

# ARCHITECTURE MN

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The American Institute of Architects Minnesota  
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## MISSION: REVIVAL

Tired and neglected historic buildings get new leases on life thanks to their visionary owners and architects.

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## A BRIDGE GOES DIGITAL?

It's pixels for pedestrians in a competition-winning scheme for the bridge linking the U's East and West Bank campuses.

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## NORTHWOODS RESORTS

Minnesota architects tell us all about their favorite lodges. Our new survey will inspire your next weekend getaway.

PAGE 42

## History Renewed

**An historic hangar transformed**

COVER: AKERMAN HALL, PAGE 34





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## Frank Gehry's Winton Guest House

In 1982, Mike and Penny Winton commissioned the up-and-coming, California-based architect Frank Gehry to design a guest house on their Lake Minnetonka property, adjacent to a 1952 Philip Johnson house. Gehry created a house as sculpture, covering a variety of elemental forms in unexpected materials including Finnish plywood, limestone, brick and metal.

The Wintons sold their property in 2002 to Kirt Woodhouse, who, in order to preserve it and enhance the understanding of architecture as art, donated the guest house to the University of St. Thomas in 2007.

After four years and a physical relocation of its eight pieces to a new site 110 miles away, the Winton Guest House is now an integral part of the university's Gainey Conference Center in Owatonna, home also to a 1950's Edwin Lundie-designed main house. The Winton Guest House is the only Gehry-designed single-family residence open to the public. Gehry's understanding of cities, one-room buildings and the painting of Giorgio Morandi come to life in the house's unique architectural space, which includes a 35-foot-tall central living room tower.

An exhibit featuring original blueprints, drawings, photographs and letters, along with a video documenting the move and reconstruction, tell the story of how this structure came to redefine architecture in the late 1980s and bolster the career of one of the world's most important architects.

### Public Hours:

Saturday, July 14, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 11, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sunday, July 15, Noon-4 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 12, Noon-4 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 16, Noon-4 p.m.

Admission: Adults - \$7; Students - \$5 (with student ID); Children 12 and under - Free

**\*\*Group (10 or more individuals at one time) tours are available with advanced reservations.**



Frank Gehry visits the relocated Winton Guest House, October 2011.

**StThomas.edu/GehryWinton**

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The Minneapolis campus is home to more than 50,000 square feet of event space, which will accommodate meetings, training seminars, conferences, banquets and weddings. Located a few blocks from the Minneapolis Convention Center, Minnesota Orchestra Hall, Target

Center and Target Field makes it the perfect hub for any Minneapolis event.

The Gainey Conference Center, is the university's full-service conference and retreat facility located one hour south of St. Paul and Minneapolis in Owatonna, Minn. The Center, nestled in 180 acres of rolling prairie land, offers an atmosphere conducive to planning, development and camaraderie building and is the perfect location for a wedding or special event.

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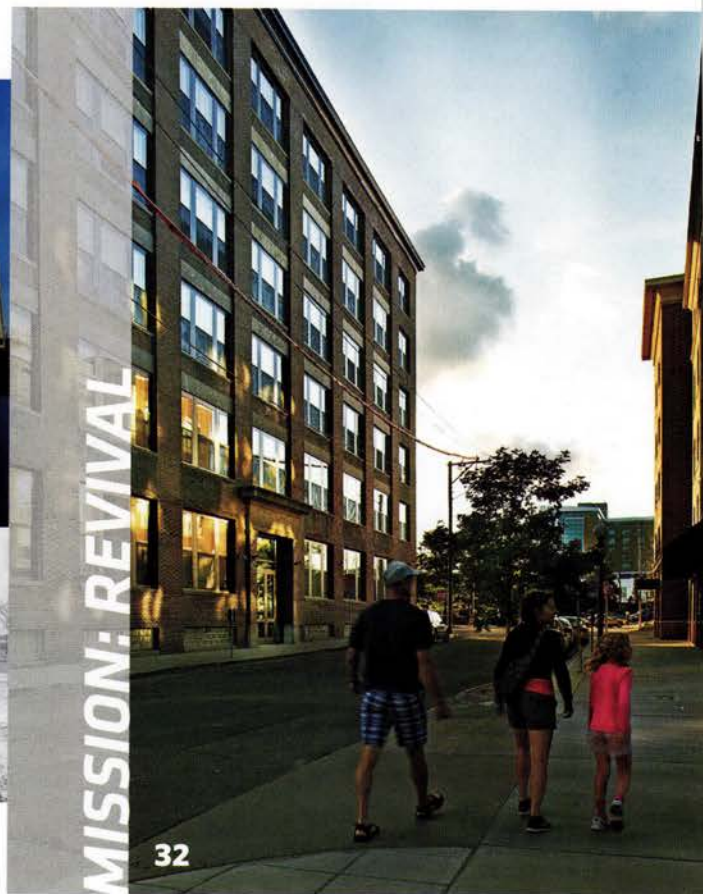
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Architecture Minnesota, the primary public outreach tool of the American Institute of Architects Minnesota, is published to inform the public about architecture designed by AIA Minnesota members and to communicate the spirit and value of quality architecture to both the public and the membership.



## Features



### ON THE COVER

University of Minnesota Akerman Hall  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

"I shot this dynamic student workspace in the newly renovated Akerman Hall during a spring academic break at the U," says photographer **Pete Sieger**. "Fortunately, students in adjacent aeronautical engineering labs happily populated the space for us. A few went straight to the white board with equations."

### 20 **Center Stage: Bridge to the Digital Future**

By Thomas Fisher, Assoc. AIA

A team led by AIA Firm of the Year VJAA wins a competition to reimagine the pedestrian portion of the bridge linking the University of Minnesota's East and West Bank campuses.

### 25 **Mission: Revival**

Visionary owners, developers, and architects bring lagging historic buildings back to life with new uses.

#### **Works Progress: Hiawatha Maintenance Facility**

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By Phillip Glenn Koski, AIA

#### **Little House on the Prairie: Bottineau House**

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By Linda Mack

#### **Urban Renaissance: Renaissance Box**

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By Camille LeFevre

#### **Top Flight: Akerman Hall**

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By Camille LeFevre

#### **Recommissioned: Boy Scout Base Camp**

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By Amy Goetzman

#### **Time Tested: Butler Square**

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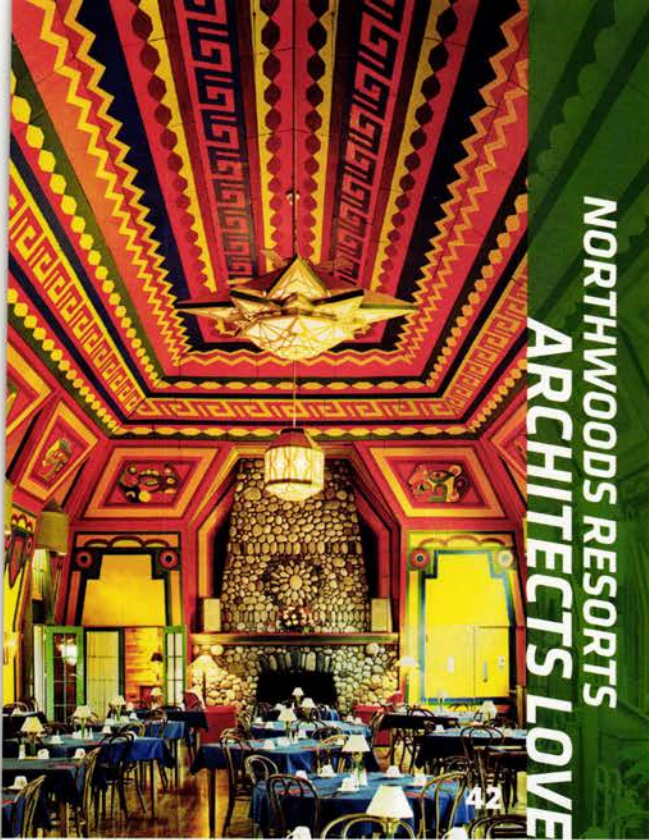
By Bill Beyer, FAIA

### 42 **Northwoods Resorts Architects Love**

By James P. Cramer, Hon. AIA

"Minnesotans would be hard-pressed to find a newsstand without a scenic Northwoods getaway on one of the magazine covers," writes James Cramer. "Which got us thinking: If the design of these lodges is what makes them so attractive and memorable—gives them their quintessence—why don't more of the publications that assemble these features ask architects to help put the allure of these places into words? And, come to think of it, which Northwoods resorts are most admired by architects? And why?" We asked a number of Minnesota architects these very questions, and the answers came spilling out of them.





NORTHWOODS RESORTS  
ARCHITECTS LOVE



JUL/AUG 12



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Relive the fun of the Walker Art Center Videotect 2 show in a new Ryan Siemers video on [architecturemn.com](http://architecturemn.com).

### 13 CULTURE CRAWL

BY AMY GOETZMAN  
Set aside a day for a road trip and you'll be able to see three of the best Prairie School buildings in the world.

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By reputation, Miller Dunwiddie is almost synonymous with preservation. But the firm's expertise is actually much broader.

### 17 CITIZEN ARCHITECT

BY CHRISTOPHER HUDSON  
U architecture students are on a roll designing affordable green homes for Habitat for Humanity and Project for Pride in Living.

### 19 WAYFARER

BY LUCIE MARUSIN  
Prague is home to a centuries-old clock tower and a millennium-old castle. In between them lies a sea of historic red roofs and spires.

### 64 PLACE

BY NANCY A. JOHNSON  
Conservation and preservation take on special poignancy in the Northwoods cabin once inhabited by Sigurd Olson.

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## Project Preservation

Of all the different kinds of building endeavors, none draws more people into the process than the rehabilitation of a failing historic building. Think about it: When a family works with an architect on a dream home or a growing company builds a new headquarters, a relatively small number of people contribute to the outcome. But when a crumbling landmark faces the prospect of demolition—or is lucky enough to have an owner with redevelopment ideas—community rooms fill to the brim with neighborhood residents and business owners, local officials, and other concerned citizens. The reason for this is that, when a revered building reaches an advanced age, we all begin to feel a sense of ownership. It becomes part of our community identity.

Lately, preservation causes in Minnesota have become so robust that church basements and nonprofit offices can no longer contain them. Last fall, for example, American Express and partner National Trust for Historic Preservation brought their Partners in Preservation (PIP) program to the Twin Cities, distributing \$1 million in rehabilitation grants among

*When a revered building reaches an advanced age, we all begin to feel a sense of ownership. It becomes part of our community identity.*

25 historic sites in and around the metro area. PIP invited all preservation fans to vote for and post photos and memories of their favorite contenders on its Facebook page; Minneapolis' Basilica of St. Mary won the popular vote and thus \$110,000 in funding. Another site awarded a PIP grant, Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery, won a Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Award this spring for an onsite benefit concert by local musicians Jeremy Messersmith and Lucy Michelle & The Velvet Lapelles that helped fund the restoration of the cemetery's historic fence. Preservation is alive and well on social-media sites—and even in the graveyard.

Which is fitting, because preservation is a life-or-death proposition for buildings. That's why efforts to save beloved structures often spark heated civic debate. Architects and preservationists still lament the loss of Minneapolis' Metropolitan Building a half-century ago, Lutheran Brotherhood Building in

Preservation efforts often have a democratic flavor to them.

EDITOR'S  
NOTE

1997, and Ralph Rapson-designed Guthrie Theater in 2006. (The Metropolitan demolition, in fact, is often credited with jumpstarting the preservation movement in Minnesota.) At the time of this writing, the spirited campaign to preserve the character-defining features of Minneapolis' Peavey Plaza had failed. We at *Architecture Minnesota* wish the planners of the replacement plaza great success, but it will be difficult for any new scheme to match Peavey's design significance or inspire supporters the way that Peavey has these past few years.

This issue on recently revived historic buildings has a little of that architectural-life-or-death poignancy running through it. Is there a more compelling reminder of our mid-19th-century heritage than the humble Pierre Bottineau House (page 30, pictured here), restored as an interpretive center after sitting on blocks in a city storage yard for a decade? Could Renaissance Box (page 32), a century-old former shoe factory on the edge of downtown St. Paul, have found a better new life than as affordable green housing? These buildings and the others we highlight may lack grandeur, but they're soaked in history and wonderfully hospitable to new uses. All they need is vision and architectural know-how—two preservation puzzle pieces in abundant supply in Minnesota.

*Chris Hudson*

Christopher Hudson  
hudson@aia-mn.org



ON BEHALF OF OUR MEMBERS, the Midwest Masonry Promotion Council would like to acknowledge AIA Minnesota for the many opportunities provided to promote the benefits of masonry construction to Minnesota architects. The MMPC is an AIA approved provider of continuing education programs, and participates in AIA Minnesota's Convention & Products Expo. — Craig Hinrichs AIA - MMPC Executive Director, [c.hinrichs@comcast.net](mailto:c.hinrichs@comcast.net)

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## Architecture Minnesota Staff

**Editor:**  
Christopher Hudson  
[hudson@aia-mn.org](mailto:hudson@aia-mn.org)

**Advertising Sales:**  
Pam Nelson  
[nelson@aia-mn.org](mailto:nelson@aia-mn.org)

**Circulation:**  
Amber Allardye  
[subscriptions@aia-mn.org](mailto:subscriptions@aia-mn.org)

**Production Designer:**  
Stephanie Pelzer  
[pelzer@aia-mn.org](mailto:pelzer@aia-mn.org)

**Art Direction and Design:**  
Tilka Design  
[info@tilka.com](mailto:info@tilka.com)

**Publisher:**  
Beverly Hauschild-Baron, Hon. AIA  
[hauschild@aia-mn.org](mailto:hauschild@aia-mn.org)

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# CONTRIBUTORS

Get to know our writers and photographers. They're an interesting bunch.

**BILL BEYER, FAIA**, a longtime contributor to *Architecture Minnesota*, is an architect with Opus Architects & Engineers.



**JAMES P. CRAMER, HON. AIA**, is chairman and principal of the Greenway Group, a management consultancy based in Atlanta, and the founding editor of *DesignIntelligence*, a journal devoted to practice management excellence.

**THOMAS FISHER, ASSOC. AIA**, is dean of the University of Minnesota College of Design and author of *The Invisible Element of Place: The Architecture of David Salmela* (University of Minnesota Press), among other books.

**AMY GOETZMAN** is a Minneapolis freelance writer. She writes about the arts and culture and other inspiring things that happen in inspiring spaces.

**NANCY A. JOHNSON** is a Minneapolis-based freelance photographer and writer.



Architect **PHILLIP GLENN KOSKI, AIA**, pens the monthly architecture column for the Twin Cities regional magazine *Metro*.



**CAMILLE LEFEVRE** teaches arts journalism in the Twin Cities and writes on the arts and architecture.

Minneapolis-based **LINDA MACK** writes on architecture and design for local and national publications.

**LUCIE MARUSIN** is a freelance photographer living in the Twin Cities.



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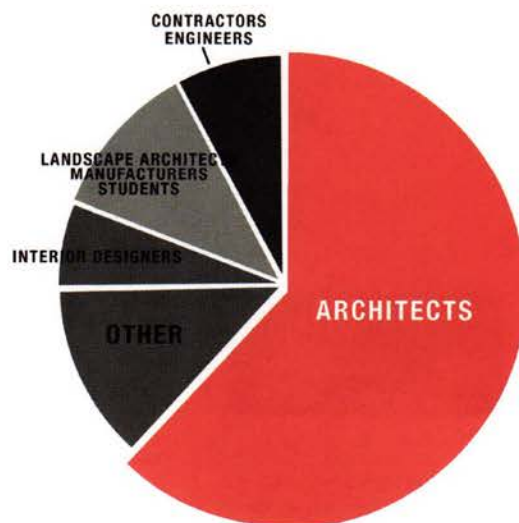
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**Guide Extras** Our last issue unveiled the new *Architecture Minnesota* Guide to Working with an Architect, a primer on the process for homeowners, small businesses, and small organizations. But you needn't hang on to that edition forever, because *architecturemn.com* is the guide's permanent home. The guide itself is available as both a digital edition and a free download, and we've also gathered a number of other quality resources on the subject matter, including materials assembled by the American Institute of Architects.

The resources to check out first are the short working-with-an-architect videos AIA produced featuring Minnesota architect Sarah Nettleton, AIA.



## VLOG HIGHLIGHTS

Yes, you read that right: Our blog is now a vlog that offers up entertaining architecture- and arts-themed videos. The clips are great diversions—and the perfect inspiration for those who plan to enter *Videotect 3* later this year.

**No Way Out** (May 15): "MPR arts reporter Marianne Combs sent me this terrific animated documentary... on 'the energy dilemmas facing the world today'—and basically the end of the world as we've known it. Well, no, the prognosis isn't quite that grim, but the film is titled *There's No Tomorrow*."

**Run of the Place** (May 3): "Do all of you Twin Citians know about Open Streets Minneapolis? It's a now annual effort that closes a long stretch of Lyndale Avenue to car traffic for a portion of a weekend day in June so that people can walk, bike, and roller-blade all over the street. *Openstreetsmpls.com* has this great video of last year's event."

**Signs of Spring** (Apr 4): "They've been all around us, of course, for weeks now—the warm air, the budding trees. But now even the Nice Ride bikes are in bloom. I saw my first stocked rack at the Seward Co-op this morning. In honor of this happy sighting, I present... a Streetfilms piece on Minneapolis' beloved Midtown Greenway."



## DIGITAL EDITION

Sample *Architecture Minnesota* with an exceedingly easy-to-navigate digital preview.

Screen Capture clicks through all of the additional content at [architecturemn.com](http://architecturemn.com).

