

Stowe, E.E.
South Texas

Must not be
used

Application for Membership

Houston, Texas, July 29th 1924., 19

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.....E. E. STOWE.....
Address.....709 Hadley Avenue, HOUSTON, TEXAS.....
[Number and Street.] [City.] [State.]
Place and date of birth.....GALVESTON, TEXAS, NOVEMBER 15th, 1881.....
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.....STOWE & STOWE.....
Have been in practice.....22.....years.....
If draughtsman, employed by.....
[State number of years.]
Collegiate and office training.....

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.

E. E. Stowe
[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.]

Secretary.

Chapter, A. I. A.

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.

Pratt, P. H. 5th Nov 24
Initiation
U. S. A.
Johns must send
Ordinary Com. of

- (1) R. D. Steele
- (2) Sam H. Dixon Jr.
- (3) [Signature]

[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.]

September 15, 1924.

My dear Mr. Stowe:-

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 the South Texas Chapter.

In order that your application may be acted upon at the November meeting of the Board of Directors, it is hoped that you will send at your early convenience the customary routine exhibits.

These should consist of working drawings and photographs of two executed buildings which need not be specially prepared, may be taken from your office files and will be returned later.

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

Very truly yours,

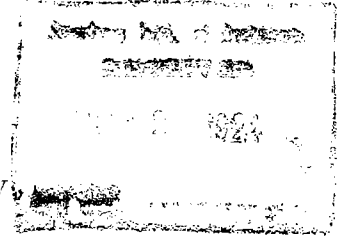
Executive Secretary.

Mr. E. E. Stowe,
709 Hadley Avenue,
Houston, Texas.

K:VB

ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE
STOWE & STOWE
ESTABLISHED 1893
SECOND NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
HOUSTON, TEXAS

September 29th 1924.



Mr Edward C Kemper, Executive Secretary,

The American Institute of Architects,

Washington, D C.

Dear Mr Kemper:-

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of, and thank you very much for your letter of September 15th., 1924.

I met Architect Dixon on the street a few days ago and he informed me that on account of several members of the South Texas Chapter not knowing me personally he was unable to get the full endorsement of the Chapter to my application, therefore, as requested in your letter to me, I am forwarding to you to-day, by American Railway Express, charges pre-paid, two sets of blueprints, specifications and photographs which I hope will be sufficient, if not, will be glad to furnish others, as well as a great many letters from satisfied clients.

I might mention to you that my brother George B Stowe is the senior member of our firm, having started his practice about 1893, and some years later I became his partner. He and I have been members of the old Texas State Association of Architects, but owing to the great amount of discord that prevailed, withdrew, and have made no further effort to become members of any state or local organization until we felt they could work in harmony, and for the betterment of the profession, which I now understand the South Texas Chapter is doing.

I hope that the Board of Directors may see fit to act favorable upon my application.

Would thank you to return the prints, etc., at my expense, when finished with them.

With best wishes for the A I A, I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

E. E. Stowe

Encs.

FEW RICE STUDENTS STUDY ARCHITECTURE

Looks as if the architect's profession is one that is not going to be overcrowded in the future.

And there is big money in the business, those informed on the subject say. Houses from the plans to the wall paper come high.

Out at the Rice Institute this year over 400 Freshmen registered, and only 20 of that number took up the study of architecture.

Probably 200 others took up other forms of engineering such as civil, chemistry, electrical, etc.

There are probably 100 engineering students in the Rice Institute, and of these there are only 49 aspiring to be architects.

Nine students, if nothing happens, will graduate from Rice Institute June, 1926. Eight will graduate in June, 1926.

With the tremendous building that is going on in America, and it looks as if the architects will make more money in the future than members of any other profession.

Using the Rice Institute as an index to the architectural registration of students in colleges throughout the United States, competition among them certainly won't be strong.

Had some of these struck
off when I first came
to Houston. E.E. Stowe.



