

PRESIDENT, ROBERT K. FULLER
VICE PRESIDENT, M. S. FALLIS

SECRETARY, G. MEREDITH MUSICK
TREASURER, JOHN M. GARDNER

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

COLORADO CHAPTER
412 INSURANCE BUILDING
DENVER, COLORADO

November
24th
1926

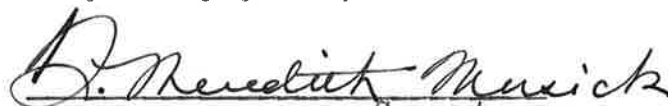
Edward C. Kemper,
Executive Secretary,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Kemper:

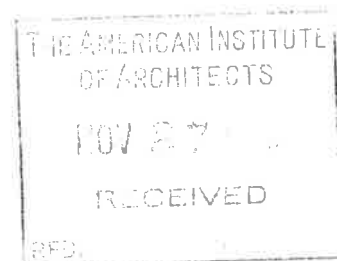
I am enclosing the application of
Mr. J. G. Meem, together with his check of
\$5.00 for initiation fee.

The Chapter Executive Committee
classifies Mr. Meem under class two, which
will require exhibits and photographs which
I am asking Mr. Meem to send to you.

Very truly yours,



Secretary
Colorado Chapt. A.I.A.



GMM:AO
Enc.

Mem. John Gaw
Colorado

Must send Exp
Resd

Application for Membership

November 4th, 19 26

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 John Gaw Meem

Address Sunmount Santa Fe New Mexico
[Number and Street.] [City.] [State.]

Place and date of birth Pelotas, Brazil November 17th, 1894

Graduate in architecture -----
[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 Ecolè 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 Meem & McCormick

Have been in practice 2 years and 9 months years

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

Collegiate and office training Graduate in Civil Engineering, Bachelor of Science
Virginia Military Institute, 1 yr. 3 mos. with Fisher & Fisher, Arch'ts.
Denver, 1 yr. Atelier Denver, Class B, Beaux Arts Institute of Design.

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.

John Meem
[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.]

Without endorsement I hereby take note on ----- Secretary.
behalf of my Chapter that this application is -----
applying for Institute Membership. ----- Chapter, A. I. A.

Edmund Musick
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) -----
- (2) Arthur Q. Fisher
- (3) Edmund Musick

Registration or License Number.

If the applicant resides or has his principal place of business in a Registration or License law state the current number of his Registration or License should be noted here.

(-----)
NUMBER

[The signatures of three Institute members are here required even if 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, and in which there are no negative votes. No other form of unanimous endorsement will be accepted.]

Membership in the American Institute of Architects

Objects: The objects of the American Institute of Architects are to organize and unite in fellowship the Architects of the United States, to combine their efforts so as to promote the æsthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession, and to make the profession of ever-increasing service to society.

The American Institute of Architects desires and invites the membership of every practicing architect, or architectural draughtsman, who is willing to join with his professional brothers in upholding and promoting the principles and ideals of service for which the American Institute stands.

Conditions of Membership: Any resident of the United States, who is a practicing architect, or an architect engaged in professional education, or an architectural draughtsman, is eligible to membership if able to submit the required proofs of his or her professional

capacity and honorable personal and professional standing.

The Chapter Relation: Chapters of the Institute are local groups of Institute members and associates organized under a form of Chapter Constitution and By-Laws which provides a standard relationship to the Institute, with varying provisions for local organization and effort. An applicant for Institute membership is assigned, upon election, to the chapter within whose territory he has his business headquarters. If he resides in the territory of one chapter and has his business headquarters in the territory of another, he may make a choice in his application.

Initiation Fee, Dues and Journal: The initiation fee is \$5.00 which must accompany the application. The dues are \$20.00 a year, if paid in January, of which \$2.50 is for one year's subscription to THE JOURNAL of the A. I. A.

General Requirements and Proof of Professional Ability

Educational Requirements and Experience: No exhibits of executed work or technical examination are required of an applicant who can qualify under the provisions contained in the following paragraphs, but every such applicant must send with his application in lieu of exhibits of executed work, and as evidence of the proper educational equipment, his certificate of graduation, or his scholarship award, or some authoritative writing which is satisfactory proof of such graduation or scholarship award.

Those not qualifying under Group I should send exhibits as required under Group II.

Group I. Exhibits are not required: Of graduates in Architecture of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Columbia University, University of Pennsylvania, Cornell University, Harvard University, the University of Illinois, the University of Michigan, Carnegie Institute of Technology, the University of California, Washington University, Syracuse University, the University of Minnesota, the University of Oregon, the University of Kansas, Yale University, the Armour Institute of Technology, the Kansas State Agricultural College, Ohio State University, University of Washington, University of Texas and Pennsylvania State College.

Or from those who have held accredited scholarships of the American Academy at Rome, Columbia University, Cornell University, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Washington University, or holders of the Rotch, McKim, or Stewardson Scholarships, the winners of the Paris Prize of the Society of Beaux Arts Architects or the Alumni Fellowship of the University of Pennsylvania; or from those who have passed the

qualifying examinations of the Royal Institute of British Architects or the examinations for the first class of the Ecolè des Beaux Arts.

Practical Experience: Applicants applying under these general requirements shall have had not less than two years' experience as practicing architects; or three years as draughtsmen; or two years as draughtsmen and one year in practice.

Unanimous Endorsement: No exhibits of executed work are required in any case when the applicant has the unanimous endorsement of his chapter. 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 and in which there were no negative votes. A letter from the chapter secretary to this effect should accompany the application.

→ *Group II. Exhibits are required:* Applicants not qualifying under Group I, unless they have unanimous endorsement, should accompany their applications with simple exhibits of executed work consisting of working drawings and photographs of two executed buildings. These exhibits may be taken from the office files and need not be specially prepared. They are returned in due course. Such applicants shall have been in independent practice at least three years, or have served five years as draughtsmen.

The architectural draughtsman is not required to submit exhibits of which he is the publicly recognized designer, but he must send two such exhibits of which he can truthfully say he was the principal author, although the work was done in the office of another.

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

COPY

November 29, 1926.

Dear Mr. Musick:-

Permit me to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of the 24th, enclosing the application of Mr. J. G. Meem for Institute membership; also his check of \$5.00 to cover the Preliminary Fee.

We are making acknowledgment to Mr. Meem today.

Very truly yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. G. Meredith Musick, Secretary,
Colorado Chapter of the A.I.A.,
412 Insurance Building,
Denver, Colorado.

K:VB

COPY TO

FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

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

COPY

November 29, 1926.

Dear Mr. Meem:-

Permit me to acknowledge with gratification, and on behalf of the Secretary, your application for Membership in the American Institute of Architects, received by reference from Mr. Musick, Secretary of the Colorado Chapter.

The application is complete in every respect except for the customary routine exhibits - which should consist of photographs and working drawings of two executed buildings which need not be specially prepared, may be taken from your office files, and will be carefully returned later.

Acknowledgment is also made of your check of \$5.00 to cover the Preliminary Fee.

Cordially yours,

Executive Secretary.

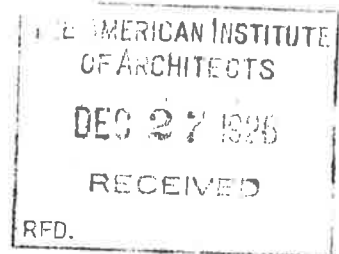
Mr. John Gaw Meem,
Sunmount, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

K:VB

COPY TO

FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

MEEB & McCORMICK
ARCHITECTS
SUNMOUNT, SANTA FE, N. M.



December 18th, 1926.

Mr. Edward C. Kemper,
Executive Secretary American Inst. of Architects,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Kemper:

Your letter of November 29th has not been answered to date pending the preparation of photographs of executed buildings. Unfortunately, we have not succeeded to date in obtaining the type of photograph we would like to send with my application for membership in the American Institute of Architects.

As soon as suitable photographs are obtainable I will immediately forward them to you together with the working drawings of two of our executed buildings.

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M. E. E. M. & McCormick".

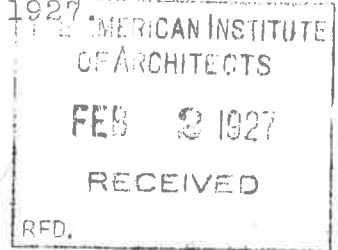
JGM:HMJ

MEEB & McCORMICK, ARCHITECTS

**MEEM & McCORMICK
ARCHITECTS
SUNMOUNT, SANTA FE, N. M.**

January 29th, 1927

Mr. E.C. Kemper, Executive Secretary,
The American Institute of Architects,
Octagon House,
Washington, D.C.



Dear Mr. Kemper:

In compliance with your letter of November 29th, 1926 and my reply of December 18th, I take pleasure in forwarding to you, under separate cover, two sets of exhibits:

1. Tex Austin's Ranch House
1 set working drawings
6 photographs
2. La Fonda Kitchen Addition
1 set working drawings
9 photographs

I regret the delay in forwarding these exhibits, but trust that they will prove satisfactory and will further my application for membership in the American Institute of Architects.

Sincerely yours,

JGM:HMJ

MEEM & McCORMICK, ARCHITECTS

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

COPY

April 1, 1927.

Dear Mr. Meem:-

Acting for the Secretary, I am pleased to advise you of your election to membership in The American Institute of Architects, effective April 1, 1927.

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

The enclosed statement covering dues for the last three quarters of the current year should receive your prompt attention.

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.

Cordially yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. John Gaw Meem,
Summit,
Santa Fe, New Mexico.

K:VB
ENCL

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

COPY

October ²⁹ 22, 1954

My dear Mr. Meem:

It appears from the record at The Octagon that you sent a check for \$15.00 covering Institute dues for the current year.

As you know, under the plan for adjusting dues, you could have taken a credit of \$5.00.

A number of members followed the same procedure and a list thereof was submitted to President Russell at the time of his recent visit to The Octagon.

It is his understanding that you intended to make a gift of the credit, of the nature outlined in his letter of July 1st, copy of which is enclosed.

The return card which accompanied that letter is also enclosed, for your signature and return if you can assist the Institute to the extent indicated.

Sincerely yours,

K:C

Executive Secretary.

Mr. John Gaw Meem, A.I.A.
Summit
Santa Fe, New Mexico

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

COPY

March 29, 1946

My dear Mr. Bostwick:

The American Institute of Architects greatly appreciates the invitation of the Regents and Faculty of the University of New Mexico to send a representative to the inauguration of John Philip Wernette, as President of the University, on Friday, May 10th and has requested Mr. John Gaw Meem, Box 628, Santa Fe, New Mexico, to be present as its official representative.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary

ECK:dd

Mr. J. L. Bostwick
Chairman of the Committee
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, New Mexico

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

2-3
COPY

Meem

File

March 29, 1946

Dear Mr. Meem:

The Institute has been invited by the Regents and Faculty of the University of New Mexico to be represented at the inauguration of John Philip Wernette, as President of the University, on Friday, May 10.

President Edmunds would greatly appreciate it if you would represent The Institute on this occasion and the Chairman of the Committee, J. L. Bostwick, has been so advised.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary

ECK:dd

Mr. John Gaw Meem, A.I.A.
Box 628
Santa Fe, New Mexico

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

2-3
COPY

Meem

February 6, 1947

Dear Mr. Overholt:

The New Mexico Chapter of the A.I.A. is now completing its organization and the charter will be issued soon, effective January 1, 1947.

Accordingly, we are preparing to transfer the chapter assignment of five of the petitioning members from the Colorado Chapter, and shall appreciate it if you will let us know if the following are in good standing:

~~John Gaw Meem~~
~~Roy Webster Vorhees~~
Willard C. Kruger
Louis G. Hesselden
Hugo Zehner

Upon receipt of your advice the transfers of those in good standing will be made promptly.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Director.

ECK:ekp

cc: President, Colorado Chapter, A.I.A.

Mr. Charles H. Overholt, Secretary
Colorado Chapter, A.I.A.
615 Columbine St.
Denver 6, Colorado

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

2-3
COPY

File

February 17, 1947

Dear Mr. Meem:

In accordance with the action of The Board of Directors of The American Institute of Architects in issuing a Charter to the New Mexico Chapter of The Institute, this will advise that you have been formally transferred, as a Charter Member, to the New Mexico Chapter from the Colorado Chapter, effective January 1, 1947 - the date of the Charter.

Both Chapters have been so advised.

Sincerely yours,

Alexander C. Robinson III.
Secretary

Mr. John Gaw Meem, A.I.A.
Box 628
Santa Fe, New Mexico

ACR/g

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

COPY

February 19, 1947

Mr. John Gaw Meem, Acting Secretary, New Mexico Chapter, A.I.A.
Mr. Charles M. Overholt, Secretary, Colorado Chapter, A.I.A.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the action of The Board of Directors of The American Institute of Architects in issuing a Charter to the New Mexico Chapter, A.I.A., I beg to advise that the following corporate members of The Institute, formerly assigned to the Colorado Chapter, have been transferred, as Charter Members, to the New Mexico Chapter, effective January 1, 1947 - the date of the Charter:

John Gaw Meem
Louis G. Hesselden
Willard C. Kruger
Roy Webster Vorhees

Sincerely yours,

Alexander C. Robinson, III
Secretary

ACR/g

OFFICERS

WILLIAM E. BURK, JR., PRESIDENT
BRADLEY P. KIDDER, VICE-PRESIDENT
KENNETH S. CLARK, SECRETARY
LOUIS G. HESSELDEN, TREASURER



THE AMERICAN
INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

DIRECTORS
ROY W. VORHEES
JOHN GAW MEEM

1948 SEP 30 PM 2:38

WASHINGTON, D. C.