SCREEN  
CAPTURE

RYAN SIEMERS, ASSOC. AIA



The Boy Scout Base Camp at Fort Snelling's Upper Post comes alive in a video by Ryan Siemers, Assoc. AIA

## VIDEOS

After you've read our print edition cover to cover, be sure to check out all the videos on *architecturemn.com*. These high-quality clips bring the subjects of the articles—designed spaces and the people who create and inhabit them—to life.

Still images don't tell the whole story of the **Boy Scout Base Camp at Fort Snelling** (page 36), so we commissioned Ryan Siemers, Assoc. AIA ([ryansiemers.com](http://ryansiemers.com)), to film kids scaling the climbing walls, and adults (the owners and the architects) explaining how this inspired adaptive reuse came together.

Ryan Siemers has also produced a highlights reel of the **Videotect 2** show that rocked the Walker Art Center Cinema in early March. The short film mixes clips from the program, including those of WCCO reporter Jason DeRusha's sidesplitting appearance, with after-show interviews with the winners and other attendees.



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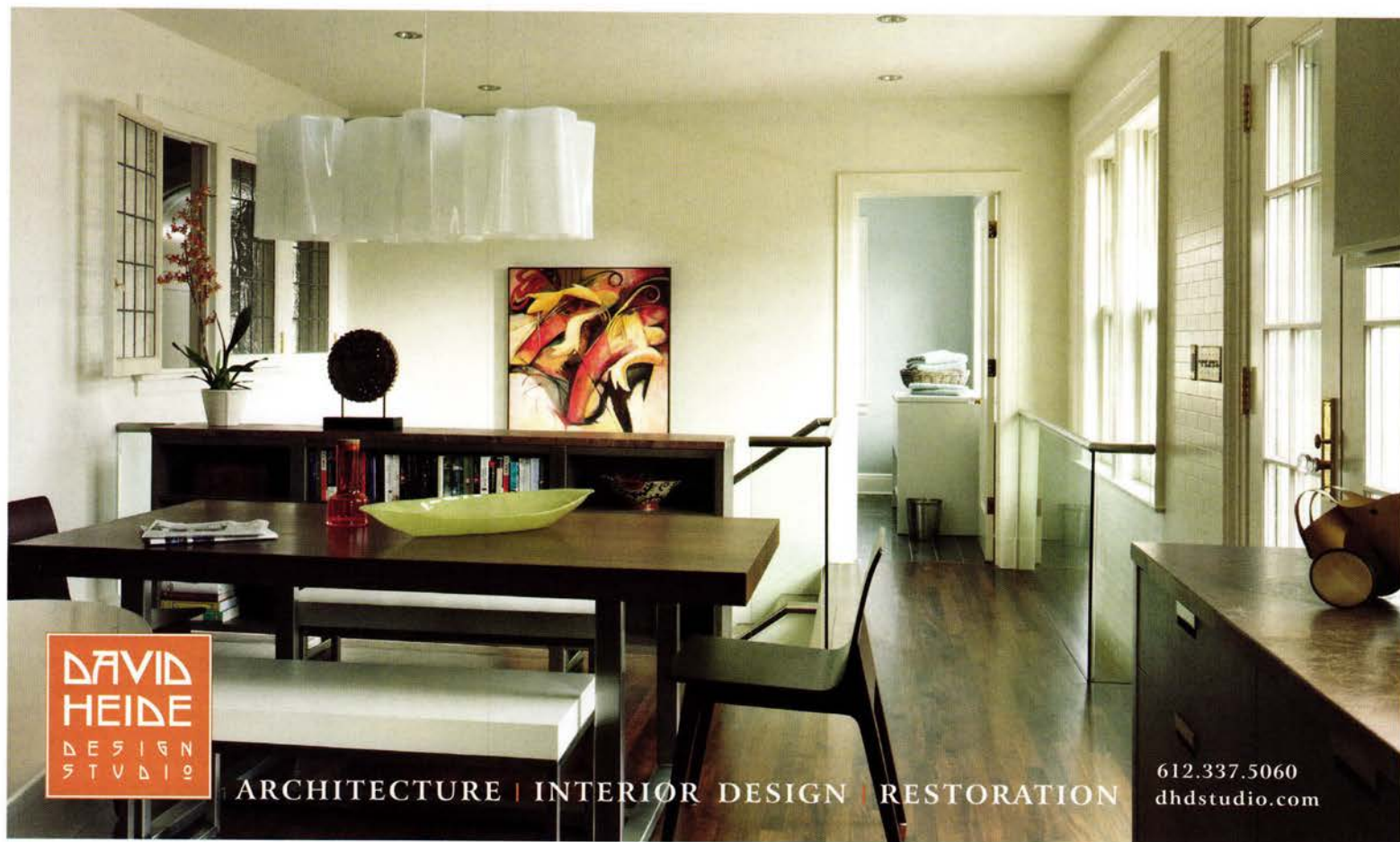
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Start in Minneapolis, at a home William Gray Purcell and George Grant Elmslie designed—with a hefty dose of input from Chicago architect Louis Sullivan. It's not the area's grandest house, and it's not even on Lake of the Isles, though it does enjoy lake views. But the house has few rivals anywhere for its intricate beauty and sheer ingenuity. Walls of art glass create a magical indoor realm and frame views of the gardens and reflecting pool. The unusual siting, earthen color scheme, stunning use of wood, fantastic furniture, and Arts & Crafts motifs inside and out combine to make this home a work of art. Fittingly, the Minneapolis Institute of Arts now owns the property and oversees tours.



*The time is right for an architecture-themed road trip, with three of the finest examples of century-old Prairie School architecture all within a few hours of each other*

# GRAND PRAIRIE

LOOMIS ARCHIVES,  
MASON CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY



## Historic Park Inn Hotel and City National Bank 1910

MASON CITY, IOWA  
wrightonthepark.org

Side by side in Mason City, Iowa, these two Prairie stars don't just embody "form follows function"—they actually continue to function. The Park Inn, which reopened for business in late 2011 after an attentive restoration by certified Wright craftsmen, is the only surviving Wright hotel. For a shockingly affordable nightly rate (starting at \$77), you can immerse yourself in this Prairie masterpiece, rife with distinctively Wrightian embellishments and cusp-of-Jazz Age glamour. Mason City has several notable Prairie buildings, so take a walking tour before you head home.

TALIESIN PRESERVATION, INC.



## Taliesin East 1911

SPRING GREEN, WISCONSIN  
taliesinpreservation.org

Head east to Spring Green, Wisconsin, to Frank Lloyd Wright's summer estate and studio. The fluid and organic Taliesin was built, augmented, and adjusted over the course of Wright's life, yet it retains a cohesive, striking vision and dedication to Prairie concepts. Two fires damaged sections of the home, one set during a horrific mass murder of Wright associates. But tragedy coexists with inspiration here, as Wright rebuilt the home and designed some of his best-known works in the studio. His desire to intertwine the home with its natural surroundings has been made a bit too vivid with time: shifting land and reaching tree roots now threaten the home.

—Amy Goetzman



PEDRO E. GUERRERO/  
TALIESIN PRESERVATION, INC.



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Got some free time and an interest in design? Culture Crawl rounds up the latest cultural offerings from around the state.

CULTURE  
CRAWL





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[www.aia-mn.org](http://www.aia-mn.org)



**Areas of specialty:**

Transportation, education, medical, religious, and preservation

**Describe your studio space or culture in three words or less:** Recipe for success

**If you had \$5,000 for office improvements, what changes would you make?** LED lighting retrofit

**\$500,000?** Move to the top floor of the IDS Center.

**How does your location reflect or reinforce your values as a firm?** Residing in an historic building blended with new buildings in an urban setting brings us a complete sense of community.

**Favorite restaurants/hangouts in walking distance:** Monte Carlo, The Loon

**Employee with the most interesting or unusual extracurricular:** Daniel Green, AIA, made a solo 5,000-mile bicycle trek from Minnesota to the Pacific Ocean and Southern California, blogging his experiences along the way.

**What activities or events do you host in your space?**

Tours and receptions for architecture students and Preservation Alliance of Minnesota and Preserve Minneapolis meetings. Many staff members also enjoy "Thirsty Thursdays" in the office.

**Which past project taught you the most, and why:** Minnesota State Capitol renovations—20-plus years of collaborations with multiple stakeholders, all in a public forum

>> continued on page 49

Workspaces say a lot about us. Join us on a tour of architecture offices and design studios around the state, and you'll see architects and designers in a whole new light.

STUDIO



**Miller Dunwiddie Architecture, Inc.**

Founded: 1963 City and neighborhood: Minneapolis Warehouse Historic District Number of employees: 33 [www.millerdunwiddie.com](http://www.millerdunwiddie.com)

An architecture firm known for its preservation work does far more than renovation and restoration projects

From right to left:  
Miller Dunwiddie principals Craig Lau, AIA,  
Charles Liddy Jr., FAIA, Mark Miller,  
and John Mecum, AIA



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Originally built in 1924, as a 125,000 sq. ft. science research library, the University of Minnesota's famed Walter Library recently underwent massive renovation and expansion to bring the library's aging resources into the present while leaving the classic and historic beauty right where it was.

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The project required extensive demolition and a massive effort in trade coordination to bring everything together efficiently and with minimal disruption to campus life.

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U students designing the NorthSide Net-Zero houses work with adjunct assistant professor Lucas Alm, AIA (left).

CITIZEN  
ARCHITECT

Citizen Architect profiles architects and designers who have taken on leadership roles in their communities.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

*University of Minnesota architecture students apply the lessons learned in one energy-efficient building project to the next—and the next* by Christopher Hudson

**ICON SOLAR HOUSE (1)** In architecture, as in life, one good thing can lead to another. Consider, for example, the progression of green building projects undertaken by University of Minnesota architecture students over the past few years. In the fall of 2009, the U's two-years-in-the-making ICON Solar House (September/October 2009 issue) took fifth place in the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon, an annual competition on the National Mall in Washington that challenges 20 collegiate teams to "design, build, and operate solar-powered houses that are cost-effective, energy-efficient, and attractive."

Two professionals who helped guide that student effort—architect and adjunct assistant professor Lucas Alm, AIA, and U Center for Sustainable Building Research fellow Daniel Handeen—say ICON's energy achievements and aesthetic quality far outpaced its affordability. So when Handeen set about assembling a proposal for the 2011 Solar

Decathlon, he invited Habitat for Humanity to join the project team. The competition proposal was eventually retracted, but the U's collaboration with the affordable-housing nonprofit went forward in the form of a student-designed, exceedingly energy-efficient home for a Habitat client in Princeton, Minnesota.

**HABITAT HOME IN PRINCETON (2)** Here's how it worked: Alm and Handeen led a semester-long seminar and a half-semester graduate studio in early 2011 in which their students painstakingly adapted a Habitat home model to include a more robust thermal envelope and increase airtightness. In late spring, Habitat's East Central Minnesota affiliate had hundreds of teenagers attending the triennial Episcopal Youth Event at Bethel University in St. Paul build the shell of the home in the school's parking lot over the course of a week. A house mover then transported the 1,100-square-foot structure to Princeton, where it was laid on a foundation and its interior was completed.

"It was the first real project for many of the students—the first time they detailed something that was going to be built," says Alm. "We had them build full-scale models, detailing elements over and over again to help them understand how important it is to meet a client's needs. The learning curve was huge, and at the end of the semester they felt really empowered."

Through mostly passive means, including solar orientation, super-insulated walls and roof, and triple-glazed windows, the house turned in an impressive energy performance over its first winter: The ecstatic homeowner paid only \$15 a month in utilities. The solar electric system called for in the student design didn't fit the budget, but the home is "photovoltaic-ready," says Alm, and in fact it does employ a solar-powered water heater installed by Century College students.

**NORTHSIDE NET-ZERO PROJECT (3)** Of course, when students design an affordable, energy-smart home for an esteemed charitable organization, people take notice. On the heels of the Princeton project, Handeen met with Sue Haigh, CEO of Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity, and soon U architecture students were charged with designing a two-story, net-zero-energy Habitat home for North Minneapolis' Hawthorne EcoVillage, a four-block cluster of challenged properties undergoing a green transformation thanks to a constellation

>> continued on page 51

*The eye-catching ICON Solar House can now be viewed on the University of Minnesota campus, across the street from the Bell Museum of Natural History.*



1) 2009 ICON Solar House



2) 2011 Habitat for Humanity home in Princeton



3) 2012 NorthSide Net-Zero project (two houses, PPL's shown here)





19  
62



20  
12

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*In Prague,  
a sweep of historic buildings  
fills the space between two  
towering landmarks*



In Wayfarer, architects and other design enthusiasts share their experiences of architectural environments around the world.

WAYFARER

## The Castle from the Clock Tower



PHOTOS BY LUCIE MARUSIN

On the south side of Prague's old Town Hall (1364) is the third-oldest astronomical clock (1410) in the world and the oldest one still in use. The popular tourist attraction marks each hour with a clockwork show involving a skeleton figure (Death) with an hourglass in his hand, walking apostles, and the crow of a cock. Below the apostle figures are two large dials, the top one an astronomical dial

depicting a stationary earth in the middle of the universe orbited by a rotating sun and moon. The lower dial shows the days of the year together with medallion images representing the months.

Every time I return to Prague I visit the old Town Hall—but it's not the clock I come to see. I climb to the top of the clock tower to take in the

unparalleled views of the city. The magnificent buildings and churches of the old town square below date back to the 12th century, and the horizon offers an endless sea of red roofs and steeples. My favorite view is to the west. Across the Vltava River, on one of the highest elevations in the city, stands the majestic Prague Castle.

—Lucie Marusin

**Top:** Prague's medieval astronomical clock celebrated its 600th anniversary in 2010.  
**Above:** The castle is even older; part of it dates back to the ninth century.



**HONEYCOMB CANOPY:**

*This structure extends the roof of the bridge's existing enclosure, providing a sense of shelter for those gathering on the grass berm below.*



# Bridge to the

By Thomas Fisher, Assoc. AIA



*Casting a spotlight on compelling ideas by  
innovation-minded architects and designers*

A competition yields a 21st-century design for the bridge linking the U's East and West Bank campuses. Will the school boldly seize the opportunity?





#### **DIGITAL MEDIA:**

Art professor Diane Willow has envisioned ways of using digital media to turn the bridge into a 21st-century learning environment.

#### **GRASSY KNOLL OR BERM:**

The insertion of grassy areas turns the bridge into a kind of green roof and inverts our expectations about the relationship of the bridge to the ground.

# Digital Future

The Washington Avenue Bridge joining the East and West Bank campuses of the University of Minnesota may become one of the most multimodal bridges in the region with the addition of the Central Corridor light-rail line to the span's already extensive bus, car, bike, and pedestrian traffic. But it could also become one of the most multimedia bridges in the world if the competition-winning scheme for the plaza on the east end of the bridge gets carried out as its designers—a multidisciplinary team led by architects VJAA—envision along the entire length of the structure.

It's an opportunity too good to miss. The university is the only institution of its kind to straddle the Mississippi River, and the Washington Avenue Bridge has some 20,000 students, faculty, staff, and visitors walking or biking along it every day during the school year, making it one of the densest concentrations of pedestrians in the city. Turning that trek into a rich intellectual, social, and educational experience seems like something a top research university should want to do.

For students, the pedestrian deck of the bridge offers a kind of condensation of university life

where they can see the diversity of their classmates as well as the range of student organizations that have traditionally painted promotional banners on the spandrel panels of the bridge's enclosure. Those banners represent a good idea, but in an information age, in which most students have extraordinary digital capacity on the mobile devices in their pocket or backpack, hand-painted signs seem like a quaint holdover from the last century.

You could say the same thing about the bridge deck itself. While the university's last master plan



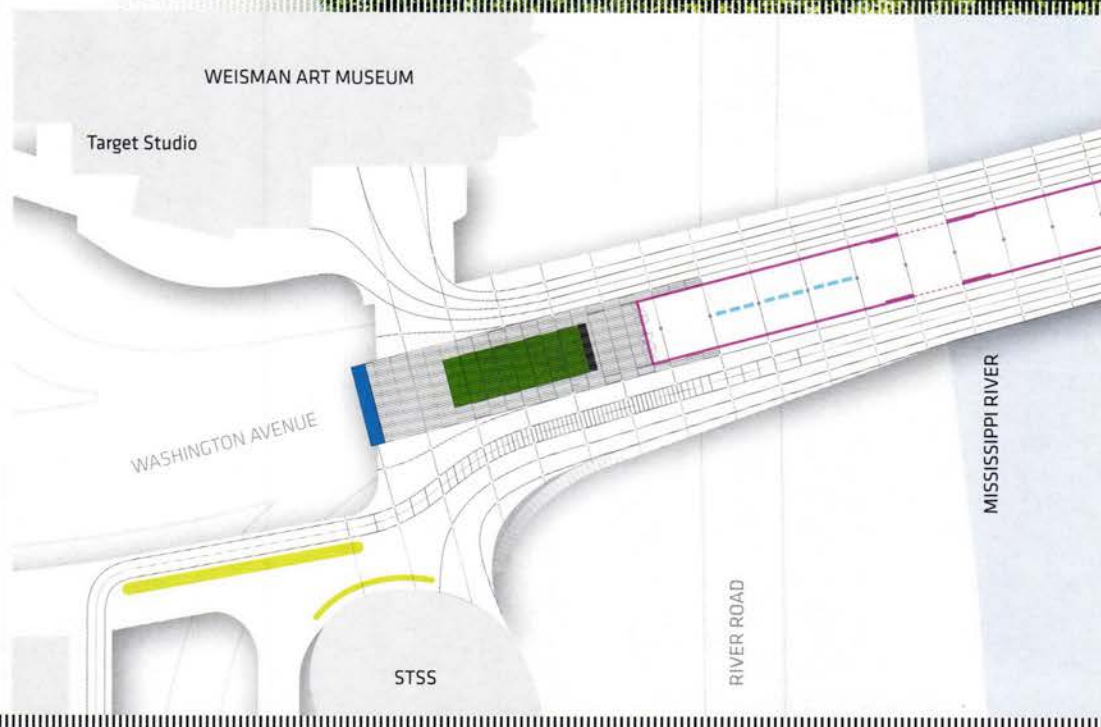
#### SHADED PLAZA:

A curving stair connects the bridge to the plaza at the base of the new STSS building, with a vine-covered screen providing shade.



