

# News and Press Releases

## Dedication of the New Derrick House at Quarry Park

September 19, 2008

On the morning of September 19th, the Stearns County Parks Department, along with Commissioners, legislators, County staff and 150 local business representatives celebrated the dedication of the new derrick house at Quarry Park & Nature Preserve. The structure was designed, built and donated by Dale Gruber Construction with some help from his business donors. It houses the engine to the 83-foot mast of the restored 1913 wooden Liberty Derrick. A derrick is like a wooden crane used to lift stones out of quarries onto loading docks. The derrick is fully operational and demonstrates the granite quarrying process from the early part of the 20th century at the site.

Stearns County is considering building a Granite Industry Interpretive Center at Quarry Park & Nature Preserve to house year-round exhibits and hands-on opportunities to learn about granites' role in the culture and economy of the area. Quarry Park is the heart of Granite Country USA.