NEW MEXICO CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

September 27, 1948

The American Institute of Architects
1741 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Att: Clair W. Ditchy, Secretary

Gentlemen:

A resolution has been presented and favorably received by the New Mexico Chapter recommending the election of John Gaw Meem to an AIA Fellowship. However, Mr. Meem has not been a member of this Chapter for the required five years due to the fact that the Chapter has not been in existence for that length of time.

Since Mr. Meem was a member of the Colorado Chapter for many years prior to the formation of the New Mexico Chapter, would it be possible for us to waive the five-year requirement set forth in the National Statutes? Or could this best be accomplished through an endorsement of the Colorado Chapter?

Very truly yours,

NEW MEXICO CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

By Kenneth S. Clark
Kenneth S. Clark, Secretary

KSC:ac

OFFICERS

WILLIAM E. BURK, JR., PRESIDENT
BRADLEY P. KIDDER, VICE-PRESIDENT
KENNETH S. CLARK, SECRETARY
LOUIS G. HESSELDEN, TREASURER



THE AMERICAN
INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
1948 SEP 30 AM 9:27
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DIRECTORS
ROY W. VORHEES
JOHN GAW MEEM

NEW MEXICO CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

September 28, 1948

The American Institute of Architects
1741 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Att: Clair W. Ditchy, Secretary

Gentlemen:

Following the mailing of my September 27th letter to you, it has been called to my attention that the resolution presenting the New Mexico Chapter nomination for a Fellow of The Institute is to be submitted by October 1, 1948.

The New Mexico Chapter acted favorably on a resolution to nominate Mr. John Gaw Meem as a Fellow of The American Institute of Architects at its regular meeting on September 2, 1948; which meeting, however, was not attended by the writer.

It is requested that this letter be considered as official submission of the resolution and that an extension of time be granted for the completion of the proper procedure when this is determined by you.

Very truly yours,

NEW MEXICO CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

By Kenneth S. Clark
Kenneth S. Clark, Secretary

KSC:ac
Encl. - cc ltr. 9/27/48
cc: Colorado Chapter
Young

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

2-7
COPY

John Gaw Meem

September 30, 1948

Dear Mr. Clark:

On behalf of Secretary Ditchy we respond to your letter of September 28 with regard to the proposed nomination of Mr. John Gaw Meem for election to fellowship in The Institute.

The By-laws of The Institute do not require that a nominee shall have had ten years of good standing in a chapter of the A.I.A. They merely require that he shall have ten years of good standing (not necessarily consecutive) as a corporate member of the A.I.A.

Mr. Meem has that good standing.

In view of the favorable action of the New Mexico Chapter with regard to the proposal in his behalf, as recorded in your present letter of September 28, we are accepting that letter as notice that the nomination is to be filed and have so recorded it on the record here - as of October 1, the deadline for this year.

We understand that the fully executed proposal will come forward shortly.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
The Jury of Fellows, A.I.A.

Mr. Kenneth S. Clark, Secretary
New Mexico Chapter, A.I.A.
Sena Plaza
P. O. Box 308
Santa Fe, New Mexico

ECK:MSD

COPY TO

FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

OFFICERS

WILLIAM E. BURK, JR., PRESIDENT
BRADLEY P. KIDDER, VICE-PRESIDENT
KENNETH S. CLARK, SECRETARY
LOUIS G. HESSELDEN, TREASURER



THE AMERICAN
INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
JAN 31 AM 10:01
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DIRECTORS
ROY W. VORHEES
JOHN GAW MEEM

NEW MEXICO CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

January 28, 1949

The Jury of Fellows
The Octagon, 1741 New York Avenue
Washington 6, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed herewith is the New Mexico Chapter's Nomination of John Gaw Meem for an Institute Fellowship, including a biographical sketch and photographs of representative work designed by the nominee.

Very truly yours, *rec'd*

NEW MEXICO CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Kenneth S. Clark, Secretary

C:ac
Encls.

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

COPY

February 4, 1949

Dear Mr. Clark:

On behalf of The Jury of Fellows, this will acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 28th, forwarding nomination for the advancement of Mr. John Gaw Meem, A.I.A., to fellowship in The Institute, together with exhibits in support thereof.

Mr. Meem's nomination will be presented to the Jury at its meeting next week, for consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
The Jury of Fellows

Mr. Kenneth S. Clark, Secretary
New Mexico Chapter, A.I.A.
Sena Plaza, P.O.Box 308
Santa Fe, New Mexico

FBG

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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
JURY OF FELLOWS

Received Oct. 1, 1948.
Voted On Feb. 9, 1949
Voted On 19 .
Voted On 19 .
Granted 19 .

NO M

NOMINATION FOR FELLOWSHIP

CASE RECORD

1. *Name of Nominee* John Gaw Meem *Date of Nomination* Jan. 19, 1949.
2. *Address of Nominee* P. O. Box 628, Santa Fe, New Mexico
3. *Nominee's firm* John Gaw Meem, Hugo Zehner and Associates
4. *Nominee's principal place of business* Santa Fe, New Mexico
5. *Nominee's Chapter* New Mexico Chapter
6. *Nominee's State Association Member*
7. *Nominee admitted to Institute* 1927 19 .
8. *Nominee has been in good standing in Institute from* 1927 to Dec. 31, 1948
March 15, 1950
9. *Nominee's age* ⁵⁵~~54~~ yrs *Birthplace* Pelotas, Brazil
10. *Nominators:* Executive Committee, New Mexico Chapter, A.I.A.

11. *Achievement* in Design and Public Service.

500-7-48



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS (Nominators leave blank)
JAN 31 AM 10:01
WASHINGTON, D. C.

CONFIDENTIAL

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

NOMINATION FOR FELLOWSHIP

BY
CHAPTER

THE JURY OF FELLOWS

The Octagon, 1741 New York Avenue,
Washington 6, D. C.

Date January 19 1949

The Executive Committee of this Chapter, at a duly called meeting on September 2 1948 *Type in full name.
nominated* John Gaw Meem
member of this Chapter, for fellowship in The Institute. We enclose evidence of the qualifications of the nominee for the fellowship on which the nomination was based and certify the resolution is as follows:

"Whereas, this Executive Committee believes* John Gaw Meem
a member of this Chapter, has made so notable a contribution to the advancement of the pro-
fession because of his achievement in** Design and Public Service
that he is worthy of fellowship in The Institute; and

*Type in full name.

**Type in "Design," "Science of Construction," "Literature," "Education," "Service to The Institute," or "Public Service," as is appropriate.

"Whereas, said member has been in good standing in this Chapter for† 2 years*
years prior to this date; therefore be it

†Type in number of years.

*and of the Colorado Chapter, AIA, for 19 years prior
to the formation of the New Mexico Chapter

‡Type in name of Chapter.

"Resolved, That‡ the New Mexico Chapter Chapter,
The American Institute of Architects, does hereby nominate*

*Type in full name.

John Gaw Meem

for fellowship in The Institute, and the President and the Secretary be and hereby are authorized and directed to prepare the nomination papers and forward them to The Jury of Fellows of The Institute and to do all things proper to forward said nomination."

Wm. C. Bunch President
Bradley P. Kidder Vice President
Lucius J. Hensley Treasurer
Kenneth Clark Secretary

Secretary.

THE NOMINATORS SHOULD SEE THAT LETTERS OR DATA ARE SENT TO THE JURY OF FELLOWS IN SUPPORT OF THIS NOMINATION.

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BIOGRAPHICAL STATISTICS

1. Nominee's full name **John Gaw Meem**

2. Strike out inappropriate word and write in name of Country.

2. Nominee is a natural ~~naturalized~~ citizen of **The United States of America**
(Registered U. S. Consulate)

3. Nominee's legal residence **Santa Fe, New Mexico**

4. Nominee's firm name **John Gaw Meem, Hugo Zehner and Associates**

5. Nominee's principal place of business, address **748 Camino Del Monte Sol**
P. O. Box 628
Santa Fe, New Mexico

6. Type in "N.C. R. B." or name of State Board, as case may be.

6. Nominee is registered or licensed to practice architecture by **New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona and Pennsylvania State Boards**

7. Strike out inappropriate words.

7. Nominee is engaged in practice of architecture as a practicing architect ~~teacher in architecture~~
~~teacher in science of construction~~ ~~public official~~ ~~retired.~~

8. Type in date of birth and city and Country.

8. Born **November 17, 1894** Place of birth **Pelotas, Brazil**

9. Nominee's schools, colleges and universities:

	Location	No. of Years	Year of Graduation	Degree
High School				
Private School	Brazil	18		
College or University	Virginia Military Institute Lexington, Va.	4	1914	B.S. Civil Eng.
College or University	Atelier Denver, Beaux Arts Institute of Design	2		
Post Graduate at	Colorado College			
Scholarship held	Colorado Springs, Colorado			M.A. (Honorary)

10. Type in important experiences during employment or additional statistics of importance in nominee's record.

10. Other data concerning nominee's record.
2 years Junior Engineer, Underpinning and Foundation Co.,
290 Broadway, New York
2 years Draftsman **W. E. and A. A. Fisher, Architects**
Denver, Colorado
1924 to date in active practice in Santa Fe, New Mexico
During which time he has done residential, commercial,
industrial, monumental and public buildings
In 1943 nominee was made a member of The National Academy of Design

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Nominators should read "Principles Underlying the Bestowal of Fellowships", Institute Document No. 9, before completing this nomination. Additional sheets may be inserted to supplement any page, 3 to 7, inclusive. Use typewriting only.

NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENT IN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

1. Works

Type (a) Commercial (b) Monumental (c) Domestic (d) Special	Identification of Work	Location of Work (City) (State)		Completed Construction Work (Year)	Photographs ⁸ Drawings, or Sketches Submitted
(a)	La Fonda - Hotel	Santa Fe	New Mexico	1928	1
(b)	Fine Arts Center	Colorado Springs,	Colo.	1933	1
(c)	Conkey Residence	Santa Fe	New Mexico	1929	1
(d)	Library - Univ. of New Mexico	Albuquerque,	New Mexico	1937	1

Under column headed "Type" type in (a), (b), (c), or (d), as the case may be.

Type in last column to right the number submitted in each case.

The foregoing are outstanding examples of nominee's work. During the course of nominee's practice he has completed approximately five hundred and fifty projects, ranging from small residences to large public buildings.

2. Describe nominee's notable work in design, to bring out the particular achievements the nominators believe have notably contributed to the advancement of the profession.

Winner of competition for buildings for the Laboratory of Anthropology, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Funds donated by John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

The Fine Arts Center in Colorado Springs is an outstanding example of the nominee's work and has received national acclaim in addition to the award of the Diploma - Medalla de Plata V Congresso Panamericano de Architectos - Exposition de Arquitectura y Urbanistica - Montevideo, Uruguay 1940.

Nominee has been largely responsible for the development and application of the Pueblo and Spanish Colonial styles of architecture to suit modern conditions, with many excellent examples of completed work in Santa Fe, Albuquerque and throughout New Mexico

NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENT IN SCIENCE OF CONSTRUCTION

1. CONSTRUCTION WORK

<i>Type of Work Constructed</i>	<i>Identification of Work</i>	<i>Location of Work</i>	<i>Completed Construction Work (Year)</i>	<i>Photographs, Drawings, or Sketches Submitted</i>
-------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------	---	---

Type in left column to right the number submitted in each case.

2. BOOKS, TREATISES, OR ARTICLES WRITTEN

<i>Subject Title</i>	<i>Where Published</i>	<i>Date Published</i>
----------------------	------------------------	-----------------------

3. Describe nominee's notable work in the science of construction and any recognition thereof by other societies, to bring out the particular achievements the nominators believe have notably contributed to the advancement of the profession.

Design and construction of Pueblo and Spanish Colonial styles to suit modern conditions is the result of intensive study and effort on part of nominee to adapt these local types to modern conditions and construction methods.

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NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENT IN EDUCATION AND LITERATURE

1. EDUCATION WORK

(List the degrees and the educational positions held by the nominee, and bring out clearly the nominee's signal work and its particular force and influence which the nominators believe to be a notable contribution to the advancement of the profession, and state evidences of recognition of such work by pupils, the profession, other societies, or the public.)

2. LITERARY WORK

(List the original written works of the nominee and state clearly the particular force and influence of that work which the nominators believe to be a notable contribution to the advancement of the profession, and state evidences of recognition of such work by other societies, the profession, educational institutions or the public.)

*Book, Treatise
or Article*

Subject

*Name of Book or Periodical
Containing Work*

*Year Work
Published*

NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN SERVICE TO THE INSTITUTE

1. State fully the nominee's signal service to The Institute, his chapter, or his state organization, or to the profession, which the nominators believe has notably contributed to the advancement of the profession, and list the offices in architectural organizations occupied by the nominee and the period of each.

