetery’s existence, a much different entrance welcomed the deceased and their visitors.

Lakewood Cemetery was already 17 years old when it spent $51,000 to raise its first building of significance: Frank Read’s Romanesque reception house and entry gate, which was set back from 36th Street at an angle. Its arched gate, turrets and red granite exterior gave the structure a residential feel. Inside, the building housed the cemetery’s reception area—peculiarly called the “receiving tomb” by some—and the superintendent’s work area.

At first this gate was the cemetery’s only public entrance, but eventually two other entrances were added, one at a streetcar stop along the edge of Lake Calhoun and another at 40th Street. As a place of business, the reception house left much to be desired. Only a counter divided visitors from staff space. Staff members meeting with grieving survivors had no private areas in which to hold conversations and visitors could easily observe all sorts of private cemetery affairs.

By the late 1920s, the cemetery had outgrown this structure and its awkward interior design. The Lakewood board invited architects to submit plans for a new entrance and receiving building, and Minneapolis architect Ernest Kennedy’s plan was selected. Located closer to 36th Street, the new building of classical Greek design rose while the granite turrets of the old structure watched. In 1930, upon the completion of Kennedy’s building, the original entrance was razed.

For an excellent account of the history of Lakewood Cemetery, see Haven in the Heart of the City; published by the cemetery in 1992.

Jack El-Hai
New beginnings! The 15th Annual Antiques Show and Sale will be held for the first time at The Minneapolis Institute of Arts. 36 nationally prominent dealers will be exhibiting and selling American, European, and Asian antiques as well as decorative arts. Learn from Coldwell Banker Burnet sponsored distinguished speakers and informal dealer talks.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16 11 AM-9PM
SPEAKER: 10AM An Introduction To Southern Decorative Arts Sumpter Priddy III, former curator at Colonial Williamsburg, will provide insights on how the Minneapolis Institute of Arts Charleston rooms would have been furnished originally.
BEGINNING COLLECTORS NIGHT: 5:30PM Chasing After Modernism David Ryan, Director, Arts Program, Norwest Corporation, Minneapolis has assembled an impressive collection of modernist decorative arts and design which serves as the basis for an informal discussion on collecting. The event will include a reception and a chance to win $1000. You must be present to win and the money must be spent at the show.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 11 AM-5PM
BRUNCH/LECTURE 10AM: The Lure Of The East Murray Douglas, Artistic Director for Brunschwig & Fils and author of Brunschwig Style, will explore the impact of the East on Western design. The lecture is followed by a brunch. Ticket includes admission to the Antiques Show and Sale and the afternoon lecture. $45.
SPEAKER: 2PM: A Tradition Of Splendid Silver Janet Drucker, Antique Dealer and Georg Jensen scholar will discuss Danish sculptor and silversmith Georg Jensen, one of the 20th century's most influential silversmiths.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 12PM-5PM
$10 daily admission includes lectures and dealer talks.
All speaker presentations will take place in the Pillsbury Auditorium. Dealers will give 15 minute talks in their booths Friday and Saturday 12PM-3PM.
This event is presented by the MIA Decorative Arts Council. Proceeds benefit The MIA Decorative Arts Department for museum acquisitions.

ROBERT C. LAWLER, SHOW MANAGER
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