#### BRIDGE AND PLAZA PLAN

- Media window
- Canopy
- Island or berm
- Media art installation
- Sheltered walking path
- New benches
- Bike racks



The winning design reflects the fluid, hybrid, interdisciplinary, and multimedia character of the design team while also capturing “the flows and movements of people and bikes along the bridge,” says VJAA’s Jennifer Yoos, AIA.

called for removing the pedestrian deck altogether and mixing 20,000 students with the cars and trains on the roadbed below—an act of sheer folly—something does need to happen to the bridge’s upper level. The enclosure has rusting glass-and-steel panels that need constant maintenance and a dank and unheated interior that never seems to dry out or keep the cold out.

Generations of Minnesota architecture students have envisioned alternative uses for the bridge’s upper deck, ranging from coffee shops and bookstores to the entire student union, but the weight of such functions has almost always doomed these proposals for a bridge not designed

for so much additional loading. While well intentioned, such ideas again seem misaligned with the digital age, in which lightweight mobility has become the defining feature.

Which brings us to the opportunity of building the world’s first multimedia bridge. The idea began with the announcement of a Mississippi River Bridge Plaza Design Competition, sponsored by the Target Studio for Creative Collaboration at the university’s Weisman Art Museum (WAM). Intended as an “opportunity to create a model for the next generation of campus public spaces . . . [and] a marketplace of a wide variety of ideas,” the competition encouraged “innovative use



The scheme takes advantage of digital media's lightweight and transitory nature to keep up with the pace of students' lives and to make the trip along the bridge an educational and inspirational experience.

**MULTIMEDIA  
ARTWORK:**

*The bridge offers ample length for the display and projection of multimedia work by students and faculty.*

**LIGHTS:**

*The plans call for replacing the current ball-shaped light fixtures with much simpler and less obtrusive light poles.*

**GLASS RAILING:**

*Instead of the current metal railings, the design specifies new glass railings that provide an uninterrupted view of the river.*

**GREENERY:**

*Arched planters containing native grasses offer a backdrop for benches that invite students to sit or lie down to enjoy the scene.*

**CONNECTIONS:**

*Above all else, the scheme is intended to encourage new activities and interactions at this campus crossroads, even in winter.*

of new media . . . to combine the physical with the virtual to demonstrate new design solutions . . . [and] to influence the design of public spaces across the campus."

At the same time, the Target Studio for Creative Collaboration wanted to use the competition to "promote the use of interdisciplinary teamwork to create new ideas . . . [and] to highlight involvement of artists in these efforts." The Target Studio's space in the new Frank Gehry-designed Weisman addition overlooks the competition site: the plaza that links the museum to the new Science Teaching and Student Service (STSS) building designed by Kohn Pedersen Fox.

(Local firm HGA was the associate architect for both projects.)

The competition jury selected the entry of VJAA—the American Institute of Architects' national Firm of the Year (March/April 2012 issue)—working with design collaborative HouMinn Practice and "multimodal" artist and University of Minnesota associate professor Diane Willow. The winning design reflects the fluid, hybrid, interdisciplinary, and multimedia character of the design team while also capturing "the flows and movements of people and bikes along the bridge," says VJAA's Jennifer

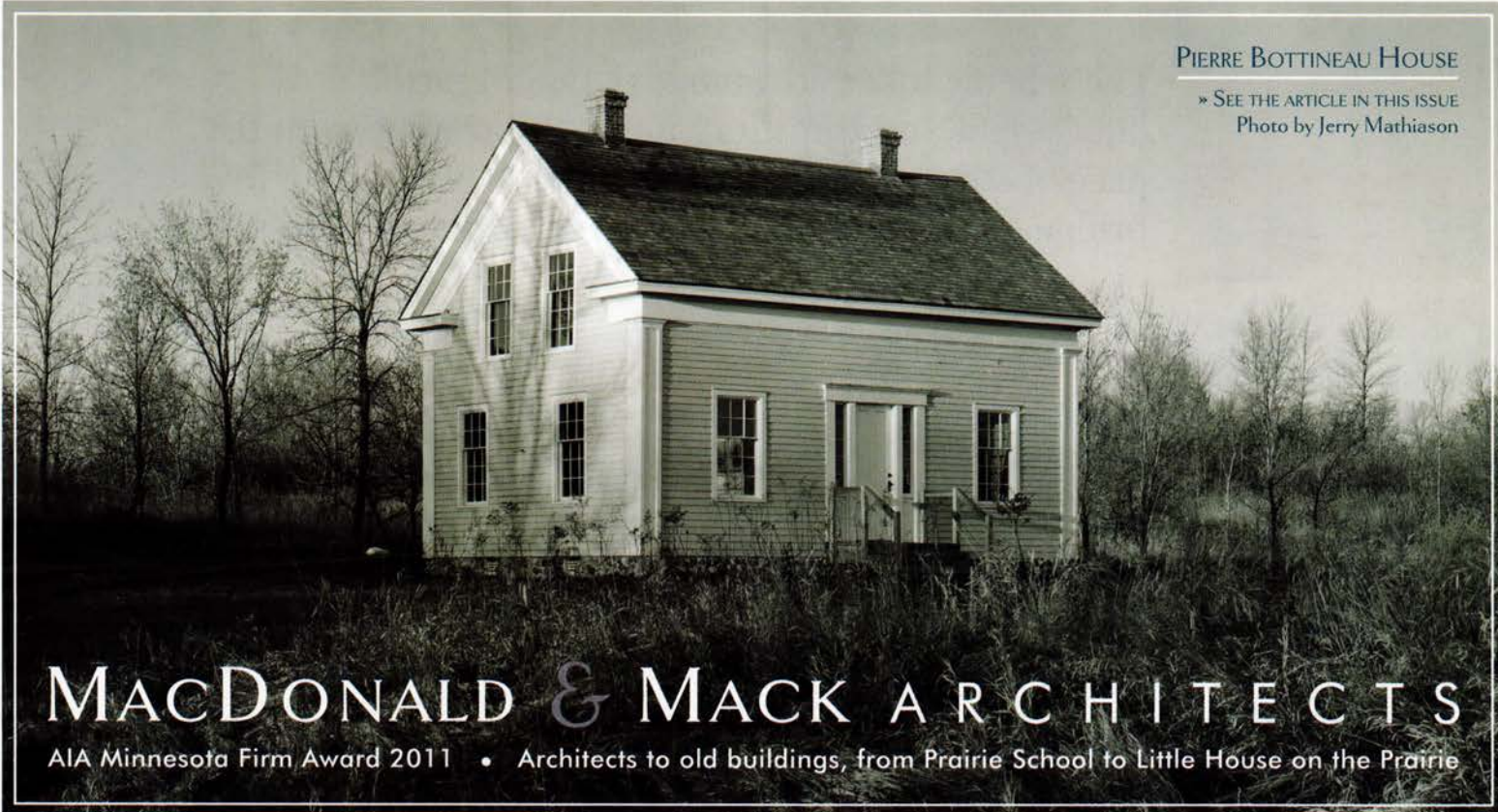
>> continued on page 52



PIERRE BOTTINEAU HOUSE

» SEE THE ARTICLE IN THIS ISSUE

Photo by Jerry Mathiason



# MACDONALD & MACK ARCHITECTS

AIA Minnesota Firm Award 2011 • Architects to old buildings, from Prairie School to Little House on the Prairie

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Mission:

# REVIVAL

As a state, we're always being ranked with other states on a variety of quality-of-life indicators: best schools, most livable cities, lowest unemployment rate, and so on. If a national magazine like Newsweek decided to create a quality-of-the-built-environment index for the 50 U.S. states, there's at least one architectural category in which we'd vie for the top spot: Renovation, Restoration, and Adaptive Reuse. Our preservation community—architects, historians, and other concerned citizens—is thriving, and adaptive-reuse projects such as the Grain Belt Brewery and the Mill City Museum in Minneapolis are national models for preserving and interpreting architectural heritage.

Reimagining and renewing failing historic buildings is no easy task; it requires a great deal of vision and experience on the part of owners, architects, engineers, local officials, and community stakeholders. *But in a time when "reduce, reuse, recycle" is not just a goal but a necessity, renovating and retrofitting buildings for new uses and significantly improved energy performance is a trend we should all be cheering.* Especially when the architects in our region are so adept at rehabilitating older buildings in a way that simultaneously reveals their rich history.

—Christopher Hudson

1914

## HIAWATHA MAINTENANCE FACILITY

An eyesore of a public-works compound becomes a **LEED-Platinum, neighborhood-enhancing maintenance center** *page 26*

1854

## PIERRE BOTTINEAU HOUSE

Recently a crumbling pioneer house on blocks, now a **beautifully restored historical venue** *page 30*

1914

## RENAISSANCE BOX

An old shoe factory nearing foreclosure becomes **LEED-Gold affordable housing** *page 32*

1949

## AKERMAN HALL

From an aviation hangar muddled by shortsighted renovations to a **soaring, light-filled student workspace** *page 34*

1907

## BOY SCOUT BASE CAMP

An abandoned drill hall is revamped as a **Boy Scout facility complete with climbing walls** *page 36*

1906

## BUTLER SQUARE

The first and still one of the **best adaptive reuses of an historic warehouse** in Minnesota *page 40*



By Phillip Glenn Koski, AIA

# WORKS PROGRESS

An unsightly, partly historic public-works facility in Minneapolis is overhauled into an attractive and exceedingly green maintenance complex

CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS ARCHIVES



Above: The anchor building of the complex was built in 1914 and originally served as a horse infirmary. Below: The addition along 26th Street is girded with concrete and corrugated Corten steel—materials that can take what public works dishes out.





"Reduce, reuse, recycle" has long been the mantra of the environmental movement—a zippy mnemonic for making our lives more sustainable. For the Minneapolis-based RSP Architects, it could also serve as the motto for its Hiawatha Maintenance Facility, an award-winning public-works complex on the city's south side.

So could "Wow, what a difference." Now an attractive, state-of-the-art home for construction and maintenance crews, the compound was recently a ragtag assembly of garages, sheds, and smoke-belching equipment long fingered by neighbors as a source of urban blight. The clamor for a cleanup of the highly visible complex—it sits on East 26th Street just west of Hiawatha Avenue—had only grown with

the arrival of the city's first light-rail line in 2004 and the instantly iconic Martin Olav Sabo bicycle and pedestrian bridge in 2007, both just steps away. In 2007, the city commissioned RSP to lead the much-needed transformation.

But rather than scrape the site clean and start over, architect Marc Partridge, AIA, and his RSP team opted to play the hand history had dealt the property. "We were deeply aware of the history of the site relative to the residential neighborhood," explains Partridge. "We saw the project as an opportunity to provide a street presence that respected the scale and cadence of the adjacent houses."

The 18 structures that had sprung up on the nine-acre compound over the past century were

largely built for bygone uses, so RSP created a plan to deconstruct, repurpose, and rehabilitate the existing building stock. The anchor piece of the scheme, a 1914 red-brick box originally used as a horse hospital, was hollowed out and its two stories refitted for use as open office space. The building's 26th Street frontage and humanely scaled window openings set the tone for a renewed, more welcoming street presence.

In an effort to consolidate uses, the two-story brick structure was expanded to the east with an adjoining building for road-crew lockers and lounge facilities, and to the south with drive-through maintenance bays. Clerestory windows are used in various guises—ribbon windows on the maintenance bays, a shed-roof prow on the office building—to ensure that

1914

**HIAWATHA  
MAINTENANCE  
FACILITY**

**Location:**  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

**Client:**  
City of Minneapolis

**Architect:**  
RSP Architects  
[rsparch.com](http://rsparch.com)

**Principal-in-charge:**  
Jeremy Mayberg, AIA

**Project lead designer:**  
Marc Partridge, AIA

Steve Maurelli, AIA

**Sustainability  
consultant:**  
Viridian Energy  
& Environmental

**Landscape architect:**  
Damon Farber Associates  
[damonfarber.com](http://damonfarber.com)

**General contractor:**  
Knutson Construction  
Services

**Size:**  
60,000 square feet  
**Cost:**  
\$11.1 million

**Completion date:**  
July 2010

**Photographer:**  
Paul Crosby

City of Minneapolis

**Department of Public Works  
Hiawatha Maintenance Facility**





**"WE QUICKLY SAW THAT PUBLIC WORKS WAS ROUGH ON ITS FACILITIES. SO WE USED A [MATERIAL] PALETTE THAT WAS EQUALLY TOUGH AND WOULD MINIMIZE MAINTENANCE."**

**—ARCHITECT MARC PARTRIDGE, AIA**



**SITE PLAN** Only the 1914 building and an addition sit on 26th Street, so that the scale of the large complex doesn't appear to overwhelm the neighborhood.

ample daylight reaches workspaces. On the exterior, the additions play by the rough-and-tumble rules of road repair and sewer work with precast concrete, corrugated Corten steel, and metal-mesh screening, while careful proportioning and crisp detailing bring the complex firmly into the 21st century. At the perimeter of the property, hardy perennial grasses and poplar trees soften the transition to the neighboring houses.

Even with the heavy demolition, very little material left the site. A prefabricated steel warehouse structure, for example, was cut up and reassembled as a canopy for a fueling station. Existing metal roofing was repurposed to enclose a salt-storage shed. Concrete and masonry rubble was buried on-site to create a large French drain—a traditional civil-engineering solution that allows stormwater to percolate slowly down into the aquifer rather than overload a sewer system.

The architects used salvaged materials on the interior, too, often as finishes and decorations. Historic wood beams and columns were re-milled for use as wainscoting and a built-in reception desk. Antiquated control panels were hung on walls as found art. And in open office areas, walls were peeled back to the original structural red brick.

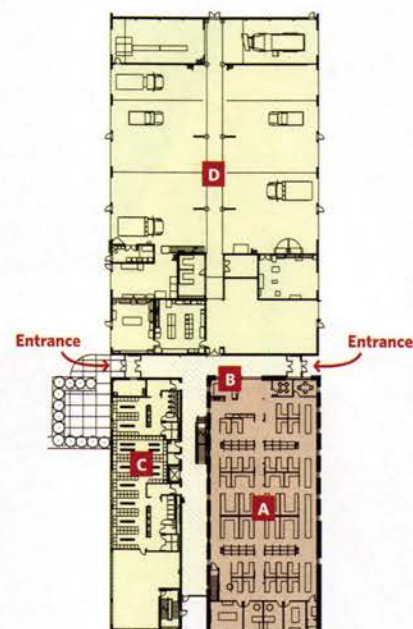
In mild contrast, the locker rooms and new maintenance bays employ utilitarian concrete block. "We quickly saw that public works was rough on its facilities," Partridge recalls. "So we used a palette that was equally tough and would minimize maintenance."

That palette also includes materials salvaged from another notable demolition in the city—that of the Lowry Avenue Bridge over the Mississippi. The crisscrossing pattern of the steel bridge deck, it turned out, was just the right size to serve as





*Left: The canopy of the fueling station reuses materials taken from a prefabricated steel warehouse that formerly stood on the site. Above: The 1914 building gets a contemporary flourish with an angular rooftop light scoop*



- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>MAIN FACILITY</b> | <b>A</b> Workstations |
| 1914 Building        | <b>B</b> Reception    |
| Addition             | <b>C</b> Lockers      |
| Circulation          | <b>D</b> Maintenance  |

*Above: More durable materials in the open maintenance bays. Bottom right: Rather than attach the locker-room addition directly to the 1914 building, the RSP team inserted a glassy, light-filled link in between.*

fencing around Hiawatha's work yard and parking area. Shipped across town, the 8-by-10-foot sections drew the interest of the project's two public artists, Brad Kaspari and Carolyn Braaksma, who used the metal grating as frames for their playful sculptures inspired by the work done at the facility. The industrial trellis also screens a long, concrete barrier wall built when Hiawatha Avenue was reconstructed a decade ago.

Upon completion, the project was certified LEED-Platinum for its "all of the above" approach to sustainability, and in 2011 it garnered an AIA Minneapolis Merit Award, which recognizes building excellence beyond design. But the real winners are the area residents. Public-works facilities are tough and hardworking places. With the Hiawatha Maintenance Facility, we now have proof they can be a good neighbor as well. **AMN**







# **LITTLE HOUSE** *on the prairie*

**1854**

## **PIERRE BOTTINEAU HOUSE**

### **New location:**

Elm Creek Park  
Reserve, Maple Grove,  
Minnesota

### **Clients:**

MnDOT and Three  
Rivers Park District

### **Architect:**

MacDonald & Mack  
Architects, Ltd.  
[marchitd.com](http://marchitd.com)

### **Principal-in-charge:**

Stuart MacDonald, AIA

### **Project lead designer:**

Amy Maller, AIA

### **General contractor:**

American Liberty  
Construction, Inc.

### **Size:**

1,360 square feet

### **Completion date:**

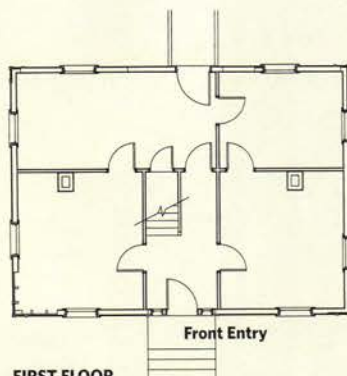
Spring 2010





A bit of the pilaster and the classic proportions were the only hints that the decaying granary (top) was an historic house.

