



GARDEN FROM PORTE COCHERE

## THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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## THE AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME.

We are pleased to present illustrations of the new home of the American Academy in Rome.

With the exception of the year 1905, when the National Charter was granted by Congress and the endowment fund was begun, the year 1912 has been the most momentous in the history of the Academy.

The enthusiastic artists of the Chicago Exposition started the school of architecture in Rome in the year 1895; from this grew the American Academy in Rome enlarged to include in its benefactions Architecture, Sculpture and Painting. Interest during its first fifteen years was shown by the artists contributing sixty thousand dollars to its support.

By act of Congress the Academy was made a National Institution in 1905 and an endowment fund was commenced through the generosity of Messrs. J. Pierpont Morgan, Henry Walters, W. K. Vanderbilt, Henry C. Frick and the Harvard University, making contributions of one hundred thousand dollars each. One hundred thousand dollars has since been raised for this fund as a memorial to Charles Follen McKim, who gave years of his mental energy and effort and his effective initiative to firmly establish the Academy. In his will he left his estate, amounting to some two hundred thousand dollars, to the Academy, subject to a life interest of his daughter. Charles Follen McKim was President of the Academy from its beginning to his death in 1909. After Mr. McKim's death, William Rutherford Mead was elected president. A large part of the success during the past two years has been due to his enthusiasm and capacity.

and their report was accepted in full by the Sub-Committee of the Board of Estimate. The Board of Estimate in turn adopted this report in so far as concerned the court-house, selecting that one of the three sites which was specially favored by the Chapter Committee, thus ending the eight years' search for a location, and giving to the New York Chapter the credit for finally accomplishing the result and advancing so materially the work of securing a new court-house.

The question of registration of architects came up in the December meeting, and the draft of a bill, prepared by the joint Committee of the Brooklyn Chapter, the New York Society of Architects and the New York Chapter, was revised and approved as amended, and will be presented to the Legislature for passage at the present session.

The joint Committee on City Departments, representing the New York and Brooklyn Chapters, the American Institute of Consulting Engineers, the Building Trades Employers' Association, and the Underwriters, has further advanced its work in the preparation of a new Building Code, and it is hoped that the results of its labor may be presented to the Board of Aldermen within a few weeks, with a fair prospect of passage, in view of the changed complexion of the Board.

The very interesting and exhaustive report made by Mr. L. C. Holden, chairman of the Committee to Confer with the Factory Investigating Commission, was read at the January meeting and ordered printed for distribution to the members of the Chapter.

The conditions governing the award of the LeBrun Scholarship have been made public as follows:

"The New York Chapter, A. I. A., is about to hold a competition to determine the award of the LeBrun Traveling Scholarship. Under the terms of the LeBrun deed of gift, the following provisions are established:

"The award is to be made to some deserving and meritorious architect or architectural draughtsman, resident anywhere in the United States, to aid him in paying the expenses of an European trip, lasting not less than six months. The amount which will be paid to the beneficiary is \$1,000.00.

"The beneficiary is to be selected by means of a competition: the award being made by a jury consisting of at least three practicing architects, no one of whom is to be connected with any school or atelier for the teaching of architecture. In making the award, the jury is to give full and careful consideration to the records of qualification filed by the competitors as well as to the comparative excellence of the drawings submitted.

"Any architect or architectural draughtsman, a citizen and resident of the United States, not under twenty-three or over thirty years of age who shall, for at least three years, have been either engaged in active practice, or employed as an architectural draughtsman and who is not and has not been the beneficiary of any other traveling scholarship, shall be eligible to compete.

"Each competitor must be nominated by a member of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects who shall certify in writing that the above

conditions are fulfilled, and that in his opinion the competitor is deserving of the scholarship.

"No member of the Chapter shall nominate more than one (1) candidate.

"Every competitor must engage to remain, if successful, at least six months abroad and to devote well and truly that length of time to travel and to study of architecture otherwise than by entering any school or atelier or attending lectures, it being intended that the benefit derived from this traveling scholarship shall supplement school or office experience.

"It is proposed to begin the competition about March 20, and to allow until May 1 for the receipt of drawings. Further details as to dates will be issued later, but it is now expected that the winner shall start upon his trip July 1, 1912.