*A short list of those
whom we have had the
pleasure of serving.*



*If we can serve them,
why can we not serve you?*



Immigrant Station Galveston

United States Government		*Mr. Chas. Clarke	Galveston, Texas.
State of Texas.		Mr. Chas. Clarke, Jr.	" "
County of Galveston.		Mr. S. P. Mistrot	" "
City of Galveston.		Mr. Jens Moller	" "
Southern Beverage Co.	Galveston, Texas.	*Mr. M. Marx	" "
Improvement Loan & Trust Co.	" "	Mr. H. B. Goodman	" "
Texas Star Flour Mills	" "	Mr. W. T. Armstrong	" "
Galveston Cotton Exchange	" "	Mr. B. G. Tartt	" "
Gengler Grocery Company	" "	Mr. P. M. Gengler	" "
Western Union Telegraph Co.	" "	Mr. R. W. Stolz	" "
Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe R. R.		Mr. J. P. Peterson	" "
Galveston, Houston & Henderson R. R.		Mr. H. J. Runge	" "
Galveston Wharf Company.		Mr. M. Ulrich	" "
Rex Laundry Company	Galveston, Texas.	Mr. J. N. Gilbert	Beaumont, Texas.
Gregory Auto Company	" "	Mr. F. D. Minor	" "
Black Hardware Company	" "	Mr. Chas. T. Butler	" "
Fraternal Order of Eagles	" "	Mrs. E. Tidemann	" "
Seamen's Bethel	" "	*Dr. Geo. P. Hall	Houston, Texas.
Mr. John Sealy	" "	Mr. E. Teas	" "
Mr. Sealy Hutchings	" "	Mr. A. G. Ruggles	" "
*Mr. M. Lasker	" "	Mr. J. W. Groce	" "
Mr. E. Lasker	" "		
*Mr. B. Adoue	" "		
*Mr. L. A. Adoue	" "		
*Mr. J. Lobit	" "		
Mr. P. Lobit	" "		
Mr. D. Fahey	" "		
Mr. R. I. Cohen	" "		
Mr. Chas. Fowler	" "		
Mr. Chas. L. Wallis	" "		

Most of the above we have served many times.

The following Houstonians are among a few who know us: Mr. D. R. Beatty, Mr. Chas. L. Desel, Dr. H. C. Haden, Mr. Robt. Elgin, Mr. A. J. Condit, Prof. H. T. Huffman, Mr. W. H. Seaman, Mr. Franklin Williams, Mr. J. R. Cheek, Mr. J. F. Grant, Mr. G. M. Bryan.

*Now deceased.

These names are given without our having requested permission.

OUR PRACTICE has not been limited to any particular section, but on the contrary has extended many miles away. Neither has our practice been limited to any special character of building. But, with our varied experience, extending over a period of more than twenty-five consecutive years in this section, covering virtually every kind and character of building and construction, enables us to give you superior results.

We might state that we are pioneers in reinforced concrete and fire-proof construction.

Do you not think a firm of twenty-five years of practice in one section, often serving the same client many times and in which the building operations extended into the hundred of thousands of dollars, attests as to their standing and is worthy of your serious consideration?

STOWE & STOWE
ARCHITECTS

Houston, Texas
Carter Bldg.

Galveston, Texas
Peoples Bank Bldg.

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

COPY

November 25, 1924.

My dear Mr. Stowe:-

Acting for the Secretary, I am pleased to advise you of your election to membership in the American Institute of Architects, effective November 25, 1924.

You have been assigned to the South Texas Chapter as an Institute member in good standing therein, and the Secretary of the Chapter has been so advised.

No charge for 1924 dues will be made against you and your subscription to the Institute Journal will begin with the January issue.

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.

Very truly yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. E. E. Stowe,
709 Hadley Ave.,
Houston, Texas.

K:D

2-3

ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE
STOWE & STOWE
ESTABLISHED 1893
SECOND NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
HOUSTON, TEXAS

December 3rd 1924.

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

Dear Mr Kemper:-

I thank you very much for your letter of November 25th., advising me of my election to membership in The American Institute of Architects, effective November 25, 1924, and that no charge for 1924 dues will be made.

I am very glad that my application was acted upon favorably.

