

THE SOUTHERN ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS

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Sworn to and subscribed before me this, the 28th day of September, 1927.

MYRTLE E. MOORE Notary Public, Georgia, State at Large.

My commission expires February 16, 1930.

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Dining Hall, Emory University, Atlanta, Ga.

Ivey & Crook, Architects

THE new dining hall is a handsome addition to the many beautiful buildings, all of Georgia Marble, which add distinction to the natural beauty of the Emory University grounds.

Following closely the general architectural style of the University, that of the Italian Renaissance, three distinct tones are beautifully blended in this exterior. White Georgia Marble forms the field, while the rusticated order and door pediment is of grey, as are also the balusters, window pediment and corner quoins. The frieze disk over the window and the lower window panel is of pink Georgia Marble. The Harmonious blending of tones makes this one of the most striking buildings on the Emory campus.

THE GEORGIA MARBLE COMPANY

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GEORGIA MARBLE



OLD HOUSE IN TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA, SHOWING
THE INFLUENCE OF THE CLASSIC REVIVAL.

FROM A PENCIL SKETCH BY MILTON S. OSBORNE.

*The Southern Architect
and Building News
October, 1927.*

The SOUTHERN ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS

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The Architectural Heritage of Alabama—Part II.

By MILTON S. OSBORNE, A. I. A.

Sketches by the Author

IN the little town of Tuskegee, Alabama, are grouped some of the finest houses it has been my pleasure to visit and study. Tuskegee is an old aristocratic town, until a few years ago a center of learning for that section, and the old houses and old trees still suggest an atmosphere of quiet refinement. It is not difficult to associate hoop skirts, paisley shawls and carriages with footmen with these old houses of a brighter day.

Probably there is none quite so representative of the finest of these pre-war houses as the Varner House near Tuskegee. Probably none is wrapped in more tradition. William Varner, the builder of this beautiful home, moved to Tuskegee about 1853 in order to give his children the educational advantages the town at that time offered. Work was begun on the house in 1854 and it was completed in 1856. The brick was manufactured on the estate, as Varner was a wealthy man and could well afford to set up his own kiln.

The huge Greek Doric columns that are used on the front porch are moulded of concrete and are solid. On the window motive over the front door the Corinthian border has been used. Undoubtedly it is because of the fact that only the finest materials have been used in the construction that the entire structure is still in perfect condition.

Mr. E. R. Alexander, the present owner, is the grandson of the original owner. To him and to Mrs. Alexander are due the credit of preserving the arrangement of the house as it was originally planned and furnished. Furniture and draperies are still in excellent condition.

The entire building is of stucco, and is crowned with a beautiful cupola. This cupola was to

have been used by Wm. Varner, Jr., then a young law student but very much interested in astronomy. It is octagonal in shape with eight large windows in it, and was to have a large telescope mounted there. Young Varner died at the age of twenty and the cupola was never completed as originally planned. As the cupola commands an excellent view of the countryside for miles around, Mr. Alexander intends finishing it on the inside and will use it as an observatory.

The walls of the building are all very thick, there being little difference in thickness between outside and inside walls. Each wall carries through to the ground as a foundation wall. While an unusual method of construction, it adds untold strength to the building.

On the first floor are the original billiard room, two parlors and dining room. A breakfast room, kitchen and bed room are more modern additions that are designed very much in the spirit of the rest of the house. The parlors are beautiful with their huge crystal chandeliers, old tapestries and draperies. The mantels are of the same design in both rooms; handsomely carved white Para Marble. The fine old mahogany chairs were imported from England before the house was completed.

The gilded plaster cornices are plainly the work of a master, and there is a beauty and splendor about the whole of this noble place to thrill anyone with an appreciation of art.

The beautiful grounds are well-kept, with ivy covered pergolas among the great oaks.

To see the old Varner House is to be assured that it was built in an age of refinement and aristocracy in which beauty and culture walked hand in hand.



ENTRANCE DETAIL OF THE OLD VARNER HOUSE, TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA.
HERE AGAIN AN ORNAMENTAL IRON BALCONY HAS BEEN EFFECTIVELY USED.

SKETCH BY MILTON S. OSBORNE.

*The Southern Architect
and Building News,
October, 1927*



AN OLD HOUSE IN TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA, WITH A BEAUTIFUL
IRON BALCONY. THE CAPITOLS ARE OF UNUSUAL DESIGN.

SKETCH BY MILTON S. OSBORNE.

*The Southern Architect
and Building News,
October, 1927*

*The Southern Architect
and Building News
October, 1927*



THE BEAUTIFUL AND DIGNIFIED OLD VARNER HOUSE AT TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA. THE COLONNADED VERANDA IS TYPICAL OF GREEK REVIVAL HOUSES IN THE SOUTH.

SKETCH BY MILTON S. OSBORNE.

A Recent Department Store, Atlanta, Ga.

