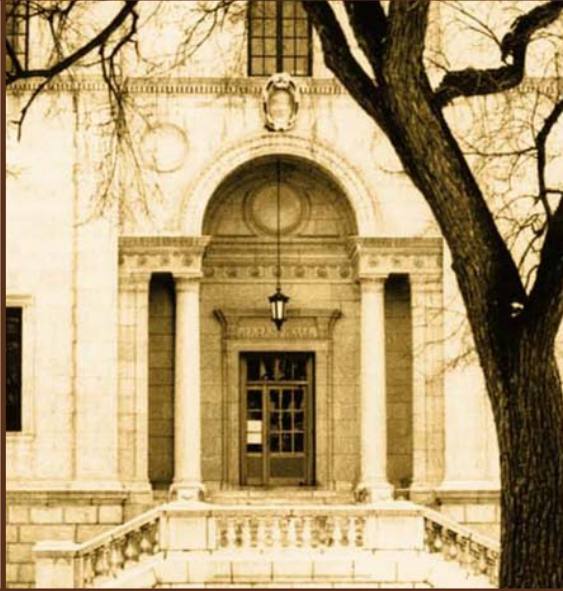


James J. Hill Library



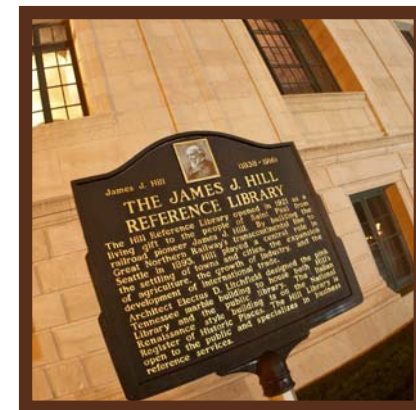
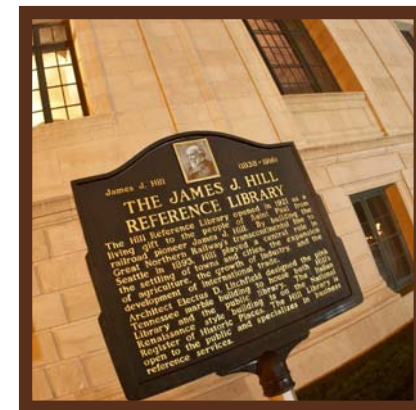
The living legacy of the Empire Builder

James J. Hill's Greatest Gift

For much of his life, America knew James Jerome Hill as a titan of business – a railroad tycoon, Wall Street mogul, shaper of cities. But when the creator of the Great Northern Railway turned his attention to the matter of legacy, he built a modern-day athenaeum to carry forth his memory; and he endowed it with far more than a prized collection and magnificent architecture.

Hill contended that knowledge is not gathered, it is mined. He believed reason is honed by debate, and wisdom has value only when shared. The convictions that built his empire, Hill imbued in the James J. Hill Library. And he charged it with a mission not to immortalize his achievements, but to help future generations eclipse them.

Few men did more to unite this nation, and fewer still bequeathed to it an asset as extraordinary as the institution that bears his name. As the stewards of his library, we invite you to discover how the Empire Builder's legacy lives on today – and how it will thrive for generations to come.





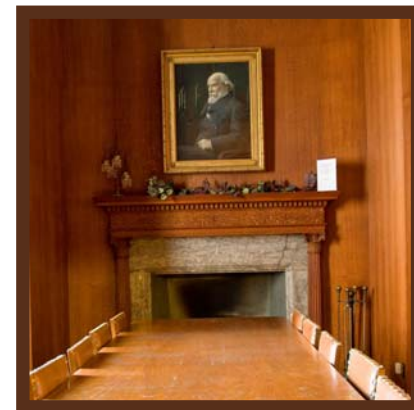
The Future of the James J. Hill Center

When James J. Hill conceived his library, he foresaw far more than a mere repository of information. He wished for the public to see in its walls the strength of the pioneers, in its windows the light of knowledge, and in its collection each person's potential to create something lasting and noble.

Hill envisioned a structure of enduring strength balanced by flexibility of mission. Constructed with enough stone and girders, any building could meet the future; Hill's library would embrace it. In so doing, he and architect Electus Litchfield laid the groundwork for the James J. Hill Library to become:

A Place to Convene

In an era when most users access information digitally, the library can better serve the public by focusing not just on the retrieval of information but on the sharing of it. Conferences, programs, seminars, lectures, and exhibits create a true marketplace of ideas and give currency to the library's mission.



A Center for Study

Complementing its online research service and the highly regarded Hill Center for Ethical Leadership, the library will establish several centers of study. Areas may include entrepreneurship, environmental responsibility, agribusiness, health care and wellness.

Over nearly a century, the library built the nation's preeminent collection of information for small business, and scholars as well as the public will have continued access to its collection. Yet knowledge won't just be stored here; it will be debated and deliberated, nurtured and shared.

A Model of Collaboration

The Twin Cities' wealth of educational, civic and cultural resources belies its relatively small size. Partnering with arts and academic institutions and both public and private entities on exhibits, lectures, educational programs and other initiatives will have a force-multiplying effect that amplifies and accelerates the sharing of knowledge.



Beyond its collection, the James J. Hill Library offers collaborating institutions and individuals a host of resources, including extraordinary meeting, exhibition and office spaces.

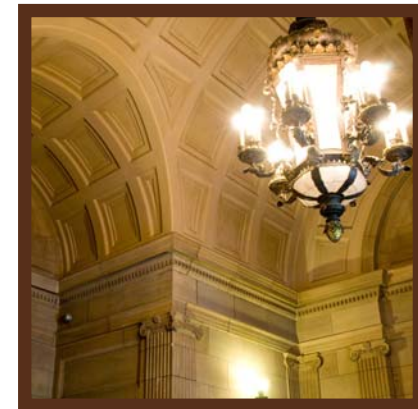
A Place of Commerce

From private event rentals to paid exhibits and retail opportunities, the library will leverage its assets both to establish and strengthen revenue streams and cultivate itself into a multipurpose destination.

A Space to Enjoy

In addition to its stunning architecture, including a book-lined, sky-lit atrium, the library will draw a wide range of visitors with programming designed to stir the mind, thrill the imagination and enhance understanding.

Upon his death, James J. Hill was lauded as “the greatest constructive genius of the Northwest.” Yet his library presents a fuller picture of the “Empire Builder.” Hill brought to this country a dream and bequeathed to it an asset that will inspire Americans long into the future.



The logo is a square with a dark brown background and a light brown border. The text is centered within the square.

James J. Hill
Library

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St. Paul, Minnesota 55102
jjhill.org