

Harpster, M. E.
Cleveland Chapter

23

Exhibit reg

Application for Membership

DEC 31st, 1920

To the Secretary of the American Institute of Architects,
The Octagon House, Washington, D. C.

SIR:

I hereby apply for Membership in the American Institute of Architects.

I hereby certify that the following statements are correct:

Name M. E. Harpster

Address 234 Central Sav. & Trust Bldg. Akron Ohio
[Number and Street.] [City.] [State.]

Place and date of birth Mt. Cory Ohio Aug 19th 1871

Graduate in architecture Cornell University - 1896
[If required in your case, give name of institutions and year.—Attach evidence of Diploma or Certificate of graduation]

Holder of Scholarship in architecture _____
[If required in your case, attach evidence.]

Passed the qualifying examinations of the Royal Institute of British Architects, or the examinations for the first class of the Ecole des Beaux Arts _____
[If required in your case, state which, and attach evidence of Certificate.]

If an Associate of a Chapter of the Institute, give name of chapter _____

If practicing architect, firm name Harpster & Bliss

Have been in practice Twenty years _____

If draughtsman, employed by _____
[State number of years.]

Collegiate and office training Cornell University, and offices of W. R. Brown and Geo. M. Raff - Circinnatti

I have carefully examined the Constitution and By-Laws of the Institute and the "Circular of Advice Relative to Principles of Professional Practice and Canons of Ethics," and I agree, if elected, honorably to maintain them.

I further agree, if elected to membership in the American Institute of Architects, that if at any time my membership shall cease, either by my own resignation or by any action taken by the Institute, I will then, by that fact, relinquish all rights of any character that I may have acquired by reason of such membership in the property, real or personal, of the American Institute of Architects, and of the Chapter of the Institute of which I am then a member.

M. E. Harpster
[Signature of Applicant.]

I hereby certify that the signer of this application was duly elected an Associate of the _____
[For use when the applicant is an Associate.]

Chapter, A. I. A., on the following date _____
[Insert date of election to chapter.]

Secretary.

Chapter, A. I. A.

We, the undersigned members of the American Institute of Architects, have carefully examined the foregoing statement and believe it to be correct. We know the applicant personally, and consider that his work and practice warrant his admission to Membership.

- (1) Wm. A. Bohnead
- (2) Herbert B. Bupp
- (3) Albert E. J. [unclear]

Prelim. Fee. \$5.00 1/24/21
 Application remitted
 Exam. Exp. no
 [unclear] not required

[The signatures of three Institute members are here required unless the applicant has the unanimous endorsement of his Chapter, in which case certification to that effect should be made above by the Secretary. Unanimous endorsement is that endorsement in which each Institute member of the Chapter had an opportunity to express himself by letter ballot either for or against the member proposed. No other form of unanimous endorsement will be accepted.]

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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

COPY

March 12, 1921.

Dear Mr. Skeel:

I enclose a privileged communication of March 8, from Mr. Clarence A. Martin of Ithaca, with regard to the application of Mr. Milton E. Harpster of Akron and who, if elected, will be assigned to the Cleveland Chapter.

Please send the comments of the Chapter in this matter in time for action by the Board of Directors at the meeting on May 9. In the meantime, the application of Mr. Harpster will be laid on the table.

Very truly yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Albert E. Skeel,
4500 Euclid Avenue,
Cleveland, Ohio.

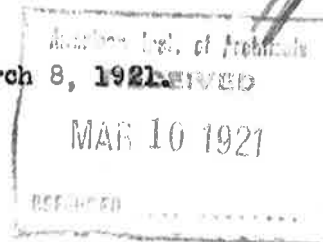
K1C

Enclosure

CLARENCE A. MARTIN,
ITHACA, NEW YORK.

Copy to Special

March 8, 1921.



Mr. William Stanley Parker,
Secretary A. I. A.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Parker:

I beg to offer objection to the election of Mr. Milton E. Harpster of Akron, Ohio, to membership in the Institute.

In the year 1896-97 Mr. Harpster held a fellowship as a graduate student in Architecture at Cornell. About the middle of the year he came to me asking my endorsement on a note to one of our banks for a loan until a payment should be due on his fellowship. I gave the endorsement and eventually paid the note and the protest fee without any adequate expression of sorrow or regret on the part of Mr. Harpster. Eventually he repaid me the major part of the debt but never has paid all of it. In the same year the students and faculty presented a loving cup to Prof. Charles Babcock as head of the college. Harpster made a subscription which another of the professors paid for him and for which he never made reimbursement.