STARRETT & VAN VLECK, *Architects.*

HENTZ, ADLER & SHULTZE, *Associates.*

THE new Davidson, Paxon Department Store (affiliated with R. H. Macy's of New York) is significant of the rapid progress being made by southern business institutions and the demands being imposed upon all types of business houses by the buying public. This building recently completed on Peachtree Street in Atlanta is the outstanding retail store to be erected for some years. There has been for several years a northward movement of business along Peachtree and with the erection of this structure the north side is definitely marked as the coming retail business center of the city. The Davidson, Paxon Company is one of the oldest institutions in Atlanta and for a great many years operated on the south side along Whitehall street, which has been until recently the center of

all business catering to women. The affiliation of the Macy interest of New York with the Atlanta institution is but another instance where eastern concerns have joined hands with southern organizations for the advancement of business interest in this section. Since the erection of the Davidson, Paxon building several important structures have gone up in the same neighborhood. The Norris Candy Company recently completed a ten-story office building to house their own organization and to take care of office space demands in that section. In the same block, the J. P. Allen Company are about to complete a modern department store. This section is very closely allied with the Theatre and Hotel interest of the city and is sure to see other fine structures erected in the near future.



Photos By Tebbs & Knell, Inc.

Main Floor Detail, the Davidson, Paxon & R. H. Macy Co. Store.



DAVIDSON, PAXON & R. H. MACY CO. STORE, ATLANTA, GA.

STARRETT & VAN VLECK, ARCHITECTS.

HENTZ, ADLER & SHULTZE, ASSOCIATE ARCHITECTS.



DAVIDSON, PAXON & R. H. MACY CO. STORE, ATLANTA, GA.

STARRETT & VAN VLECK, ARCHITECTS.

HENTZ, ADLER & SHULTZE, ASSOCIATE ARCHITECTS.

To attempt to describe the new Davidson, Paxon, Department Store (affiliated with R. H. Macy's of New York) architecturally alone will be doing a grave injustice to the other features that are so predominant, consciously only to the architects, and sub-consciously to the average layman.

The building has a frontage of two hundred and sixty feet on Peachtree Street, one hundred and eighty-two feet on Ellis Street and is approximately one hundred and twenty five feet high on the Peachtree side and one hundred and thirty five feet high in the rear. There are approximately three hundred and thirty five thousand square feet of area in the entire building. The building is of reinforced concrete and steel construction—all piers and footings resting on solid rock foundations.

The exterior is of a rough texture tapestry brick mingled with shades of dark reds and light browns, with limestone used as trim, steel and bronze sash, copper cornice, and plate glass in all show windows. There are twenty-one show windows admirably designed for the exhibition of the company's goods. These windows are in arched openings approximately thirteen feet wide and twenty six feet high.

There are six floors above the ground and basement below. The boiler room, receiving room, and delivery space are under the Capitol Theatre, a connecting structure and really a part of the same building. The ceiling height of the main floor is thirty feet, the floors above are approximately eleven feet from floor to ceiling.

The building is heated by three Case and Heges Tubular Boilers, giving direct and indirect radiation. The ventilation is by air taken in and cooled by a refrigerating system. There is a vacuum cleaning system and also a Lawson Pneumatic Tube system incorporated in the building.

The building is served by eight passenger elevators and seven service cars in the basement, of the Otis Elevator Company make. There are four stair towers located at each end of the build-



Elevator Entrances.

ing. The first and fourth floors, also the tea room portion of the sixth floor is of terrazzo and the other floors in the building are of cement.

The lighting system throughout the entire structure is indirect. The building is completely and effectively protected from fire by an automatic sprinkler system which is an innovation in the city in that the water used in this system is not stored in the so commonly used water tower which is frequently seen towering far above the roof, but is contained in five ten thousand gal-

lon capacity horizontal steel tanks enclosed in the pent house.

Architecturally the building may be classified as Georgian with its red brickwork, limestone trim and arched treatment on the main front, however, the architects in the case were confronted with the usual problem of attempting to cloth the structural elements of a building after the plan had been perfected to meet the cold blooded requirements of display and more display, so necessary in the modern department store type of building. The writer feels, however, that the designer handled the problem in the most successful manner and the architectural treatment, though simple in detail, is admirable in many respects and represents the solution of a complicated problem in a most effective manner.

Unfortunately the architects were handicapped due to a lack of funds sufficient to cloth the structure in a more artistic manner. The original design called for limestone for the entire first floor and other ornamental treatment in the same material which would have added considerably to the appearance of the building. What the building lacks in ornate treatment is made up for in the general good proportion and the well balanced fenestration. The building in plan is modern in every respect and is representative of the current trend of department store design in this country. There are few, if any, buildings of like nature in the South that surpass this structure from the standpoint of plan.



Photos By Tebbs & Kneill, Inc.

HOUSE OF CHARLES F. DE BARDELEBEN, ESQ., BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

WARREN, KNIGHT & DAVIS, ARCHITECTS.



HOUSE OF CHARLES F. DE BARDELEBEN, ESQ., BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

WARREN, KNIGHT & DAVIS, ARCHITECTS.



GARDEN HOUSE

HOUSE OF CHARLES F. DE BARDELEBEN, ESQ., BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
WARREN, KNIGHT & DAVIS, ARCHITECTS.