“We documented nail holes, saw marks, adze marks, plaster stains. We measured it within an inch of its life—at risk of our lives.” —ARCHITECT STUART MACDONALD, AIA



FIRST FLOOR

The floor plan was discovered by tracing nail holes and scar marks in the floor; the windows and doors were where the nail holes stopped.



JERRY MATHIASON



JERRY MATHIASON

The balloon-frame construction was left exposed on the second floor. Inside, it's pure Greek Revival, with nothing modern added except one light bulb and a security system.

## One of the oldest houses in Minnesota becomes a cultural venue, thanks to a painstaking restoration

BY LINDA MACK



Pierre Bottineau, 1855

Pierre Bottineau (1817–1895) was a half-French, half-Native American fur trader, horseman, real estate speculator, treaty negotiator, guide and interpreter for the American Fur Company, Hudson Bay Company, and more than 16 government and private expeditions through the Northwest Territory, devout Catholic, and father of 24 children. As the National Register of Historic Places nomination for his house notes, “He was one of the last of the voyageurs to roam the Northwest and one of the first settlers to make Minnesota his home.”

In 1854, as St. Anthony and St. Paul were getting crowded, Bottineau went up the Mississippi and built a Greek Revival house

on the prairie in what would soon become Osseo. Moved twice and retooled as a granary, the little wood structure nonetheless survived to stand in the path of the Highway 610 expansion through the northern suburbs in the 1990s. Its link to Bottineau and early balloon-frame construction made it eligible for federal protection, and in 1998 MnDOT moved it out of the way to a storage yard in Maple Grove, where it sat up on blocks like a car.

“It was in desperate condition,” says Stuart MacDonald, AIA, cofounder of the historic preservation firm MacDonald & Mack Architects, which was hired in 2007 to study and restore

>> continued on page 48



A nearly century-old factory on the brink of foreclosure is transformed into multi-family housing that's both affordable and green

By Camille LeFevre



*The renovation retained the original entry but also created accessible entrances on other sides of the building.*

# URBAN RENAISSANCE



Wacouta Commons, the area in downtown St. Paul formerly known as the North Quadrant, is gaining recognition as one of the capital city's fast-growing neighborhoods. Anchored by the historic First Baptist Church, which in 1875 the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* cited as "the finest piece of architecture west of Chicago," the area is also home to produce warehouses and footwear factories recently converted into multi-family housing.

The latest of these conversions is Renaissance Box. Originally the O'Donnell Shoe Factory, the six-story 1914 building got its current name from its last owner, who leased it out as commercial and retail space. Aeon, a nonprofit developer of affordable housing, rescued the building from foreclosure in 2006 and began collaborating with LHB to revamp Renaissance Box into a LEED-Gold-certified structure with 70 affordable apartments for individuals and households with low to moderate incomes.

"Renaissance Box is a solid building with a great history, and it deserved to be preserved," says Aeon president and CEO Alan Arthur. "Old buildings always present challenges. This one is robustly built, with thick walls and floors." Indeed, the building was constructed with cast-in-place concrete using the Turner concrete-column structural system.

Patented by Minneapolis structural engineer C.A.P. Turner in 1908, the system is composed of slabs supported solely by concrete columns with a uniquely formed capital (the element that caps and widens a column to help it bear its load). Because Aeon is no stranger to historic preservation and adaptive reuse—the company has won numerous awards for both types of projects—"the system wasn't anything we couldn't surmount," says Arthur.

>> continued on page 51





1914

## RENAISSANCE BOX

**Location:**  
St. Paul, Minnesota

**Client:**  
Aeon

**Architect:**  
LHB  
[www.lhbcorp.com](http://www.lhbcorp.com)

**Principal-in-charge:**

Kim Bretheim, AIA

**Project lead designer:**

Kim Bretheim, AIA

**Energy modeling:**

Steen Engineering

**Landscape architect:**

LHB

**Construction**

**manager:**  
Frerichs Construction

**Size:**  
72,000 square feet

**Cost:**  
\$9.6 million

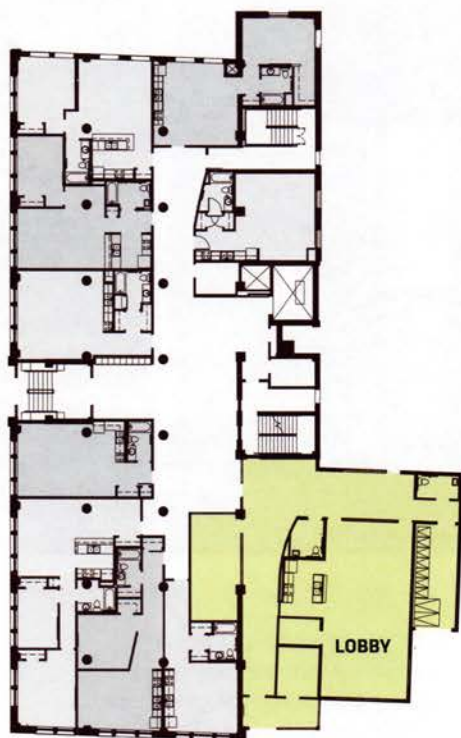
**Completion date:**

September 2011

**Photographer:**

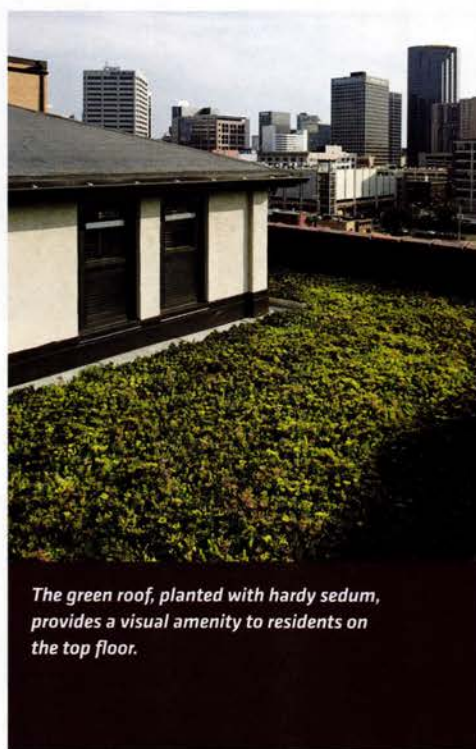
George Heinrich

*The 1914 building was originally the O'Donnell Shoe Factory, which provided jobs for many immigrants.*



*The first-floor addition, generously glazed for visual connection to the street and courtyard, houses a lobby and two art-filled common spaces.*

*Patented by Minneapolis structural engineer C.A.P. Turner in 1908, the building's concrete-column structural system is composed of slabs supported solely by concrete columns with a uniquely formed capital.*



*The green roof, planted with hardy sedum, provides a visual amenity to residents on the top floor.*





The historic home of the University of Minnesota's aerospace engineering and mechanics program gets a stellar renovation

# TOP FLIGHT

By Camille LeFevre



JAMES LOCKWOOD



**BEFORE** The original driveway and door to the hangar have been replaced with a far more inviting entry.

The first time architect Greg Fenton, AIA, walked into the University of Minnesota's Akerman Hall, he was both amazed and dismayed. The airplane hangar for the school's Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics (AEM) department was astounding, its wide and deep two-story clear-span space bounded by a suspended U-shaped mezzanine. Who knew the 1949 building, designed by C.H. Johnston Architects and Engineers (the firm succeeding Clarence H. Johnston, who designed many of the buildings along nearby Northrop Mall), housed such a spectacular space, where aeronautics research was conducted with actual World War II aircraft?

But the hangar's condition was disconcerting. "It was completely underutilized," says Fenton, who led BWBR's renovation of the historic building. "Multiple modifications of the space over the last three





STEPHEN BERG, AIA

*The new Akerman offers comfortable lounge space for AEM's more than 450 undergraduate and graduate students.*

1949

#### AKERMAN HALL HANGAR RENOVATION

**Location:**  
Minneapolis,  
Minnesota

**Client:**  
University  
of Minnesota

**Architect:**  
BWBR  
[bwbr.com](http://bwbr.com)

**Principal-in-charge:**  
Katherine  
Leonidas, AIA

**Project lead  
designer:**  
Stephen Berg, AIA

**Preservation  
consultant:**  
Hess Roise  
and Company

**Energy design  
assistance:**  
The Weidt Group  
[twgi.com](http://twgi.com)

**Mechanical  
engineer:**  
Sebesta Blomberg

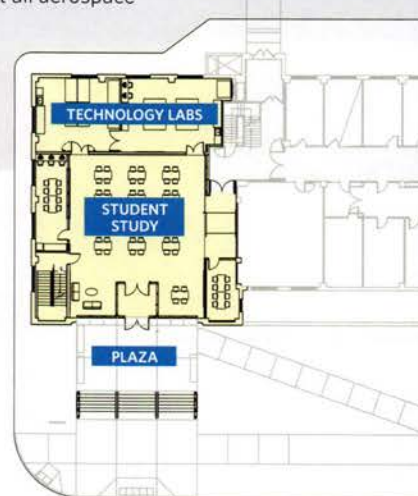
**Construction  
manager:**  
M.A. Mortenson  
Company

**Size:**  
66,000 square feet  
(16,000 in the hangar)

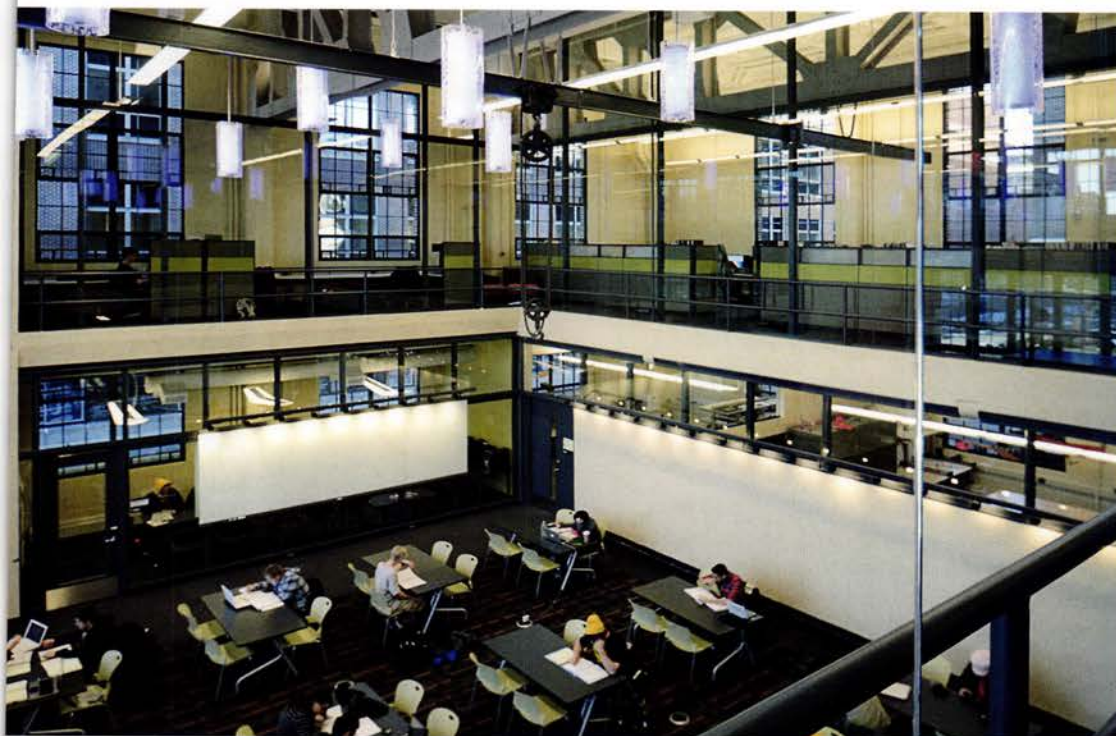
**Cost:**  
\$9.8 million  
(\$4.6 for the hangar)

**Completion date:**  
October 2010

>> continued on page 55



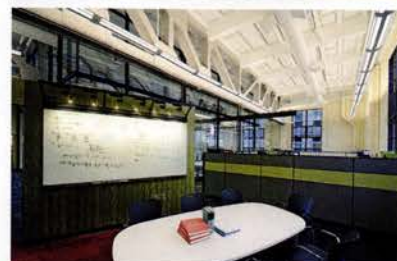
*The renovation transformed the hangar from a crowded, underperforming space to an open learning environment.*



STEPHEN BERG, AIA



STEPHEN BERG, AIA



STEPHEN BERG, AIA

*The hangar space, once used for hands-on aircraft study, now boasts flexible work and laboratory spaces on the first floor and mezzanine, open space on the main floor for lectures and presentations, and dedicated research labs.*



BUILDING 201 HAD A RED ROOF, BUT LHB USED AN HISTORICALLY ACCURATE GRAY SLATE AFTER DISCOVERING THAT THE MILITARY HAD INTENDED TO USE LOCAL MATERIALS.



LHB

# RECOMMISSIONED

## A DERELICT FORT SNELLING BUILDING RETURNS TO ACTIVE DUTY AS A BUSTLING BOY SCOUT BASE CAMP

BY AMY GOETZMAN

In 1980, Bruce Cornwall, AIA, flew to Minneapolis for the first time. "I got off the plane and the very first building that caught my eye was this old Fort Snelling building," he says. "I was on my way to architecture school, and I remember telling myself, 'Man, would I love to work on that building.'"

The 1907 structure, known simply as Building 201, holds memories from some of the most defining moments in U.S. history. It served as a cavalry drill hall, troop processing center, and arena for horse events, boxing matches, and ice skaters. But the Army decommissioned Fort Snelling's Upper Post in 1946, and freeway expansion cut off Building 201 from the rest of the fort. By the time Cornwall spotted it, it was used mainly for storage, and the grounds had gone to prairie. In 2000, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board boarded it up.



POLO PLAYERS OUTSIDE BUILDING 201 IN 1937.

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY





A large indoor climbing wall made of fabricated stone, with a group of children watching and one person climbing. The wall is constructed from large, irregular stone blocks, giving it a natural, rugged appearance. A person is seen climbing the wall, using ropes and harnesses. A group of children, wearing red hard hats, are standing in a line at the base of the wall, watching the climber. The wall is situated inside a large building with a high, vaulted ceiling and exposed wooden beams. A large arched window is visible in the background, letting in natural light. The overall atmosphere is one of adventure and community.

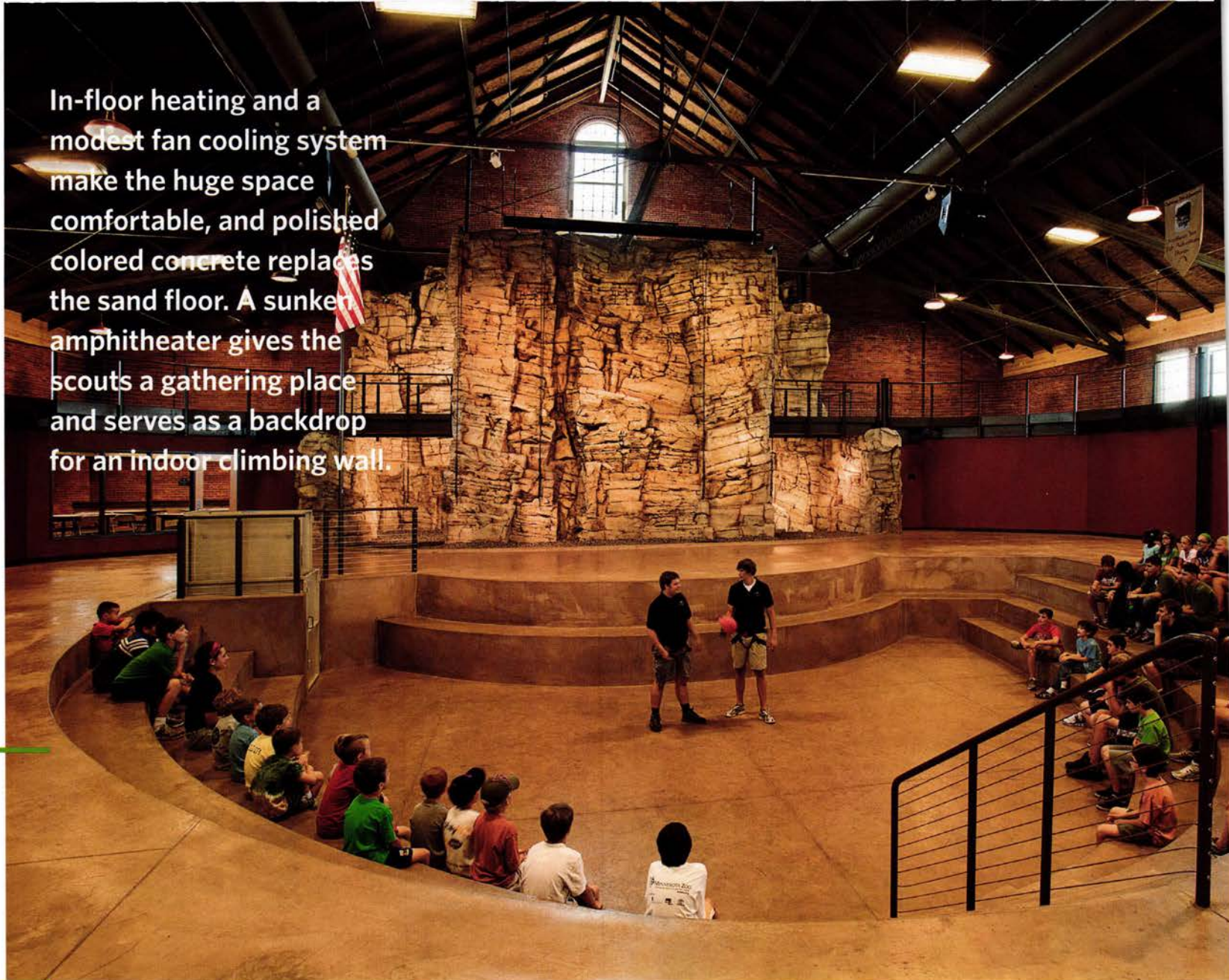
"You think of the Boy Scouts as being very traditional, and they are, but this effort to make a base for an urban community that hasn't been reached very well is forward-thinking."