"All persons who are eligible, and who desire to compete for this scholarship, are requested to send their applications to Mr. Henry Bacon, 160 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Applications must be received not later than March 1, 1912, and must in each case state clearly the residence, citizenship, age, experience and general qualifications of the applicant, and be accompanied by the necessary nomination and certificate from a member of the New York Chapter, A. I. A. Persons residing at a distance from New York and not knowing a member of the New York Chapter, may avail themselves of the services of any well-known architect, who can vouch for them to a member of the New York Chapter with whom he is acquainted.

"No application will be considered that is not accompanied by a nomination and certificate from a member of the New York Chapter, A. I. A.

HENRY BACON,  
ARNOLD W. BRUNNER,  
WILLIAM M. KENDALL,  
C. GRANT LA FARGE,  
H. VAN BUREN MAGONIGLE,

*Committee on LeBrun Traveling Scholarship."*

Following out the authorization given by the Chapter at the May meeting, the Executive Committee specifically approved the terms of the "plan and agreement for a National Academy Association," thereby definitely determining that the Chapter will have its headquarters in the new building, with proper space for Secretary's office and committee room.

At the Convention of the Institute, held in Washington in December, the question of the mandatory Code, governing competitions, was again brought up by a resolution that the Code be made advisory in place of mandatory. After some discussion, the proposed change was voted down by a large majority. On the last day of the Convention, the subject was again thrown open to discussion, and it was again made clear that very few members desired to change the present mandatory character of the Code, thus showing that the Institute, as a whole, is prepared to sustain the stringent requirements which have been in force for the last two years.

The Chapter records with keen regret the death of Charles H. Israels which occurred on November 13, 1911.

Since the date of his election to the Chapter in 1902, Mr. Israel showed in innumerable ways how real were to him the principles on which the American Institute of Architects is founded; he not only tried to apply these principles in his professional career, but he had a broad and fine view of the duties of an architect toward his city and the State. As a member of several building code commissions and of our own Committee on Legislation and Committee on City Departments he worked with a rare devotion toward the advancement of the art of architecture, yet always with a broad appreciation of the relation existing between the immediate task and the general advancement of the community as a whole. His loss will not only be felt as the loss of an architect of high professional ideals, but also as that of an earnest, devoted, straightforward citizen of the city of New York.

CHARLES BUTLER,  
*Recorder.*

#### BROOKLYN CHAPTER.

The Brooklyn Chapter has held regular monthly meetings but has deviated from its usual program in that all but one meeting has been devoted entirely to business.

The November meeting was held in the new club house of the Order of Elks in New York, the Chapter members present being shown about the building by Mr. James Riley Gordon, its architect, who, after a very pleasant dinner, spoke on the subject of designing club houses in general and particularly upon the features of the club of which we were guests.

Among the various items of business which have occupied the attention of the members at their meetings are the following:

The awarding of the contract for the new Municipal Building in Brooklyn, under conditions which did not appear to sustain the high ethical standards set by the Institute, has been the cause for considerable debate and investigation. The discovery was made that other architects were involved who had made offers, which if accepted would have placed them in the position of having to conduct work on a basis similar to that upon which the contract has been awarded.

The Brooklyn Chapter held a conference with the New York Chapter in relation to this matter and it is our hope that it will result in the establishment of a clearer understanding of professional requirements. The entire matter is now in the hands of the Judiciary Committee of the Institute.

The Committee on Registration, acting in conjunction with the New York Chapter and with the New York Society of Architects, has prepared a Registration Act for the State of New York which they hope to have introduced in this session of the Legislature and enacted into law.

The Committee on City Departments, acting with the New York Chapter and representatives from other professional organizations, has prepared a much-needed building code for the city of New York which it is proposed to introduce in the Board of Aldermen and it is believed that it has been constructed upon lines so fair and

equitable to the various interests that the members of the Board will be compelled to enact it into law. This committee has also acted with the Builders' Association of Brooklyn and successfully persuaded the Superintendent of Buildings of that borough to modify some of his rulings under which it was found difficult to do work.

