ARCHITECTURAL TOUR:

GREATER MINNESOTA

The nine buildings in the Greater Minnesota tour include three examples of the great Midwestern Prairie School bank type, with opulent structures by Louis Sullivan (considered the father of the Prairie School), George Washington Maher, and the team of Purcell, Feick, and Elmslie. The terrain covered includes St. Paul, Red Wing, Winona, and Owatonna.

RED WING
The E.S. Hoyt House is one of Purcell and Elmslie's most elaborate progressive designs, owing to a larger budget that allowed for an extensive decorative scheme. The result is as spectacular as either the Edna S. Purcell House (now the Purcell-Cutts House) or the Powers House, both in Minneapolis. The horizontal plan is more pronounced than that of either Minneapolis house, and is accentuated by the bands of art-glass windows on both levels and the dramatic cantilevered second story. Along the front of the house are an enclosed porch, a living room, and a dining room; at the back are the kitchen, a library, and a service area. A spectacular glass mosaic mural over the fireplace depicts a night scene with moon and clouds. Purcell and Elmslie's unified design for the house even extended to the service areas: the breezeway to the garage, built in 1915, incorporates organic sawed-wood grilles that are visible from the street.

When looking at this house in person, please respect the privacy of the people who live there.
HISTORIC PHOTOS:

Hoyt House,
Red Wing
Photo: Northwest Architectural Archives

Breezeway
Hoyt House,
Red Wing
Photo: Northwest Architectural Archives