Nominee was a member of the Colorado Chapter of the AIA from 1927 to 1946, was largely instrumental in organizing the New Mexico Chapter, and was First President of the New Mexico Chapter.

He was active in securing passage of the New Mexico Architects' License law and was a member of the New Mexico Board of Examiners for Architects for a period of 10 years from passage of the law and is at present a member of the Board of Examiners.

Member of AIA committee on Historical American Buildings (see also Page 7)

NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENT IN PUBLIC SERVICE

1. List the public offices held by the nominee and the positions of trust held by him in recognition of civic leadership, and state clearly his notable work in public service and the particular influence of that work which the nominators believe to be a notable contribution to the advancement of the profession.

Nominee has been Chairman of the Santa Fe City Planning Commission since its inception and has been in a large measure responsible for the adoption of a Zoning ordinance by the City of Santa Fe and for the adoption of many features of the planning survey recommendations for traffic, sanitation, districting, etc.

Regional Chairman, Historical American Buildings Survey, 1934-1937. Survey has preserved a complete record of most of the famous ancient buildings in this southwestern area. At present member AIA Committee, Historical American Building Survey.

Chairman, Region V Architectural Advisory Committee, Federal Public Housing Authority.

Member, Architectural Forum Panel of Advisory Editors.

Member, Committee on Membership, American Planning and Civic Association.

In addition, nominee has given generously - both time and money - to many civic activities, Santa Fe Boys' Club, Red Cross, War Fund Drives, etc.



DOUGLAS WILLIAM ORR PRESIDENT
SEARLE H. VON STORCH VICE PRESIDENT
ALEXANDER C. ROBINSON, III SECRETARY
CHARLES F. CELLARIUS TREASURER

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
1741 NEW YORK AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

EDWARD C. KEMPER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

February 10, 1949

Dear Mr. Clark:

The Jury of Fellows has just completed its 1949 session and would appreciate receipt from the New Mexico Chapter of more exhibit material on behalf of Mr. John Gaw Meem, A.I.A., ~~xx~~ who has been nominated for advancement to fellowship.

Before submitting the same, however, the Jury suggests that it be carefully sifted by your group and that only the most worthwhile work be forwarded.

By direction of The Jury of Fellows.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
The Jury of Fellows

Mr. Kenneth S. Clark, Secretary
New Mexico Chapter, A.I.A.
Sena Plaza, P. O. Box 308
Santa Fe, New Mexico

OFFICERS

WILLIAM E. BURK, JR., PRESIDENT
BRADLEY P. KIDDER, VICE-PRESIDENT
KENNETH S. CLARK, SECRETARY
LOUIS G. HESSELDEN, TREASURER



DIRECTORS
ROY W. VORHEES
JOHN GAW MEEM

NEW MEXICO CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

October 24, 1949

The American Institute of Architects
1741 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Att: Mr. J. W. Rankin
Executive Assistant

Dear Mr. Rankin:

The nomination for fellowship in the A.I.A. for Mr. John Gaw Meem was made and submitted last year. The nomination was made by the New Mexico Chapter.

The Committee on Fellowships did not elect Mr. Meem, possibly due to the fact the nomination papers were hurriedly prepared. We understand the nomination is still effective and subject to further consideration.

We are now preparing to supplement our earlier nomination. The supplementary file will consist of a folio of additional photographs of executed work, and letters from heads of institutions and other prominent individuals, testifying to the outstanding services performed by Mr. Meem. It is anticipated that this supplementary file will be forwarded to arrive your office by November 1, 1949.

It would be appreciated if you would wire or phone me collect if you consider this action inappropriate or if you have any suggestion for other action that we should take in behalf of our nominee for fellowship.

Very truly yours,

NEW MEXICO CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Kenneth S. Clark, Secretary

KSC:bt
cc: Wm. E. Burk Jr.

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

29
COPY

Meem

October 26, 1949

Dear Mr. Clark:

Your letter of October 24th is at hand today, with regard to the additional and supplementary material which you are gathering to send to The Jury of Fellows in support of the nomination to advance Mr. John Gaw Meem to fellowship in The Institute.

We are sure that there is nothing inappropriate in your plan and, on the contrary, believe it will be highly desirable and appreciated by the Jury.

Mr. Meem's nomination is due to go before the Jury again at its next meeting in March, 1950.

Letters in Mr. Meem's behalf need not be on hand by November 1st, but may come along as desired. They will be placed with the file and presented to the Jury with the nomination in March.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Rankin

J. W. Rankin
Administrative Secretary

Mr. Kenneth S. Clark, Secretary
New Mexico Chapter, A.I.A.
Sena Plaza, P. O. Box 308
Santa Fe, New Mexico

JWR/fhg

Copy to the Chairman,
The Jury of Fellows, A.I.A.

October 26, 1949

The American Institute of Architects
1741 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Att: Mr. J. W. Rankin, Administrative Secretary

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to our recent communication pertaining to the nomination for fellowship for Mr. John Gaw Meem which has been submitted by the New Mexico Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. This nomination was submitted last year; however, the Jury of Fellows did not complete the action upon the nomination.

Supplementary data is now being submitted in support of the earlier nomination. Under separate cover, I am transmitting, by Express, the following photographic exhibit of the work of Mr. John Gaw Meem. This is submitted to supplement Page 3, Paragraph 1, of the A.I.A. Form S-38.

Type	Identification of Work	Location of Work	Completed Work	Photographs
a	Sears, Roebuck & Co.	Santa Fe, New Mexico	1949	photograph 2
d	Library, University of N.M.	Albuquerque, New Mexico	1937	" 1
b	Cristo Rey Church	Santa Fe, New Mexico	1939	" 1
c	Albert Sinms Residence	Albuquerque, New Mexico	1935	" 1
a	La Fonda Hotel	Santa Fe, New Mexico	1929	" 3
d	Sandia School	Albuquerque, New Mexico	1937	" 3
c	M.V. Conkey Residence	Santa Fe, New Mexico	1930	" 3
b	Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center	Colorado Springs, Colorado	1934	" 15

Enclosed herewith is a folio of letters of commendation which have been contributed in support of the nomination of fellowship of Mr. Meem. The authors of these letters have been associated with Mr. Meem through personal services and also through mutual interest in outstanding civic and public services.

It is requested that this data be submitted to the Jury of Fellows for their consideration.

Very truly yours,
NEW MEXICO CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Kenneth S. Clark
Kenneth S. Clark, Secretary

KSC:bt

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

2-9
COPY
7/Keen

November 3, 1949

Dear Mr. Clark:

On behalf of the Jury of Fellows, this is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of October 26 and the attached communications in support of the pending nomination to advance Mr. John Gaw Meem to fellowship in The Institute.

We also have received, under separate cover, photographs of Mr. Meem's work.

All of this material will be brought to the attention of the Jury at its next meeting when Mr. Meem's nomination will be presented to it for consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
The Jury of Fellows

Mr. Kenneth S. Clark, Secretary
New Mexico Chapter, A.I.A.
Sena Plaza
P. O. Box 308
Santa Fe, New Mexico

FG/jhl

cc: Chairman, Jury of Fellows

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

JURY OF FELLOWS

SUPPLEMENTARY DATA
FOR
NOMINATION OF

JOHN GAW MEEM.

THE NEW MEXICO CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTS

BURNHAM HOYT

ARCHITECT

Denver, Colo.

Oct. 19, 1949

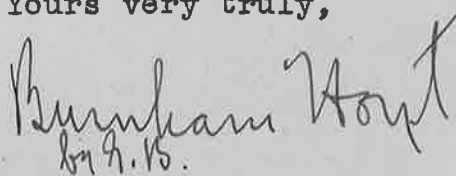
Jury of Fellows,
American Institute of Architects
1741 New York Ave., N.W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I have followed John Gaw Meem's career closely through the years and feel that his work in architecture is very commendable. I find great integrity in his design.

I am happy to recommend him to you for your consideration as a Fellow in the American Institute of Architects.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Burnham Hoyt". Below the signature, the initials "B.H." are written in a smaller, simpler hand.

BURNHAM HOYT, F.A.I.A.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SANTA FE
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

GEORGE M. BLOOM
PRESIDENT

OCTOBER 26, 1949

JURY OF FELLOWS
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
1741 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

GENTLEMEN:

I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT MR. JOHN GAW MEEM OF THIS CITY HAS BEEN PROPOSED AS A FELLOW IN THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

I KNOW OF NO ONE WHOM IT GIVES ME GREATER PLEASURE TO RECOMMEND FOR THIS HONOR. WE HAVE WORKED TOGETHER FOR THE PAST TWENTY FIVE YEARS IN VARIOUS CIVIC AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND I FEEL THAT I AM AS WELL QUALIFIED AS ANYONE TO TESTIFY TO HIS UNYIELDING INTEGRITY, NOT ONLY IN HIS ART, BUT ALSO AS AN INDIVIDUAL AND A CITIZEN.


MR. MEEM CAME TO SANTA FE AT A TIME WHEN IT WAS LESS THAN ONE QUARTER THE SIZE IT IS TODAY AND IT HAS BEEN VERY LARGELY THROUGH HIS INFLUENCE AND HIS INTEREST IN OUR SOUTHWESTERN ARCHITECTURE THAT THE TOWN HAS PRESERVED ITS UNIQUE CHARACTER. HE WAS LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF THE SPANISH MISSION CHURCHES IN THIS AREA AND THROUGH HIS CONTINUING EFFORT, A CITY PLAN WAS FORMULATED AND THE NECESSARY ZONING ORDINANCE PASSED.

MR. MEEM HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE IN CIVIC AFFAIRS AND IS A PRIME MOVER IN THE BUILDING AND THE MAINTENANCE OF THE SANTA FE BOYS CLUB. HIS ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN SO VARIED THAT THEY ARE SOMEWHAT DIFFICULT TO LIST. CERTAINLY THE PLANNING OF THE BUILDINGS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO IN ALBUQUERQUE AND THE ART CENTER AT COLORADO SPRINGS SHOULD BE INCLUDED.

IT IS PROBABLY UNNECESSARY FOR ME TO ENUMERATE HIS ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE ARCHITECTURAL FIELD AS YOU ARE NO DOUBT QUITE FAMILIAR WITH HIS WORK AND ITS BROAD SCOPE.

IT IS A PLEASURE TO RECOMMEND MR. MEEM AND I SINCERELY HOPE THAT HE WILL BE INCLUDED AMONG THE FELLOWS.

SINCERELY,



EA

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
ALBUQUERQUE

October 24, 1949

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Jury of Fellows
American Institute of Architects
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

It is my understanding that there is some likelihood that Mr. John Gaw Meem of Santa Fe, New Mexico will be considered for membership in the Jury of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects.

Mr. Meem, head of the firm of John Gaw Meem, Hugo Zehner and Associates, has served as the University of New Mexico architect for the past fifteen years. During that time, a large number of buildings have been constructed on the campus. In our dealings with Mr. Meem, we have come to the conclusion that he is the outstanding architect in the state of New Mexico, and we know that he enjoys a fine reputation throughout the whole Western region.

He possesses all of the qualities of an expert craftsman in the field of architecture and, in addition, he has made many original contributions in the field of design. His specialty in this respect has been the development of a modified form of pueblo architecture. With great skill and imagination, he has adapted this form of architecture to institutional needs, and the design of the buildings

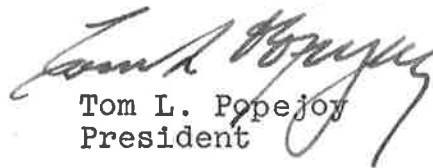
Jury of Fellows
American Institute of Architects
October 24, 1949

Page 2

at the University of New Mexico has attracted national and international attention.

It should also be stated that Mr. John Gaw Meem is a man of unquestioned character, and the code of ethics he follows in his professional work is on the highest plane. It is a genuine pleasure to recommend him to you.

Sincerely,



Tom L. Popejoy
President

TLP-w

HARLAND BARTHOLOMEW AND ASSOCIATES

CITY PLANNERS · CIVIL ENGINEERS · LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

317 NORTH ELEVENTH STREET

SAINT LOUIS 1, MISSOURI

HARLAND BARTHOLOMEW
RUSSELL H. RILEY
HARRY W. ALEXANDER
ELDRIDGE LOVELACE

October 21, 1949

The Jury of Fellows
American Institute of Architects

Gentlemen:

During some thirty years' practice in the field of city planning it has been my privilege to become acquainted with a large number of architects and to have most pleasant working associations with many of them. A considerable number of these men have been Fellows of the Institute.

It is my understanding that Mr. John Gaw Meem's name is being submitted by some of his friends and associates as a Fellow of the Institute. It gives me great pleasure to endorse this suggestion for several reasons. I know of some of Mr. Meem's work and consider it to be of a very high order. I also know of Mr. Meem's fine reputation and of his high standard of ethics, which does much credit to the architectural profession. I also know of the very considerable amount of time Mr. Meem has given so freely and so generously to his community as chairman of the City Planning Commission.

It is my belief that Mr. Meem is exceptionally well qualified to become a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

Respectfully submitted,

Harland Bartholomew

HB:FB

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WILLIAM E. BURK, JR., PRESIDENT
BRADLEY P. KIDDER, VICE-PRESIDENT
KENNETH S. CLARK, SECRETARY
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DIRECTORS

ROY W. VORHEES
JOHN GAW MEEM

NEW MEXICO CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

March 8, 1950

The American Institute of Architects
The Jury of Fellows
Washington 6, D. C.