DETAIL IN DRAWING ROOM

HOUSE OF CHARLES F. DE BARDELEBEN, ESQ., BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

WARREN, KNIGHT & DAVIS, ARCHITECTS.



This delightful Colonial entrance to the house of Mr. H. Beale Spellman, at Fairfield, Conn., was designed by Clark & Arms.



MEAD & HAMILTON, ARCHITECTS
Cleveland, Ohio.



HENTZ, REID & ADLER, ARCHITECTS
Atlanta, Ga.

YOUR PROFESSION

DAVID E. CASTLE, a fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and well known in this country, once expressed the following thought, "It is passing strange that anything so closely connected with everyday life as the architecture of the home should remain but dimly understood by the vast majority of the people to whom it means so much; strange because it is a subject fraught with much intellectual pleasure and intense human interest." The same thought might equally as well be applied to all architecture and to all building. There are a great many people in this country that consult architects annually just as they do their lawyer or their doctor, but the vast majority when it comes to building for themselves a home, a church, a school—little does it matter the type—feel that they know as much about design and construction as the average architect. How much better would the general standard of taste become were it completely realized by the layman that architectural service is as important to his own good as the service of his lawyer or his doctor. Poor construction, unattractive design, will eventually effect him as seriously as acute appendicitis, causing him to suffer for mistakes inadvertently made and costing him in dollars and cents many times the price of an architect's service.

We have a strong suspicion that the layman is not to blame for the error of his ways, rather are we sure that the architectural profession by its reserve has heaped many coals of fire upon its own head by establishing in the minds of the public the idea that the service of an architect is only to be secured by pouring out from the family exchequer much gold and silver. The time is at hand when the architectural profession should make some concerted effort to rectify the impression that now exists in the lay mind. The greatest problem today facing the profession, and this applies to every member therein, is the great and important task of educating the general public as to the value of the architect's service. There are several hundred architects and architectural firms in this country that have built up a steady and lucrative practise, but these practitioners are in the minority. These fortunate ones should not hold back in this educational movement, rather should they be the first to lend a helping hand to their brothers who for one reason or another do not enjoy so large a practise. This is a movement wherein every architect, draughtsman, and specification writer should join hands for the good of the whole. Construction work aggregating many millions of dollars is annually done in

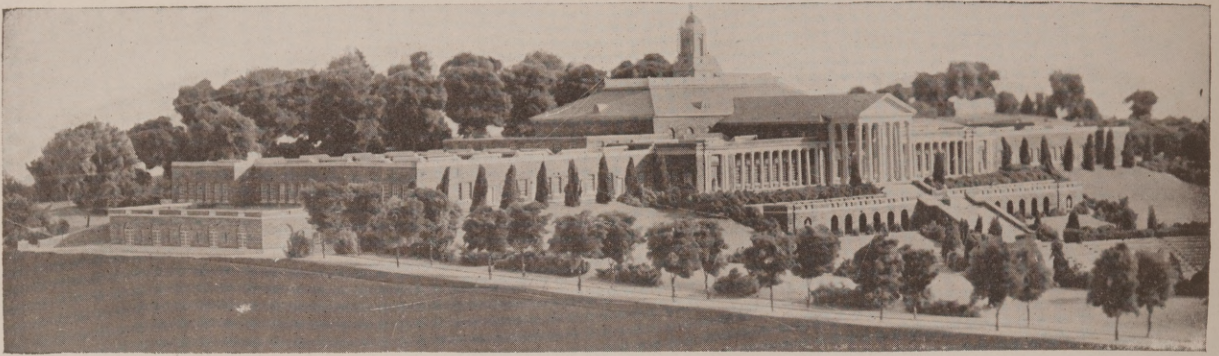
NEEDS YOUR HELP

this country entirely without the services of an architect. In each case the architect loses the commission on this work and besides, in the majority of cases the owner is a heavy loser, either immediately or in the long run. Buildings poorly planned, poorly designed and improperly constructed is a bad investment and finally reverts back upon the owner as a white elephant that cannot be disposed of without sacrificing a vast sum of the original contemplated financial investment.

Thousands of buildings are erected each year where the space is not used to the best advantage, where materials of inferior quality are substituted for the best, where beauty is sacrificed, even at the same expense, for an unattractive design. Buildings that show an adequate return on the investment, a satisfactory profit over a period of years, and an ever growing appreciation by those who inhabit them—and those buildings that show the reverse, may easily be traced in a great majority of instances to that point in the operation where the owner decides in favor of a competent architect or decides to do without his services.

We do not wish to belittle the reliable contractor or builder, for their work is equally as important as the architect's. These members of the building industry should co-operate with architects and the architects likewise lend their support to contractors and builders in order to bring about a clearer understanding among the public as to the functions of each and the value of the individual service rendered by all parties.

