Vol. 9 No. 4 November 2007

CASS GILBERT SOCIETY

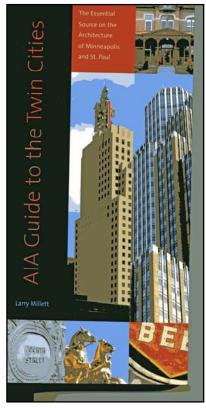
Organized to preserve the work of Minnesota's most important architect.

LARRY MILLETT TO SPEAK ON NOVEMBER 13, 2007

Join the Cass Gilbert Society on Tuesday, November 13, at 7:00 P.M. at the University Club, 420 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul. Larry **Millett**, author of the AIA Guide to the Twin Cities (Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2007), will be speaking on Cass Gilbert and the architecture of Saint Paul. Millett, who was architecture critic for the Saint Paul Pioneer *Press*, is also the author of several books that explore the architectural heritage of the Twin Cities, including Lost Twin Cities (1992) and Twin Cities Then and Now (1996). The AIA Guide, which is subtitled "The Essential Source on the Architecture of Minneapolis and St. Paul," does not slight the work of Cass Gilbert, which ranges from the Minnesota State Capitol to the warehouses of Lowertown, among its fifteen hundred total entries.

Coming in February 2008!

Participants in the Cass Gilbert Society tour to New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut will report on their trip and the sites they visited. Admission to the lecture is free to Society members. There is a \$5.00 charge for nonmembers. Refreshments will be served after the lecture. A demonstration of the Cass Gilbert Society's redesigned website (see story inside) will be available before and after the lecture.



MINNESOTA STATE CAPITOL EVENT: THE GILBERTS' 120TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

In 1895, architect Cass Gilbert designed the Minnesota State Capitol, which was dedicated in January 1905. Just eight years earlier, in 1887, Gilbert married Julia Finch. Celebrate this milestone of Cass Gilbert's life with a tour guided by Cindy Stephani and others that features portraits of the Gilberts on loan from the Smithsonian Museum of American Art. Learn about their wedding plans, life together, and his career as an aspiring architect.

Discover the building's architectural details and learn about the Capitol's decoration from a costumed history player. Enjoy a cup of tea or cider after the tour in the restored Rathskeller cafeteria. The event is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children (\$2 discount for Minnesota Historical Society members) and takes place November 29, 2007. For more information or to make reservations, call (651) 296-2881.

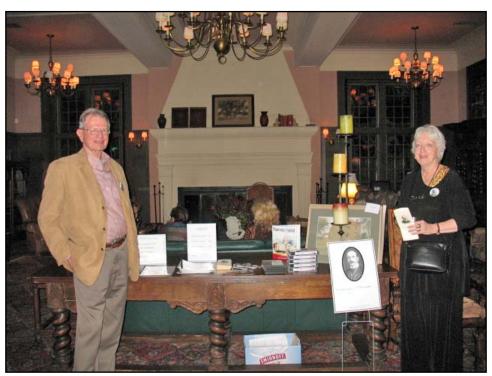
MINNESOTA 150

In honor of the Sesquicentennial of Minnesota statehood, the Minnesota Historical Society has organized an exhibit titled **MN 150** at the Minnesota History Center, accompanied by a book, public programs, and an interactive website, www.mnhs.org/exhibits/mn150, that celebrate the people, places, and events that have shaped the state.

The Cass Gilbert Society is honored by the selection of **Cass Gilbert** as one of the 150. Steve Boyd Smith of Saint Paul submitted a nomination that is quoted in part on the website: "From the master plan of the University of Minnesota to the State Capitol to many smaller houses and public buildings, his influence on architecture in Minnesota and beyond has been immense." The gala exhibit opening was held on October 11, 2007. The exhibit will be on display indefinitely.

NATIONAL TRUST CONFERENCE REPORT

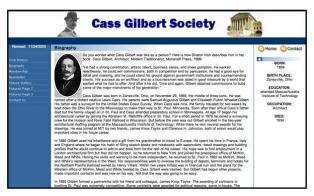
Over 2,000 participants attended the National Trust Conference in Saint Paul, October 2-6, 2007, some from as far away as Guam. A lively mix of field sessions, workshops, plenary sessions, and receptions, provided a diverse picture of the Twin Cities and current historic preservation trends. The Cass Gilbert Society poster session, **Preserving the Work of Cass Gilbert**, on display in the exhibit hall was well received. Society members also served as volunteers on the **Candlelight House Tour** on Summit Avenue, particularly at the University Club, designed by architects Reed and Stem, and the Lightner House, 318 Summit Avenue, designed by Cass Gilbert. Gilbert's work elicited many favorable comments from tour participants, who enjoyed a splendid October evening as they strolled from house to house.



Vince Platt and Wendy Weimer welcome participants in the Candlelight House Tour to the University Club Photograph by Marjorie Pearson

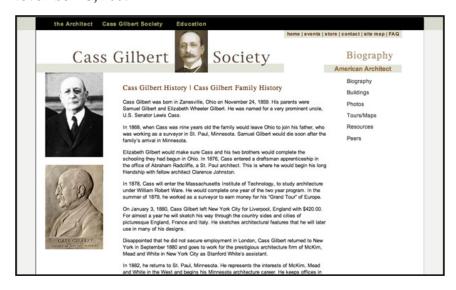
REDESIGNED CASS GILBERT SOCIETY WEBSITE TO BE LAUNCHED

Thanks in part to funding provided by the State of Minnesota through the Minnesota Historical Society Grants-in-Aid Program, the Cass Gilbert Society has been able to redesign and improve its website, www.cassgilbertsociety.org. Matching funds have been provided by members and friends of the Society, including a generous donation from the Nicholson Family Foundation.



The original website dates from 2001. It has provided information about Cass Gilbert Society events, background on the organization, biography on Cass Gilbert, and a selection of photographs.

The website has been redesigned by Mark Stanley and Andy Mickel of Factor of 4, a Minneapolis-based firm, under the direction of Cass Gilbert Society board members Marjorie Pearson, Nick Marcucci, Bonnie Alton, and Cindy Stephani. Much of the content from the original site has been moved, and more content has been added, including pdfs of past Cass Gilbert Society *Newsletters* and research resources on Cass Gilbert. The site has been designed in such a way that information and links to other resources can be added and easily accessed. One of the goals has been to develop a comprehensive list of Cass Gilbert's designs, building on the work undertaken by Tom Blanck and Charles Loucks. The initial list of forty buildings is accompanied by brief descriptions and photographs. The list will be expanded as funding becomes available. We want to hear from users of the site and will add relevant comments and information, including links to other resources. A demonstration of the Cass Gilbert Society's redesigned website will be available before and after the lecture on November 13, 2007.



Preview of one page of the redesigned Website Images: Factor of 4

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

www.cassgilbertsociety.org

Our Mission

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

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

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Place Stamp Here

Renew your membership for 2008. See the expiration date on your mailing label. Would you like to renew your membership or join the Cass Gilbert Society? See the form enclosed with this Newsletter or the Cass Gilbert Society website, www.cassgilbertsociety.org.



Members on the New York Tour at the Brooklyn Army Terminal Photograph by Marjorie Pearson