Attn: Florence H. Gervais, Secretary

Dear Miss Gervais:

In reply to your letter of March 1, 1950, I am pleased to advise that Mr. John Gaw Meem is a member of the New Mexico Chapter and is in good standing.

Mr. Meem is currently serving as a Director on the Executive Committee, having recently been re-elected. This information does not appear in the data previously submitted to the Jury.

Very truly yours,

NEW MEXICO CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth S. Clark".

Kenneth S. Clark, Secretary

KSC:lvr



2-9

Meem

March 14, 1950

Dear Mr. Clark:

Thank you for your letter of March 8th advising that Mr. John Gaw Meem, A.I.A., is in good standing in the New Mexico Chapter.

The additional information pertaining to Mr. Meem's participation in Chapter affairs will be added to the file of his nomination which will be submitted to the Jury of Fellows at its meeting next week.

By direction of the Chairman,

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
The Jury of Fellows

Mr. Kenneth S. Clark, Secretary
New Mexico Chapter, A.I.A.
433 Dalgado Place
Santa Fe, New Mexico

April 6, 1950

Dear Mr. Kidder:

Mr. John Gaw Meem, a member of the New Mexico Chapter, has been elected a Fellow of The American Institute of Architects, by action of The Jury of Fellows at its recent meeting.

Herewith is copy of letter of notification sent to him which is self-explanatory.

Fellowships will be conferred at a formal dinner session on the evening of Friday, May 12, at the Convention of The Institute to be held in Washington, D. C., on May 10-13, 1950.

The Officers of The Institute and the Jury hope that not only Mr. Meem will be present, but that the Chapter will be well-represented by its officers and delegates on that occasion.

It is requested that no publicity be given to this election until after public announcement has been made by The Institute.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Director

Mr. Bradley P. Kidder, President
New Mexico Chapter, A.I.A.
900 East Garcia Road
Santa Fe, New Mexico

ERP/kk
Enclosures

29
Meem

April 5, 1950

Dear Mr. Meem:

The American Institute of Architects desires to confer upon you the honor of Fellowship, in accord with the action of The Jury of Fellows at its recent meeting.

The purpose of this letter is to request your presence at the 1950 Convention of The Institute to be held in Washington, D. C., on May 10-13, 1950, in the Mayflower Hotel.

At the formal dinner of the Convention on the evening of Friday, May 12, those who have been elected to Fellowship will receive their certificates, with citations. Presentations will be with appropriate ceremony and it is highly important that each of the newly-elected Fellows be present. The Officers of The Institute and The Jury of Fellows join in the request that you come to receive this honor in person.

Your Chapter has been notified and has been requested to make no public announcement until after the Convention in May.

Please send your response to The Institute at an early convenient date.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Director

Mr. John Gaw Meem, F.A.I.A.
P. O. Box 628
Santa Fe, New Mexico

ERP/kk

74029
Meem

MEEM, ZEHNER, HOLIEN & ASSOCIATES
• ARCHITECTS •

JOHN GAW MEEM, A. I. A., A. N. A.
HUGO ZEHNER, A. I. A.
EDWARD O. HOLIEN, A. I. A.
RUTH HEFLIN

P. O. BOX 628
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO
April 17, 1950

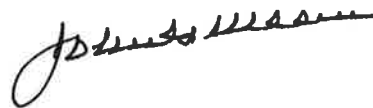
Mr. Edmund R. Purves
Executive Director, The American Institute
of Architects
1741 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Mr. Purves:

Thank you very much for your letter of April 5, advising me of the great honor the Institute has bestowed on me in wishing to confer a Fellowship on me. I will make every effort to be present in Washington for the 1950 Convention in order to personally receive the certificate and citation at the formal dinner on the evening of Friday, May 12. ✓

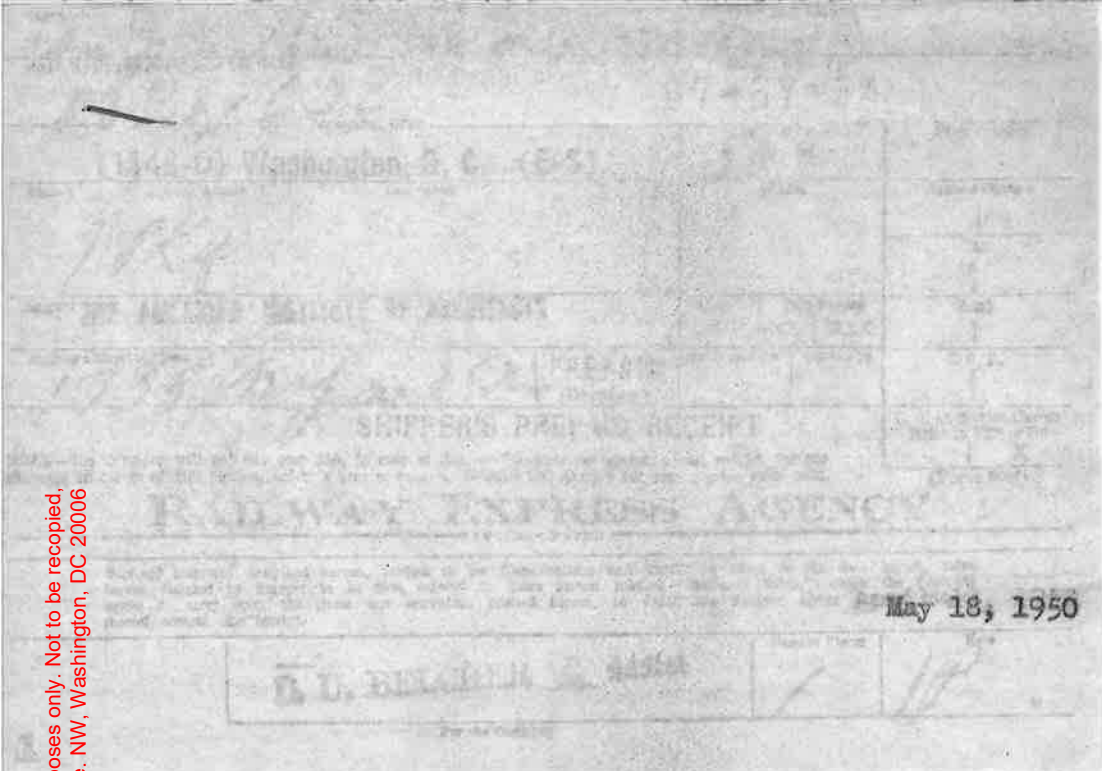
Will you please convey to the officers of the Institute and to the Jury of Fellows, my profound appreciation of the great honor they have given me.

Sincerely,



JGMh

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Dear Mr. Meem:

Under separate cover, there have been returned to you the exhibits of your architectural work which had been filed with The Jury of Fellows in support of your nomination for fellowship in The Institute.

It is hoped they will arrive in good condition.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
The Jury of Fellows

Mr. John G. Meem, R.A.I.A.
P.O. Box 628
Santa Fe, New Mexico

PHG:dah

2-9
Meem

MEEM, ZEHNER, HOLIEN & ASSOCIATES
• ARCHITECTS •

JOHN GAW MEEM, A. I. A., A. N. A.
HUGO ZEHNER, A. I. A.
EDWARD O. HOLIEN, A. I. A.
RUTH HEFLIN

P. O. BOX 628
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

May 25, 1950

The American Institute of Architects
1741 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Attention: Miss Florence H. Gervais

Dear Miss Gervais:

Thank you very much for returning the material
submitted by this office in connection with my nomination
for Fellowship in the Institute.

It arrived in good condition.

Sincerely,



JRMh

1953
**John G. Meem
To Be Awarded
Fellowship**

In recognition of a quarter of a century of distinguished work as leader in preserving, developing and promoting interest in the Colonial and Territorial styles of architecture, John Gaw Meem is slated to receive an honorary fellowship in the School of American Research on June 14.

The ceremony in St. Francis Auditorium is to precede the opening of a retrospective show of Meem's works in the Art Gallery of the Museum of New Mexico. Forty-one designs taken from Meem's collection of outstanding architectural plans are to be included in the exhibition.

Perhaps the greatest monument to Meem is the University of New Mexico at Albuquerque. He is official university architect. President Tom Popejoy of the University, Bradley Kidder—long-time friend and contemporary of Meem—Ernest L. Blumenschein, Taos artist; and Dr. Reginald Fisher are to appear on the program when the fellowship is conferred. A reception in the Women's Board Room will follow the service.

In Fine Arts circles in the Southwest, the names Meem, and New Mexican, as far as architectural design is concerned, are almost synonymous. To John Gaw Meem, more than any other individual, is contemporary art indebted for the conservation, development and propagation of the Southwestern regional architectural style, which finds its greatest expression in the Rio Grande Valley of New Mexico.

Inspired by New Mexico's heritage of Pueblo Indian and Spanish prototypical originals, John Meem embraced the challenge for a modern regional architecture first proclaimed at the turn of the century in the building of Hokona Hall (women's dormitory) at the University of New Mexico (the first modern adaptation of a Spanish-Pueblo style building in the state)—a challenge further emphasized by the restoration of the Old Palace of the Governors on the Santa Fe Plaza as the first unit of the newly established State Museum, in 1911, and brought forth again in 1916 in the building of the Museum of New Mexico Art Gallery adjacent to the Old Palace.

In 1924 John Meem founded his architect firm—now Meem, Zehner, Hollen and Associates—whose drafting boards have been a fountainhead of fine regional-styled buildings, examples of which may be found throughout New Mexico and in Colorado and Arizona.

Born of American parents in Petropolis, Brazil, John Meem holds the Bachelor of Science degree from Virginia Military Institute and the Honorary Master of Arts from Colorado College. Since regaining health at the famed Sunnunt Sanatorium of Santa Fe in the early 1920's and launching his career as an architect devoted to the regional New Mexican style, numerous commissions and honors have rewarded his endeavors. Of these, the following are but a few.

He was chairman of the New Mexico Society for the Restoration and Preservation of New Mexico Mission Churches, which in the 1920's did the important conservation work on the historic churches of Acoma Pueblo, Laguna Pueblo, Zia Pueblo, Santuario de Chimayo, Trampas, etc. and financed the plans for the beautiful churches of Santo Tomas at Abiquiu and Santa Maria at McCarty's as authentic new examples of the regional style. He was awarded the Silver Medal of the Fifth Pan-American Congress of Architects at Montevideo, Uruguay for his design of the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, built in 1934 and for the same building received the Honorary Master of Arts degree from Colorado College.

During the great public works program of the 1930s he was a member of the National Advisory Board (a position he still holds) and New Mexico chairman of the Historic American Buildings Survey; and also was chairman of Region V (covering the Southwest) of the Federal Public Housing Authority. In 1933 he was appointed architect of the University of New Mexico and up to the present has designed more than 30 major buildings for the University. As the building arts revived after World War II, he served as chairman of the Santa Fe City Planning Commission.

Administration Building
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
November 12, 1953

Mr. John Gaw Meem, F.A.I.A.
P.O. Box 628
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Meem:

Mr. Purves has told me of your interest in a first edition of Henry Adams' "Mont-Saint-Michel and Chartres". As far as I can find from some telephone checking, the first regularly published edition was in 1913. There was at least one edition printed in 1904 and perhaps more with apparently other editions in 1905 and 1912, all of which were apparently limited, non-trade editions.

Since, unfortunately, we have none of these early editions ourselves, I would have to check further to get exact information. However, since the present printings are in a less desirable format than the printings of a few years back, it occurs to me that you may be primarily desirous of getting one of these rather than the early pre-publication editions which I suspect it would be difficult to find.

If you would clarify for me exactly what you had in mind, I would be glad to advise you further.

I have noted with much interest the pamphlet issued by the Museum of New Mexico Art Gallery on the very fine exhibit of your work.

Sincerely yours,

George E. Pettengill
Librarian

GP:dm
Cc: Mr. Purves

MEEM, ZEHNER, HOLIEN & ASSOCIATES
• ARCHITECTS •

JOHN GAW MEEM, F. A. I. A., A. N. A.
HUGO ZEHNER, A. I. A.
EDWARD O. HOLIEN, A. I. A.
RUTH HEFLIN

P. O. BOX 628
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

November 19, 1953

Mr. George E. Pettengill
Librarian
The American Institute of Architects
Administration Building
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pettengill:

It is most kind of you to have taken the trouble to look up data with regard to the first edition of "Mont-Saint-Michel and Chartres". You are correct in your assumption that my interest was in obtaining the best edition sponsored by the A.I.A. rather than an early pre-publication edition.

Sorry I gave Ned Purves a wrong impression. Many thanks to you for the trouble you are taking.

Sincerely,

JGMf



Administration Building
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
December 2, 1953

Mr. John Caw Meem, F.A.I.A.
P. O. Box 628
Sante Fe, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Meems:

Thank you for your letter of November 19th. As far as I know, most of the printings of "Mont-Saint-Michel and Chartres" would be approximately equivalent up to about five years ago when they issued the present smaller less attractive edition.