The Chapter is taking steps to have published in the public press articles sent by the Secretary of the Institute regarding the Lincoln Memorial.

Mr. Burnham with his associate Mr. Burnett visited our borough and they have under consideration plans for a civic center. A committee on City Planning for the Borough of Brooklyn has been formed and the President of the Brooklyn Chapter is a member *ex-officio* of the Executive Committee.

The Chapter has discussed the requirements of the Code of Competitions and Schedule of Charges of the Institute and will take action on same at some future date so as to instruct their delegates at the next convention in the course which they wish them to pursue.

DUDLEY McGRATH,  
*Secretary.*

#### PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Chapter held December 4, 1911, Mr. Wm. L. Plack, Chapter delegate to the International Congress at Rome, presented an interesting report on the proceedings of the Congress at this meeting.

Resolutions were adopted advocating the site recommended by the Park Commission of the District of Columbia as the most suitable and appropriate for the proposed memorial to Abraham Lincoln.

Resolutions were also adopted instructing the Chapter delegates to the Forty-fifth Convention of the Institute to uphold the present system of competition regulation.

The annual banquet commemorating the forty-second anniversary of the founding of the Chapter took place on December 7, 1911, at the Bellevue Stratford Hotel, fifty members and guests of the Chapter participating.

Mr. John Hall Rankin, President of the Chapter, presided as toastmaster.

The guests included representatives of the Municipal Government, member of recently appointed Municipal Art Jury; Mr. Thomas H. Mawson, Honorary Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects; Hon. John E. Reyburn, former mayor of the city, and others.

The first speaker of the evening was Mr. Mawson, who referred to the general subject of Town Planning and to the spirit of co-operation apparently evidenced by those interested in civic improvements in Philadelphia.

He was followed by ex-Mayor John E. Reyburn, whose term had just expired and who had been instrumental in furthering the City Planning movement in Philadelphia.

Mr. George D. Porter, the new Director of Public Safety, spoke for Mayor Blankenburg who was unable to be present, and referred to the important duties that lay before the new Art Jury.

## OBITUARIES.

## JOHN M. ALLEN, F. A. I. A.

Mr. John M. Allen was born at Marion, Mass., June 24, 1842, and died there February 13, 1912.

After graduating from Phillips Academy, Andover, he entered the Lawrence Scientific School, Cambridge, in 1862, and took the course in Civil Engineering, receiving the degree of S. B. in 1864.

His architectural training was begun in the office of Messrs. Ware & Van Brunt, Boston.

Between 1878 and 1888 he designed several buildings in New Bedford, Mass., and some houses at Marion, Mass. He also was the architect of a college and other buildings at Yankton, Dakota.

In the late years of his life, he was a close student of science and made some valuable discoveries, but became too ill to perfect his work.

Mr. John M. Allen was elected an Associate of the American Institute of Architects in 1879 and a Fellow in 1889.

## CHARLES H. ISRAELS, A. I. A.

Mr. Charles Henry Israels was born December 5, 1865, in New York City; died on November 13, 1911, at Yonkers, N. Y. He was educated at Irving Institute, Tarrytown, and at the Art Students League. He traveled in Europe for two years after which he engaged in practice in New York City. He was a member of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, the Architectural League and the Municipal Art Society. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the Architectural League of New York, and Secretary of the Municipal Art Society at the time of his death. Among the structures upon which he was engaged are the Hudson Theater, the Hotels Devon, Walton, Warrington and Arlington; the Lord & Taylor Building on Fifth Avenue,



BAS-RELIEF OF BEAL AND CARSON

Size 7 x 13 feet

Erected in National Museum, Washington, D. C.

Isidore Konti, Sculptor

The Gorham Co., New York, Founders

and the Physicians' Building in East Forty-first Street. Mr. Israels contributed articles and criticisms to the *Architectural Press*. He was also a member of the commission appointed by the Board of Aldermen to revise the Building Code of New York City several years ago.

Mr. Israels was elected an Associate Member of the American Institute of Architects in 1908.

JULIUS F. HARDER.

FREDERIC L. OLDS, A. I. A.

Mr. Frederick L. Olds of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of the American Institute since 1902, when he was elected an Associate member, died January 10, 1912.