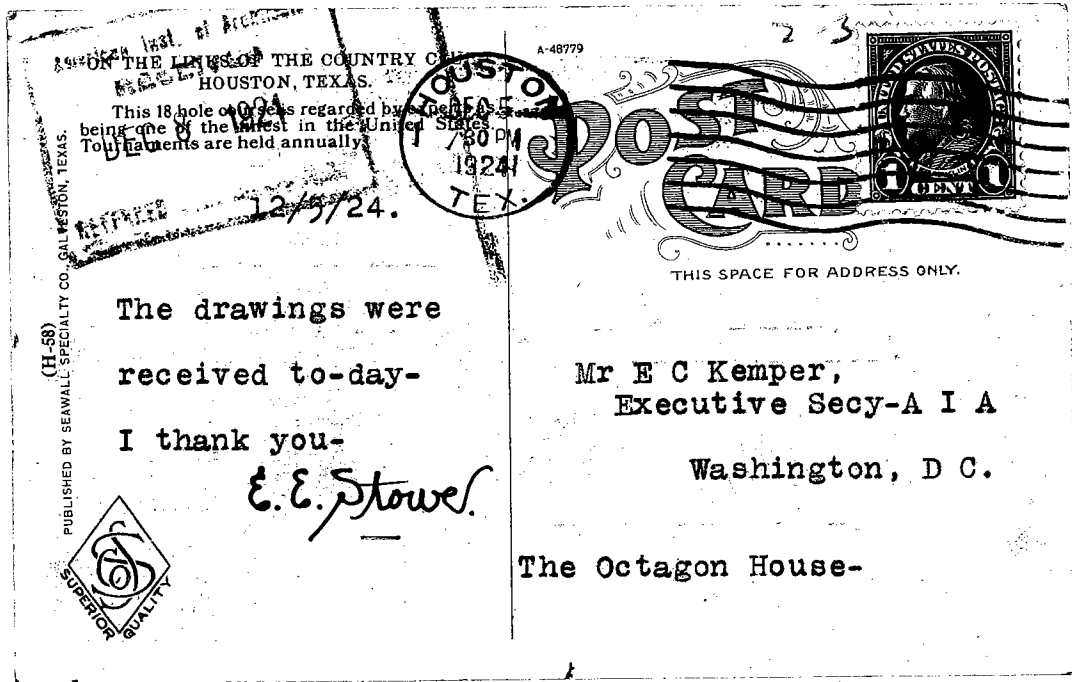
As mentioned to you in my last letter, our firm has been practicing for the past 30 consecutive years, and while not members of the American Institute we have always upheld its views in so far as fees and the ethical side of the matter was concerned, and we will continue to do so, and I am in hopes that as a member of the American Institute that I may be of some value in trying to place the profession where it should be.

If you have not already done so, would thank you to return the drawings I submitted, at my expense.

Thanking you for your promptness in notifying me of my election, and with best wishes to The American Institute, I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

E. E. Stowe



ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE
STOWE AND STOWE
ESTABLISHED 1893
1018 Second National Bank Bldg.
HOUSTON, TEXAS

December 10th., 1924.

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

Dear Mr Kemper:-

Perhaps I should take such matters as these up with the local Chapter, but being rather doubtful whether or not they could supply me with what I want, take the liberty of writing to you.

Now that I am a member of the A I A, I would like to acquaint myself with just what, at this time, the Institute considers ethical in the way of charges, competitions, advertising, etc. If you have any printed matter along these lines I would thank you to send it to me, either C O D, or I will remit you promptly upon receipt of it.

Between you and I, I was rather a little disappointed at the attendance at a meeting last night of the local Chapter, but perhaps it will be better later.

Best wishes to you, I am,

Yours very truly,

E. E. Stowe

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

COPY
2-3

December 13, 1924.

My dear Mr. Stowe:-

In response to yours of December 10, you ought to have a number of the documents of the Institute.

Herewith is a copy of the Manual, in the back of which you will find a complete list. If you will check off those you need, we will be glad to supply you.

At the moment we are sending a copy of the current Annuary, which contains the various ethical documents, including those you mention.

Assuring you of our cooperation at all times, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. E. E. Stowe,
1018 Second National Bank Building,
Houston, Texas.

K-G
Enc.

