

APPENDIX B.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP,
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

Sept. 26, 1901.

To the Secretary of the American Institute of Architects:

SIR: I respectfully apply for Associate membership in the American Institute of Architects. I have carefully examined the Constitution and By-Laws of the Institute and agree, if elected, to honorably maintain and obey them.

My full name is F. J. Berlenbach

My address is 260 Graham Av., Brooklyn, N. Y.

I am employed by _____

I am a member of the firm of _____

I began the study of architecture in the year 1876

I began the independent practice of architecture in the year 1884

The accompanying photographs show buildings or other work designed by me.

No. 1 is Annunciation Parochial School; also Dominican Convent, Brooklyn, N. Y.
(Give description of same.)

No. 2 is All Saints' Rectory, Throop Av., Brooklyn, N. Y.

No. 3 is Nazareth Trade School, Farmingdale, L. I.

The accompanying drawings are General Plans and Elevations and Sections
(Give description of any drawings the applicant may choose to submit.)

for St. Fidelis' R. C. Church built at College Point, L. I.
and for All Saints' Parochial School built in Brooklyn, N. Y.

Respectfully submitted, F. J. Berlenbach.
(Signature of applicant.)

We, the undersigned Fellows or Associates of the American Institute of Architects, have carefully examined the above statement, and believe it to be accurate. We know Mr. F. J. Berlenbach personally, are familiar with his professional work and practice and desire his election as an Associate Member of the American Institute of Architects.

(The signatures of three Institute Members are here required.)

Samuel Smith
W. T. Russell
James J. ...
Brooklyn, N. Y.

We, the undersigned residents of _____ know Mr. F. J. Berlenbach personally, and believe him to be capable in his profession and honorable in all his dealings.

(Here the candidate may secure the signatures of residents in the city or town wherein he is at present practicing. The address of each indorser must follow his name.)

Charles Eger
H. Marks Hotel
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Thomas C. Wagner 26 Park St Brooklyn, N. Y.
P. J. Sauffenbach Rector of Mt. Holy Trinity Church Montrose City Brooklyn, N. Y.

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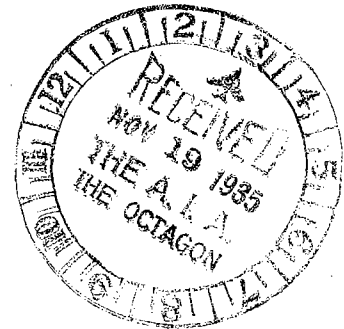
FRANCIS J. BERLENBACH
CHARLES F. BERLENBACH
FRANK A. BERLENBACH

FRANCIS J. BERLENBACH & SONS
ARCHITECTS
191 JORALEMON STREET, BROOKLYN, N. Y.

TELEPHONE
TRIANGLE 5-0974

Nov.
14 th
1 9 3 5

Miss Miller
[Handwritten signature]



Mr. Edward C. Kemper,
The American Institute of Architects,
The Octagon,
1741 New York Ave.,
Washington, D.C.

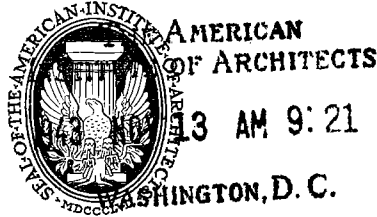
Dear Mr. Kemper,

In answer to your favor of November 8, 1935,
I beg to thank you for drawing my attention to the
second check I sent you in payment of membership dues
in the American Institute of Architects for the year
1935. Your suggestion to credit the \$10 check, last
sent, to my dues for 1936 is satisfactory to me.

Sincerely yours,

Francis J. Berlenbach,
By C.F.B.

ADOLPH GOLDBERG, PRESIDENT
164 MONTAGUE STREET, BROOKLYN, N. Y.
E. JAMES GAMBARO, VICE-PRESIDENT
10 WEST 39RD STREET, NEW YORK CITY



HARRY L. YAKEL, SECRETARY
32 COURT STREET, BROOKLYN, N. Y.
CALVIN L. BEDELL, TREASURER
309 EAST 45TH STREET, BROOKLYN, N. Y.

13 AM 9:21

BROOKLYN CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

November 12, 1943

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

Mr. Edward C. Kemper, Ex. Sec.

