Join the Cass Gilbert Society to hear Paul Clifford Larson’s talk, “Of Hormones, Hubris, and High Hopes: Cass Gilbert’s First European Tour as the Gateway to his Career.” Larson is the author of the recently published *Cass Gilbert Abroad, The Young Architect’s European Tour* (Afton Press, 2002), which is lavishly illustrated by young Cass’s superb watercolor sketches of European streetscapes and monuments.

Paul Larson is a public historian with a special interest in the material culture of the Upper Midwest. His work on Cass Gilbert grows out of two decades of research into the careers of regional architects and their buildings. *Minnesota Architect: The Life and Work of Clarence Johnston* was the first of his studies to make its way into print and the first recipient of the David Gebhard award offered by the Minnesota Society of Architectural Historians. A companion volume on Cass Gilbert is due out during the centennial of the Minnesota State Capitol. Larson last spoke to the Cass Gilbert Society in February 2000 on the lost beginnings of Cass Gilbert’s architectural career.

Bring your friends and join us at the University Club of St. Paul, 420 Summit Avenue, on Tuesday, April 29, 2003, at 7:00 P.M. Admission is free to Society members. There is a nominal charge for nonmembers. Support for this lecture is provided in part by the Minnesota Humanities Commission.

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**Mark Your Calendars**

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**May 11, 2003:** Cass Gilbert Society Mother’s Day Stroll featuring Cass Gilbert buildings in Lowertown. See story inside.

**October 14, 2003:** Lecture by Sally Webster, Ph.D., City University of New York, on the murals of the Minnesota State Capitol.
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Marjorie Pearson

Our February lecture was a well-attended, highly enjoyable event. Thanks to Tom Blanck, Linda Bjorklund, Darlene Carrol, Herb and Heidi Grika, Troy Musel, Sheila Teryll, Judy Pfankuch, Jean Velleu, and Jim Law, who provided a lively personal account of the New York City tour in October. Darlene Caroll's tale of persistence in achieving the top of the Woolworth Building was particularly amusing.

Buoyed by the success of this tour and inspired by accounts of Cass Gilbert's input into the Cuban capitol in Havana, we are in the early stages of planning a tour to Cuba for late in 2003. Despite the diligent investigations of Dewey Berscheid, as recounted in the February 2000 Newsletter, the Gilbert connection has not been verified. However, a Cuba trip provides a wonderful opportunity for a firsthand look. For further information, contact Patty McCartin at pmccartin@tcinternet.net.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.
MOTHER’S DAY STROLL: CASS GILBERT IN LOWERTOWN

Join us on May 11, 2003 for the fifth annual Cass Gilbert Society architectural stroll. We will meet at 3 P.M. at the Gilbert Building, 413 Wacouta Street between 6th and 7th Streets, Saint Paul.

As Cass Gilbert pursued his architectural career in Saint Paul, he received several commissions for warehouses and commercial buildings. These were clustered in the Lowertown area of Saint Paul. Lowertown grew up at the “Lower Landing” on the Mississippi River, beginning in the 1840s. As Saint Paul grew, Lowertown evolved into a major warehouse and distribution center serving the entire Upper Midwest. Lowertown’s railroad, manufacturing, and wholesaling companies expressed their pride and performance in the structures they erected, beginning in the 1880s.

We will start our tour at the Gilbert Building, constructed in 1893-94 as the Boston and Northwest Realty Company Wacouta Street Warehouse. We will also view the two buildings off Mears Park that Gilbert designed for the Gotzian Shoe Company, built in 1892 and 1895, as well as the Allen Building, built in 1906-07 and employing an innovative reinforced concrete structural system. We also plan to see two buildings designed by Clarence Johnston, Sr., Gilbert’s former colleague.

To get there: Interstate 94 to the East 7th Street exit which becomes Wall Street. Turn right on East 7th Street and left on Wacouta. The Gilbert Building is just northeast of Mears Park. Free on-street parking is available on Sundays.

For additional information contact: Marjorie Pearson, 612-338-1987.
Membership Renewal Form – 2003

______ I would like to become a new member of the Cass Gilbert Society *

______ I would like to renew my membership

______ I would like to make a tax deductible contribution of $______________

______ I am a member but would like a gift membership for a friend, listed below

Enclosed is my check for _____ $25.00 / Household or _____ $50.00 / Business made out to Cass Gilbert Society, Inc.

Member’s Name ____________________________  Gift Recipient ____________________________

Address ____________________________  Address ____________________________

City __________ State ______ Zip ______  City __________ State ______ Zip ______

Telephone (__________)  Telephone (__________)  

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

Send check and form to: Cass Gilbert Society, Inc., P.O. Box 4066, St. Paul, MN 55104-4066