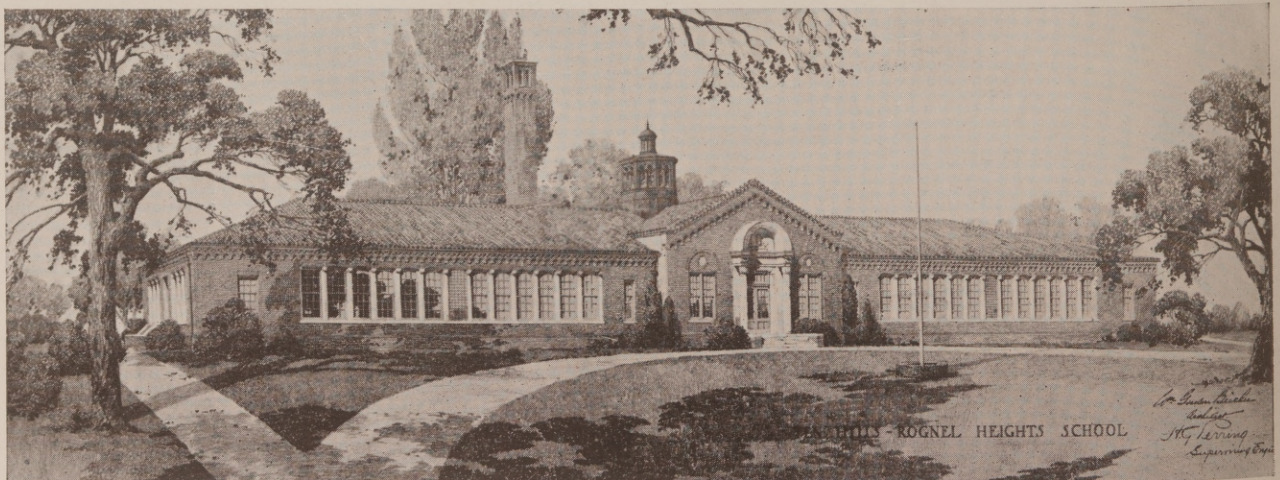
Here is a duty that every architect owes to himself and to his profession, to do what he can to improve the situation during the coming year. There is no doubt that Mr. Harvey Wiley Corbett's articles appearing in the Saturday Evening Post recently, and Mr. Raymond Hood's articles through the press have accomplished much for the good of the architectural profession. Every architect cannot have his writings published in the Post but there are numerous ways in which every one can help. There is the radio which Mr. Milton B. Medary and Mr. H. Van Buren Magonigle have used to advantage in broadcasting the value of architectural service to the general public. Your local newspaper will welcome an opportunity of publishing your suggestions to their readers. Let these articles be restrained in their statements and let them be educational in character.



WM. R. McCORNACK, ARCHITECT
Cleveland, Ohio



BATES, FRAMPTON & BOWERS, ARCHITECTS
Huntington, W. Va.



ARCHIBALD ROGNEL HEIGHTS SCHOOL

*Wm. Gordon Beecher
Baltimore, Md.
Superior Eng.*

WILLIAM GORDON BEECHER, ARCHITECT
Baltimore, Md.

The School Building Program

By CHARLES M. ROBINSON, *Architect.*

MODERN educational requirements have created a remarkably wide field of study in the planning of school houses.

This paper is intended as a brief outline of the essential or principal things involved in city public school house planning. It will touch upon such matters as school populations; congestion in schools and its cause; race segregation, involving dual systems of housing and administration; relation of vocational to academic training; increasing sanitary and general health requirements; location and type of buildings to meet both present and future needs; design of buildings and material used in construction; and financial programs and costs.

The whole discussion, until applied to some given city, must be general in its terms. Each city presents problems peculiar to itself, problems that require separate study by the architect. The modern school architect is unable to give best service until he has become proficient in the study of these problems, and it obviously follows that the architect should be employed for general building programs rather than separately for each building.

For convenience, the discussion is divided into general parts as follows:

- a—Present conditions and immediate needs.
- b—Future Needs.
- c—General Features of Buildings.
- d—Costs.

Present Conditions and Immediate Needs

School house planning for any city should begin, of course, with a study of existing conditions and needs. If the building program has kept pace with the community requirements, if the buildings have been well located and planned, the problem confronting the architect will have to do principally with design, economy of construction and future planning. If, however, the building program has been inadequate, resulting in congestion in class rooms, part time classes, shifting of grades and other attendant evils, much preliminary study by the architect is necessary before the actual making of drawings for any building should be undertaken.

I—The architect should begin with a survey of the school population, that is the total number of children of school age in the city. This population will vary with the normal growth of the city. This population will vary with the normal growth of the city and with annexation. Its de-

termination will fix at any time the maximum possible requirements upon the school system. This maximum requirement, however, is never exacted, so that it becomes necessary next to survey by grades and by home location the school enrollment, and to study its changing relation to the school population. It will be found that each year a higher proportion of the school population enrolls for study, a condition brought about by an awakening realization of the value of education, by higher standards demanded in business, and by compulsory laws. The next survey is that of actual school attendance. This will be found to vary with varying conditions. If ample facilities have been provided for every pupil enrolled, the ratio of attendance to enrollment will be high. If on the other hand facilities are inadequate, if seatings are short, requiring part time classes, or doubling up, if the buildings are improperly located, requiring long trips for pupils to find the proper grade, or if the buildings are improperly designed as to comfort, sanitary and health conditions, and adaptability, attendance will tend to fall off, but congestion will not be relieved because of higher proportions of failure to make the grade and consequent longer terms of years in school.