— ARCHITECT BRUCE CORNWALL, AIA

THE BUILDING'S FABRICATED-STONE CLIMBING WALL WAS CONSTRUCTED VIA A PROCESS SIMILAR TO PAPIER-MÂCHÉ AND HAND-PAINTED TO LOOK LIKE LIMESTONE BLUFFS IN THE NEARBY RIVER VALLEY.



In-floor heating and a modest fan cooling system make the huge space comfortable, and polished colored concrete replaces the sand floor. A sunken amphitheater gives the scouts a gathering place and serves as a backdrop for an indoor climbing wall.



THE CRISP RENOVATION OF BUILDING 201 DID RETAIN ONE SCRUFFY ELEMENT OF THE PAST: GRAFFITI LEFT BY WAR VETERANS.



MATT FUEGER

A decade later, Cornwall, now working at architecture and engineering firm LHB, caught wind of some news: The Northern Star Council of the Boy Scouts of America wanted to turn Building 201 into a base camp. "Our senior vice president, Rick Carter, was active in scouting because of his son, and we made a bid," says Cornwall. LHB won the job. Almost 30 years after the building first caught his imagination, Cornwall would help bring it back to life.

Despite years of neglect, the well-constructed building was in pretty good shape. Many of the windows could be restored; those that couldn't were replaced with new ones that match the old. The building needed tuck-pointing and some new bricks. The old chimney was rebuilt, and bricked-in windows were reopened.

"We wanted to use as light a touch as possible," says Cornwall. The design team added just a few 21st-century details. In-floor heating and a modest fan cooling system, for example, make the huge space comfortable, and polished colored concrete replaces the sand floor. A sunken amphitheater gives the scouts a gathering place and serves as a backdrop for an indoor climbing wall. These light-handed but high-impact enhancements earned the project a prestigious Minnesota Preservation Award in 2011.

"One of our goals with this project was to introduce scouting to more and more urban kids," says Northern Star Council assistant scout executive Jeff Sulzbach. "The landmark building and location have been very significant to us in that regard. We had more than 28,000 people through the building in the first year of operation, and we're excited about what the future holds."





THE BUILDING HAD NO MECHANICALS BECAUSE OF ITS CAVALRY ORIGINS. DECORATIVE MOOD LIGHTING WORKS IN TANDEM WITH HIGH-BAY FLUORESCENTS TO LIGHT THE INTERIOR.

NOT SURPRISINGLY, THE BUILDING'S HEATING NEEDS AREN'T GREAT. "WHEN YOU HAVE A BUNCH OF BOYS RUNNING AROUND LIKE CRAZY, YOU DON'T NEED TO KEEP IT AT 72 DEGREES," SAYS ARCHITECT BRUCE CORNWALL.

Interestingly, an historic-structures report prepared by LHB and Landscape Research, Inc., revealed that copies of Building 201 exist elsewhere in the U.S., and these sibling buildings offered insight into the unknown military architect's intentions. "Part of the building's charm is its Spanish flair," says Cornwall. "Regional context was not even considered, so we have this 'Remember the Alamo' building in Minnesota, maybe because the first building was designed for the Southwest."

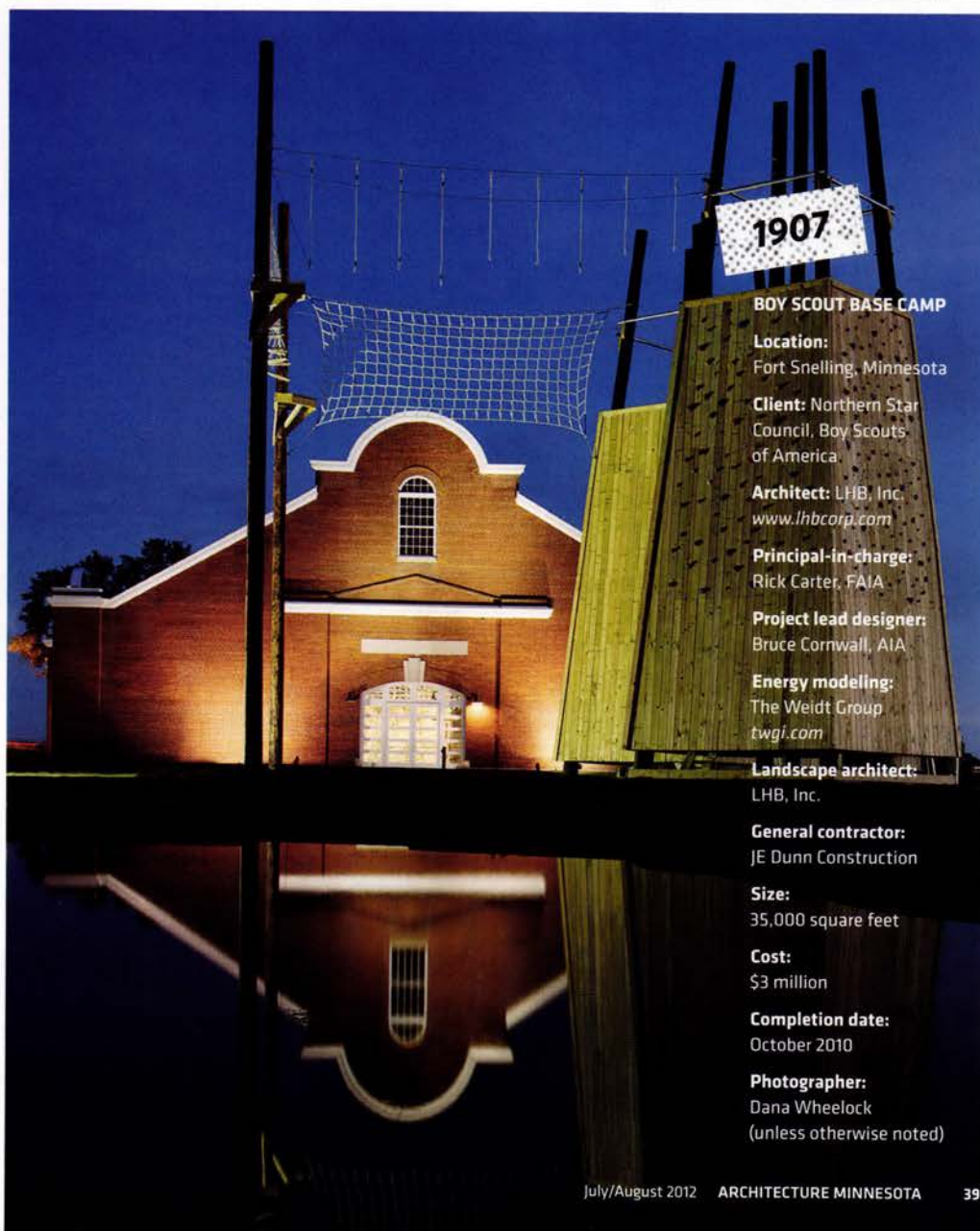
Another part of the building's history charmed Cornwall and the client team: graffiti left by war vets. "As stewards of an historic property, we wanted to preserve what we could in the building," says Sulzbach. "I think we did that through and through." **AMN**

**VIDEO FEATURE:**  
View the Boy Scout Base Camp in action at [architecturemn.com](http://architecturemn.com)

## STARTING POST

The award-winning adaptive reuse of Building 201 is also notable for being the first Upper Post building to be redeveloped. The other 27—a headquarters, a hospital, a gymnasium, barracks, officers' quarters, and more—remain in a state of significant disrepair, but now they have the Boy Scout Base Camp to underscore their immense potential. See "Saving the Upper Post" in our July/August 2009 issue for the full story on the Upper Post's redevelopment challenges and opportunities.

MARK GUSTAFSON



### BOY SCOUT BASE CAMP

**Location:**  
Fort Snelling, Minnesota

**Client:** Northern Star Council, Boy Scouts of America

**Architect:** LHB, Inc.  
[www.lhbcorp.com](http://www.lhbcorp.com)

**Principal-in-charge:**  
Rick Carter, FAIA

**Project lead designer:**  
Bruce Cornwall, AIA

**Energy modeling:**  
The Weidt Group  
[twgi.com](http://twgi.com)

**Landscape architect:**  
LHB, Inc.

**General contractor:**  
JE Dunn Construction

**Size:**  
35,000 square feet

**Cost:**  
\$3 million

**Completion date:**  
October 2010

**Photographer:**  
Dana Wheelock  
(unless otherwise noted)



# Butler Square

TIME  
TESTED

*The crown jewel in Minneapolis' Warehouse District is revered for both its original design and its pioneering adaptive reuse in the 1970s as office and retail spaces* By Bill Beyer, FAIA

**WHEN I WAS A SECOND-YEAR ARCHITECTURE STUDENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA IN 1969**, my first studio assignment for fall quarter was to visit an existing Minneapolis building, evaluate its architecture, and report back. I was still seriously unfamiliar with the city, so I randomly selected the Butler Brothers Warehouse from our instructors' list.

A classmate and I found our way inside the half-block hulk of sooty brick to the scruffy front office of the warehouse. A sympathetic custodian gave us the run of the place and taught us how to operate the original Otis passenger elevator, a fully manual machine with a touchy throttle. We bounced up and down through nine levels, starting at the bottom. Neither of us had studied or experienced early-20th-century, urban, multi-story warehouses as a type, so we had no expectations.

Exiting the elevator, we were stunned by massive timber columns a jaw-dropping 21 inches square. Above us, cast-iron column capitals supported layers of enormous solid wood beams and secondary purlins, topped by thick wood floor decking. As we moved up through the levels, we became aware that the columns steadily reduced, topping out at eight inches square. The thick perimeter brick bearing walls and interior firewall thinned accordingly. Even to green students, the dramatic diagram of additive 300-pound-per-square-foot floor loads was evident.

Two years after our student visit, the building was added to the National Register of Historic Places, and in 1972 developer Charles Coyer teamed with architect Arvid Elness of Miller Hanson Westerbeck Bell Architects to transform the robust cube of obsolete storage into a lively geode of restaurant, retail, and office space. Thinning the forest of timber columns and delivering building air and power on top of



rather than beneath the original wood floors, Elness created an atrium featuring the heavy timber structure as a visible icon.

Until 1974, when the work was completed, nobody had reason to venture west of Hennepin Avenue; the Minneapolis Warehouse District was still a functioning distribution center butting up to the city's meat-processing area, with multiple active rail lines running directly behind and into the building itself. But when Butler opened with a saloon and retail on its two lowest levels,



1906

Construction begins on a 500,000-square-foot warehouse for Boston-based wholesaler Butler Brothers.

Thinning  
the forest of  
timber columns,  
architect  
Arvid Elness  
created an  
atrium featuring  
the heavy timber  
structure as  
a visible icon.

1974

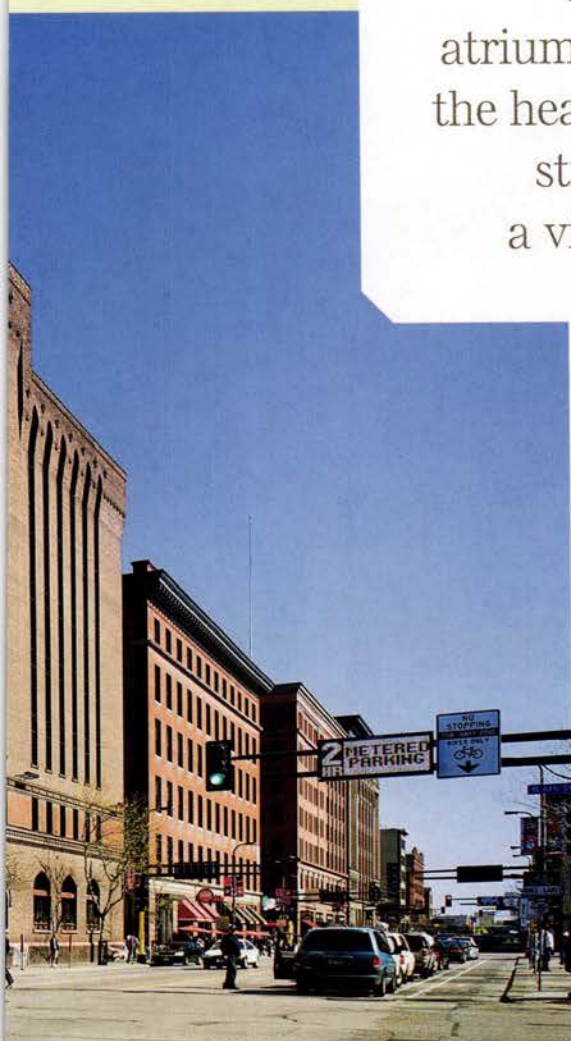
The first phase of renovation creates a stunning atrium lined with a restaurant and retail shops.

2001

Butler Square wins the American Institute of Architects Minnesota's prestigious 25-Year Award.

2009

The USGBC certifies the building LEED-EB: O&M (Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance).



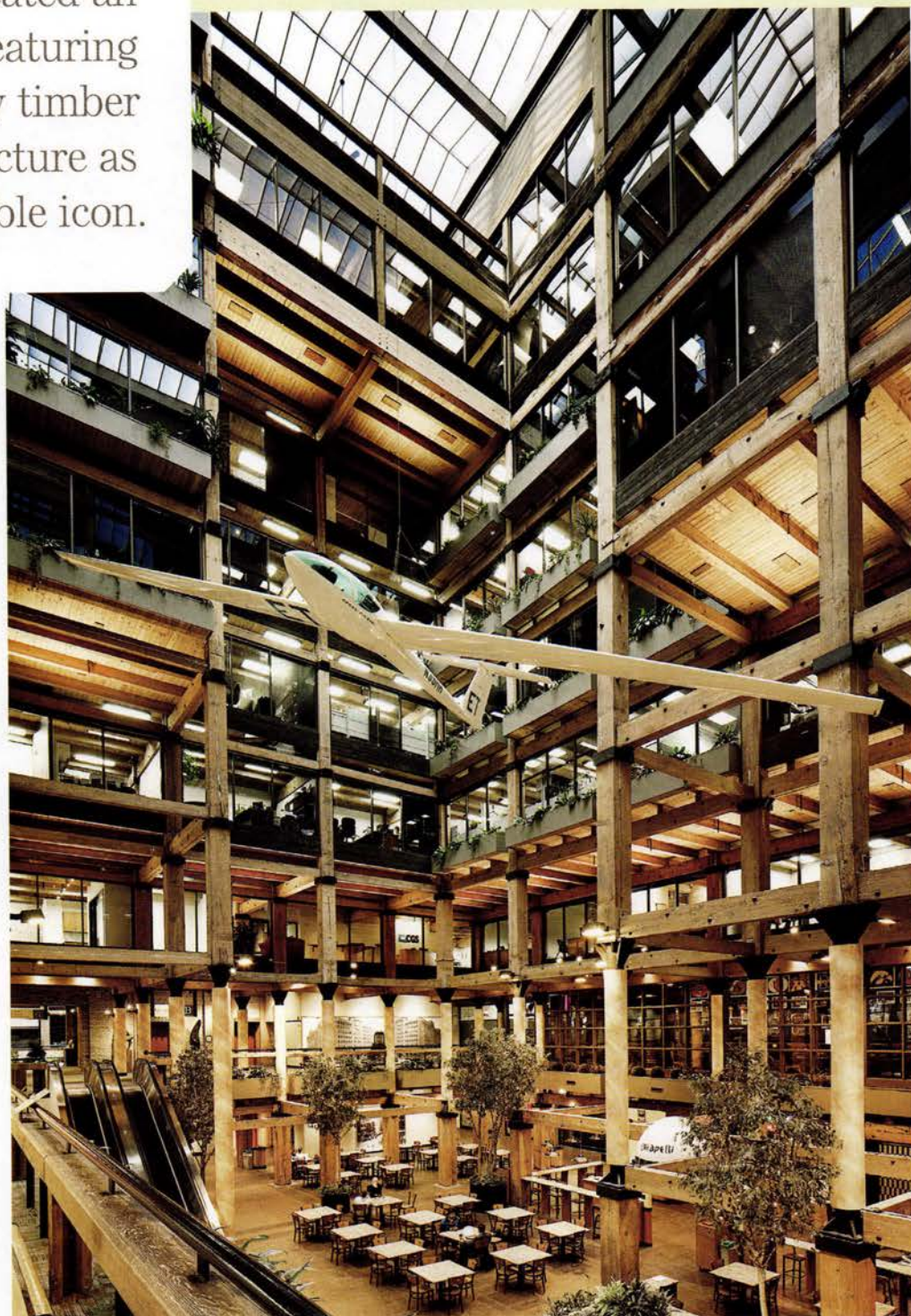
PETE SIEGER

*Dubbed "the Gateway to the Warehouse District" by its owners, Butler Square also became one of the district's most sustainable historic buildings in 2009, when it earned LEED-EB: O&M certification.*

young urban professionals flocked to the spectacle. As Pracna-on-Main had one year earlier, Butler Square used festive food and drink to plant a seed of historic preservation.