COPY TO

FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

Architectural Service

Proves an Ultimate Economy



Architectural Service

Proves an Ultimate Economy



You may build with a sense of security when your interests are safeguarded by a professional advisor. Your architect will save you from the pitfalls of building inexperience. With his advise your house will fit your budget as well as your individual requirements. You will receive the best value for the money spent in quality of material and workmanship.

*Your architect safeguards your interest
and his fee proves an ultimate economy
through five acts of service.*

PRELIMINARY SKETCHES visualize for you how your building will be arranged and how it will appear. They are an analysis of your building requirements and will forestall costly changes during construction.

WORKING DRAWINGS give the contractor definite dimensions; indicate the materials of construction; the location of all mechanical equipment; and include details of all special features.

SPECIFICATIONS describe the quality and kind of workmanship and materials. Carefully prepared specifications safeguard you against "extras."

CONTRACTS let after competitive bids are received from several contractors assure the lowest market cost.

SUPERVISION during construction, by an architectural advisor, experienced in the practical problems of building, is your assurance that the plans and specifications are adhered to by the contractor.

*Architectural Service permits you to
know what you will obtain and how
much it will cost, and assures your ob-
taining what you pay for.*

ELLWOOD E. STOWE, A. I. A.
Houston, Texas

GEORGE B. STOWE
Galveston, Texas

STOWE & STOWE
Established 1893
Second National Bank Building
HOUSTON, TEXAS

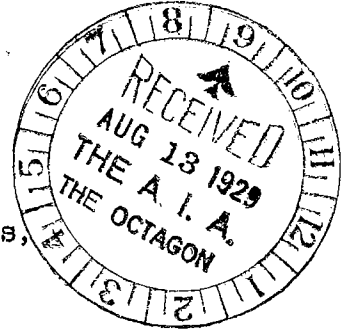
From HOUSE & GARDEN

ELLWOOD E. STOWE, A. I. A.
Architect
HOUSTON, TEXAS

ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE
STOWE & STOWE
Established 1893
Second National Bank Building
HOUSTON, TEXAS

GEORGE B. STOWE
Architect
GALVESTON, TEXAS

August 10th., 1929.



Mr. Edwin Bergstrom, Treasurer,
The American Institute of Architects,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Bergstrom:-

Your letter of August 1st., with statement for my 1929 dues has been received, and I regret very much that I have been and still am un-able to remit you this amount. I have been, and still am in hopes shortly of doing so. Business has been unusually quiet with me is the reason for the delay.

I note what you say about the financial condition of the Institute, and as Treasurer of this Chapter might say to you that such a condition exists here.

I have been, and still am thinking quite seriously of with-drawing as a member of the Institute. I have always tried to do my little mite toward elevating and building up the profession, but have become so discourage lately with conditions as they seem to appear to me, in our section, that I have about decided to try some other line.

With best wishes to you, I am,

Very truly yours,

Ellwood E. Stowe.

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

COPY

August 14, 1929.

My dear Mr. Stowe:

This will acknowledge your letter of the 10th to the Treasurer, Mr. Bergstrom. We will bring it to his personal attention when he comes to Washington, just prior to the September meeting of the Executive Committee.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Elwood E. Stowe,
Second National Bank Building,
Houston, Texas.

K/MEY

11/30/29
Over for 1929-25

COPY TO

FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

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

2-3
COPY

December 6, 1929.

My dear Mr. Stowe:

With further reference to your letter of August 10th, and our reply of August 14th, would say that it is the desire of the Treasurer to extend a full measure of cooperation. He and the other Officers fully appreciate the conditions which exist in various parts of the country which are adverse to the architect. For this reason the Secretary recently addressed a notice to those on the delinquent list asking for their remittances by the end of the current year, or for a note payable by March 1st. You should have received one of these letters, and if you will send in a note it will enable us to carry you as an Institute member in good standing.

We trust you will do this as the Institute does not want to lose your membership, and I am sure the South Texas Chapter feels the same way.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Treasurer.

Mr. Elwood E. Stowe,
Second National Bank Building,
Houston, Texas.