I have called one of the local bookstores who do not have it and am writing another possibility. If not luck that way, probably best to ask a store to advertise for it. I trust you are in no great rush and assume that you are willing to pay any reasonable price for it.

Sincerely yours,

George E. Pettengill
Librarian

GP:dm

MEEM, ZEHNER, HOLIEN & ASSOCIATES
• ARCHITECTS •

JOHN GAW MEEM, F. A. I. A., A. N. A.,
HUGO ZEHNER, A. I. A.,
EDWARD O. HOLIEN, A. I. A.,
RUTH HEFLIN

P. O. BOX 628
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

December 7, 1953

Mr. George E. Pettengill
Librarian
The American Institute of Architects
Administration Building
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pettengill:

It is most kind of you to take so much trouble trying
to get me a desirable copy of "Mont-Saint-Michel and
Chartres".

Please let me know if you are put to any expense.
In the meantime, thank you very much.

Sincerely,



JGMf

December 30, 1953

Dear Mr. Pettengill:

With reference to your letter of 12-14-53 and request for Henry Adams' MONT ST. MICHEL & CHARTRES in the better edition, we shall be happy to search for a copy on the second-hand market. However, we should warn you that it may take months. If and when we do find a copy there is no obligation on your part.

Sincerely yours,

Louise Hellier

Union Building
New York Avenue, N.W.
1954

Wittenborn & Co. Books in the Fine Arts
38 East 57th Street, New York 22, N. Y., PLaza 3-8890-8747

Wittenborn & Company
38 East 57th Street
New York 22, New York

Attention: Miss Louise Hellier

Dear Madam:

Thank you for your card of December 30, 1953, re Henry Adams' Mont St. Michel & Chartres. I might say that after writing you, I noticed a copy listed in Argosy Book Stores Catalogue 381, No. 20. I did not write them since I had already asked you to search for it -- but it might be worthwhile to contact them first.

Incidentally, if I should see it listed elsewhere, am I free to buy it, notifying you of course that I have secured it?

Sincerely yours,

George E. Pettengill
Librarian

GP:dm

Administration Building
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
January 18, 1954

Argosy Book Stores
114 East 59th Street
New York 22, New York

Gentlemen:

Do you have available a copy of Lewis Mumford's "Sticks and Stones"? If you do not have it in stock, could you search it for us? We are very desirous of having it within a month if possible as we have a particular use for it forthcoming.

We also wish to acknowledge the receipt of the "Mont St. Michel and Chartres" which you sent us in response to the request of Wittenborn and Company. Since this was not for our use but for one of our members, we have forwarded it to him. I noted that the corners were slightly damaged and so I'm not certain if it will be acceptable to him, although in general it seemed to be a sound copy. As soon as I hear from him, the volume will either be returned or payment will be made.

Sincerely yours,

George E. Pettengill
Librarian

GP:dm

Administration Building
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
January 14, 1954

Mr. John Gaw Meem, F.A.I.A.
P.O. Box 628
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Meem:

We have located a copy of Mont St. Michel and Chartres for you which we hope may be satisfactory to you. It is secondhand of course, but seems to be in generally good condition.

The price was \$12.50 which with shipping charges, etc. rises to \$13.08. Probably the simplest thing would be if you would send me a check and then I would pay the bill myself, which would obviate the need of going through the Institute's bookkeeping system.

If the book is not satisfactory, please let me know and I will return it.

Sincerely yours,

George E. Pettengill
Librarian

GP:dm

20	1	Adams. Mont Saint Michel & Chartres 3% Sales Tax	12	50
				38
			12	88

*Pl 954
check
#236
2/5/54*

PACKING SLIP

PATENTED—MOORE BUSINESS FORMS, INC., NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y.

*members
meem, John Gaw*

MEEM, ZEHNER, HOLIEN & ASSOCIATES
• ARCHITECTS •

JOHN GAW MEEM, F.A.I.A., A.N.A.
HUGO ZEHNER, A.I.A.
EDWARD O. HOLIEN, A.I.A.,
RUTH HEFLIN

P. O. BOX 628
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

January 18, 1954

Mr. George E. Pettengill
Librarian, The American Institute
of Architects
Administration Building
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pettengill:

Enclosed please find a check for \$13.08, made
out to you, for the purchase of a copy of Mont
St. Michel and Chartres mentioned in your letter
of January 14th.

I am deeply grateful to you and somewhat
conscience stricken at all the trouble you have taken
in this matter.

Cordially,



JGMf

members
Meem, John, Gaw

December 31, 1953

Dear Mr. Meem:

At the direction of The Board of Directors of The American Institute which met in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on October 30-31 last, I have the pleasure of conveying to you our great appreciation of your generous gift of Alice Marriott's "Maria, The Potter of San Ildefonso" to the Library of The Institute. We are extremely grateful that you have so desired to contribute to our valuable collection of architectural writings.

Our new Library Building has just been completed and it is hoped that it will be a source of information for the architectural profession and others who might wish to avail themselves of the privilege of using it.

The next time you are in Washington, it would give us much pleasure to welcome you and show you about the headquarters offices.

On behalf of The Board and again with many thanks, I am

Yours sincerely,



George Bain Cummings
Secretary

Mr. John Gaw Meem, F.A.I.A.
P.O. Box 628,
Santa Fe, New Mexico

cc: Mr. Purves

ERP:bp

*Members
Meem, John G.*

Administration Building
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.

January 27, 1954

Mr. John Gaw Meem, F.A.I.A.
P. O. Box 1628
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Meem:

In Mr. Purves' absence on the West Coast, it is a pleasure for me to write to advise you that The Board of Directors, at its Santa Fe meeting, adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That The Board of Directors extends its special thanks to John Gaw Meem, F.A.I.A., for his very special assistance and hospitality in making arrangements for the entertainment of The Board of Directors at the time of its Fall Meeting in Santa Fe.

May I also add my personal appreciation of your kindness in inviting all of us to your beautiful home and giving us an opportunity to meet your family.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Rankin
Administrative Secretary

JWR:mbh
cc: Mr. Purves

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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

COPY

*Member
Meem, John G.*

March 31, 1954

Dear Mr. Meem:

It is customary to exhibit at the National Convention a display of the work of the winners of medals to be awarded at the Convention and I am hoping that you will be able to provide something to show the Convention delegates the work of Maria Martinez.

While the best evidence of her craftsmanship and artistry would be actual pieces of pottery of her design and fabrication, photographs would be very helpful and I shall leave it up to you to decide the character of her exhibit. If photographs are used, they will be displayed on standards with a total face area 80 inches long by 40 inches high. These are standards which have been designed for displaying the one meter square mounts of Honor Awards submissions and work of new Fellows. Consequently, it would be well to consider this size in preparing the photographic mounts.

I shall be going to Boston about the last week in May and can be addressed there at the Statler if you want me. The exhibits, however, should be sent to me in care of Boston Storage Warehouse Co., Huntington Avenue and Forsyth Street, Boston 15, Massachusetts. They should be shipped in time to reach Boston not later than June 10. I hope I am not burdening you too greatly with this request.

I recall very pleasantly the delightful evening we had at your house last Fall.

With kindest regards to Mrs. Meem and yourself,

Cordially yours,

Arthur B. Holmes
Convention Manager

Mr. John G. Meem, F.A.I.A.
P. O. Box 628
Santa Fe, New Mexico

ABH:fp

member
Meem John G.

Administration Building
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.

March 2, 1954

X
8/26 February
Awards Medal
Craftsmanship

Dear Miss Heflin:

Your letter of February 26 is at hand.

Thank you very much for the two photographs of Maria Martinez. I am sure they will prove quite satisfactory.

Yours sincerely,

Edmund R. Purves
Executive Director

Miss Ruth Heflin, Secretary
Office of Mr. John Gaw Meem, F.A.I.A.
P. O. Box 628
Santa Fe, New Mexico

ERP:hrs

FILE COPY - PLEASE RETURN

*members
W. J. J. J. J.*

March 1, 1955

*X office practice
incorporation
articles*

Mr. John Gaw Meem, F.A.I.A.
P. O. Box 628
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear John:

It was good to hear from you.

Both Carroll and I are delighted at the prospect of seeing you and Faith. Do let us know when you are planning to come here. We would be only too happy to put you up at 3410 Volta Place which, though it cannot compare with Santa Fe, nevertheless has a certain charm of its own.

In answer to your question, I enclose the excerpt from The Institute's policy statements which applies to practice by corporations. This is all we have.

The question you have raised keeps coming up all the time and I think that unless a satisfactory type of Errors and Omissions Insurance can be devised for architects (and I am not at all hopeful this can be accomplished) The Institute will have to alter its views on corporations.

Actually, The Institute does not prohibit the incorporation of architectural firms and we know full well that a number of them are incorporated. It simply does not like to see it done.

Looking forward to the possibility of seeing you, I am, with all good wishes,

Sincerely,

Edmund R. Purves
Executive Director

ERP:hrc

EXCERPT FROM THE INSTITUTE'S POLICY STATEMENTS BOOKLET

CORPORATIONS - PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING AND/OR ARCHITECTURE BY

The American Institute of Architects is opposed to the rendering of professional services by corporations. Whenever a state legislature entertains legislation permitting corporations to render professional architectural services in that state The Institute will take positive steps to aid its component to defeat such legislation. (It is assumed that components will advise The Institute of such instances.)

*Members,
Mem, John Gaw.*

F

June 24, 1960

Mr. John Gaw Meem, F.A.I.A.
Box 628
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear John:

A bulletin from the University of New Mexico informs us that you received an Honorary Degree as Doctor of Fine Arts at the commencement exercises on June 8th in Albuquerque.

My heartiest good wishes and congratulations in which Carrell joins me.

Alan's wedding went off beautifully and all of us had a wonderful time.

With my very best to you and Faith,

Cordially yours,

Edmund R. Purves, F.A.I.A.

bcc: Mrs. Shackleton - for Memo item.

FILE COPY - 10/15/66

*Meemless.
Meem, John Gaw.*

14 July 1960

Mr. John Gaw Meem, F. A. I. A.,
Box 628
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Meem:

I was pleased to read in the MEMO of your
new Honorary Doctorate in Fine Arts from the University of New Mexico.

Congratulations!

Phillip Will, Jr.

PWJr:gdc

m
McClam, J. G.



THE COPY - PLEASE RETURN

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

1735 NEW YORK AVENUE, N. W.

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

January 8, 1965

NOTICE OF TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

Effective Date **January 1, 1965**

TO: Transferred Member:

**Mr. J. G. Meem, FAIA
P. O. Box 1924
Santa Fe, New Mexico**

Transferred to:

*Chapter
State Society*

**Santa Fe Chapter, AIA
New Mexico State Society, when finalized**

Transferred from:

*Chapter
State Society*

**New Mexico Chapter, AIA
None**

In accordance with Chapter II, Article 1, Section 7 of the By-laws of The Institute this will advise that the above-named corporate member has been transferred as indicated, as a **Charter Member.**

Sincerely yours,

SECRETARY



~~NAI 01
01613
1976~~

TRADITION AND THE INDIVIDUAL TALENT



JOHN GAW MEEM

Tradition and the Individual Talent

AUGUST 23-OCTOBER 30, 1976

ALBUQUERQUE MAIN LIBRARY AND
CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN

*Sponsored by the Albuquerque Public Library
& The University of New Mexico General Library*

Acknowledgement



An exhibition is very much like a voyage of discovery. The explorers usually receive excited word of a great treasure and then set out to find it. In this case, the word came from Douglas George of the University of New Mexico's Art faculty. "UNM's Library has just received a magnificent gift," Doug told fellow members of the Public Library Exhibitions Committee. "The papers, drawings, architectural blueprints, renderings . . . the life work of John Gaw Meem." The collection, Doug told us, included rare architectural treatments and details of some of New Mexico's most important buildings and above all was visually exciting. The Committee's discussion moved immediately to three ideas; an exhibition that honored Mr. Meem and the great architectural tradition of the Santa Fe School, and an exhibition done largely in the details of an architect's working papers.

Everyone sensed a rare opportunity to show the actual working drawings, blueprints, sketches, and renderings of a major architect. An added excitement was the presence in the collection, we were told, of Laura Gilpin and Tyler Dingee photographs of the buildings. The potential for a beautiful and important exhibition was clear and work started immediately.

The first requirement was the cooperation of UNM's General Library. Dean Paul Vassallo committed the Library immediately and enthusiastically. Paul had worked hard to bring the gift to UNM and was eager to share it with the general community. The great process of working with good friends and making new friends began. Arthur Devolder had just been named Curator of the Meem Collection and was a long time working associate for most of the members of the Exhibition Committee.

George Pearl of the architectural firm of Stevens, Mallory, Pearl & Campbell came aboard as a resource and the University's architect, Van Dorn Hooker, offered to assist the Committee. Both men had a working relationship with Mr. Meem and had helped bring the collection to the University.

Soon a full fledged expedition was underway with the Friends of the University of New Mexico Libraries committed to the major

Acknowledgement

responsibilities of this catalog, a commemorative poster, and a reception in honor of Mr. Meem.

