

ERNEST FLAGG,
ARCHITECT.
111 EAST 40TH STREET
NEW YORK.

Oct. 1, 1923.

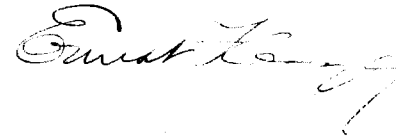
The American Institute of Architects,
Washington, D. C.

Attention Mr. E. C. Kemper.

Dear Sirs:-

In reply to your letter
I recommend that you procure a
copy of my book "Small Houses". I
do not make plans and specifications
of the ordinary kind, but as des-
cribed in the book. Plate 1 is a
working drawing with which there
goes a set of standard detail draw-
ings and directions for doing the
work.

Yours very truly,



EF:MS

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

COPY

2-3

October 3, 1923.

Dear Mr. Flagg:-

Thank you for your courteous note of October 1st with regard to Small House Specifications. Our letter was really intended for Mr. Maurice I. Flagg of the Small House Service Bureau, but was addressed to you through stenographic error, which I trust you will pardon.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Ernest Flagg,
111 East 40th Street,
New York City, N. Y.

K:VB

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

2-3
COPY

One Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y.
August 1, 1924

Mr. Ernest Flagg,
111 East 40th Street,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Flagg:

I have your letter of July 28th. If it were dated 1923, instead of 1924, I would not be so surprised for it must be that you have been looking over the Proceedings of a year ago.

The outcome of the election of Fellows at the Convention in 1923 was a most painful one as it resulted in the black-balling of a number of our best men. This was not, however, a reflection upon the men rejected but rather upon the Institute itself and one or two members who were dishonorable enough to bring about this most discreditable vote.

Apparently you are not aware that the matter was acted upon immediately by the Board of Directors which met the day following the Convention in May 1923, and, as a result, the Convention of 1924 has amended the By-laws of the Institute so that the election of Fellows henceforth will rest in the Board of Directors. In future, the Jury of Fellows, made up largely of Past Presidents of the Institute, can investigate quietly and carefully a list of candidates for fellowship, and the election will be held by the Board of Directors in a dignified way without any publicity until the names of those elected are made public by formal announcement at a Convention.

You have doubtless just received your copy of the Proceedings of the 57th Convention. You will be interested to read the action taken as recorded on pages 54-55 and elsewhere - see index.

I hope that you, as one of the outstanding members of our profession, will not think of retiring from membership in the Institute. For you to resign now just after the Institute has conferred the honor of the Presidency upon me, would be disconcerting to say the least. I hope that it is not your wish to do so.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,



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COPY TO
FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

AUG 13 1924

To e.c.k.
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File

ERNEST FLAGG,
ARCHITECT.
111 EAST 40TH STREET
NEW YORK.

August 11, 1924.

D. Everett Waid, Esq.,
#1 Madison Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Waid:-

I find it was the
1923 proceedings I saw. I
thought they were this years.

In view of what you
say, I will withdraw my
resignation for the present
at least, but I think the
Institute has been guilty of
some pretty bad manners so far
as I am concerned.

Yours very truly,

Ernest Flagg

EF:MS

Proceedings of the Fifty-sixth Annual Convention of the American Institute of Architects

*Held in the Auditorium of the Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C.
May 16, 17, and 18, 1923*

Published by the Board of Directors
American Institute of Architects

At this point Mr. Abram Garfield stated that he must withdraw his name from nomination as First Vice-President.

The President asked if there were nominations from the floor for any office. None were made. The nominations were closed by resolution.

Nominations of Fellows

THE PRESIDENT. I will ask Mr. John Lawrence Mauran, Chairman of the Jury of Fellows, to present the nominations of the Jury.

MR. MAURAN. In nominating for advancement to Fellowship the members of the American Institute of Architects selected by your Jury of Fellows, it seems fitting to record certain facts which should be borne in mind by the Convention.

Dissatisfaction with the old method of enforced lack of deliberation on candidates' qualifications, led to the setting up of the machinery of a continuing jury. During the past four years no names have been presented for election to Fellowship, and therefore in this—the Jury's first endeavor—a comparatively large list of names is presented in an attempt to do belated justice to many who were long ago entitled to the honor.

As covering so long a period the number, by average, fully maintains that integrity of the honor conferred which the Jury in future years will recognize and safeguard.

The cooperation of the entire Institute membership has been surprising, as well as gratifying, for the privileged communications have shown as keen a desire to endorse a suggested name, as they have in maintaining the high standards set as a prerequisite for the honor of Fellowship.

The Jury has had a full year in which to investigate the qualifications of the men suggested, to formulate a method of procedure, and to look up all records which were open to question.

Through the frank endorsements and criticisms of two separate requests for confidential advice, these names came finally to your Jury for its fearless consideration of the merits, alike of the praise bestowed and the validity of objections raised. The evidence has been fairly weighed. The verdict we offer, in the confidence inspired by our knowledge that objections—no matter how conscientiously conceived—have been swept away by the flood of counter testimony, with the assurance that your support of these candidates will rest on the fairness of the method.

