

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
THIRTY-SECOND
ANNUAL CONVENTION
AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTS



Held at Washington,
Washington, D. C.

NOVEMBER 1, 2 AND 3, 1898.

PUBLISHED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS A. I. A.

Under direction Committee on Publication and Library.

ALFRED STONE, EDITOR.

PROVIDENCE:

E. A. JOHNSON & Co., PRINTERS.

1898.

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In Memoriam.

OLIVER C. SMITH, F. A. I. A.

Born at Cincinnati, Ohio, October 1860. Died at Austin, a suburb of Chicago, December 1, 1896. His art education began in the Cincinnati School of Design and was continued in the office of Samuel Hannaford, F. A. I. A.

In 1884 he entered into partnership with Walter R. Forbush, F. A. I. A., which partnership continued for two years. In 1886 he moved to Chicago and held responsible positions with Messrs. Burnham & Root, S. S. Beman, and Henry Ives Cobb. In 1893 in connection with Allyn A. Packard he began the publication of "European Architecture," a magazine of photogravure illustrations of the best work in the old country, going abroad in 1895 in the interest of the magazine, and upon his return formed a partnership with Mr. Packard for the practice of architecture.

Aside from his architectural ability, which was of an unusually high order, he was a man of rare attractiveness, modest and retiring in disposition, possessing that magnetic faculty of drawing every one to him. No matter how humble or incapable a person was, Mr. Smith was ever ready and willing to help, and his life and character were an incentive to all who came in contact with him. His ideals were high, and he exemplified them in his daily life.

F. A. COBURN, F. A. I. A.

Born in Massachusetts, removed to Cleveland, Ohio, when fourteen years of age, and died in that city on December 1, 1897, after an illness of four months from an organic trouble caused by overwork.

In 1868 he entered the office of Joseph Ireland, F. A. I. A., then a practicing architect in Cleveland, and subsequently further pursued his professional studies in New York. After returning to Cleveland, he entered into partnership in 1878 with F. S. Barnum, F. A. I. A., the partnership continuing until his death.

He was a veteran of Troop A, was Secretary of the Civil Engineers Club, and held in esteem by his fellow citizens.

He leaves a wife and three children.

ALFRED SMITH, F. A. I. A.

Born at Toronto, Canada in 1842. While yet a mere lad, he emigrated to California where he studied architecture for eight years. In 1860 he endeavored to make a visit to England for the purpose of studying the architecture of the country, but having been shipwrecked on the American coast his purpose was frustrated and he took up his residence at Chicago where he remained until the time of his decease, on the 20th day of March, 1898.

Although of a retiring and home-loving disposition, he was never married, but resided with his mother and sister, and devoted himself to the education of his two nieces and a nephew.

In his profession he rose rapidly to a well assured position by his skill, thoroughness and irreproachable honesty. A man of deeply religious nature from his youth, he was for eighteen years a vestryman, and during fourteen of those years was Junior Warden of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, to which he contributed liberally of both money and time, and took a deep interest in all of its religious affairs.

His death is a loss to the profession, among whose members he was most popular, but it is still more keenly felt in that church which had so long been his spiritual home.

ELBRIDGE BOYDEN, F. A. I. A.

Born in Somerset, Vermont, July 4, 1810, his father being a soldier of the American Revolution, he died in Worcester, Mass., March 25, 1898. Employed while a mere boy in a saw mill, apprenticed at sixteen to a carpenter at Athol, Mass., and with very limited school advantages, his ambition led him to learn to draw and to make himself familiar with Asher Benjamin and such other architectural books—small in number—as could be obtained in a small interior New England town, which laid the foundation for his future professional career.

Mr. Boyden remained as a builder in Athol until 1844, and then removed to Worcester where he soon established himself as an architect as well as builder. In 1847 he formed a business connection with Phineas Ball, a civil engineer, under the firm name of Boyden & Ball, and during the fourteen years of its continuance they had almost a monopoly of the architectural and engineering work of the city and surrounding towns, and were employed as far away as Kansas, Georgia and Oregon. Imbued with a love for architecture and an ambition for its highest achievements, his record, considering his few advantages for education in early life, is both remarkable and honorable. Mechanic's Hall in Worcester, his best known work, takes a high rank among the public halls of America. His earlier work shows the influence of his careful study of Roman and Grecian architecture, and is characterized by dignity and sobriety, and often by grandeur of conception, in which qualities his later work sometimes suffered in comparison, in common with much of the work of the period between the decadence of the old traditions, and the late vigorous revival of architecture.

Mr. Boyden was original and enterprising, and always in quest of improvements in building materials and methods, as an evidence of which he interested a local potter in making architectural decorative work of burnt clay, which he used to a considerable extent long before the use of terra cotta had been heard of in his neighborhood.

Tall and portly and of impressive presence, regular and abstemious in his habits, blessed with a strong constitution and robust health, he carried very lightly the burden of his nearly eighty-eight years, and maintained to the last a clear mind still occupied with the problems of his busy life. Of strict integrity, whole souled, and deeply interested in all that concerned the profession, he maintained a lively interest in all matters of the public weal, and was greatly respected in the community in which he lived. His last act among his professional associates was that of presiding at a meeting of the Worcester Chapter of the A. I. A., of which organization he held the office of president continuously until his death. From this meeting he went directly to his home, and three weeks later ended his long, busy and honorable life.

INDEX.

	Page
Roll of those in attendance	7
Address of Welcome by Hon. John B. Wight, President Board of Commissioners, of the District of Columbia	9
Response and Annual Address of the President, Geo. B. Post	11
Report of the Board of Directors	14
Treasurer	15
Appointment of Audit Committee	15
Abstract of Chapter Reports	22
Chapter Data	23
Report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence	25
Committee on Publication and Library	25
Committee on Government Architecture	26
Letter from D. H. Burnham as to report on National Building	26
Report of Committee on Building Laws	27
Delegate to National Conference on Standard Electrical Rules	28
Communication from President McKinley's Private Secretary	28
Consideration of the By-Laws	28
Visit to White House, Treasury Department and "Octagon House" . .	29
Address of Welcome to new Institute headquarters, by President Post .	29
Address by Mr. Franklin Miles Day, Chairman of the Building Committee	31
Consideration of the By-Laws	31
Visit to the Congressional Library	32
Acoustics, Paper by Professor W. C. Sabine, Harvard University . . .	42
Notes on Acoustics in Architecture, Paper by Adolf Cluss, F. A. I. A. .	49
A Consideration of Some Little Known American Ornamental Stones, by Professor George P. Merrill	55
Some Peculiarities of Wood, Paper by Professor B. E. Fernow	61
Appointment of Committees to Nominate Officers	61
Visit to Cabin John Bridge	62
The Architecture of the Synagogue, by Dr. Cyrus Adler	66
General Practice in Regard to the Employment of Electrical, Heating and Sanitary Engineers, by Mr. Henry G. Bradlee	81
Report of Committee on Education	84-85
Statistics of Architectural Schools	86-87
Consideration of the By-Laws	87
Vote of Thanks to the Washington Chapter, et al.	87