K-G

COPY TO

FILES

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

TREASURER

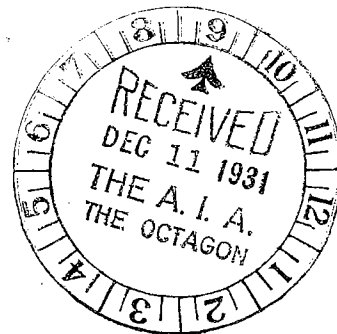
STOWE & STOWE, ARCHITECTS

ESTABLISHED 1893

SECOND NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

HOUSTON, TEXAS

December 8th., 1931.



Mr. Frank C. Baldwin, Secretary,
The American Institute of Architects,
The Octagon, 1741 New York Avenue,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Dear Mr. Baldwin:-

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of November 30th., informing me that after the 31st., of December, 1931, that my membership in the Institute and the South Texas Chapter would terminate. This is perfectly all right with me, and inasmuch as it is a rule of the Institute to do this I naturally will abide by such ruling, and will thereby ~~know~~ that after the above stated date that I am not a member of The American Institute of Architects, nor of the South Texas Chapter..

I received some week or so ago a letter and bill from the Treasurer, but on account of making a change in my office location have failed to answer same. I had been in hopes each week that some of my very good prospects would materialize and I would be able to remit, at least, part of my dues, but this however has not proved true, but will say to you, that just as soon as I am in a position to do so I will remit to you for these back dues as I at least want to leave both The American Institute of Architects and this local Chapter with a clean slate.

With kind regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

Ellwood E. Stowe
Architect.

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

25
COPY

December 11, 1931.

Dear Mr. Stowe:

Mr. Baldwin has your letter of December 8th, and I am replying at his direction.

We will much regret to lose your membership. The Board was obliged to adopt the general rule which it did with respect to delinquents.

We hope very much that business conditions will improve with you, and that it may yet be possible for you to send a check on account before the end of the year, thereby maintaining your membership in the Institute and the Chapter throughout 1932.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

*Received
12/11/31*
Mr. Ellwood E. Stowe,
Second National Bank Building,
Houston, Texas.

K-G

Recd. for 1930 - 31 - \$5000

March 1, 1932.

Dear Mr. Stowe:

It is with genuine regret that I write, as Secretary of the Institute, to advise you of the termination of your membership in the Institute and your Chapter, effective December 31, 1931, for non-payment of Institute dues.

The Treasurer, and the Secretary's Office, sent to you various statements of account and letters, in the hope that you would find it possible to make a remittance, in whole or in part, and thereby continue your affiliation with The American Institute of Architects and your Chapter.

It is realized that conditions in the building industry have remained on a most unfavorable basis during the past year, and for that reason the Institute made a special effort to retain your membership as long as possible.

It is believed that you will approve of the action taken. The alternative was to allow the dues to be increased as to make future reinstatement a heavy expense.

I am hoping very much that the circumstances which prevented you from carrying on your Institute membership will speedily change, and that you will soon be thinking of taking up your membership again. When you are ready to do so, I can assure you that the Institute will make the way back very simple and easy. The Board has already made provision whereby the old account can be paid off in installments and over a period of time that will not be onerous to you.

I am going to write to you from time to time, reminding you that the Institute desires your return to its membership and its councils, and so that your return can be worked out to your best convenience.

With best wishes, and with the hope that we may soon regain you as a member of The American Institute of Architects, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Secretary.

Mr. E. E. Stowe,
Second National Bank Building,
Houston, Texas.

FCB:GG

COPY TO

FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

STOWE & STOWE, ARCHITECTS

ESTABLISHED 1893

SECOND NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

HOUSTON, TEXAS

July 15th., 1932-

To

The American Institute of Architects,
The Producers' Council,
WASHINGTON and NEW YORK.



Dear Members of the Building Fraternity:-

I am taking the liberty of writing you upon a subject that I do not know that you will be interested in, though you might be.

On account of conditions generally, I am doing nothing in my profession, this I appreciate applies to very many others. I have practiced Architecture for many years, and have of course noted the trend of the building business, and have always hoped that eventually the better Architects, Builders and Building Material people could get together and gradually build up their respective lines to the level they deserve. So far I have not seen this come to pass, though it seems that it could be worked out.