Where race segregation laws exist, involving the negro problem, these surveys must be made separately for white and colored. When the surveys are completed, they should be translated graphically on maps and charts, showing numbers and locations of all pupils by grades and races.

II—The next step in the study of present condition and immediate needs is a survey of existing buildings, showing total capacity by grades, location, state of repair and probable term of future service.

Many cities in the past have either been unable or have deemed it inexpedient to provide funds with which to meet the school housing needs. In time acute congestion has forced appropriations, but usually inadequate for immediate needs. As a result many school buildings have been located with reference to cheapness of site rather than with reference to location of pupils and grades, and have been of inferior construction. Where inexpert architectural design has prevailed, additional waste has occurred.

Few more costly mistakes can be made in school house planning than the improper location

of the building. Inferior construction, ensuring continuous and costly repairs and ultimate short life of the building, is equally wasteful.

A general survey of existing buildings together with foregoing survey of pupils will serve to correct few of the immediate troubles, but will be invaluable in reaching an intelligent determination of expenditure of available building funds. This survey, too, should be shown on the maps and charts for ready reference.

III—After determining the immediate needs of pupils and the existing facilities for meeting such needs, then and only then is the architect able intelligently to consider the application of available funds to new buildings. Details of building construction will be discussed briefly in a later part of this paper. Reference will be made for the moment only to general principles.

While modifications may be necessary because of immediate needs and insufficient funds, certain general principles should if possible be followed in planning and constructing the buildings.

Wherever increase in school population may be reasonably expected the building should be upon the unit plan, that is, a unit of a larger building capable of expansion in units of four rooms. Stairs, exits, administration rooms and mechanical plants should be provided to meet the ultimate reasonable capacity of the building, and this will require some additional investment of funds. The ultimate saving effected, however, will prove the value of the investment. The experienced architect does not find it necessary to sacrifice standards of design or of exterior appearance in planning the unit building.

The construction of the building should be fireproof throughout. Semi-fireproof construction including fireproof stairways and furnace rooms ensures reasonable safety of life, but entails a higher repair or maintenance cost, and has a shorter life. The additional money invested in superior construction for permanent school buildings pay high dividends into the community treasury.

Excessive ornamentation is not only unnecessary but wasteful, even when ample funds are in hand. It is not necessary to spend large sums of money for ornamentation, as has been the custom of some cities, in order to obtain pleasing and dignified architectural effect.

Future Needs

Planning to meet future school housing needs consists principally of determining the number and home location of the school population that may be expected at any given time, the character of instruction that will be required, and the loca-

tion and type of building to meet the needs. This would seem to be a difficult problem, and it is difficult, but it is susceptible of solution within reasonably practical limits. While each city presents a somewhat different problem, the fundamentals applied in the solution are for the most part the same.

I—The first step, of course, is the determination of the future school population and its home location. A review of the record, if such record exists, for a previous period of years is obviously of assistance, but various other studies are necessary before reaching a conclusion. One of these most important studies will be found in the charts and maps previously suggested.

Normal growth of the city may be gauged by its trade, manufacturing, financial and social progress. Shifting of its population is harder to anticipate. The spread of business areas crowds out residences. Sustained building of apartments tends to concentrate school population while the development of suburban properities, creating individual homes with surrounding grounds, reduces the number of pupils for any given area. Negro population tend always toward concentration, because of segregation either by law or by the operation of social barriers, and because of lesser ability to purchase more commodious homes. Possibilities of annexation also have to be taken into account.

An intelligent analysis of these various factors will make possible a remarkably accurate prediction of the number and location of future school populations.

II—The character of instruction required by the future school population next claims attention. The mill town, or town located in a wide agricultural section will require a generous provision for vocational training, while centers of art, wealth or professional activity will demand academic training. Between the two are varying demands coincident with the activities and temperament of the community.

The determination of requirements by school grades is also important. The proportion of primary grades to advanced grades while not constant, is always high. Surveys made in more than one city show that only 55 per cent of the original entrants reach the seventh grade. 40 per cent enter high school, and only 7 per cent graduate. This would seem to be the low-water mark in the past. There are various reasons for this—mental, physical and financial limitations of the pupil, operation of school attendance laws and efficiency of instructors are some of the influencing factors; but special emphasis may be laid upon the school housing conditions. Part-time

classes, crowded conditions and poor buildings that are unsanitary and badly lighted will inevitably shorten the time of the pupil in school and increase the proportion of primary to advanced grades. The very character of the building program contemplated will have something to do with the character of instruction ultimately required.

III—Study of location and type of buildings to meet future needs comes next in order.

There are four general types of city public school buildings, viz;—Elementary, Junior High, High, and Normal or Teachers Training.