In those days I was harder up for money than I am now, which is saying a good deal, and I sent several reminders to Harpster, but he ignored them. Some 12 or 15 years later I met him at a time and place where my moral support was apparently wanted and at that time he told me of his prosperity, voluntarily confessed his delinquency in the two counts above mentioned, and voluntarily and volubly avowed his intention of making full refund with interest immediately upon his return home. That was a number of years ago and is the last I have heard of the matter.

It may seem a small matter to press this experience after so long a time, but I have reason to believe that mine was not a unique experience with Mr. Harpster. Furthermore he has never given any real evidence of a right attitude in the matter, other than the special admission above noted, and I am forced reluctantly to the conclusion that the experience is too truly indicative of his true character. For that reason I believe it my duty to put the facts before you, believing that we do not need any timber of this kind in the Institute. You are at liberty to send the enclosed copy of this letter to Mr. Harpster if you can see any advantage to him or to you in so doing.

Yours very truly,

Clarence A. Martin

Personally written.

F.A.I.A.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

J. SCHURMAN, PRESIDENT
H. BOSWORTH, DEAN

C. MARTIN	L. P. BURNHAM
O. M. BRADNER	G. R. CHAMBERLAIN
A. C. PHELPS	R. NORTH
G. YOUNG, JR.	H. S. GUTSELL
C. MIDJO	H. E. BAXTER

W. K. STONE

ITHACA, N. Y.

April 2, 1921.

Mr. E. C. Kemper,
Executive Secretary, A.I.A.,
The Octagon House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kemper:

Some days ago I wrote you a letter protesting the nomination of Mr. Milton E. Harpster for election to membership in the Institute.

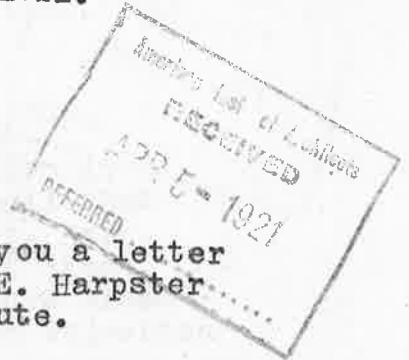
Since making that protest a curious readjustment has taken place. Mr. Harpster, since the writing of my letter, has written me making full restitution and as ample amends for ^{the} error or wrong that formed the basis of my protest as it is humanly possible for a man to make, which certainly is all that humans ought to demand. Furthermore, and to my deep satisfaction, I have convincing evidence that this act on Mr. Harpster's part was wholly voluntary and made before he had any word of my protest.

Under the circumstances I wish to withdraw my protest unreservedly and sincerely hope that the record in Mr. Harpster's case may be left perfectly clear.

Yours very truly,

Clarence A. Martin

Personally written.



YALE UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

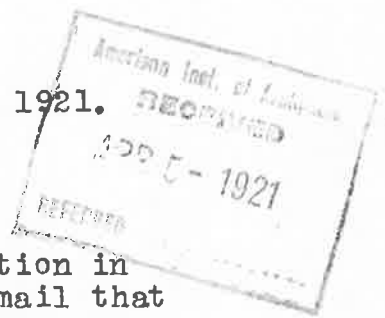
G. SCHURMAN, PRESIDENT
F. H. BOSWORTH, DEAN

A. MARTIN	L. P. BURNHAM
D. M. BRAUNER	G. R. CHAMBERLAIN
A. C. PHELPS	R. NORTH
G. YOUNG, JR.	H. S. GUTSELL
C. MIDJO	H. E. BAXTER

W. K. STONE

ITHACA, N. Y.

April 2, 1921.



Dear Mr. Kemper:

Thank you for the suggestion in your letter of March 30. The same mail that brought your letter brought one from Mr. Harpster enclosing a letter from Mr. Albert Skeel, of the Cleveland Chapter, saying that his election had been temporarily held up by an objection from Ithaca, etc.

Mr. Skeel's letter was dated March 31, while Mr. Harpster's letter to me was mailed from Akron on March 24, which is all the evidence I need to convince me of Mr. Harpster's sincerity.

I am sorry to have put you to so much bother in this case, and I trust that you will regard my previous communications as unofficial so far as you can and keep the records clear for Mr. Harpster.

Since Mr. Harpster has written me on the subject I am sending him a copy of my letter to you--the official letter, I mean--and as I know Mr. Skeele very well I am also writing to him in Mr. Harpster's behalf.

Sincerely yours,

Clarence A. Martin

Personally to
Mr. E.C. Kemper.

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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

COPY

June 9, 1921.