It has occurred to me that perhaps the members of the A.I.A., and the Producers' Council might feel disposed to jointly employ someone to see if such conditions could be brought about, and naturally I would like to undertake such work, not altogether for the remuneration that might be in it, but if I could be of value to the Building Industry, to better conditions, it certainly would give me great joy.

I feel that if something is not done at an early date to protect the interests of the better Architects,

Builders and Building material people, that they are not going to be able to carry on much longer.

I have had to give up my membership in the A.I.A., which I regretted very much, this however being brought about on account of unfavorable competition, and the slump, but I do feel that unless something is done to better competition, and get it on a higher plane, that when conditions begin to improve, that us people will not profit materially by it.

My idea would be to act in the capacity as field man, and otherwise of course, to see whether or not some action might not be brought about to help the above businesses.

I would feel qualified for the work as outlined, and would not anticipate difficulty in supplying references as to my integrity, etc.

I realize very much indeed that this would be quite a huge undertaking, but I realize very forcibly also that unless something very drastic is not done to get the better people together, and to get them to stick together, that it is just going to be, as they commonly say "TOO BAD".

I would appreciate it very much indeed if you would give this matter some thought and consideration, and see if the plan and idea might ~~and~~ be practical, and could be put into operation.

With best wishes to all of you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Edward E. Stave
Architect.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

23
COPY

July 21, 1932.

Dear Mr. Stowe:

We have your letter of July 16th, in regard to your service in the building up of the respective lines of the building industry.

The Construction League of the United States, the recently formed organization of the building industry, and the National Conference on Construction are attempting to do this, but it is doubtful whether the finances of either organization would permit employment of additional personnel at the present time.

We regret that we are unable to be more helpful but we do not know of any particular branch of the industry to which we could refer you with any degree of assurance that you would receive favorable consideration.

From your letter, we assume that you have forwarded a copy to The Producers' Council, 19 West Forty-fourth Street.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Executive Secretary.

Mr. Ellwood E. Stowe,
Second National Bank Building,
Houston, Texas.

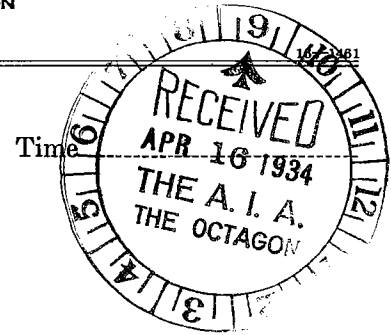
GTH:B

PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION OF HOUSING
WASHINGTON

Date 4/14/34, 193

Mr. E. C. Kemper.

To _____



in re

The appended letter is a reply to a supplementary letter which I sent these architects with an official letter answering an official communication in which mention was made of former membership in the Institute and of lack of opportunity for work.

I told Mr. Stowe of what the Institute was doing and that there was possibility of some assistance through the proposed new program of the Home Loan Bank Board and that I hoped that some day he would come back into the Institute and lend his support to further accomplishments for the advance of the profession.

I think it would be a nice idea for you to write to him and say that I have turned his letter over to you and then give him some more encouragement.

H. W. Peaslee.

(Signature)

1234 - 19th - Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.
April 5, 1934

Mr. Ellwood Stowe,
2139 Sunset Boulevard,
Houston, Texas.

Dear Mr. Stowe:

The enclosed official communication is written by a fellow architect, an office of the American Institute of Architects, who knows exactly how difficult your problems have been.

The Institute is doing everything possible at headquarters to obtain Government assistance directly or indirectly, for the architects who are still struggling to maintain their offices, and there is every prospect that assistance may be forthcoming in the very near future from the sources indicated above.

Like yourself, the Institute has been having a hard struggle for existence but in one way or another, it has continued its efforts on behalf of the profession.

As conditions improve, it is hoped that you will resume your membership and, by your support, make possible still further efforts on behalf of practitioners like yourself.

Very truly yours,

Horace W. Peaslee,
2nd Vice President, A.I.A.

STOWE & STOWE, ARCHITECTS

~~XXXXXX~~ #1806 Milam.
HOUSTON, TEXAS

April 11, 1934.