Dear Sir:

I regret to announce the death of our Member Emeritus, Mr. Frances J. Berlenback on October 30, 1943. Please change your records accordingly.

Yours very truly,

SECRETARY

HLY:gtb

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

23
COPY

*Miss M
Z. no. to
[Signature]*

November 13, 1943

Dear Mr. Yakel:

We acknowledge with deep regret your letter of November 12, advising us of the death of Mr. Frances J. Berlenback, Member Emeritus of The Institute and of the Brooklyn Chapter.

We would appreciate receiving any press notices or other material concerning the life and work of Mr. Berlenback for the historic files here at The Octagon.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary

Mr. Harry L. Yakel, Secretary
Brooklyn Chapter, A.I.A.
32 Court Street
Brooklyn, New York

K:ER

FRANCIS J. BERLENBACH & SON
ARCHITECTS

191 JORALEMON STREET
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

—
TRIANGLE 5-0974

THE AMERICAN
INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

1943 DEC -7 PM 2:22

FRANK A. BERLENBACH
WASHINGTON, D. C.

FRANCIS J. BERLENBACH

November 21, 1943

Mr. Harry L. Yakel, Secretary,
Brooklyn Chapter,
The American Institute of Architects

Dear Mr. Yakel:

Thank you for your letter of November 18, enclosing
Mr. Kemper's request for information about my late
father:

By comparison with the scholastic advantages of today,
Mr. Berlenbach might be considered almost self-educated.
He graduated in 1881 from what was then known as the
Scientific Course of the Polytechnic Institute of
Brooklyn. That was the best he could get in the way
of an architectural course in this vicinity at that time.

Previously to that, he had served his apprenticeship
with his father, a cabinet-maker, which influenced his
decision to study architecture. After he finished his
scientific course he worked for several years with
Renwick, Aspenwall and Russell. While there, and under
the influence of Mr. Renwick, his architectural training
developed fully. To almost the day of his death he
referred affectionately to Mr. Renwick as 'Tudor Jim',
and his work, whenever possible, reflected the style
that earned Mr. Renwick his pseudonym.

Father used to tell me that when he opened his office
there were only four architects in Brooklyn. It never
occurred to me to verify this, and today, when it is
too late to do so, it seems incredible that there could
have been so few where there now seem to be so many.

It is my understanding that Mr. Berlenbach was one of
the charter members of the Brooklyn Chapter of the

FRANCIS J. BERLENBACH & SON
ARCHITECTS

191 JORALEMON STREET
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

FRANCIS J. BERLENBACH

FRANK A. BERLENBACH

—
TRIANGLE 5-0974

Mr. Yakel

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Nov. 21, 1943

Institute. Your records could verify this - I'm not too sure my impression is correct.

Mr. Berlenbach's first commissions were residential work. That was in the day when a job would be closed down for several months after the plastering was finished to give the building a chance to dry out before the millwork was installed. By today's 'get finished tomorrow' standards, that seems incredible, too.

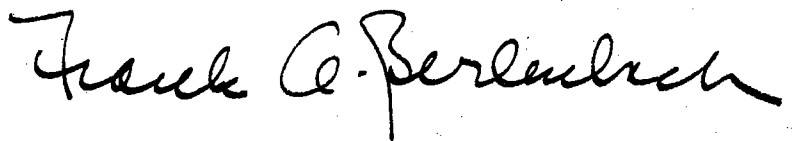
But this work quickly developed into parish building for the Catholic Church, and he specialized in this throughout his long career. His death terminated the partnership between my father and myself, but I am continuing the office under the same name, with the same type of work.

All of his work with very few exceptions was restricted to Brooklyn, Queens and Long Island. There were many parishes, large and small, that entrusted their building programs to him, and many of them took years to complete, from the first modest beginning to the final unit of the parish group.

Mr. Berlenbach was 86 years of age when he died, and the office he established is now in its 58th year.

Please get in touch with me if there is any further information you might like to have.

Very truly yours,



Frank A. Berlenbach

Archivist's note:

Francis J. Berlenbach was not a charter member of the Brooklyn Chapter of The American Institute of Architects. The Brooklyn Chapter was established in 1894, and Berlenbach's name does not appear on the chapter's list of members for that year.

Nancy Hadley
Archivist & Records Manager
The American Institute of Architects
July 2008