This report is made on behalf of the Jury of Fellows, as follows: R. Clipston Sturgis, Thomas R. Kimball, Henry H. Kendall, Ellis F. Lawrence, Irving K. Pond, and John Lawrence Mauran, *Chairman*.

Those nominated by the Jury were: Edwin Bergstrom, Peter Brust, Chas. Collens, Harvey W. Corbett, Ernest Coxhead, John W. Cross, Kirtland Cutter, Chas. A. Favrot, Ernest Flagg, J. H. Freedlander, Edwin S. Gordon, Alfred Hoyt Granger, Herbert M. Greene, Albert L. Harris, Wallis E. Howe, Louis La Beaume, Alex. Mackintosh, Wm. C. Noland, Josias Pennington, Hugh Roberts, Jos. E. Sperry, Edward F. Stevens, T. E. Tallmadge, J. V. Van Pelt, F. R. Walker, John T. Windrim. For posthumous advancement, John T. Comes.

Nomination of Honorary Corresponding Member

THE PRESIDENT. There is a nomination for Honorary Corresponding Membership. I will ask Mr. Boring to present it.

MR. BORING. I think it is an honor for me to say a few words about Mr. Gorham Phillips Stevens, whom the Board of Directors have nominated for Honorary Corresponding Membership in the Institute. He is the director of the American Academy in Rome, and I have no doubt that there are in the audience men who have come under his direct influence.

Mr. Stevens is a distinguished archaeologist, he is an architect of the most severe and critical training; he was McKim's trusted assistant for

some years School of C ship. After Academy in

To show in Europe I would like member of the Association member of the in Rome; F Amatorie C ary Membe Madrid; H of British Committee tion, Rome Rome. Ar distinctions I think Stevens, if names on a

THE PR port of the man, Mr. Y

MR. W Building C

Report of the Octagon House Build

The Octagon House Building Committee submits for the consideration of the Convention, a design for the building which it is proposed to locate on the lots on 18th Street adjoining the Octagon House property. This is a scheme worked out after further study of the problem by the Committee with due respect to the suggestions brought out at previous conventions.

The design contemplates the erection of a building which shall cover substantially the two lots, now the site of two old houses next north from the Octagon House, and that portion of the Octagon property now occupied by the old stable with a wing extending out to New York Avenue on the East side of the property parallel with the Lemon Building.

The Auditorium or Convention Hall shown is a replica, identical in dimensions, of the Pump Room in the old city of Bath, England. This famous old assembly room is so much admired by Mr. Charles Platt that he suggested its reproduction. It is quite probable that further consideration of its adaptation for the purposes of the Institute may lead to a modification of the wall treatment which is shown to include pilasters or engaged columns. The Hall as shown would have a seating capacity of approximately 500. The first story provides, in addition to the Hall, an entrance lobby, cloak room, etc., retiring rooms and two exhibition galleries. The second story contains approximately 6000 square feet of space which can be subdivided for offices to rent and committee rooms if desired. In the basement are provided additional coat rooms, package rooms and storage, and a large room where refreshments can be served.

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Proceedings of the Fifty-ninth Annual Convention of the American Institute of Architects

Held in the Auditorium of the
Chamber of Commerce of the United States
Washington, D. C., May 5, 6, 7, 1926

Published by the Board of Directors
of the
American Institute of Architects

Edited by the Executive Secretary

It is perhaps a happy analogy that your Fine Arts medal was given tonight to a musician, because I have always felt that the most wonderful thing in civilization, the most wonderful evidence of the possibilities of team play, is what an orchestra can do, the unified and harmonious effort of so many individuals under competent leadership. We would like you to carry away the thought that we have a pretty good orchestra here in Washington, who are playing well together. We have a good plan, and we hope we may count on your support in your communities to give us encouragement from there, and to make the people there feel that they want to inquire of their Congressman what he has done to help the Plan of Washington along.

I had hoped, when I was first threatened with the chance of saying a few words to you, to quote the Seville resolution as our ideal, but that part of my speech has been made so much better by a previous speaker than I could make it, that I will merely add that those things which he said, I say also with regard to the National Capital. Thank you very much. (*Applause.*)

THE PRESIDENT. We thank you, Major Grant, for what you have said. If there is one duty which rests more strongly than another upon the entire membership of the American Institute of Architects it is the large measure of responsibility which the profession of architecture assumes that it has toward our National Capital.

You may recall a few years ago that it was the American Institute of Architects which succeeded in having removed from the Mall that great blot upon the city, the old Pennsylvania Railway Station. The great president of a great railroad [Cassatt] was public spirited enough and appreciative enough, when the matter came to him through the Institute, to succeed in bringing about a change. We recall his coming to a dinner like this and accepting Honorary Membership in our organization. I want to assure you that we realize, as perhaps the people in general do not, that other harm threatens this great Plan of Washington, even more dangerous because less obvious. And we are always at the service of those who, like yourself, are interested in this great city.

