



MEDAL PRESENTED BY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AT ROME, ITALY, IN 1889. AWARDED DIPLOMA AND MEDAL WITH SECOND SELECTION AND HONORABLE MENTION IN A CONCOURSE OF DESIGNS OF 293 SCULPTORS AND ARCHITECTS.

HENRY LORD GAY, F. A. I. A.
ARCHITECTURAL OFFICES
555-556-557 MCNEECE BUILDING

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PACIFIC, MAIN 198

AMERICAN INSTITUTE of ARCHITECTS

FEB 15 1915

To be }
Ass. by }
Copy } *Feb 8th 1915*
Orig. to }

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

Copy }
Reply to }

In suspense

Mr John Lawrence Mauran
Treasurer A. I. A.
The Octagon Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,

I address you for information regarding my dues for the current year of 1915.

I reached the seventieth anniversary of my birthday last September. I was born in the City of Baltimore Md, on the second day of September 1844. While I am quite ready to meet my obligations, and particularly membership dues, I am equally agreeable to enjoy any amenities accorded to members of long standing which maybe granted by the Institute. I am of the opinion that my individual labors and expenditures, during the years from 1883 to 1889 resulted in great gain for the present existing A. I. A.

*I conceived, originated and exploited, the formation of the Western Association of Architects to a successful creation. Every dollar for this direct result came from me. I contributed ideas to the publisher of the *Inter Architect*, for editorials suggesting such an organization, and when the time was ripe I fixed the date for its first convention. I paid for all the literature relating to the forthcoming convention, the postage for the same and the clerical expense, of finding addresses in State directories from New York to the Pacific Coast. from Minneapolis to New Orleans. including one thousand copies of three issues - three months apart - which I bought of its publisher, and finally I provided the hall in which the Convention took place, free of all expense to the new organization. I was made its secretary for its first year, which was an added expense to me of three hundred dollars or more, for which I never asked for, or ever received any reimbursement. In the second year of its existence I was disturbed by the political intrigues going on in this*

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MEDAL PRESENTED BY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT
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SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, _____ 191 _____

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new association. Being an old member of the Institute, it was rational
for me to consider it possible that the A. I. A. if consolidated with
this new and much larger organization, there might be effected an elimination
of personal intrigues for personal gain, in governing an association
which should be free from every kind of patronage. In the Spring of
1886 I proposed to Mr A. J. Bloor secretary that he confer with the directors
of the A. I. A. about holding the next Convention at Chicago. I received the
answer, that the directory considered it too much like an invasion into the
territory of the W. A. A. I immediately obtained the consensus of opinion
from the leading architects of Chicago (two or three were members of the A. I. A.)
who were unanimous in their expressions for the Convention to be held there, this
I forwarded in my letter to Mr Bloor. So the A. I. A. held its convention in
Chicago in 1887, the following year. Having brought together leading members
of both organizations, in personal intercourse, the suggestion of consolidation was
 mooted, no one thought to ask where the idea emanated from, and I did
not care so long as it should culminate in a successful finish, and the
consolidation took place in 1889. The Western Association might have been
created in some other way, but it was not. The American Institute of Architects
might have increased its membership and have become the one great
National Association some other way than through consolidation with the
W. A. A. but it did so consolidate. The credit of the creation of the
W. A. A. is fully believed in by nine tenths of the western architects as
belonging to the publishers of the Inland Architect; as from whom the
germinating thought of consolidation got into the atmosphere at the '89
Convention held at Chicago no one questioned, as it was discussed at luncheons
and at social gatherings. The minds of every member of both organizations
were at that time receptive - first - (and I was aware of it) the A. I. A. had lost
largely in membership during the past years, and was not then in strong condition,
- second - the W. A. A. was strong in membership and progressive and assertive
in its policy - yet there was not a member of the W. A. A. but held the older
organization in the highest estimation. It was upon these two conditions that
I counted that if once these men could come together, untrammelled by any
forethought of such an idea.

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as consolidation, that it would be agreeably received and considered.

To suggest the idea to a few, was to assure its promulgation throughout the full membership, the result was as I had hoped for.

Reminiscence thought has led into a longer letter than I intended, when first referring to early experiences, which I hope you will pardon. I might have simply asked of you if I was correct in my information that the Institute reminds the dues of old members who have passed seventy years?

Truly Yours
 Henry Lord Gay

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MEDAL PRESENTED BY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AT ROME, ITALY, IN 1983. AWARDED DIPLOMA AND MEDAL WITH SECOND SELECTION AND HONORABLE MENTION IN A CONCOURSE OF DESIGNS OF 293 SCULPTORS AND ARCHITECTS.

HENRY LORD GAY, F. A. I. A.
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Handwritten signature

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, June 11th 1915

To the Honorable Board of Directors of the
AMERICAN INSTITUTE of ARCHITECTS
Washington D.C.

AMERICAN Inst. of Architects
RECEIVED
JUN 16 1915
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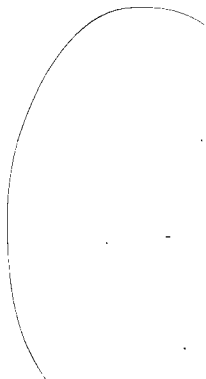
Gentlemen.

Having passed the years of "Three score and Ten" September 2d 1914, I desire to receive from your honorable body, the privileges accorded members of that age, and be relieved from remittances of annual dues. The spirit of loyalty, and endeavor, that I exercised in professional and associative work, thirty or more years ago, I still retain, and while it is not conceded to me, to do any more active work, I take earnest interest in that already accomplished by the Institute, which is now, of most potent value, in the honorable practice of the profession of Architecture. In the future of the Institute, there is a surety of advance, to an elevation, in comparison with conditions of to day, as present conditions compare to those of thirty or more years ago.

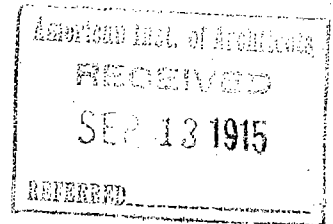
Wishing you Godspeed in all your endeavors, I am
Sincerely Yours.

Henry Lord Gay

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Gay, Henry L



September 11, 1915.

MR. HENRY LORD GAY,
536 Hennepin Building,
San Diego, Cal.

My dear Mr. Gay:

I am glad to inform you that the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, at its recent meeting, resolved, in compliance with your request, to transfer your name to the retired list in view of your having reached the age of seventy and retired from the active practice of architecture.

Permit me to express the hope that you may enjoy your retirement for many years to come.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

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Oceanside August 28th 1920

My Dear Sir, I have closed my office, & have permanently retired from practice. Kindly note my change of address and oblige

Yours Truly
Henry Lord Gay.

P.O. Box 154

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NOTED

H.M. Oceanside California

U.S. B. - P.D. B.

