

MIDWEST OFFICE - HIGHLIGHTS

August 2007

PARTNERS IN PRESERVATION

American Express and the National Trust for Historic Preservation have announced that this year's **Partners in Preservation** initiative, which will dedicate \$1M in preservation funding to select projects, is focused on Chicago and the surrounding areas. Twenty-five worthy sites have been selected by MWO to compete for a share of the available funding. A five week online public voting period commenced on September 6 and will help determine this year's grant winners. Once the voting closes, a **Chicago Advisory Committee** will recommend awards based on their own knowledge of the community, the results of the public vote and information provided by MWO. Brick and mortar grants will be administered to selected projects by MWO between January 2008 and June 2009.



*Humboldt Park Stables and Receptory
Chicago, IL
Nominated for a 2007 Partners in Preservation
grant.
Photo: Maia Harms*

VIRGINIA AND HARRY SWEATT PRESERVATION FUND FOR MINNESOTA

The **Virginia and Harry Sweatt Preservation Fund** for Minnesota (PAM) was established by a generous gift from Ginny and Harry Sweatt, dedicated individuals who have been involved in the preservation of Minnesota historic resources for the last two decades. In 2005, Ginny Sweatt retired from service on the board of our statewide partner, the **Preservation Alliance of Minnesota (PAM)**. The Sweatts issued a \$100,000 challenge to both PAM and MWO to match their gift in order to establish the fund; the challenge was successfully met. MWO and Resource Development staff will continue to seek additional contributions to the fund.

CINCINNATI TAX CREDIT FORUM



Threatened buildings in Cincinnati's Over-the-Rhine neighborhood.

On July 10, MWO hosted a reception and informal forum focusing on Ohio's newly established Historic Preservation Tax Credit and how it applies to revitalization efforts in downtown Cincinnati and the adjacent Over-the-Rhine neighborhood. The forum was made possible due to the efforts of our local partner, the **Cincinnati Preservation Association (CPA)**, and with the sponsorship of National Trust Council

Member and member of CPA's Board, Marty Rahe. Thirty business leaders and local developers attended the forum and heard staff from MWO, the National Trust Community Investment Corporation (NTCIC), and Heritage Ohio speak to the power of historic tax credits as a revitalization tool, as well as how the tax credit could be beneficial to specific Cincinnati neighborhoods.