When came the work and the inevitable process of discovery. Mr. Hooker and Mr. Pearl selected seventeen buildings to be highlighted in the show and the Committee began to pour through the mass of materials still being cataloged at the University Library's Meem Room. The collection exceeded anyone's expectations. The remarkable thing for those on the committee who had worked with architectural blueprints was the great attention paid to finishing detail and especially the full scale tracings for carpenter's work on corbels vigas, and other period details.

These architectural details represented a lost art and commitment and it became clear that along with the general public, a whole generation of architects would find the Meem papers fascinating.

Among the papers in the collection were portions of the *Historic American Buildings Survey*. These bound volumes of photostat reproductions were part of the work done under the direction of the Department of the Interior in the 1930's and early 1940's. The New Mexico portions of the Survey include remarkably detailed delineations of the indigenous architecture of New Mexico. Mr. Meem had administrative responsibilities to this project and the design of an exhibition began to clarify in everyone's mind. Begin with the sky, sun, and earth of New Mexico. The buildings should be a prologue to the exhibition of Meem's work. These pueblo masses and colonial and territorial buildings are the tradition the Santa Fe School cherished and worked into an important modern architecture and they should form a loving introduction to the work of one of the regions most concerned and talented architects. The twin themes of the exhibition emerged from these ideas and focused on George Pearl's title for an article in *El Palacio* magazine. The article honors Mr. Meem and is called, *Tradition and the Individual Talent*. "It comes," George says smiling, "from somewhere in T. S. Eliot, though I don't think I can prove that."

Acknowledgement

These are the elements of this exhibition. A tradition John Gaw Meem loved and worked to preserve and had the good fortune in his craft to be able to carry into a compelling modern architecture. An individual talent to "see" brick and wood and time and space and mold them into a gracious home, or a church, or a great university campus. We hope this exhibition is a celebration of both an architect and architecture.

There are many people to thank besides those mentioned. All of the staff at General Library, UNM; the Friends of the University Libraries; the Exhibition Committee for the Public Library, especially Mr. Robert Moraga, AIA, for his design and implementation of the exhibition; Mr. Robert M. Ellis for his design of this catalog and a commemorative poster; numerous volunteers who spared many hours; Mrs. Donald A. Riechmann, Executive Secretary of the Friends of the University Libraries; George B. Miller, Jr., Head of Special Collections at UNM Library; the Library of Congress, Architecture and Prints and Duplicating Divisions; and dozens of others whose patience and commitment made this exhibit a reality.

For the Albuquerque Public Library

Alan B. Clark
Director

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Photograph by Laura Gilpin. 1960



The wing of Zimmerman Library that houses the Meem Collection was designed by John Gaw Meem some forty years ago. It seems singularly appropriate that this remarkable collection, which documents not only Meem's own professional career as an architect but also so much of the history of architecture in the Southwest, should find its home at the University of New Mexico in this building.

The library collections at the University have always emphasized the history of the Southwest, particularly New Mexico. With the acquisition of the Meem Collection the University of New Mexico General Library clearly becomes the principal repository of architectural materials on this area. Other important architectural collections have also been promised, so the Meem Collection will even be enhanced.

The University's new School of Architecture and Planning is being strongly supported by the Meem Collection; in fact, although just recently made accessible to researchers, the Collection has already provided source materials for a thesis and for a historical landmark study.

The riches of the Meem Collection—the photographs, the renderings, the sketches, the correspondence, only a small portion of which you see represented in the current exhibition—all have yet to be explored and perused. We have the promise of many more important works to be produced, thanks to the happy circumstance of the Meem Collection's being located at the University of New Mexico where students, faculty and members of the community have the opportunity to use its resources in the pursuit of their studies.

George B. Miller, Jr.
Assistant Dean for
Collection Development
The University of New Mexico
General Library

Introduction



John Gaw Meem, more than any other individual, is responsible for the conservation and development of the regional architectural style known as the Spanish-Pueblo style, which finds its greatest expression in New Mexico.

Mr. Meem described the Spanish-Pueblo style of architecture in the General Development Plan of the University of New Mexico as follows:

"This style (Spanish-Pueblo) has its origin in the remote antiquity of the arid regions of our American Southwest. When the Spaniards arrived in the sixteenth century, they found a well developed Pueblo Architecture, probably a thousand years old, typified by great terraced community houses, built of stone or earth. The Spaniards, on the other hand, especially the Franciscan friars, brought with them the rich building traditions of the Spanish renaissance, then at its height in Europe, and these they used in devising the plans and details of their structures. But they had to utilize the Indians and their building techniques for their construction and as a result of these two influences, there emerged the unique style known as Spanish-Pueblo."

In his regional design, John Meem has been motivated by a personal philosophy a summary of which is taken from his paper on Southwestern Architecture, read at the annual banquet of the University chapter of Phi Kappa Phi in May, 1953:

"It may be said that any style is regional that employs suitable, available materials, adapted to the climate and to local requirements of living and is expressive of certain spiritual values such as conscious recollection of history and joy in evocative forms and elements not necessarily found in a strict interpretation of the maxim 'form follows function.' In our contemporary regional architecture, design must conform to all requirements of modern usage, but in interpreting these requirements, elevation and ornamentation are consciously composed of symbolic forms to provide an additional

Introduction

emotional or spiritual value. It is for this reason that walls are slightly battered and that bricks on parapets are sometimes clipped to accentuate the curve of contoured outline. This is done not necessarily to imitate adobe, but to recall by means of a conventionalized symbolic form the heritage of ancient buildings or the characteristic shapes of the landscape. For the same reason walls recall the color of the earth and ornamental detail utilizes Indian and Spanish motifs."

This is the first comprehensive exhibition of the work of John Gaw Meem and his partners to be held in Albuquerque, even though he designed numerous buildings here, including most of the University of New Mexico buildings built between 1933 and 1958, Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Sandia School, La Quinta, The Albuquerque Little Theatre and Lovelace Clinic.

The purpose of this exhibition is to show more than photographs of completed buildings. The design presentation drawings and working drawings are themselves beautiful examples of the art of the designers and draftsmen of the day. On almost all of the buildings done by Mr. Meem there were full-size drawings made for the special design details. This is seldom done today.

John Meem was born in Pelotas, Brazil, November 17, 1894, to American parents. He graduated from Virginia Military Institute in the class of 1914 with a B.S. degree. After service in World War I, he began a banking career in New York City, but soon thereafter doctors advised him to go west for his health. A travel advertisement of the Santa Fe Railway extolling Santa Fe, New Mexico, caught his eye, so he bought a one-way ticket.

While bedridden at Sunmount Sanitarium he developed an interest in architecture, and when he was sufficiently recovered he went to Denver where he worked in the office of Fisher & Fisher and studied at a Beaux Arts Institute of Design Atelier under the tutelage of Burnham Hoyt.

In 1924 he opened an office in Santa Fe in partnership with Cassius McCormick and practiced architecture continuously

Introduction

until he retired in 1960. During these years he was at different times in partnership with McCormick, Hugo Zehner, Bradley P. Kidder, Truman Mathews, Edward O. Holien, and William Buckley.

Mr. Meem has always maintained a very active role in historical preservation. He was chairman of the Society for Restoration and Preservation of New Mexico Mission Churches which in the 1920's did important conservation work on churches at Acoma, Laguna and Santa Ana Pueblos and at Chimayo and Trampas. During the 1930's he was a member of the National Advisory Commission, Historic American Buildings Survey. He was a founding member of the Old Santa Fe Association and was chairman from 1957-1966. He was a charter member of the Historic Santa Fe Association.

John Meem always has been deeply involved in civic activities, serving on numerous boards and commissions including, in addition to the above: the Santa Fe Planning Commission; Capitol Buildings Improvement Commission; Board of Visitors and Governors, St. John's College; Board of Managers, School of American Research; and others.

Numerous honors have been bestowed on Mr. Meem, such as Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects, the Museum of New Mexico, St. John's College and The School of American Research. The University of New Mexico and Colorado College have bestowed honorary degrees; The Spanish Colonial Arts Society, the Santa Fe Fiesta, Inc., Kiwanis International, and the New Mexico Opera Association have given him honorary life memberships. The Museum of New Mexico in 1953 and St. John's College in 1972 have had exhibitions of his work.

John Dorn Hooker, AIA

Listing of the Exhibition



EXHIBITS AT THE ALBUQUERQUE MAIN LIBRARY

1. Student Work of John Gaw Meem, 1922-23.
This was done at an atelier of the Beaux Arts Institute of Design in Denver under the direction of Burnham Hoyt.
2. Historic American Buildings Survey Drawings.
These are measured drawings of significant historical buildings that were done in the 1930's. The original drawings are in the Library of Congress. Mr. Meem was a member of the National Advisory Council and in charge of the work in the Southwest Region.
3. Tex Austin Residence, Pecos, New Mexico, 1925.
A large house for a famous entertainer of the day.
4. Mary Austin Residence, Camino Del Monte Sol, Santa Fe, 1925.
A small residence for the noted author.
5. Cyrus McCormick Residence, Nambe, New Mexico, 1929.
6. Director's Residence, Laboratory of Anthropology, Santa Fe.
A pueblo style residence on Camino Lejo near the Laboratory.
7. Museum and Laboratory of Anthropology, Santa Fe.
Mr. Meem won a national competition in 1931 which was sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation, for the design of this building. The original competition drawings are the large framed plan sheet and the rendered perspective. Unfortunately the entire project was not built.
8. Amelia B. Hollenbeck House, Camino Don Miguel, Santa Fe, 1932.
A fine example of a residence done in the pueblo style. This house was featured in the New Mexico Magazine, February, 1975.
9. Fine Arts Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 1934.
Honorary Silver Medal, Pan-American Congress of Architects, Uruguay, 1948. A monolithic concrete structure done in a clean contemporary manner.
10. La Quinta-Los Poblanos. Rio Grande Blvd., Albuquerque, N.M., 1935.
Residential group done for Mr. and Mrs. Albert Simms in the territorial style.
11. Peabody Residence, Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, 1937.

Listing of the Exhibition

7. Museum and Laboratory of Anthropology
Santa Fe

12. Zimmerman Library, The University of New Mexico.
The original portion, completed in 1937, is one of the finest examples of Mr. Meem's work in the pueblo style.
13. Cristo Rey Church, Canyon Road, Santa Fe, 1939.
A beautiful example of a contemporary adobe church done in the traditional manner. Note the reredos, formerly in La Castrense, Santa Fe, was carved about 1760.
14. Alumni Memorial Chapel, University of New Mexico, 1960.
Designed by John Gaw Meem, completed by his successors, Holien and Buckley. A well detailed building.

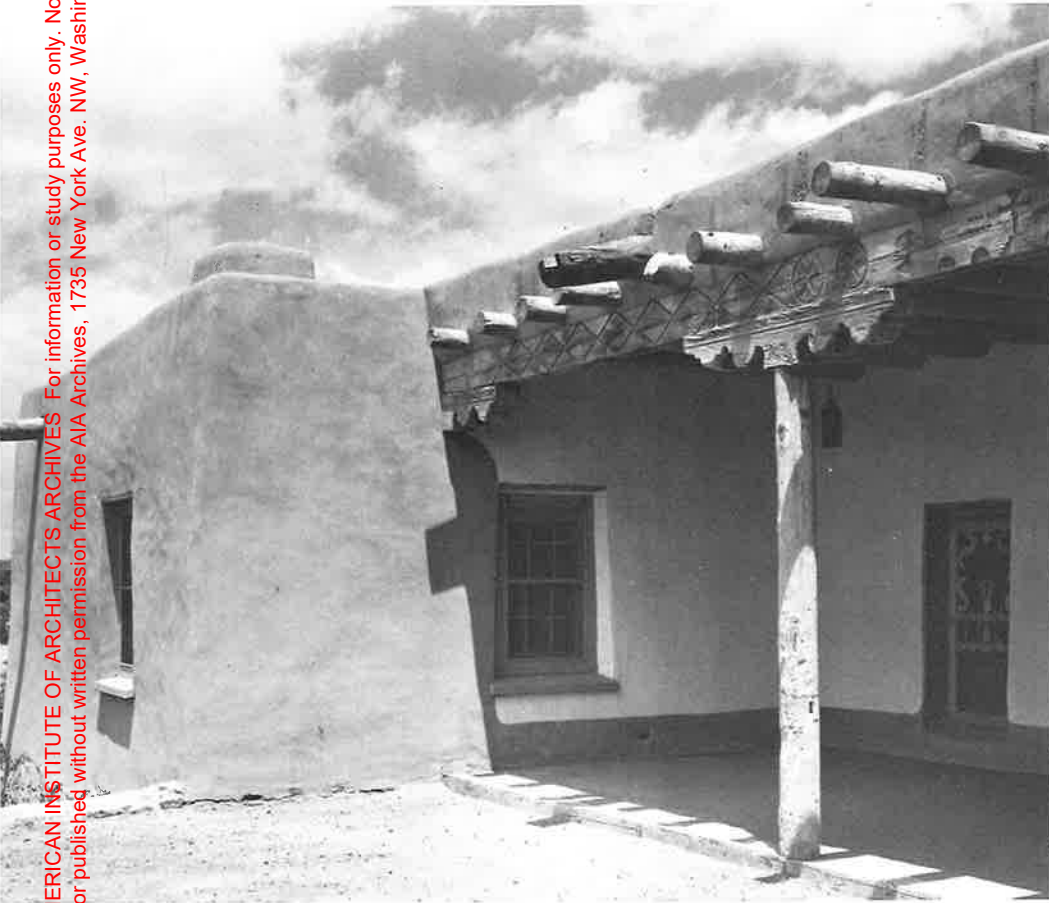
EXHIBITS AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN

15. The Cathedral Church of St. John—Original building—1882.
Local stonemasons designed and built the original building using stone obtained from the Atlantic & Pacific Railway Company for a cost of \$7,000. It was dedicated on November 5, 1882. John Gaw Meem remodelled the tower in 1930.
16. The Cathedral Church of St. John—New church—1951.
Meem, Zehner, Holien and Associates remodelled the older structure and added to it.
17. St. James, Clovis—1950.
One of the best examples of Spanish-Pueblo architecture in the eastern part of New Mexico.
18. Santa Maria de Acoma, McCarthy—1935.
Built by the Acoma Indians under the direction of Father Agnellus Lammert with funds for the plans provided by the Society for the Preservation and Restoration of New Mexico Mission Churches.
19. First Presbyterian Church, Santa Fe—1939.
Remodelled from the original building, which was the first Protestant Church in Santa Fe, built in 1882.
20. Santo Tomas, Abiquiu—1932.
Plans were financed by the Society for the Preservation and Restoration of New Mexico Mission Churches. Mr. Meem was very active in this organization of the 1920's and 1930's.
21. Church of the Good Shepherd, Fort Defiance—1954.
A beautiful church built from local stone in a style reminiscent of the stone buildings built centuries earlier in the area.



Photograph by Tyler Dingee

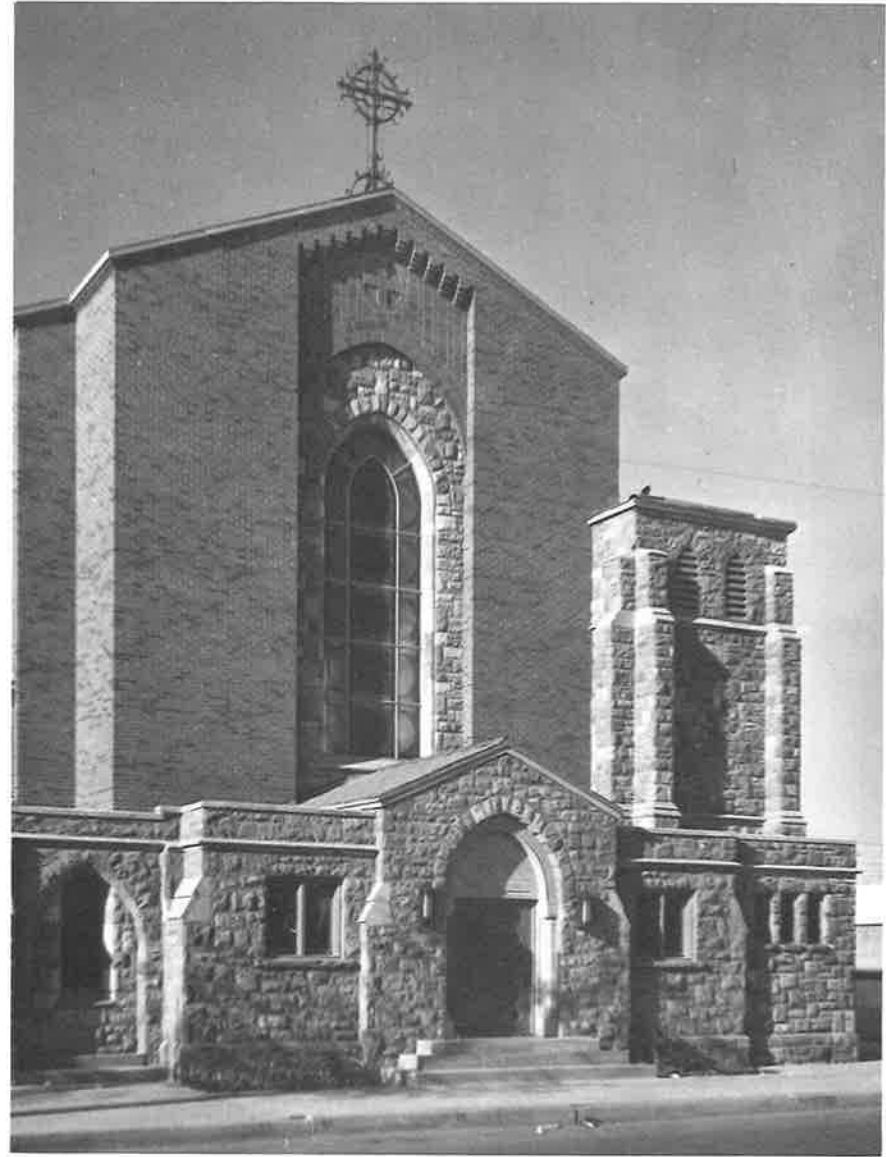
8. Amelia B. Hollenbeck House
Santa Fe



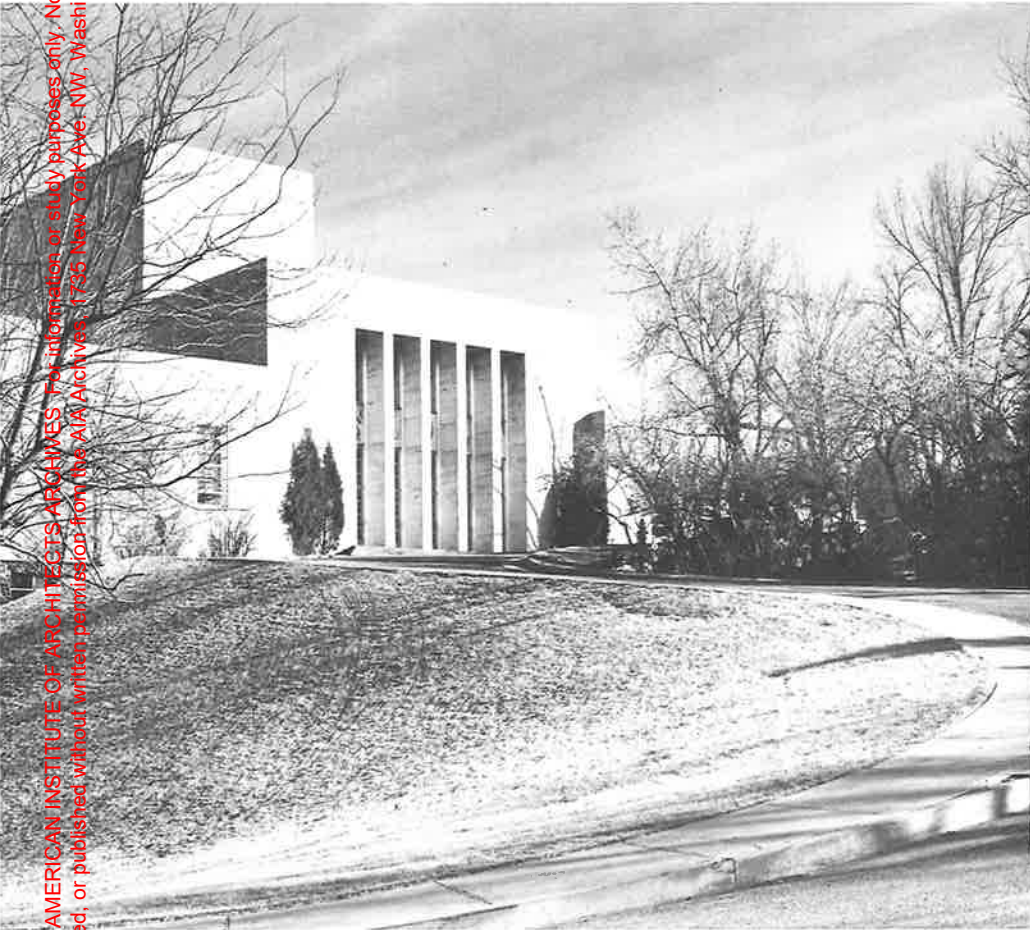
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Photograph by Ansel Adams

16. Cathedral Church of St. John
Albuquerque



9. Colorado Springs Fine Art Center
Colorado Springs



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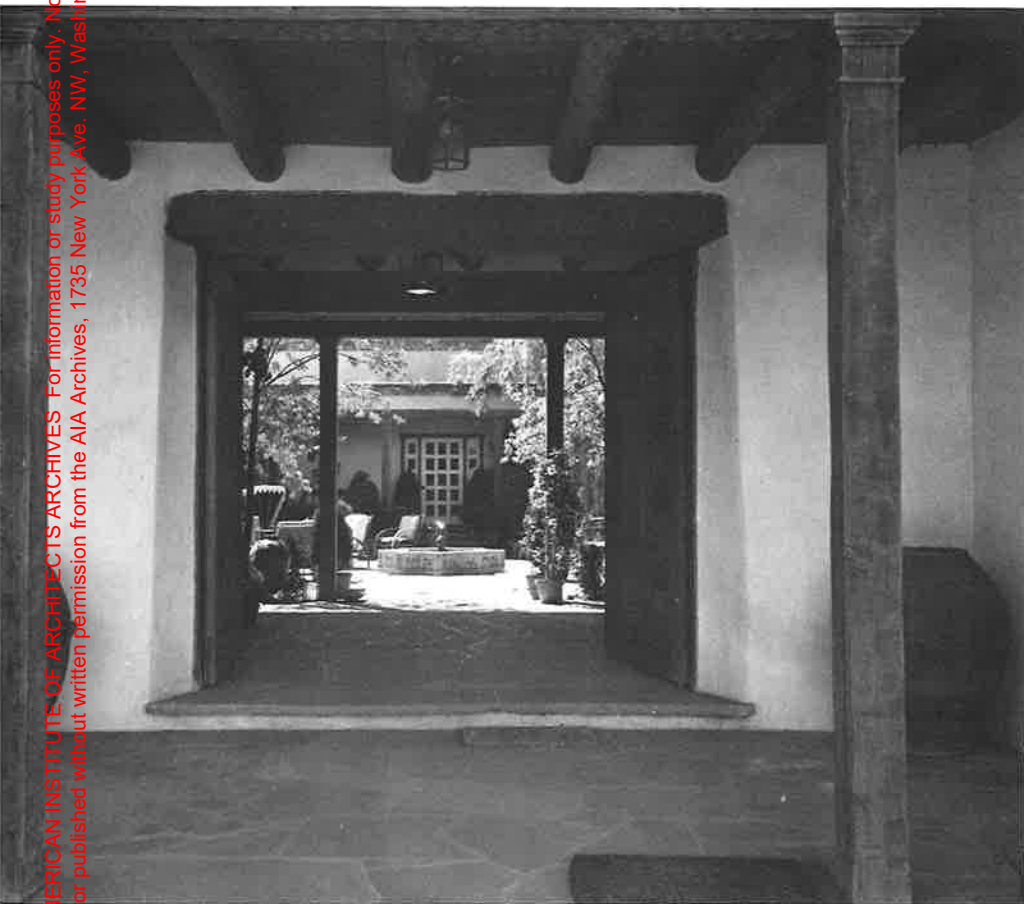
Photograph by Laura Gilpin. 1939

12. Zimmerman Library
University of New Mexico



Photograph by Tyler Dingee

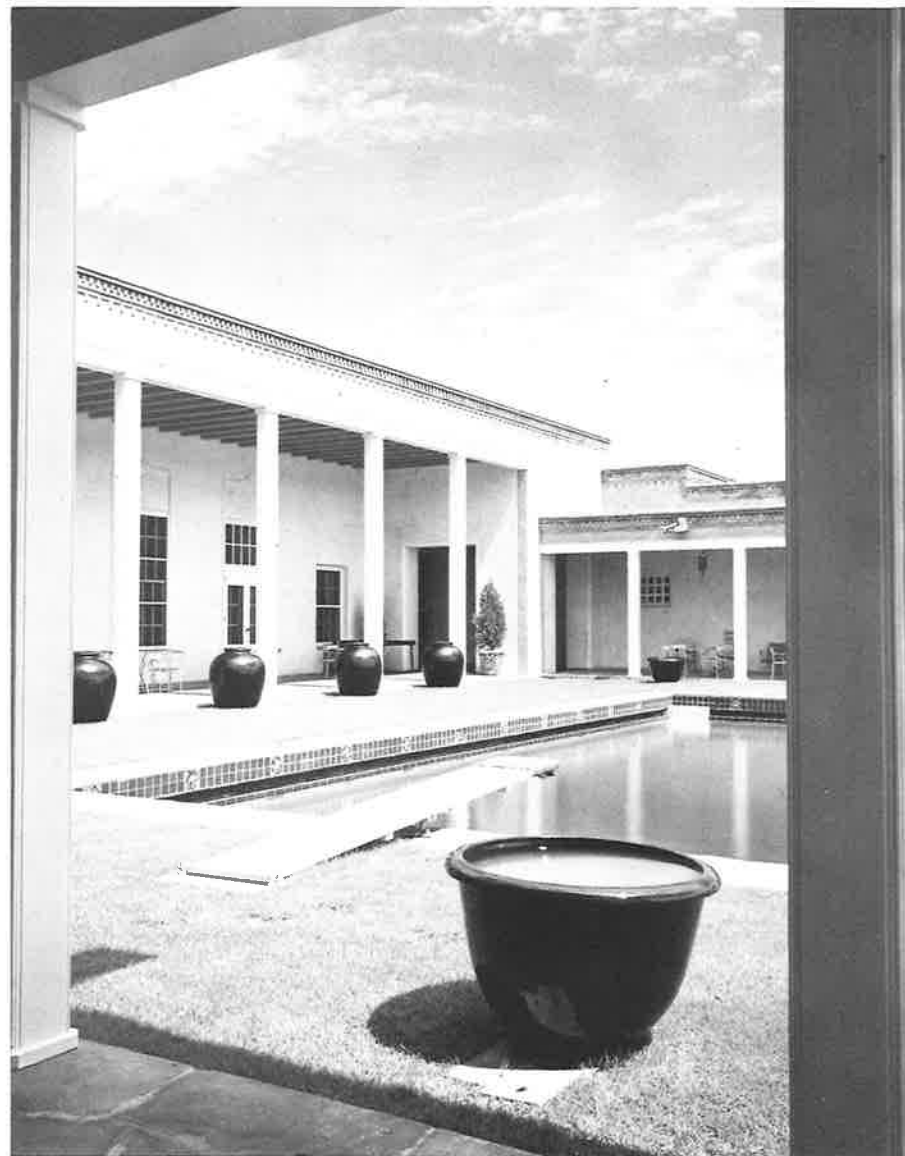
10. La Quinta-Los Poblanos
Albuquerque



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Photograph by Laura Gilpin. 1939