The elementary school is designed to accommodate the first six or seven grades. It houses the little children. These pupils should not be expected to travel any great distance to and from school; neither should they cross car lines or congested traffic streams. The building should be located at points in the city most convenient to the smaller pupils and so far as possible away from car lines and heavy traffic lanes. It should be of fireproof construction and contiguous to ample play ground space.

The Junior High School is a more recent type of building brought into being as a part of the educational program to serve as a preparatory school or connecting link between the elementary and high schools. It also serves to relieve congestion in both elementary and high schools. It is capable of housing one or more of the upper elementary grades and one or more of the lower high school grades, and succeeds in giving a desirable degree of elasticity to the other types of schools. While the elementary school can only serve a very limited section because of the undesirability of moving little children long distances to and from school, the junior high school draws from large areas, and a correspondingly wider choice of site is afforded.

The High School houses the most advanced grades of the system, and is the most flexible in its service. Its pupils are of sufficient age to travel from all parts of the city and may be considered as a unit whether served by one or more buildings. The high school should be at or near transportation centers, ensuring ready access and permitting easy shifting of pupils to and from other buildings.

The Normal or Teachers Training school is mentioned only as a part of the system of larger cities. If devoted exclusively to the training of teachers it does not enter into the problem of housing pupils.

The capacity and location of all these buildings, except the Normal School, may be intelligently determined only after a careful analysis and study of the various surveys before outlined.

These surveys will also be of great assistance in the selection and purchase of sites for buildings and playgrounds long before the sites are needed, but at a time when the cost is low.

General Features of Building

I—The class room is and always will remain the basis of the school system, and to that extent demands first and greatest care. Certain fundamentals such as proper heat, ventilation, light and seating space, must be secured. Long and earnest study has been applied to these questions, and many experiments have been made. It is beyond the scope of this paper to do more than note briefly the results.

The heat should be approximately 68 degrees, and the ventilation should be so controlled as to deliver into and remove from the class room during the hours of occupancy a sufficient volume of air to ensure comfort and healthful conditions. The old-fashioned style of large, square ventilator openings placed near the ceiling and floor and causing draughts is being abandoned. The air should be introduced into the class room through wide narrow slits located above the blackboards and taken out through similar slits at the bottom of the ventilated wardrobes. This results in a stratifying and a better distribution of the air, and a final service as the air passing out through the ventilated wardrobes dries the garments of the pupils.

Natural, or window lighting, rather than artificial lighting should be secured so far as possible. The height of the windows above the floor should be approximately fifty per cent of the width of the room, and the window area twenty-five per cent of the room floor area. Location of windows and operation of shades call for especial care.

Seating space should not be less than fifteen square feet per pupil for small children and slightly larger as the grades advance.

Various refinements in the class room have been worked out from time to time, requiring little expenditure, but resulting in greater convenience and ultimate economies. Only two or three of them are mentioned here. One is the ventilated wardrobe, built into the wall and requiring less valuable space than the old style cloak room. Another refinement is the glazed brick wainscot between the bottom of the blackboards and the floor. This panel when made of plaster has been soon marred and broken by the children's feet; the change to glazed brick eliminates repair and secures permanency with more pleasing effect. Another improvement is in the use of cork instead of soft wood for the exhibition rail over the black boards.

II—After all is said and done, the ultimate purpose of the school building is accomplished in the class room. Whatever tends to promote the interest of the pupil in the work of the class room comes next in importance. The trend of modern educational systems is to take away from the pupil so far as possible the natural urge to play truant and to substitute a natural inclination to attend school. To this end, various accessories have been developed from time to time and incorporated in the building.

One of these is the gymnasium. While the school gymnasium does not seek primarily to develop athletics, it does promote athletic exercises and sports among the pupils. It is devoted, too, to mass exercises of healthful character.

The Auditorium is another attraction to the pupil. It serves to bring the student body together for assembly purposes; it serves also the people at large, tending to make the school building something of a social center; but more particularly, it furnishes the connecting link between the pupils and the grown-ups. It is there the children have the opportunity of introducing to the public, the result of their labors.

Yet another attraction is the school cafeteria. It was brought into being as a means of building up under-nourished children, but it is rapidly growing into an institution, serving the whole student body with wholesome, well-prepared food, at a cost sufficient only to pay for its operation.

III—Manual Training and Domestic Science room as their names imply are devoted to vocational and domestic training, and as previously stated vary as to capacity and use with each community. An infirmary with attendant nurses is a desirable adjunct to large schools—Administration quarters are necessary as and where required by the educational system of each city. There are many other features involved in the complete building, such as open air class rooms, roof gardens, play grounds, toilets and sanitariums, drinking foundations, book and storage space, and teachers retiring rooms, a discussion of which in detail may not be had within the limits of this paper.

IV—A word may be added, too, as to materials used in construction. Wherever possible permanent, fireproof construction should be used. Frame building and buildings of inferior construction not only involve a higher fire hazard, but entail more frequent repairs and are of shorter life.