Originally designed by Harry Wild Jones for lumber baron T.B. Walker in 1906, the half-

>> continued on page 55



PETE SIEGER





# NORTHWOODS RESORTS ARCHITECTS LOVE

Minnesota architects weigh in on a fun question:  
*Which Northwoods lodges offer the most memorable experiences?*

By James P. Cramer, Hon. AIA





MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HAND-HEWN  
TIMBER  
AND ORNATE  
DETAILS

*Lutsen has grown to add villas, cabins, condominiums, and townhomes, but the Edwin Lundie-designed lodge is the reason architects keep coming back.*

The echoing songs of distant loons. Fragrant pines. Wind-ruffled waves just offshore. Artistically piled firewood. Architecture that delights the human spirit.

The Northwoods resort experience is unlike any other. Happily, we in the Upper Midwest have hundreds of these retreats in easy driving distance, and no two are the same. Some are understated, even humble, while others are elaborate and luxurious. A few of the older properties are on the National Register of Historic Places. Some lodges boast formal gardens in addition to their natural landscape. But all have one thing in common: popularity.

They're so popular, in fact, that Minnesotans would be hard-pressed to find a newsstand without a scenic Northwoods getaway on one of the magazine covers. Which got us thinking: If the design of these lodges is what makes them so attractive and memorable—gives them their quintessence—why don't more of the publications that assemble these features ask architects to help put the allure of these places into words? And, come to think of it, which Northwoods resorts are most admired by architects? And why?

We were curious to know the answer to these questions, so we drew up a detailed survey, sent it out to a number of Minnesota architects, and sifted through the many illuminating responses we received, all to assemble our own "Top Lodges" feature. The five getaways that garnered the most acclaim are profiled in the following pages, while those that just missed the cut are highlighted in the sidebar on page 47. We also highlight general comments from the respondents about the qualities they look for in a resort—and the need to conserve the Northwoods environment for future generations.



## Preserving the Experience

As we had anticipated, the architects we surveyed were eager to share their thoughts on the whole range of Northwoods experiences: family activities, golf, fishing, canoeing, food, wine, and design. Especially design. "Who are the authentic historic preservation exemplars among these resorts?" a St. Paul architect asked, echoing a criterion for many of the respondents. "I think it's Lutsen for its Scandinavian recall style and Burntside Lodge outside Ely for its rustic lodge and cabins crafted of logs cut from the surrounding forests, each one selected carefully as to size and durability."

Indeed, architects are attuned to the way that the built and natural environments—form and place—come together in these properties. And, because preservation is difficult even in a strong economy, they're concerned about the fragile future of these resorts. A Duluth architect says that the best of the lodges are architectural treasures that, if lost, could never be replaced. A St. Paul architect suggests that the newer interior designs should be



NORTHERN IMAGES PHOTOGRAPHY

more contextual—more sensitive to the integrity of the buildings. (Several respondents noted that, as resorts have grown in popularity, some have retained their original character while others have allowed commercial growth to spoil their former unique value.) How, another asks, does the landscape architecture of the golf courses respect and protect the natural environment?

Architects worry more generally about the continued development of the Northwoods. One sore spot is the highway standards that dictate huge rights-of-way through the woods and spoil both nature and our enjoyment of it. "Silver Cliff tunnel took away the most spectacular roadside views of Lake Superior for the sake of speed," notes architect Ken Johnson, AIA. What we need to do, he says, "is preserve the heritage and the environment. Restore and rehabilitate rather than build new whenever possible."

The experience of these resorts, say architects, can be hard to describe—especially those offered by the five following lodges, each of which

combines distinctive architecture and landscape to achieve an intangible mystique. Nonetheless, we discovered in this survey new insight into how these places stir emotions and buoy the human spirit.

## Favorite Five

The first of the top vote-getters is **LUTSEN RESORT** on Lake Superior's North Shore. Reminiscent of Scandinavian architecture with its hand-hewn timber and ornate details, the lodge was designed by the late Edwin Lundie, the renowned Minnesota architect of the Snyder Education and Research Building at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chanhassen and many picturesque houses. Lutsen has grown to add villas, cabins, condominiums, and townhomes, but the 1952 main lodge (the first Lundie-designed lodge, built in 1949, burned down in 1951) is the reason architects keep coming back to the resort, according to our survey.

Inside the main entrance, guests find a welcoming fireplace in the lobby, and a pub and gathering place to the right of the registration desk; from there it's only a few short steps to the large dining room. The lodge also houses a small conference facility for business retreats with a balcony with an exhilarating view. Great food, thoughtful design, and a great Lake Superior location—the nightly bonfire on the beach is not to be missed—all combine to create what may be Minnesota's most iconic lodge. "One can imagine the unique Lundie style of Scandinavian architecture being adopted



STEVE NIEDORF

HUMBLE YET  
BEAUTIFULLY  
PROPORTIONED



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Burntside offers quiet oneness with nature. Its rustic architecture, built with local materials by local craftsmen, never overpowers, settling instead for understated elegance.*



STEVE NIEDORF



as a standard vernacular of sorts for sensitive development in the Northwoods," a Minneapolis architect told us.

Smaller but every bit as memorable, say architects, is the oldest resort in Minnesota: the 1914 **BURNSIDE LODGE** on Burntside Lake near Ely. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the property includes a main lodge and 23 orange-red-painted log cabins with sweeping views of nature and the lake with its storybook islands. The buildings here are humble yet beautifully proportioned. The lodge and cabins are closed for the winter and early spring, and guests often make reservations months in advance in summer and fall. The survey respondents cited Burntside's Finnish sauna nearly as often as they did its award-winning restaurant.

Pioneering Minnesota conservationist Sigurd Olson built a small but celebrated cabin not far from the resort on Burntside Lake. "I named this place Listening Point because only when one comes to listen, only when one sharpens one's



PETE SIEGER

*By far the most colorful of the Northwoods resorts, Naniboujou makes no attempt to blend in with its natural surroundings. The gambrel-roofed, weathered cedar-shake exterior features deep-red trim, and the interior is even more vibrant.*



WIKI COMMONS

LARGEST NATIVE-STONE FIREPLACE



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

awareness, can one see and hear in the sense in which I use these words," he wrote. Burntside Lodge offers this quiet oneness with nature, architects confirm. Its rustic architecture, built with local materials by local craftsmen, never overpowers, settling instead for understated elegance.

The modestly priced **NANIBOUJOU LODGE**, located 125 miles northeast of Duluth on the windswept shore of Lake Superior, was built in the late 1920s and has a fascinating history. Slugger Babe Ruth and heavyweight champ Jack Dempsey stayed here in its early days,

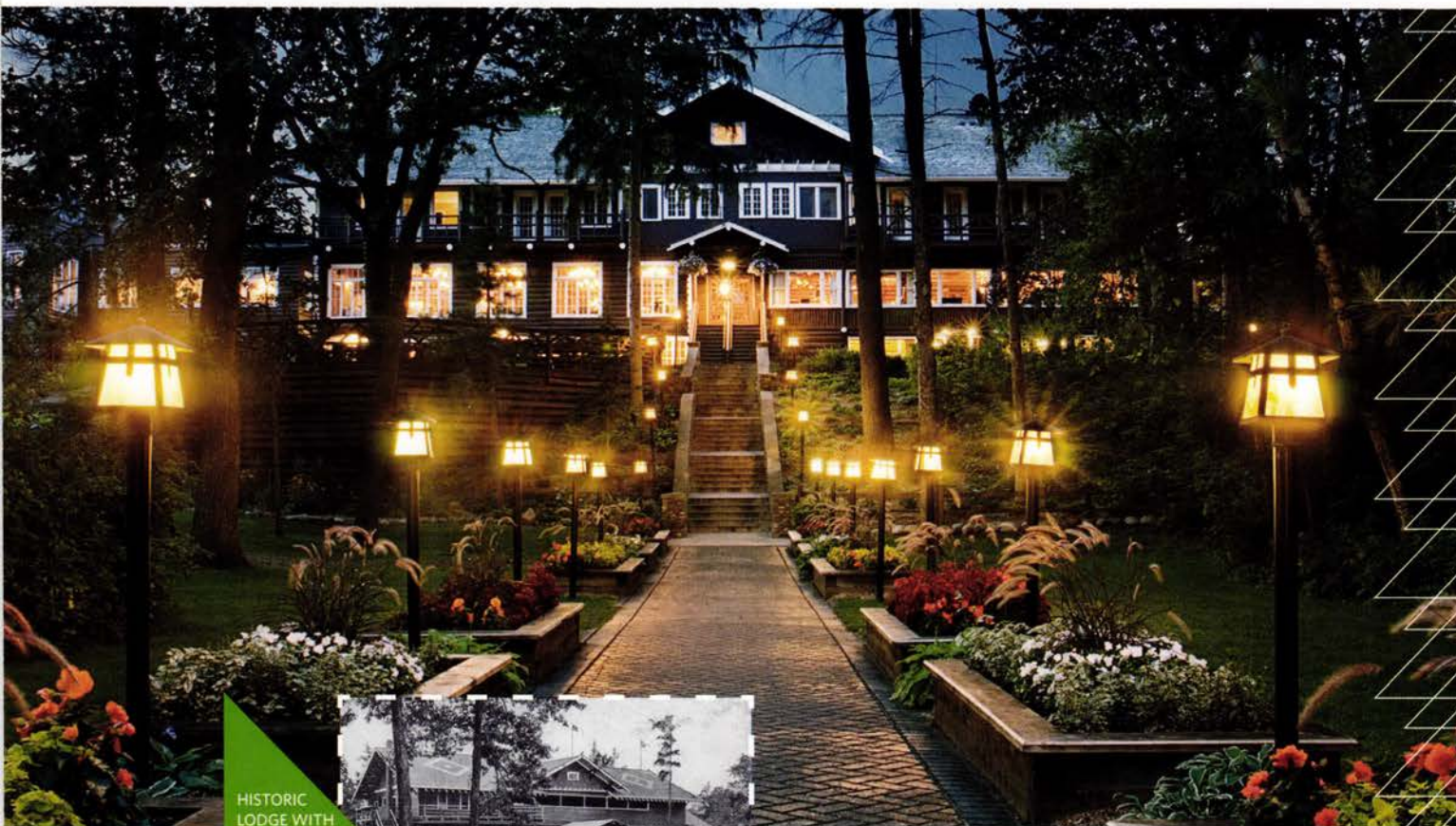
when it was a private club (before the stock-market crash). By far the most colorful of the Northwoods resorts, Naniboujou makes no attempt to blend in with its natural surroundings. The gambrel-roofed, weathered cedar-shake exterior features deep-red trim, and the interior is even more vibrant—the Cree Indian patterns on the walls and ceiling of the soaring dining room are vivid red, orange, yellow, green, and blue.

The dining room also boasts the state's largest native-stone fireplace, estimated to weigh 200 tons. There are cozy fireplace rooms in both wings of the lodge, but there's no doubt that the dining

room makes the strongest design impression, say architects. The colors provide warmth on a scale that enhances the grandeur of the 12-foot-high fireplace. Like Burntside and other favorites in our survey, Naniboujou is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The 90-year-old **GRAND VIEW LODGE**, on popular Gull Lake in central Minnesota, is the largest and most robust property topping our survey. The historically designated main lodge and surrounding cabins, restaurants, meeting facilities, fitness center, and spa host virtually every resort activity you can think of. If you're angling for world-class walleye fishing, Grand View knows where the fish are. Want a great





COURTESY OF GRAND VIEW LODGE

HISTORIC  
LODGE WITH  
FORMAL  
GARDENS



*Peeled and polished logs, plank floors, and a fieldstone fireplace achieve a rare rustic elegance in the dining room. A number of the architects we surveyed raved about the fragrant and picturesque gardens between the lodge and the lake.*



COURTESY OF GRAND VIEW LODGE

golf experience, too? The Pines course offers championship-grade greens and well-manicured landscape architecture. Something for the kids? There are water sports of all kinds.

If you're imagining this resort to be well suited for both vacationing families and professionals on retreat, then you're getting the picture. The two clienteles mix easily in the lodge's vaulted dining room, where peeled and polished logs, plank floors, and a fieldstone fireplace achieve a rare rustic elegance. A number of the architects we surveyed raved about the fragrant and picturesque gardens between the lodge and the lake.

But perhaps the most elegant and organic Northwoods resort, say Minnesota architects, can be found in Wisconsin. The various lodgings at **CANOE BAY**, a two-hour drive east-northeast from the Twin Cities, are clearly in harmony with nature, thanks to the vision of owners Dan and Lisa Dobrowolski and the skill of their architects.

The late Taliesin architect John Rattenbury, AIA, designed the property's most luxurious offering: a 2,000-square-foot Prairie-style villa with a 1,500-square-foot wraparound deck. Minnesota's SALA Architects executed the project after Rattenbury's passing; in fact, the firm has had a hand in the design or remodeling of nearly all of the Canoe Bay buildings, which also include an inn and several cottages.

The Dobrowolskis developed the resort as a secluded romantic getaway on a spring-fed lake, but Canoe Bay's tranquility also makes it a great destination for meetings that invite participants to reflect on organizational endeavors. Fine dining is offered in the inn, which sits directly on the water.



COURTESY OF CANOE BAY PHOTOGRAPHER STEVE NIEDÖRE

The library in the A-frame lodge is the perfect spot for relaxation or mental stimulation, its shelves stocked with everything from good fiction for vacationers to volumes on weightier subjects for scholars and architectural historians. **AMN**



## More Resorts Architects Love

Five resorts rose to the top in our survey, but many others had passionate advocates. For instance, **LOST LAKE LODGE** was cited for its quiet seclusion and small-scale buildings that are almost invisible within the small compound. **BEARSKIN LODGE** on the Gunflint Trail was nominated for its varied accommodations (townhouses to log cabins) and its 70-plus miles of matchless cross-country ski trails. Architect Charles Liddy, FAIA, and family have gone to Bearskin for the week after Christmas since the early 1980s "for skiing, sauna-ing, hot-tubbing, snowshoeing, dog sledding, sleeping, reading, and general relaxing." **GRAND SUPERIOR LODGE** on Lake Superior has lakeside suites located just 50 feet from the Lake Superior shoreline. **RUTTGER'S BAY LAKE LODGE** combines historic buildings and newer additions, and guests who wake early to see the sunrise over Bay Lake are served coffee at the historic stone fireplace in the original lodge.

A national park and a state park lodge also received hearty recommendations. **ROCK HARBOR LODGE** in Isle Royale National Park offers rooms so close to the water that waves sometimes splash the windows. Architects admire the craftsmanship of the 1920s lodge, warmly noting the squeak and groan of its antique door hinges and window latches. The rustic two-story **DOUGLAS LODGE** at Itasca State Park—the first state park in Minnesota—was praised for its impressive fieldstone fireplace. Its location, at the historic headwaters of the Mississippi River, on a bluff overlooking Lake Itasca, also helps explain its popularity with architects.

Of course, some resorts attract as many professionals on retreat as they do vacationers. If rustic isn't on your wish list but top-flight meeting amenities and golf courses are, then three resorts near Brainerd, Minnesota—**MADDEN'S ON GULL LAKE**, **CRAGUN'S RESORT AND HOTEL** on Gull Lake, and **BREEZY POINT**—may be just what you're looking for, according to our architect respondents.

ELEGANT  
AND ORGANIC  
ARCHITECTURE

*The library in Canoe Bay's A-frame lodge is the perfect spot for relaxation or mental stimulation, its shelves stocked with everything from good fiction for vacationers to volumes on weightier subjects for scholars and architectural historians.*

COURTESY OF CANOE BAY





*New facilities  
at Kirkwood  
Community College  
used Commercial  
New Construction  
from Alliant Energy.  
They save \$140,000,  
annually, on their  
electricity costs.*

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## Little House on the Prairie

<< continued from page 31

the house. The firm's report confirmed that it was Bottineau's house and that enough of it survived to make it worth restoring. It was a process of forensic architecture that would make a reality-TV producer salivate. "We documented nail holes, saw marks, adze marks, plaster stains," says MacDonald. "We measured it within an inch of its life—at risk of our lives."

Most of the framing for the roof, walls, and floors survived, as did flooring, and there was a bit of cornice. With that measly evidence, one grainy photo that showed a pilaster corner, and a wealth of research on the conventions of Greek Revival architecture, the team was able to rebuild the house as it almost certainly was in 1854: a rectangular, side-gable, one-and-a-half-story wood-frame home with yellow siding, white trim, well-proportioned windows, and a beautiful two-panel door with sidelights.

Even the stone foundation is true to the building's past. The first sample of the new foundation had the stones set far apart—a common practice today with the availability of strong cement-based mortars. But the lime-based mortar used in 1854 was weaker and thus required that the stones be interlocked for strength. So the architects requested and approved a second sample with the rocks placed closer together.

As the decades of detritus were stripped away, it became clear that the house was an early example of balloon-frame construction—a revolutionary way of building with lighter lumber and nails instead of heavy timber and time-tested mortise-and-tenon joints. But the builders clearly didn't trust the nails completely, says MacDonald. The old-style hand-hewn joints were still used at sills and are visible throughout the second floor, where the structure remains exposed.

Solid but not quite perfect, the charming house now stands on a knoll near the main entrance to the Elm Creek Park Reserve in Maple Grove. Three Rivers Park District, which serves the Twin Cities suburbs, agreed to provide a permanent home for the house if MnDOT restored it. MnDOT's Office of Environmental Services made determinations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act on

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## Little House on the Prairie

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behalf of the Federal Highway Administration that approved the prairie setting, and Susan Roth and Dennis Gimmetstad of the State Historic Preservation Office concurred with the findings. "We met here in the dead of winter," says MacDonald. "What they didn't want was for it to end up in a pioneer park."