My dear Mr. Harpster:-

Acting for the Secretary, I am pleased to advise you of your election to membership in the American Institute of Architects, effective May 8, 1921.

You have been assigned to the Cleveland Chapter as an Institute member in good standing therein, and the Secretary of the Chapter has been so notified.

The enclosed statement for dues should receive early attention, as the engrossed Certificate of Membership is not sent until dues for the first year have been paid. No charge has been made for the first quarter of the current year.

May I take this opportunity to say that the office of the Secretary at the Octagon is for the service of every Institute member. Should the occasion arise we shall be glad to give you our best cooperation.

Very truly yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. M. E. Harpster,
Central Savings & Trust Bldg.,
Akron, Ohio.

K-P,
Enclosure.

COPY TO

FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

M. E. HARPSTER

J. F. BLISS

Harpster & Bliss Architects

CENTRAL SAVINGS & TRUST BLDG.

Akron, Ohio



Akron O. Feb 13th 1926

The American Institute of Architects
Attention Mr. Ittner.

Dear Sir: I am enclosing
check for part of my back dues
and will remit the balance
early in march. The years 1924 and 25
were disastrous, financially for me.
my partner, Mr Bliss was confined
to the hospital for a year and a half
before he died in July of '25, and I
gave him every dollar I could spare
of our proceeds, and made myself
terribly hard up. I am just
beginning to see daylight ahead.

Thanking you for any courtesies
that you can extend in my
care, I remain yours Respectfully,
M. E. Harpster.

Received Payment
American Institute of Architects

~~PAID 25~~ 2/16/26 - Pol for 1924
+ 25 for 1925.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2-3
COPY

February 17, 1926.

Dear Mr. Harpster:-

This will acknowledge your letter of February 13 and check for \$25.00 on account which pays your dues for 1924, and \$5.00 on account of 1925.

This is sufficient to preserve your Institute and Chapter membership during the year 1926 and I wish to thank you on behalf of the Treasurer for the effort you have made.

It is hoped that business conditions will continue to improve and that the year 1926 will be a successful one for you in every way.

By direction of the Treasurer.

Sincerely yours,

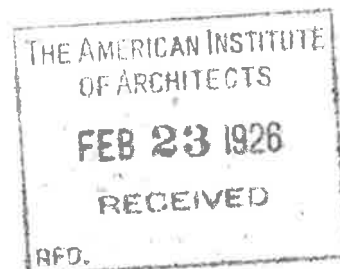
Assistant Treasurer.

Mr. M. E. Harpster,
Central Savings & Trust Bldg.,
Akron, Ohio.

K:S

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2-3
COPY



February 18
1926

Mr. M.E. Harpster
Central Savings & Trust Bldg.
Akron, Ohio

Dear Mr. Harpster:

I have just been advised by Mr. Kemper, the Executive Secretary of the American Institute of Architects, that you are in arrears for dues, including those of 1926, to the amount of \$65.00, and that by action of the Board, unless this delinquency is cleared up this month, your membership in the Institute will be terminated March 1st.

I would dislike very much to see you lose your Institute membership, as I feel that it is a decided asset, and that a man situated as you are should consider it a duty to support the organization representing your profession. The Institute is doing great work, and deserves the support of all practitioners.

Speaking as a member of the Board of the Institute, and for the Board, I want to let you know that they would consider it a decided loss to the Institute if your name is dropped. Consequently, I am writing in the hope that you will give this matter your prompt attention.

Very sincerely yours,

CHA

CHH*LB

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

23
COPY

March 12, 1927

My dear Mr. Harpster:

At the direction of the Secretary of the Institute, and with regret, I write to advise you that your membership in the American Institute of Architects, and the Cleveland Chapter, has been terminated, effective March 1, 1927, for non-payment of Institute dues.

You are indebted for \$70.00, covering the years 1925, 1926, and 1927.

If I might add a word of explanation, it would be to say that the Officers and Directors of the Institute are more than sorry that this action is necessary. They regret to lose your name and influence.

But the Institute is largely dependent upon the dues of its members for carrying on its work. It is not fair to those who pay their dues to carry, indefinitely, those who do not pay. Under the general resolution adopted at the December meeting of the Board, and about which we advised you, we are obliged to drop those owing for two years or more.

It is hoped that the future will bring about improved business conditions for you, and that you will consider renewing your professional society affiliations.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. M. E. Harpster,
Central Savings & Trust Bldg.,
Akron, Ohio.

K/PHG

Copy to Mr. Philip L. Small, Secretary,
Cleveland Chapter.

COPY TO

FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER