

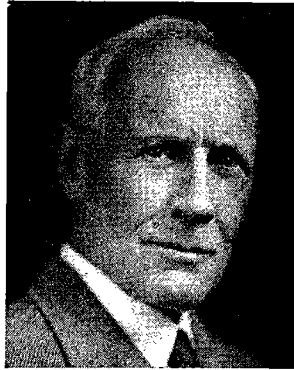
AMONG THE CONSTITUENTS

BROOKLYN CHAPTER

The membership was shocked by the recent death of two of its prominent members, Alexander Mackintosh and William A. Sanders. The following biography of Mr. Mackintosh was written by E. James Gambaro, vice-president of the chapter. A biography of Mr. Sanders will follow in a later issue.

ALEXANDER MACKINTOSH, F.A.I.A.
1861-1945

Born in London, England, Mr. Mackintosh lived in Inverness, Scotland, from the time of early youth until he came to this country in 1893. After serving his apprenticeship in an architects office in Inverness, and later gaining further experience with architects in Edinburgh and Glasgow, Scotland, he then went to London and served in the office of Sir Aston Webb and other English architects. While in London he was admitted to the Royal Academy Architectural School, where during the two-year term he won the first prize for both lower and upper schools. He also won at this time two prizes awarded by the Royal Institute of British Architects, open to students of the entire British Empire.



ALEXANDER MACKINTOSH

After coming to the United States, he immediately became associated with Francis E. Kimball, a leading New York architect on high building construction. Among other early projects Mr. Mackintosh designed the Empire Building, 71 Broadway (corner of Rector St.) New York City, a structure which still remains today and in its design stands up with both the old and new structures in that section.

Starting work in 1901 in New York his practice grew rapidly throughout the Eastern States, including residences, commercial buildings, banks and club houses. Among the buildings he designed in New Jersey, where he made his home in later years, are the Colt Office Building, the Major L'Enfant Office Building in Patterson and numerous residences throughout the State.

Recently, he was architect for the Postmaster of Long Branch and the late Senator Hamilton Kean. He was also Chief Architect and Designer of the Garfield Court Housing Project at Long Branch.

Mr. Mackintosh served the Brooklyn Chapter, A.I.A., as Secretary in 1903-1905 and as President, 1910-1912. He also served actively on all Chapter Committees and many Institute Committees, and as Delegate to the Institute's Conventions. For his outstanding contributions to the profession he was elected a Fellow in the American Institute of Architects in 1923; the following year he was elected to Fellowship in the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Surviving him is his son Master Sergeant Alexander Day Mackintosh, also an architect, now serving with the Engineer Corps of the Army, stationed at Oak Ridge, Tenn.

BUFFALO-WESTERN NEW YORK CHAPTER

Action on Public Works Questionnaire

At a recent meeting the Buffalo and Western N. Y. Chapter passed the following resolution regarding selection of architects for public works projects:

In the event that the Buffalo-Western New York Chapter and other chapters of the New York State Society are invited to submit a list of qualified Architects for Federal

Public works — That the Chapter shall not endorse any committee or panel of Institute members, but shall send to all members a questionnaire which purpose shall be to ascertain the individual Architects qualified, with the understanding that all of the responses received shall be sent without additional comment to the Federal Agency requesting same.

Architectural Fees

Following a year of careful study, the chapter has recently published a new fee schedule for Western New York. Revised and approved by the membership at the fall meeting it becomes binding on the membership after signature by 100% of the active members.

NEW YORK CHAPTER

Declaring that city planning is of critical importance to the welfare of New York City, the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, acting upon the recommendation of its Committee on Civic Design and Development, wrote to Mayoralty candidates in the recent election campaign urging them to clarify their position with regard to the functions and composition of the City Planning Commission and to the major problems of zoning and planning, now confronting the City.

Making it clear that as an organization the Chapter was not sponsoring any candidate but was actuated by a sense of responsibility in the field of sound physical planning, the Committee pointed out that, to date, the City Planning Commission had failed to produce the unified comprehensive Master Plan mandated by the Charter and was continuing to issue piece-meal portions on a so-called Master Plan, which bear no noticeable relationship to each other, much less to an over-all scheme. Conceding that interim provisions must be made to meet urgent current needs, the Committee recommends that such interim provisions be publicly designated as such, pending adoption of the Master Plan.

The Committee also strongly recommends that new members of the City Planning Commission be technically qualified and independent of other Municipal bureaus. It urges adoption of an amendment to the Charter which will make it impossible for members, other than the Chief Engineer of the Board of Estimates, to hold, at the same time, other elective or appointive offices in the City Government. The Chapter believes that the independence of the Commission appears to be impaired by the present policy whereby the Mayor may designate heads of other City departments to serve as members of the Planning Commission. This has the unfortunate effect of tending to give the Mayor control of the Planning Commission, as well as enabling a department head to vote for his own proposals when they come before the Planning Commission for consideration.

The Architect's group also advocates the creation of a City-wide Citizens Advisory Planning Board to the City Planning Commission, which should be consulted on all matters of City-wide planning, similar to the representative advisory boards which have been set up in other Cities.

Other matters of prime importance called to the attention of Mayoralty candidates were the need for overall revision of zoning ordinances in the form of the drafting of an entirely new law; the scientific revision of zoning district maps throughout the City and detailed neighborhood planning of the City based on the principle of encouraging the development of communities within the City.

The Committee takes the position that community planning within the framework of the Master Plan and as an implementation of that plan should be encouraged.

(Continued on page 17)