



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 3, 2013

Contact:
Bill Hickey AIA, CID, LEED®-AP
Principal
Collaborative Design Group
bhickey@collaborativedesigngroup.com
612-332-3654

Press release regarding: The Redevelopment of Fort Snelling Upper Post by the Upper Mississippi Development Corporation

###

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has selected the Upper Mississippi Development Corporation to restore and develop multiple historic buildings at the Upper Post of Fort Snelling. The site will be home of the Upper Mississippi Academy, a public charter school that will open in 2013 and at capacity will serve 1,380 PreK-12th grade students.

Collaborative Design Group (CDG) will provide architectural, historic preservation, structural engineering, interior design, planning, and project management services, while leading a design team that includes consultants EDI, Damon Farber Associates, and Landform. Since 2010, CDG has been working closely with members of Upper Mississippi Academy's board of directors to help plan and develop the school.

Upper Mississippi Academy's innovative approach to curriculum, interest in fostering a strong community, and desire for a distinct sense of identity are well met by its new home on the Upper Post of historic Fort Snelling. The graceful historic buildings of the Post will be repurposed, restored, and adapted to serve the Academy's needs. These structures are a tremendous resource – stable, strong, and distinctive.

The Upper Mississippi Academy campus construction will be completed in three phases, with construction of the first phase beginning this fall. In total, nine historic buildings will be renovated for use as classrooms, administrative offices, and support spaces, while the remains of a tenth building will continue to be preserved.

CDG is a multidisciplinary design firm located in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The firm offers comprehensive architectural, structural engineering, interior design, historic preservation, and planning services to commercial, industrial, and institutional clients. CDG has been entrusted with the care of many of the region's most notable historic landmarks, from Split Rock Lighthouse and Enger Tower to Landmark Center and the University's Nicholson Hall, and has an extensive résumé of collegiate and K-12 projects.

We are honored to work with the Upper Mississippi Development Corporation and Mortenson Construction, and to be a part of the Upper Mississippi Academy project.

###