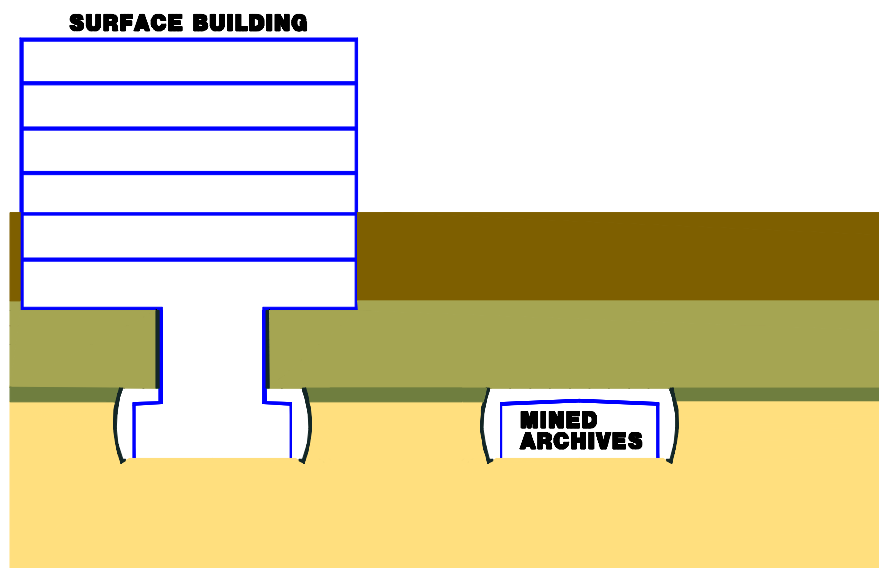


# Minnesota Library Access Center

Construction for the Minnesota Library Access Center (MLAC), located on the University of Minnesota West Bank Campus in Minneapolis, started in June 1997 and will be completed in July, 1999. The MLAC has two components – Archives Collection and Overflow storage. The Archives Collection will house precious, one-of-a-kind documents from collections from around the country. Overflow storage will compliment the existing University Library system by providing space for infrequently accessed but important materials.

This University of Minnesota project consists of two storage caverns, a 4-story conventional surface building, two vertical shafts, and a mined portal entrance. The mined caverns and tunnels will have a footprint of 106,000 square feet and an excavated volume of 95,000 cubic yards. Each cavern is 600-feet long, 25-feet high, and 70-feet wide. The shafts will provide vertical circulation between the surface and mined space and emergency egress. The 50 foot high mined portal will provide a 42 foot wide drive-in entrance for vehicles as large as semi-trailer trucks.



The caverns will be constructed in the easily excavated St. Peter sandstone and Glenwood shale. The cavern roof will be at the bottom of the Platteville limestone, which will be rockbolt reinforced. Blasting through the Platteville limestone for shaft construction will be tightly controlled on this dense urban site.

CNA provided the following services for the MLAC mined space, shafts, and portal structure: feasibility study, preliminary and final design, and construction administration.

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**Owner — University of Minnesota**

**Completion Date — 2000**

**Construction Cost – \$9 million**

**CNA**  
**Consulting**  
**Engineers**

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