In every case, it is repeated, the boiler rooms should be enclosed in concrete slab and the stairways and corridors fire-proofed. The floors of corridors should be terrazzo, and of class rooms hardwood such as best rift pine or maple. Partitions should be plaster on hollow tile, and ceilings should have metal lath. Roofing material, particularly for large schools presenting great roof areas, should be carefully selected and provision made for expansion and contraction to avoid cracks and leaks.

On the exterior, harmony and proportion of design, selection of material and blending of colors make possible the elimination of excessive and costly ornamentation and produce the desired effect of dignity and beauty.

Costs

What will all this cost?

The well-trained and experienced school architect is able to estimate in advance within very narrow limits the ultimate cost of each building. His work involves some knowledge of the location of material production, i.e., source of supply, and the general price market. He should know, too, something of labor conditions and the general responsibility and experience of contractors. Particularly should he know how to select high-grade, durable material best fitted to the building planned. Application of this knowledge together with expert designing ability is reflected always in reduction of cost.

In 1923 the National Educational Association at its Cleveland, Ohio, conference displayed designs of many high and junior high school buildings in various parts of this country. A comparison of these designs, taking into account type of construction, proportion of auditorium, gymnasium and other accessory space to class room space, showed a wide variation of cost. Five hundred dollars per pupil and fifty cents per cubic foot of building for first-class school structures are excessive costs for that time and for the time at which this is written. An expert application of the principles herein outlined showed them, as it is showing today, costs for best and most complete school building not exceeding three-hundred dollars per pupil and thirty cents per cubic foot of building. In more than one Virginia city where these principles are followed, even lower cost levels are reached. Further cost reductions obviously follow with reduction in the standard and type of the building.

GIOVANNI-BATTISTA PIRANESI

Tav. XVIII.