Fellowships Announced

THE PRESIDENT (*continuing*). The last item of business is the award of Fellowships in the American Institute of Architects. The Institute honors distinction among its own

members by awarding the title of Fellow. As the members are aware, there has been a feeling that the method of selection which is very difficult, has been faulty and should be reformed. For several years earnest efforts have been under way to bring about that reform. We feel that the object has been almost achieved, although there are still some difficulties to be cleared away.

This year, in announcing the awards, I am sure you will share with me—and with all of the Directors—a disappointment that the list is shorter by half than it should be. We can only hope that another year will bring about a more complete adjustment, and that we may have your patience in the meantime in behalf of many of our distinguished men who years ago should have been recognized as Fellows.

We will ask the Secretary to read the names of those who have been elected.

THE ACTING SECRETARY. The names of the Fellows selected this year are as follows: Howard Sill, Herbert W. C. Browne, James Ford Clapp, Harry W. Gardner, Charles W. Killam, William G. Rantoul, Hubert G. Ripley, John B. Slee, Thomas Edward Snook, August C. Esenwein, F. H. Bosworth, Jr., Arthur N. Gibb, Alfred Hoyt Granger, Charles S. Schneider, W. G. Malcomson, John Robert Dillon, William J. Sayward, Robert Frost Daggett, E. Hill Turnock, J. C. Murphy, Allison Owen, Edwin H. Brown, R. Maurice Trimble, Reginald Davis Johnson, John F. Capen, Arnold H. Moses, Harry Thornton Stephens, Fred Wesley Wentworth, Edward P. Casey, Harvey Wiley Corbett, Ernest Flagg, Joseph H. Freedlander, Howard Greenley, Arthur Loomis Harmon, Henry Hornbostel, John Mead Howells, Everett V. Meeke, Kenneth M. Murchison, Stephen Francis Voorhees, Edward P. York, William H. Lord, Paul A. Davis III, Arthur I. Meigs, Charles Barton Keen, John T. Windrim, William Boyd, David C. Allison, Victor Mindeleff, and Gerrit J. de Gelleke.

(*Applause.*)

Installation of New Officers

THE PRESIDENT. The Convention today elected its new Officers and Directors for the coming year. In the ordinary course, six directors hold over, three new directors besides the officers are elected. One additional director this year takes the place of another by reason of the vacancy caused by the untimely death of Mr. Schnaittacher. Were it not for the lateness of the hour, I know you would be

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

1741 New York Avenue, N. W.

Washington, D. C.

THE OCTAGON

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NEW YORK, N. Y.
HERALD TRIBUNE

APR 11 1947

Ernest Flagg Dies; Designed Singer Building

Also Drew Plans for Naval
Academy at Annapolis;
Built Housing Project

Ernest Flagg, ninety, architect who designed in 1908 the forty-one-story Singer Building, one of New York's early skyscrapers, and the buildings of the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., died yesterday at his home, 109 East Fortieth Street. Mr. Flagg retired from the active practice of architecture in 1940, but he continued to maintain offices at 111 East Fortieth Street.

Mr. Flagg was widely known as a classical scholar. He devoted eight years to a study of the principles of proportion upon which the architectural works of ancient Greece were based. Mr. Flagg published in 1930 "The Parthenon Naos," in which he claimed rediscovery of these principles. Other well known structures designed by Mr. Flagg were St. Luke's Hospital, Amsterdam Avenue at 113th Street, and the Corcoran Gallery of Art, in Washington.

Built 560-Family Project

A theory that white-collar workers had insufficient housing at moderate rentals led Mr. Flagg to design and build in 1933 the 560-family Flagg Court Apartments at Ridge Boulevard, between Seventy-second and Seventy-third Streets in the Bay Ridge section of Brooklyn. It was one of the largest apartment developments in the city and one unit contained in its interior square a swimming pool surrounded by terraces. Mr. Flagg also designed the first co-operative apartment house in the city, at Madison Avenue and Twenty-eighth Street.

In 1927, Mr. Flagg studied New York's traffic problem and his suggestions attracted wide attention. As a member of the City Committee on Plan and Survey he wrote in a minority report that north-south overhead streets should be built to accommodate fast vehicular traffic. Slower moving vehicles could use the street level, he said.

Offered Site for U. N.

Mr. Flagg was one of the largest individual property owners on Staten Island, and last year offered seventeen acres for a skyscraper site for the United Nations headquarters.

He was born in Brooklyn, the son of the Rev. Jared B. and Louisa Hart Flagg. He studied architecture at the Ecole des Beaux Arts and the Atelier Blondel in Paris, and designed buildings abroad, one of the best known of these being the palace of Count Laszlo Szechenyi in Budapest. Mr. Flagg was the author of "Small Houses—Their Economic Design and Construction" and "Genealogical Notes on the Founding of New England." He was a member of the American Institute of Architects.

Surviving are his wife, Margaret Elizabeth Bonnell, and a daughter, Mrs. John Melcher. A private funeral service will be held tomorrow.