Instead, the Bottineau house sits on the edge of the prairie, where red-winged blackbirds and phoebes call in the morning sun, just as they must have 150 years ago. Now walkers, runners, and cross-country skiers pass by it and, once interpretive exhibits have been installed inside, will be able to stop in and learn all about Pierre Bottineau. **AMN**

## Miller Dunwiddie Architecture, Inc.

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**Why the bowtie, Chuck?** Principal Chuck Liddy, FAIA, wore neckties back in the days when architects drew with graphite—until he showed up at a meeting with his tie tucked in his shirt. He's been a bowtie-only guy ever since.

**Least favorite buzzword or phrase:**

"Think outside the box."

**Recent brush with celebrity:** Recently, a few of us were warmly greeted at the governor's residence by celebrity dogs Mesabi, Mingo, and Itasca and their dad, Mark Dayton.

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*An image from Weyenberg's winning submission.*

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## Continuing Education

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of community partnerships and a \$500,000 grant from the Home Depot Foundation.

But that wasn't all. Project for Pride in Living (PPL), a Twin Cities nonprofit that worked with landscape architecture firm Coen + Partners to develop the master plan for EcoVillage, also engaged Handeen and Alm for a student-designed home. The two-house spring-semester effort, dubbed the NorthSide Net-Zero project, had the same class structure as the Princeton effort, but the design challenges were greater. The urban houses had to meet far more code requirements, and the properties' north-south orientations and tree canopies limited opportunities for active and passive solar.

Not surprisingly, the students were once again up to the task, delivering the two sets of construction documents in May. Habitat plans to build its home with volunteer labor this summer, while PPL, which instead uses licensed contractors, first needs to put the design drawings out for bid. Alm and Handeen know that the affordable-housing community is watching closely, but they're no doubt already asking themselves: What's next? **AMN**

## Urban Renaissance

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In fact, LHB incorporated the columns as decorative features in the efficiency, one-, and two-bedroom units and the hallways. Because the slab has a corrugated texture, the areas where new walls met existing slab required sealing, explains LHB Housing Studio leader Kim Bretheim, AIA. New windows in an historically appropriate style bring ample daylight into the apartments.

Units on the top floor enjoy views of the green roof planted with sedum. The project also earned LEED points for adapting an historic building for a new use, adding a high-efficiency heating and ventilation system connected to district heat, creating an outdoor courtyard with storm-water management features, and being within walking distance of public transportation and other important amenities.

LHB also designed a first-floor addition with an ADA-accessible entrance that opens to two common spaces: an art studio (currently used by a painter and a sculptor, both residents) and an art gallery. Now on the National Register of Historic Places and fully occupied, Renaissance Box exemplifies the ways in which conscientious development can support sustainable design, historic preservation, art, and the common good. **AMN**

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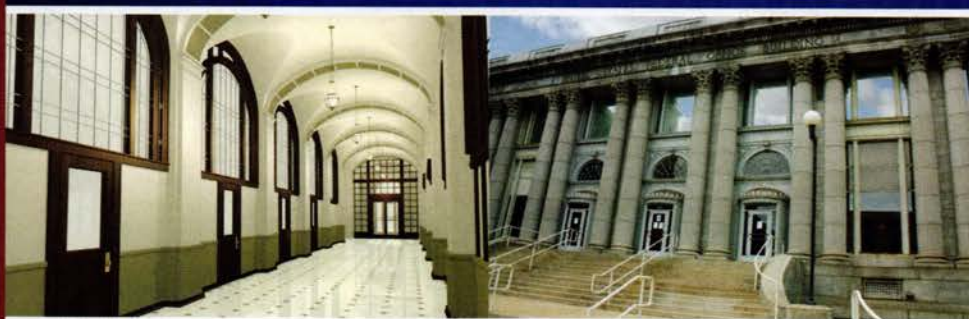
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## Bridge to the Digital Future

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Yoos, AIA, who is also an adjunct faculty member in the U's School of Architecture.

The scheme keeps the steel-framed structure and roof of the existing enclosure but removes the rusting steel-and-glass panels and replaces them with glass walls capable of displaying digital images and information. It takes advantage of digital media's lightweight and transitory nature to keep up with the pace of students' lives and to make the trip along the bridge an educational and inspirational experience. At the east end of the bridge, at the site of the competition, the design extends the roof of the enclosure with a lightweight lattice structure that terminates in a series of video screens that people can watch from a grassy knoll.

The winning scheme brings nature to the bridge deck in other ways as well. It calls for a ramp to connect the deck to a new tree-shaded plaza at the base of the STSS building; it envisions wavy planters of native grasses along the length of the bridge; and it replaces the existing steel railings with glass panels and less-obtrusive light fixtures to open up the views to the river, the campus, and the city from a series of undulating benches and chaises along the edge of the deck. All of these moves help make the bridge both a gathering place and a pedestrian passage—one where the university brings the energy and explorations of its students, faculty, and staff out from behind closed doors and into the public realm for all to see.

In that sense, the design complements and extends what the university has begun with the Weisman's new Target Studio and the interactive classrooms in the STSS building. These facilities were created to increase connections among disciplines and enhance the educational experience of students. What VJAA, HouMinn, and Diane Willow have done is take that a step further, using the bridge to increase the connections among passersby and to enhance the experience of crossing the bridge on bike or foot. Digital technology has made it possible to bring education out into the street, and this multimedia vision for the Washington Avenue Bridge could be the first example of what that might mean on a university campus. It's an opportunity we shouldn't waste.

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## Top Flight

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the hangar's spaciousness, he adds. "Yet students whose offices are on the second floor have a quiet workspace with the best views on campus."

The architects also brought the building up to code. The team replaced aging fenestration with new high-performance, operable windows in an approved historical style (approval was necessary because the building is located in a National Historic Preservation District). BWBR also replaced a driveway and original folding hangar door with broad, welcoming steps below panelized windows that lead from the Scholars Walk into the building.

The renovation also added a highly efficient mechanical system with heat recovery and displacement ventilation, as well as daylighting controls and occupancy sensors. Akerman Hall now operates 30 percent more efficiently than Minnesota energy code mandates. "We needed to modernize the building in a way that maintained its historic character while creating the best value for the hangar space in terms of use and functionality," says Fenton.

Mission accomplished. "I'm so pleased we could return an historic engineering education building back to its full glory," says Balas, "and at the same time offer students new, efficient ways of utilizing our amazing hangar space." **AMN**

## Butler Square

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million-square-foot behemoth was best described by critic Larry Millett as "a sternly poetic mass of wine-colored brick that conveys the commercial might of Minneapolis at the dawn of the twentieth century." Jones had spent his first year after graduating from MIT in the drafting rooms of H.H. Richardson, clearly acquiring a taste for massive masonry. His colleagues would come to revere him as not only a versatile architect but also a master of structural engineering in an era before those professions diverged.

The building's own website claims that the timber for Butler's structural frame was Douglas fir supplied by Walker's own Minnesota sawmills. If the material was Minnesota-grown, it could not be Douglas fir, a species not native to the state. That glorious riot of columns, beams, purlins, and decking visible in the building's atria is almost certainly old-growth white pine, the bountiful commodity that drove Minnesota's logging economy to its zenith in 1905. On daily display, the soaring, sawn pine timber remains a double slice of Minnesota history. **AMN**

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As architects, designers, planners and consultants, we partner with our clients on some 3,000 projects every year. These projects can be as small as a wine label or as large as a new urban district. With more than 3,300 professionals networked across 43 locations, we serve our clients as trusted advisors, combining localized expertise with global perspective wherever new opportunities arise. Our work reflects an enduring commitment to sustainability and the belief that design is one of the most powerful strategic tools for securing lasting competitive advantage.

**Representative Projects**

Olson, Office Interior Renovation, with outdoor space, Renovation, Minneapolis; Outsell, Office interiors, Renovation, Minneapolis; Minneapolis Convention Center, remodel of interior space, Minneapolis; Ernst & Young, remodel of interior space, Minneapolis; Fox Sports, renovation of interior space, Minneapolis; Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies, renovation of existing building, Eden Prairie; Room & Board, remodel of existing building, Seattle; Scoular Company, remodel of interior space, Minneapolis.



## DAVID HEIDE DESIGN STUDIO\*

301 Fourth Avenue South, Suite 663  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
Tel: (612) 337-5060  
Fax: (612) 337-5059  
Email: cleed@DHDstudio.com  
www.DHDstudio.com

### Firm Principal

David Heide, Associate AIA, Allied ASID

David Heide Design Studio is a full-service residential architecture, interior design, and historic restoration firm. Our mission, to honor the past while anticipating the future, guides every project we undertake. We know every house speaks its own language, and we know how to listen. We work with clients to develop designs for new homes and additions that blend timeless architectural elements with the amenities of modern living.

### Representative Projects

Summit Avenue Mediterranean Revival (restoration/remodel/additions), St. Paul, MN; Historic Carriage House (restoration/remodel), St. Paul, MN; Historic Cargill Residence (restoration/remodel/additions), Deephaven, MN; Arts & Crafts Getaway, (period residence, new construction), Tomahawk, WI; Kenwood Queen Anne (restoration/remodel/addition), Minneapolis, MN; Summit Avenue Tudor (restoration/remodel), Saint Paul, MN; Prairie Revival (remodel/restoration/addition), St. Paul, MN; Bungalow Expansion (renovation/remodel/addition), Des Moines, IA.

\*Associate Owned Firm

## LUA, LAUREL ULLAND ARCHITECTURE\*

2836 Lyndale Avenue South,  
Greenway Level  
Minneapolis, MN 55408  
Tel: (612) 874-1086  
Fax: (612) 874-1089  
Email: lua@laurelulland.com  
www.laurelulland.com  
Contact: Laurel Ulland

### Firm Principals

Laurel Ulland, Assoc AIA  
Kathy Olmstead  
Bill Lewis

LUA is a small residential architecture and design firm specializing in the renovation, remodeling and restoration of older homes. We provide a full-range of design services including documentation, design work that reflects the character and quality of construction of the original house and the selection & specification of products, materials and finishes. We also bring a high level of project management and coordination to our work.

### Representative Projects

Lake of the Isles Dutch Colonial Renovation & Addition, Minneapolis; Heather Place Kitchen Remodel & Renovation, St. Paul; Kenwood Park Italianate Renovation & Addition, Minneapolis; Dean Parkway Remodel & Studio, Minneapolis; Highland Park Kitchen Remodel, St. Paul; 510 Groveland Co-op Transformation, Minneapolis; Mac Groveland Bungalow Remodel & Renovation, St. Paul; Lake Harriet Mid Century Modern Remodel, Minneapolis.

\* Associate Owned Firm

## MACDONALD & MACK ARCHITECTS, LTD.

400 South Fourth Street, Suite 712  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
Tel: (612) 341-4051  
Fax: (612) 337-5843  
Email: karen@mmarchltd.com  
www.mmarchltd.com  
Contact: Karen Cooke

### Firm Principals

Robert C. Mack, FAIA  
Stuart MacDonald, AIA  
Todd Grover, AIA

MacDonald & Mack Architects, Ltd. was founded in 1976. We specialize in the preservation, restoration, and adaptive reuse of historic properties, as well as offering full architectural services. Our professional services address all aspects of historic building preservation, including preparation of historic site surveys, preservation master plans, historic structures reports, and documentation following HABS standards. We apply the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, and regularly receive approval without question from SHPO and local Historic Preservation Commissions.

### Representative Projects

James J. Hill House Restoration, Saint Paul; Gale Mansion Rehabilitation, Minneapolis; Christ Church Lutheran Restoration, Minneapolis; Pierre Bottineau House Restoration, Maple Grove; MnDOT Roadside Marker Restoration, multiple locations in Minnesota; Minneapolis Grain Exchange Building Restoration & Rehabilitation, Minneapolis; Municipal Building Restoration, Minneapolis; Carnegie Town Hall Exterior Restoration, Sioux Falls, SD.

## MCMONIGAL ARCHITECTS

1224 Marshall Street NE, Suite 400  
Minneapolis, MN 55413  
Tel: (612) 331-1244  
Fax: (612) 331-1079  
Email: rosemary@mcmonigal.com  
www.mcmonigal.com  
Contact: Rosemary McMonigal, AIA, CID, LEED AP

### Firm Principal

Rosemary McMonigal, AIA, CID, LEED AP

The constant in our 27 years of practice is creating projects that are outstanding in their health, livability and energy efficiency. We conscientiously design higher quality architecture to save energy, water and maintenance, conserve resources, and maintain healthy indoor air quality. Our mission is to collaborate with clients to create architecture that enrich their lives.

### Representative Projects

Skylark Green Dry Cleaning Remodel, St. Paul, MN; Beck Residence Renovation, Greenwood, MN; Ihlenfeld Residence Renovation, Mahtomedi, MN; Midcentury Modern Renovation, Portland, OR; Chamberlain Storehouse Restoration, LeSueur, MN; Weaver Residence Renovation, Pequot Lakes, MN; Lindgren Residence Renovation, Phoenix, AZ.



**MEYER, SCHERER &  
ROCKCASTLE, LTD. (MS&R)**

710 South 2nd Street, 8th Floor  
Minneapolis, MN 55401-2294  
Tel: (612) 375-0336  
Fax: (612) 342-2216  
Email: info@msrltd.com  
www.msrltd.com  
Other Office: Hyattsville, MD  
Contact: Josh Stowers, AIA, LEED AP  
BD+C, Principal (612) 359-3248,  
josh@msrltd.com

**Firm Principals**

Thomas Meyer, FAIA  
Jeffrey Scherer, FAIA  
Jack Poling, AIA, LEED AP  
Josh Stowers, AIA, LEED AP BD+C  
Paul C.N. Mellblom, AIA, LEED AP BD+C  
Traci Lesneski, CID, IIDA, LEED AP BD+C  
Matt Krontorad, AIA, LEED AP  
Jeff Mandyck, AIA, LEED AP

MS&R is an award-winning architecture and interior design firm committed to excellence. Since 1981, our firm has produced work of enduring value. Our projects are diverse in type, size, and location, with specific depth of experience serving library, office, cultural, higher education, and residential clients. The firm has earned a national reputation for both designing exceptional new spaces and through adaptive reuse, renovation, and preservation, discovering innovative ways to reuse buildings.

**Representative Projects**

McAllen Main Library (adaptive reuse of abandoned Wal-Mart), McAllen, TX;  
Ramsey County Roseville Library (renovation/expansion), Roseville, MN;  
Madison Central Library (renovation/expansion), Madison, WI; 3M Project Community (headquarters renovation), St. Paul, MN; Carleton College Weitz Center for Creativity (adaptive reuse/expansion), Northfield, MN; Drexel University URBN Center (adaptive reuse), Philadelphia, PA; Trolley Quarter Flats (adaptive reuse/expansion), Wausau, WI; Mount Curve Modern Residence (interior renovation), Minneapolis, MN.

**MILLER DUNWIDDIE  
ARCHITECTURE, INC.**

123 North Third Street, Suite 104  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
Tel: (612) 337-0000  
Fax: (612) 337-0031  
Email: clau@millerdunwiddie.com  
www.millerdunwiddie.com  
Contact: Craig Lau, AIA, NCARB

**Firm Principals**

Craig Lau, AIA, NCARB  
Mark Miller  
John Mecum, AIA, NCARB  
Chuck Liddy, FAIA, NCARB

Since 1963, Miller Dunwiddie has worked to shape and preserve the environment through responsible, creative design. From providing decades of service to the Metropolitan Airports Commission to completing over 600 historic preservation projects, our range of work is a testament to the firm's commitment to improving and preserving the built environment through excellent design – both in new facilities and existing structures. Our architects and interior designers offer clients complete planning and design services.

**Representative Projects**

Hiawatha Light Rail Transit, 10-Station (upgrades), Minneapolis, MN; Faribault Woolen Mill (rehabilitation), Faribault, MN; HCMC, Labor & Delivery (remodel), Minneapolis, MN; Beth El Synagogue (renovation), St. Louis Park, MN; The Cowles Center for Dance and the Performing Arts (renovation/restoration), Minneapolis, MN; Grant County Courthouse (renovation/restoration), Elbow Lake, MN; Folwell Hall, University of Minnesota (renovation/restoration), Minneapolis, MN; Bemidji Regional Airport Terminal (renovation), Bemidji, MN.

**PETERSSEN/KELLER  
ARCHITECTURE**

1610 West Lake Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55408  
Tel: (612) 353-4920  
Fax: (612) 353-4932  
Email: info@pkarch.com  
www.pkarch.com  
Established 2009  
Contact: Lars Peterssen or Gabriel Keller

**Firm Principals**

Lars Peterssen, AIA  
Gabriel Keller, Associate AIA

Peterssen/Keller Architecture is a full-service architectural firm that specializes in custom homes, lofts, cabins and boutique commercial projects. As residential architects and designers, we integrate sustainable design practices into every project, from small additions to LEED-certified new homes, finding solutions that merge environmental thinking with exceptional design. At Peterssen/Keller, every client is our passion, and every project is an opportunity to create a home crafted to last a generation.

**Representative Projects**

Lake Harriet Georgian Home (addition/remodeling), Minneapolis, MN; Cedar Lake International Style Home (award-winning historic restoration, addition), Minneapolis, MN; Linden Hills Cottage (transformation & 2-story addition), Minneapolis, MN; Tyrol Hills Modern (remodeling), Golden Valley, MN; Mid-Century Modern Home (remodeling & addition), Los Altos, CA; Lake of the Isles Tudor (remodeling & addition), Minneapolis, MN; Lake of the Isles Harry Wild Jones Home (remodeling & restoration), Minneapolis, MN; Rolling Green Contemporary Home (remodeling), Edina, MN.