10. La Quinta
Albuquerque



Photograph by Laura Gilpin. 1939

20. Santo Tomas
Abiquiu, New Mexico

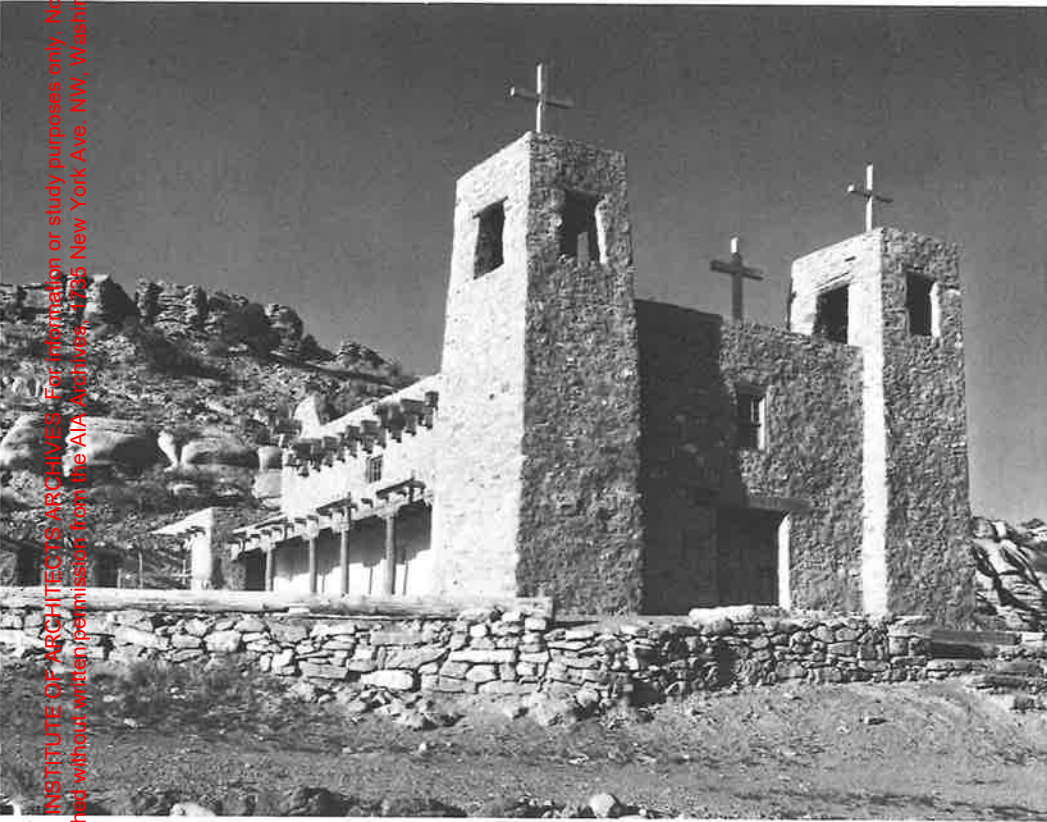


20. Santo Tomas
Abiquiu, New Mexico



Photograph by Tyler Dingee

18. Santa Maria de Acoma
McCarthy, New Mexico



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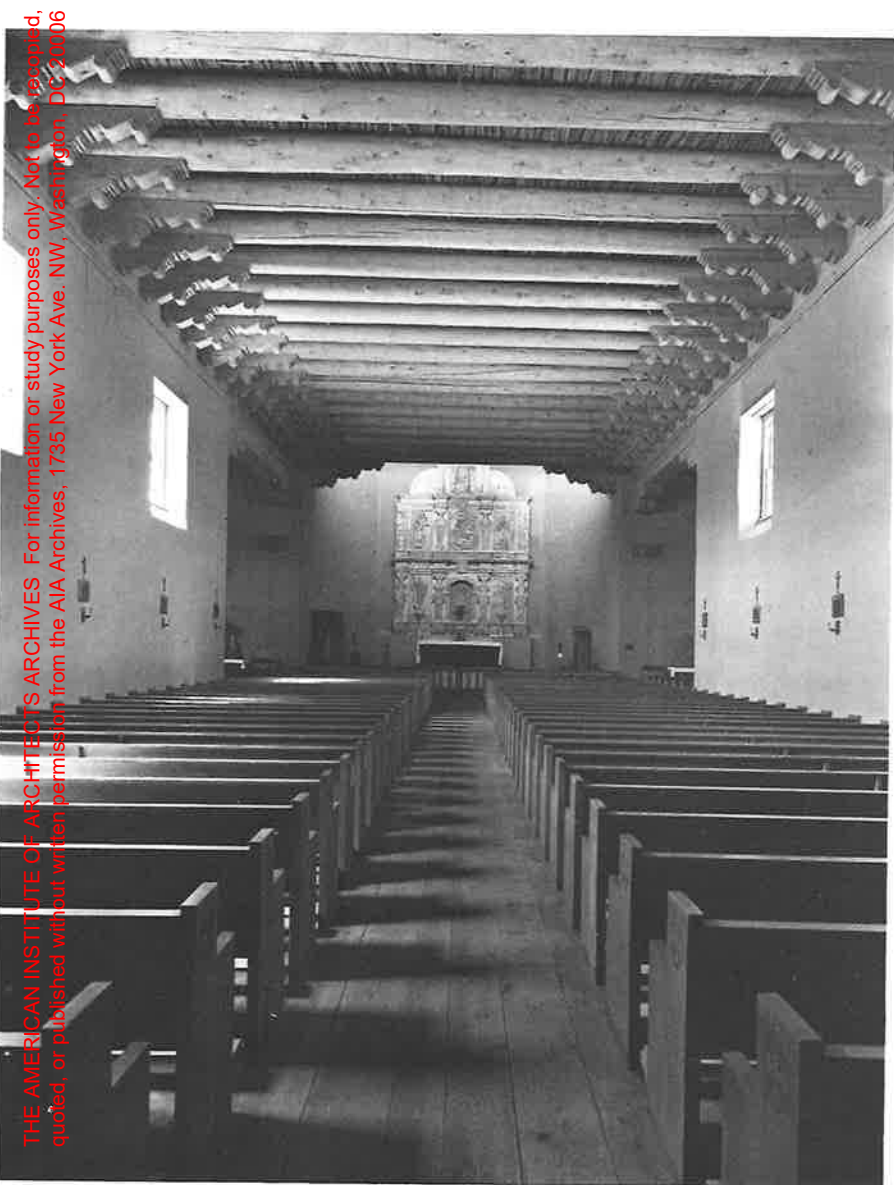
Photograph by Tyler Dingee

18. Santa Maria de Acoma
McCarthy, New Mexico



Photograph by Tyler Dingee

13. Cristo Rey Church
Santa Fe



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Photography by Laura Gilpin. 1950

*Miss
S. R. Swan*

August 11, 1977

Mr. John G. Meem, FAIA
P. O. Box 1924
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Mr. Meem:

We have been informed that you are retired.

There is a classification called Membership Emeritus for members who are unable to engage in architecture because of disability of some sort or who are collecting full social security. Such status would enable you to remain in the AIA and your chapter with full rights and privileges, while being relieved of further dues payments.

Please let us know whether you qualify and the proper action will be taken.

Sincerely,

(Miss) Helen R. Swan
Membership Records

cc: Santa Fe Chapter, AIA

Blind note to chapter: Please advise if this proposed change to emeritus status meets with your approval.

hrs

JOHN GAW MEEM
FELLOW, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
P. O. BOX 1924 • SANTA FE, N. M.

Miss Helen R. Swan ^{OK}
membership Records ~~for~~
American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue
Washington D.C. 20004

Dear Miss Swan

In reply to your letter of
August 11th will say that I
am completely retired from the
practice of Architecture.

Thank you for the kindness
of your letter.

Sincerely
John G. Meem

83 415.012
~~pro 415.012~~



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

September 7, 1977

Mr. John G. Meem, FAIA
P. O. Box 1924
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Mr. Meem:

We find no response from you to our letter dated August 11 about the possibility of changing your membership status to that of emeritus.

Please let us know if you are eligible and the proper change will be made.

Sincerely yours,

Maureen Marx, Director
Membership Procedures

JOHN GAW MEEM
FELLOW, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
P. O. BOX 1924 - SANTA FE, N. M.

Sept 18, '77

Mrs. Maureen Marx
Memberships Procedures
American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Ave. N.W.
Washington D.C.

Dear Mrs. Marx

In reply to your letter of
September 7, will say I will
be honored to be placed on
"emeritus" status. I believe
I am eligible.

Sincerely
John Meem

SEP 20 1977

October 21, 1977

Mr. John G. Meem, FAIA
P.O. Box 1924
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Mr. Meem:

It is a pleasure to inform you that your membership classification has been changed to Member Emeritus.

We are grateful for your many years of support and we hope that your participation and interest will continue, even though you are now relieved of further dues payments.

With best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Robert M. Lawrence, FAIA

cc: Santa Fe Chapter, AIA

New Mexico Society of Architects, AIA



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 (202) 626-7326 / (202) 626-7328

1984 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
 PAYMENT DUE JANUARY 15, 1984
 (See Reverse for Instructions)

340
 4+5

1

MEMBER INFORMATION

AIA Membership Number **5192257**

Please mail my copies of all AIA periodicals to the following address (complete only if different from address at left):

JOHN GAW MEEM FAIA
 P O BOX 1924
 SANTA FE NM 87501
Died on Aug. 4, 1983

Name

Street Address

City State Zip

If name or address is incorrect, please note change above.

Please indicate if address above is your home or business address

DEC 23 1983

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John Gaw Meem, Architect Who Led in 'Santa Fe' Style

By WOLFGANG SAXON

John Gaw Meem, a leading exponent of the "Santa Fe style" of architecture, died Thursday at St. Vincent Hospital in Santa Fe, N. M., one of the many buildings he designed throughout the American Southwest. He was 88 years old and lived in Santa Fe.

From 1924, when he set up shop in Santa Fe, to his retirement about 20 years ago, Mr. Meem became known regionally and nationally as an architect who used traditional Spanish Pueblo lines and building styles, carrying them out in both adobe and up-to-date materials.

He was also instrumental in 1948 in giving Santa Fe one of the country's first comprehensive zoning ordinances to preserve the distinctive look of the New Mexico state capital. As early as the 1920's he worked to restore the Spanish missions that dotted his part of the country, though many of them seemed about to fall apart then.

Mr. Meem was born in Pelotas in the Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul, the son of an American Episcopalian missionary, John Gaw Meem 3d. He graduated from Virginia Military Institute in 1914 and served as an infantry captain in World War I.

He came to national attention when he won a 1930 competition with his designs for buildings at a museum and laboratory in Santa Fe to study American Indian life in the heart of the cliff-dweller region. The Laboratory of Anthropology got its start with funds donated by the Rockefellers.

Three years later the American Institute of Architecture named him to a national commission to plan and direct a civil works program. The program was set up by the Roosevelt Administration to provide employment for American architects.

Mr. Meem served as the architect of the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque from 1933 until his retirement, providing prize-winning designs for its Zimmerman Library and other major buildings in the New Mexico regional fashion. He also designed the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center and the Mu-

seum of International Folk Art in Santa Fe.

Among his other contributions were the county court and Municipal Building in Santa Fe and the city's La Fonda Hotel and First Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Meem was consultant architect for the Santa Fe campus of St. John's College, which opened in 1964. In 1950, he oversaw a master plan from which the city zoning ordinance developed years later over the objections of real estate developers.

Mr. Meem is survived by his wife, the former Faith Bemis; a daughter, Nancy Meem Wirth of Atherton, Calif.; a brother, James, of Santa Fe; a sister, Lucy Vidal, of Rio de Janeiro; and three grandsons.