Mr. Horace W. Peaslee, Second Vice President A.I.A.,
1234-19th., Street, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

My dear Mr. Peaslee:-

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of April 5, and thank you very much for them. They reached me just at a time when I was somewhat blue and discouraged, but must say they have cheered me up some, especially the one making mention of the fact that the Government might now shortly do something for the Architects.

I am sorry that I made the error of addressing my letter to Gen. Johnson, but after mailing same it came to my mind that I evidently was passing it through the wrong channel.

I have been plugging away trying to unearth some business in my usual architectural way, but with resources about at their end, it does get awfully discouraging, and especially so, when one sees some little work being done, and realizes just what the methods, etc., are in procuring it.

My brother and I have always tried to live up to the ethics of the profession, and have always hoped that the time would eventually come when the architectural profession reached the plane it deserved. He has passed to the "Great Beyond", but I still am trying to hold this thought.

I have, until only a few days ago, been located in one of the Field Office's here, and must say that I have learned a number of things that are going on in the real estate and building field, contractors drawing plans, selling real estate, and the like, and it makes me feel very badly when I think where we are drifting, and nothing being done toward correcting these conditions, and am often told, when I get to "ranting" about this condition that there is nothing to do about it, and the best thing to do is to "get into the swim", but somehow I just cannot bring myself to do so, but unless I can get some aid of some kind, in self defense, I will be compelled to take some action.

My brother and I have preached for some years, that we have thought that if the better element in the building industry could band together, that in a short course of time those desiring to resort to most anything to get business, would be weeded out, and now, to me, seems an opportune time to start something of the kind.

I do not see why some attempt could not be made in cities of consequence, to try and form or organize what would be known as a "BETTER BUILDING BUREAU", to be composed of those firms who are interested in seeing a better grade of work done, and to promote "fair play", by trying to some extent, being his "Brother's KEEper", what I mean by that is, that if each one would try to see that those who specialize in certain lines that they be partonized, and business given to them.

I believe that the better Building Material people, Architects, Contractors, Real Estate men, (exclusive of the Lumber Dealer's) would be interested in such a thing, as I sincerely believe that such Building Material concerns, and others, are interested in building the industry "Up to a Standard", instead of "Down to a Price". It is of course difficult to accomplish anything along these lines, unless all "pull together".

I was remarking to someone only the other day, that if those of us who have tried to uphold and work for better things are drawn gradually to a lower level, then those that are now on such a level will have to go lower, and in the end, all of us will be in a pretty bad pit.

I am sure when I get off "preaching" along these lines that many think I am radical, etc., but knowing the conditions that exist, makes me rather "sore", if you will excuse a common expression, to see this.

I appreciate very much indeed the effort the A.I.A., has, and still is making, as well as some of our Architectural Magazines, better manufacturer's, and the like to elevate the Architectural profession. I of course have many views about what might help the situation, but cannot now go into such detail, but will continue to hope, that something in the very near future will come about, not only to help the profession, but others who are desirous of seeing better work done, and fair play all around.

If there is anything that you may think will be of assistance to me, so that I may continue to carry on, or if there is anything I may do to help assist you are the others, I would thank you to let me know.

Thanking you again for your letters, and with best wishes to you and the A.I.A., I am,

Sincerely yours,

Elwood E. Stowe

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

273
COPY

April 16, 1934

My dear Mr. Stowe:

Mr. Peaslee, the Second Vice-President of the Institute, has referred to The Octagon your letter of April 11th to him, and a copy of his letter of April 5th to you.

We are sending to you, under separate cover, a copy of the April number of The Octagon which gives information about affairs in Washington, and about the recent decision of the Treasury Department to employ private architects under certain conditions.

You will also note with interest the efforts which the Construction League is making to unify the construction industry in the various states and cities, and we hope that if the occasion offers you will give some encouragement to this movement in the State of Texas.

We are all hoping that improving business conditions will soon be reflected in architectural practice, and that it will be possible for your to renew your affiliation with the Institute and the South Texas Chapter.

In the meantime, the headquarters of the Institute in Washington remain at your service just as heretofore.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Ellwood E. Stowe,
1806 Milam,
Houston, Texas.

K.G

COPY TO

FILES

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

TREASURER

Sent
4/17/34
D.E.K.
n