**RSP ARCHITECTS, LTD.**

1220 Marshall St. NE  
Minneapolis, MN 55413  
Tel: (612) 677-7100  
Fax: (612) 677-7499  
Email: jennifer.gilhoi@rsparch.com  
www.rsparch.com  
Other Offices: Phoenix, AZ; Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX; Rochester, MN; Bangalore, India; Tianjin, China.  
Contact: Dave Norback

**Firm Principals**

Dave Norback, AIA  
Robert M. Lucius, AIA  
Steve Fautsch, AIA  
Ted Davis, AIA, CID  
Jeremy Mayberg, AIA  
Kristine Hargreaves, AIA, LEED AP  
Joe Tyndall, AIA  
Terry Wobken, AIA

RSP's 300 employees provide expertise in all phases of a building's life cycle from strategic planning, programming, design and construction, through remodeling, tenant improvement, historic preservation and re-use to strategic facilities planning. Our corporate portfolio encompasses new buildings, adaptive reuse, renovations and expansions, and complex tenant improvement programs for national real estate portfolios. In the global marketplace, we have been hired directly by Asian and European clients to provide planning and design for complex, multi-million square foot mixed-use projects.

**Representative Projects**

City of Minneapolis' Hiawatha Public Works Facility renovation, Minneapolis, MN; Maplewood Mall renovation, Maplewood, MN; Calhoun Square renovation, Minneapolis, MN; Minneapolis Institute of Arts expansion and remodels, Minneapolis, MN; Historic Grain Belt Brew House adaptive reuse, Minneapolis, MN; Northrop Auditorium exterior renovation, Minneapolis, MN; Bottineau Library adaptive reuse, Minneapolis, MN.



## SKD ARCHITECTS, INC.

11140 Highway 55, Suite A  
Plymouth, MN 55441  
Tel: (763) 591-6115  
Fax: (763) 591-6119  
Email: kleineman@skdarchitects.com  
www.skdarchitects.com  
Contact: Steven Kleineman

### Firm Principal

Steven A. Kleineman, AIA, CID

SKD has provided a full range of both commercial and residential architectural services for 35 years. The projects have been divided between new construction and remodel, renovation and sustainable construction. For renovation projects, we start with a building condition assessment, both structural and functional. The result is a building that is revitalized and adapted for a new purpose or growing needs.

### Representative Projects

*Commercial: Roth Distributing, Wolf and Subzero Showroom, Hopkins, MN; Davisco International, Corporate Offices, Le Sueur, MN; Twin City Fan Companies, Plymouth, MN. Residential: Cartier Residence (full remodel/renovation), Bear Path, Eden Prairie, MN; Ostrander Residence, Greenwood, MN; Rotman Residence (full renovation), Golden Valley, MN; McNaughton Residence (full renovation), Plymouth, MN; Bergman Residence, Eau Claire, WI.*

## SMUCKLER ARCHITECTURE INC.

7509 Washington Ave So.  
Edina, MN 55439  
Tel: (952) 828-1908  
Fax: (952) 828-6007  
Email: office@smuckler.com  
Contact: Jack Smuckler

### Firm Principal

Jack Smuckler, AIA

We design upper bracket custom homes ranging in style from contemporary to traditional. We do large scale remodeling projects which include whole house remodeling, kitchens, master bedroom suites.

*continued next column*

### Representative Projects

*Twomey Residence (new custom design), Orono; Short Residence (kitchen family room remodel), Shorewood; Watscke Residence (whole house remodel), Eagar; Reynolds Residence (new custom design), Maple Grove; Pesis Residence (basement remodel), Minnetonka; Walsh Residence (new custom design), Bloomington; Gale Residence (exercise room addition and terrace), Edina; Grazinger Residence (new custom design), Eden Prairie.*

## TEA2 ARCHITECTS

2724 West 43rd Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55410  
Tel: (612) 929-2800  
Fax: (612) 929-2820  
Email: info@tea2architects.com  
www.tea2architects.com  
Contact: Dan Nepp, AIA, CID

### Firm Principals

Tom Ellison, AIA, CID  
Dan Nepp, AIA, CID

TEA2 Architects is an award-winning, 32-year residential firm specializing in additions/renovations, new residences and retreat homes. Our mission is to create distinctive and unique architecture that responds to our clients' goals in meaningful ways and contributes to an ongoing pursuit of design excellence. We strive for quality design work that incorporates broader values including historical and neighborhood sensitivity, durability, longevity, and life-affirming qualities in the broader context of sustainability of the building process and our cultural potential.

### Representative Projects

*Mediterranean Revival (restoration/remodel), Lake of the Isles, Minneapolis, MN; Kenwood Carriage House (renovation), Minneapolis, MN; Comprehensive Addition/Remodel, Harvard IL; Mississippi River Boulevard Residence (addition/remodel), St. Paul, MN; Deephaven Revival (restoration/remodel), Deephaven, MN; Kitchen Remodel, Edina, MN; Front Porch Facelift (renovation/restoration), Minneapolis, MN; Master Suite Renovation, Country Club, Edina, MN.*

## WOLD ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS

305 St. Peter Street  
St. Paul, MN 55102  
Tel: (651) 227-7773  
Fax: (651) 223-5646  
Email: mail@woldae.com  
www.woldae.com  
Other Offices: Palatine, IL; Royal Oak, MI; Denver, CO  
Contact: Ashley Kohler

### Firm Principals

Michael S. Cox, AIA  
R. Scott McQueen, AIA, LEED AP, CEFPI  
Vaughn Dierks, AIA, LEED AP, CEFPI  
Paul Aplikowski, AIA, LEED AP, CEFPI  
Joel Dunning, AIA, LEED AP  
Kevin Marshall, P.E., LEED AP  
Lynae Schoen, IIDA, LEED AP, CEFPI  
John McNamara, AIA, LEED AP

Wold has developed an expertise in the planning, design, and engineering of educational and government facilities in the Midwest. Our firm brings a strong commitment to client service, resulting in substantial long-term relationships with clients. We specialize in planning, new design, renovation, and additions, and bring a deep understanding of the issues our clients face

### Representative Projects

*Montgomery-Lonsdale Elementary and Middle School Renovation, Montgomery, MN; Washington County Government Center Remodel, Stillwater, MN; Westonka Schools Upgrades/Renovations, Minnetrista, MN; Lakeville Schools Infrastructure Upgrades (Renovation), Lakeville, MN; Pequot Lakes Middle/High School Renovation, Pequot Lakes, MN; St. Anthony Village High School/Middle School Addition, Minneapolis, MN; Hennepin County C-6 Courts Renovation, Minneapolis, MN; Metropolitan Council Renovation, St. Paul, MN.*

## YUNKER ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTURE (YA)

34 13th Avenue NE #108  
Minneapolis, MN 55413  
Tel: (612) 371-9195  
Fax: (612) 371-9199  
www.yaarch.com

### Firm Principals

Martha Yunker, AIA  
Rehn Hassell, AIA  
Michael Burgoyne, AIA

YA aims to engage individuals intellectually and emotionally through a collaborative design approach. We seek inspiration from many sources and draw meaning from new interpretations and combinations. Respect for our client and the alliance we develop allows for the possibility of transcending expectations.

### Representative Projects

*Sternberg renovation, Kenwood; Killingstad renovation, Long Lake; Hart/Andersen kitchen, Lake Harriet; Interlachen Bar & Grill renovation, Edina; Minneapolis Club renovation, Minneapolis; Hauber-Sykes renovation & kitchen, Rochester.*



It takes a village to design, engineer, and construct a great building. So let's give credit where credit is due.

### Hiawatha Maintenance Facility

page 26

Location: Minneapolis, Minnesota

Client: City of Minneapolis, Department of Public Works

Architect: RSP Architects

Principal-in-charge: Jeremy Mayberg, AIA

Project lead designer: Marc Partridge, AIA

Project manager: Steve Maurelli, AIA

Project architect: Steve Nordin, AIA

Project team: Morgan Blum; Joanne Chappellaz; Christina Kovacs; Chris Weidenhamer

Sustainability consultant/Energy modeling: Viridian Energy & Environmental

Structural engineer: Palanisami & Associates

Electrical engineer: Paulson & Clark Engineering

Mechanical engineer: Paulson & Clark Engineering

Civil engineer: BKBM Engineers

Landscape architect: Damon Farber Associates

Cost estimating: Constructive Ideas

Public works consultant: Oertel Architects

Acoustician: Kvernstoen Ronnholm Associates

Commissioning agent: Engineering Design Initiative Ltd

Millwork/Cabinetwork: Shaw/Stewart Lumber Co.; Midwest Hardwood Corp; Wood from the Hood

Flooring systems/materials: Forbo; Daltile; Lee's Carpet

Window systems: Pella; Kalwall; Kawneer

Architectural metal panels: MCI; Nucor

Precast concrete: Fabcon

Brick restoration: Knutson Construction

Burnished CMU: Amcon

Earthwork/Site material recycling: Bolander

Recycled pavers: VAST

Pervious paving: Gravel-Pave

Fuel island canopy: Recycled site material

Site fence: Recycled Lowry Bridge deck

Solid surfacing: Shetka Works

Photographers: Paul Crosby; Heather Novak-Peterson

### Pierre Bottineau House

page 30

New location: Elm Creek Park Reserve, Maple Grove, Minnesota

Clients: MnDOT and Three Rivers Park District

Architect: MacDonald & Mack Architects, Ltd.

Principal-in-charge: Stuart MacDonald, AIA

Project lead designer: Amy Meller, AIA

Project team: Todd Grover, AIA

Structural engineer: Mattson Macdonald Young

Electrical engineer: Hallberg Engineers

General contractor: American Liberty Construction, Inc.

Brick: Acme Ochs Brick

Concrete and masonry work: Gabrelcik Enterprises

Carpentry: Skyline Construction

Building mover: Prodder House Movers

Millwork, doors, and windows: Commercial Millwork

Lumber, siding and roofing: Lampert's Lumber

Photographers: Jerry Mathiason ("after" photos); American Liberty Construction ("before"); MacDonald & Mack Architects ("before")

### Renaissance Box

page 32

Location: St. Paul, Minnesota

Client: Aeon

Architect: LHB

Principal-in-charge: Kim Bretheim, AIA

Project lead designer: Kim Bretheim, AIA

Project manager: Kim Bretheim, AIA  
Project architects: Maureen Colburn, AIA; Andy Madson, Assoc. AIA; Ben Trousedale, AIA

Project construction administrator: Roger Purdy

Energy modeling: Steen Engineering

Structural engineer: Mattson Macdonald Young

Mechanical engineer: Steen Engineering

Electrical engineer: Steen Engineering

Civil engineer: LHB

Lighting designer: Steen Engineering

Interior design: LHB

Construction manager: Frerichs Construction

Landscape architect: LHB

Landscape supplier: Leo Vander Broek

Masonry restoration: American Masonry Restoration Corp.

Cabinetwork: Diversified Distributors

Flooring systems/materials: Hamernick Decorating Center

Window systems: Marvin, Shaw/Stewart Lumber Co.

Concrete work: Hicks Concrete

Photographer: George Heinrich

### Akerman Hall Hangar Renovation

page 34

Location: Minneapolis, Minnesota

Client: University of Minnesota

Architect: BWBR

Principal-in-charge: Katherine Leonidas, AIA

Project lead designer: Stephen Berg, AIA

Project manager: Gregory E. Fenton, AIA

Project architect: Jesse Turck, AIA

Project team: Roger Larson, AIA (codes); Sheldon Wolfe (specifications)

Historic preservation consultant: Hess Roise and Company

Energy design assistance: The Weidt Group

Structural engineer: Paulson & Clark Engineering

Mechanical engineer: Sebesta Blomberg

Electrical engineer: Sebesta Blomberg

Interior design: BWBR

Construction manager: M.A. Mortenson Company

Landscape architect: University of Minnesota

Window systems: St. Cloud Window

Concrete work: M.A. Mortenson Company

Photographers: James Lockwood (exteriors); Stephen Berg, AIA (interiors)

### Boy Scout Base Camp

page 36

Location: Fort Snelling, Minnesota

Client: Northern Star Council, Boy Scouts of America

Architect: LHB, Inc.

Principal-in-charge: Rick Carter, FAIA

Project lead designer: Bruce Cornwall, AIA

Project architect: Mark Kalar, AIA

Project management: Target Corp.

Historical consultant: Landscape Research

Energy modeling: The Weidt Group

Structural engineer: LHB, Inc.

Mechanical engineer: LHB, Inc.

Electrical engineer: LHB, Inc.

Civil engineer: Bonestroo, Inc.

General contractor: JE Dunn Construction

Landscape architect: LHB, Inc.

Landscape project team: Jason Aune

Windows: Andersen Windows, Restoration Window Systems

Climbing wall: ThemeScapes

Photographer: Dana Wheelock

### CORRECTION

*Crane Engineering Building Science appeared in several places in the 2012 Consultants Directory in our last issue. For the listing on page 133 we incorrectly added a paragraph of sample projects that the company was not involved in.*

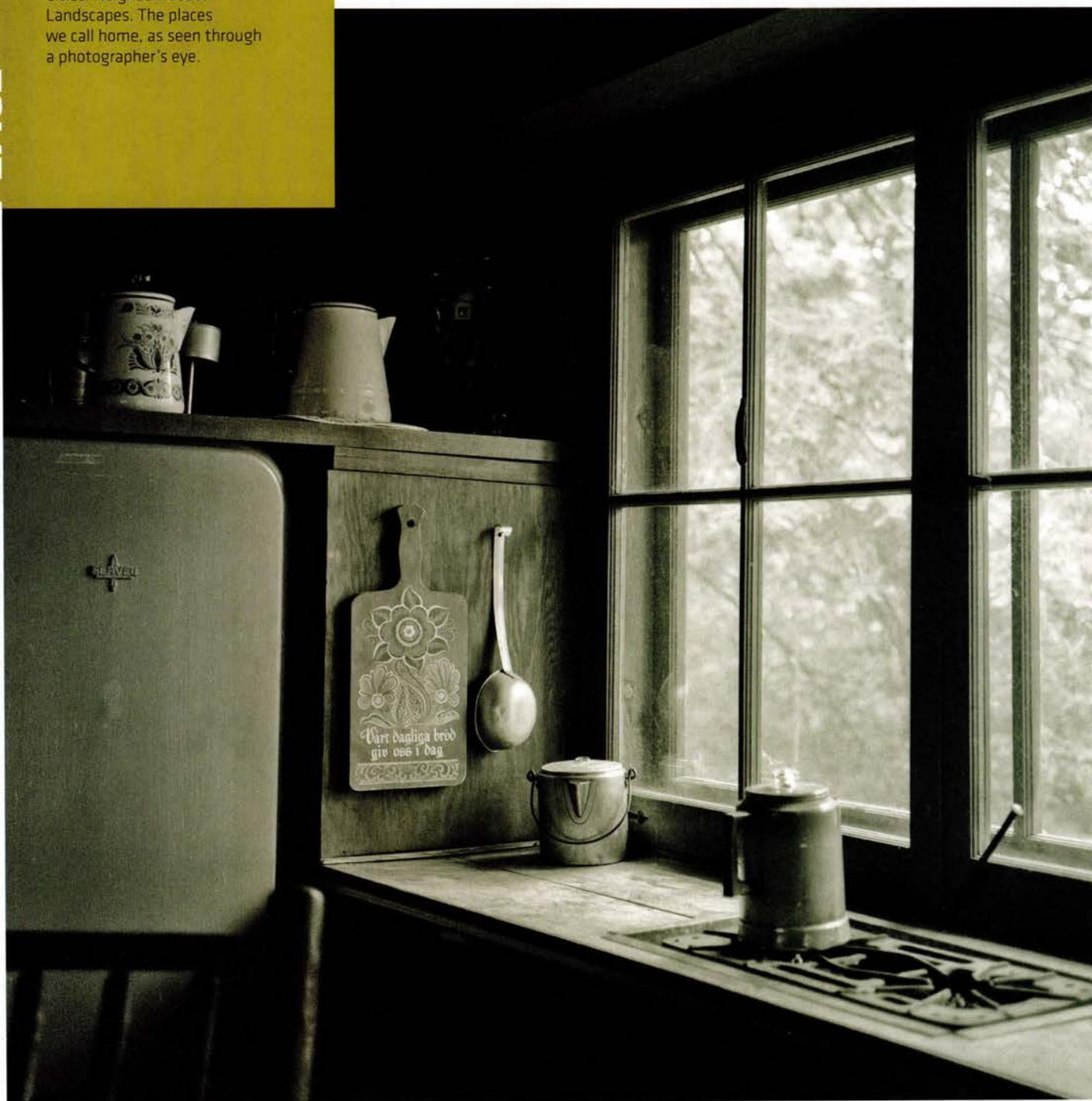


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Cities. Neighborhoods.  
Landscapes. The places  
we call home, as seen through  
a photographer's eye.



"Noted conservationist Sigurd Olson and his wife Elizabeth treasured their private retreat at Listening Point—a simple cabin on 36 acres of boreal forest on Burntside Lake (page 44), near Ely, Minnesota. I doubt they lingered for long over morning coffee at the kitchen counter. In his book *Listening Point*, Sigurd wrote, **'While a scene might be beautiful from the inside, something important is always lost there, for a vista divorced from the open air and the smells and sounds and feeling around you is only partially enjoyed.'** This morning moment was unquestionably a prelude to the observations of the day."

—PHOTOGRAPHER NANCY A. JOHNSON