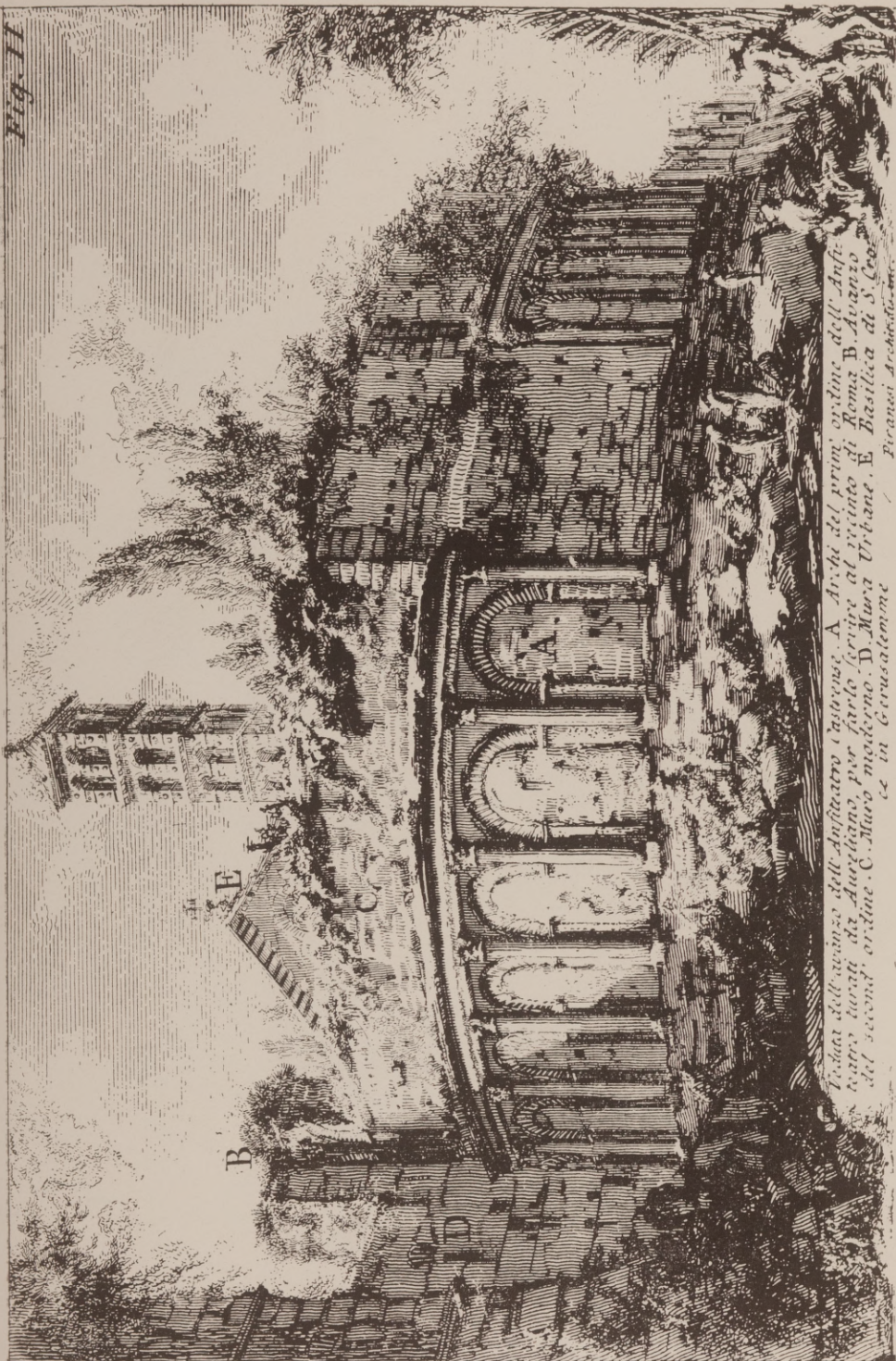


Avanzo del Tempio della Speranza Vecchia

THERE is a fascination about the magnificent and venerable works of the master, Giovanni-Battista Piranesi that grips anyone who possesses the slightest inherent love for things artistic and a true appreciation of skill, so evident in his work. There is a genuine delight to be derived from the study, the contemplation, even just contact with the engravings of this adept craftsman of another age. To say that the works of Piranesi charm us because they were born of antiquity would be as foolish as applying the same reasoning for our admiration of the works of Rembrandt, Michael Angelo and the soul-inspiring music of Beethoven and Chopin. We must acknowledge in the work of Piranesi those same qualities that characterize the paintings, the music and the sculpture of the masters. So in presenting these few examples we hope they will find an appreciative place in the architect's and draughtsman's collection.

*The Southern Architect
and Building News,
October, 1927*

Fig. II



Veduta dell'acinozo dell'Asfittacero (torre), A. Archi del primi ordine dell'Asfittacero (torre), B. Avanzo del primo ordine di Roma, C. Avanzo del secondo ordine di Roma, D. Mura Urbane, E. Basilica di S. Cro. in Gerusalemme, F. Fianchi Architettonici.

The Southern Architect
and Building News
October, 1927



*Veduta de' sette anditi residui del secondo piano del Tepidario delle Terme
di Trö, detto le Sette Sale*

Piranesi Arch. dis. inc.

*The Southern Architect
and Building News
October, 1927*



*A. Vidua degli Avanzi, o sia del termine degli Archi che conducono l'Acqua Claudia sull'Avanti-
no. B. Spico del condotto. C. Castello dell'Acqua D. Abitazione moderna fabbricata sulle rovine
del Castello e de bagni privati di Trajano*

Piranesi Archit. dis. inc.

The Southern Architect
and Building News
October, 1927

The Rogers Library, Laurel, Miss.

Rathborne De Buys, *Architect.*

THIS small library at Laurel, Mississippi, in Colonial style, is a delightful example of what an architect's service can mean towards developing civic beauty in the town or suburb of small population. The Rogers Library of simple lines, pleasing proportion and excellent taste in its exterior and interior details, serves admirably a municipality of approximately fifteen thousand population. It is a rendezvous for all those who love books and who wish to broaden their knowledge through reading. Every necessary feature that might increase the value of such a building to its coming and going inhabitants have been incorporated in this library. The same requisites of

a successful large library costing perhaps ten times as much will be found in this building, of course on a smaller scale.

If this building served no other purpose than to house a collection of uninteresting books and no one ever entered its doors it would still be worth while to the city of Laurel in teaching its people to appreciate good taste and simple dignity in a building.

The smaller towns in the South are not lacking in libraries, but unfortunately the town fathers have in far too many instances failed to realize the importance of an architect's services and as a consequence we find few really interesting build-



Simple Colonial Portico, Rogers Library, Laurel, Miss.

ings of this type. In travelling through the country it is not necessary that one be a close observer to recognize in the libraries he sees the original stock design from which they all, or rather the majority, have been copied. If there is any one public building in a town that should possess a spark of beauty it is the library. Outside the school room it is the library that exerts the greatest influence upon the young mind. Surely there is not a single citizen that does not wish to see his children grow up to appreciate beauty in one form or another and we know of no other thing of beauty that will give so much pleasure in after life as a well designed building of pleasing proportion and charming color harmony.

In the Rogers library both from a standpoint of plan and exterior and interior adornment we have a small library most suited to the needs of the people and the town it serves.

The architect who has had any experience in planning and designing libraries know that the same requisites are necessary for a successful small building as for a large one.

While the photographs here shown will give the reader a clear idea of the architectural merits of this library building it will not be out of place to say something regarding the materials used. The general construction is fireproof, being of concrete for floors, hollow tile walls. The exterior of the walls being veneered with selected common brick with a large rough joint varying from three quarters of an inch and a sixteenth. The roof is blue bangor slate, and the windows are of yellow pine. The floors in the main library are of cork and the interior wall finish is of plaster. The cost of the front unit was approximately seventy thousand dollars, and the rear additions, which includes the museum and art gallery room was approximately one-hundred and ten thousand dollars. The city library is in the lower floor of the rear unit. The front unit was built about six years ago and the rear unit was completed in 1925. The interior wood finish is old English. The interior decorating work was done by Watson & Boaler, decorators, of Chicago.

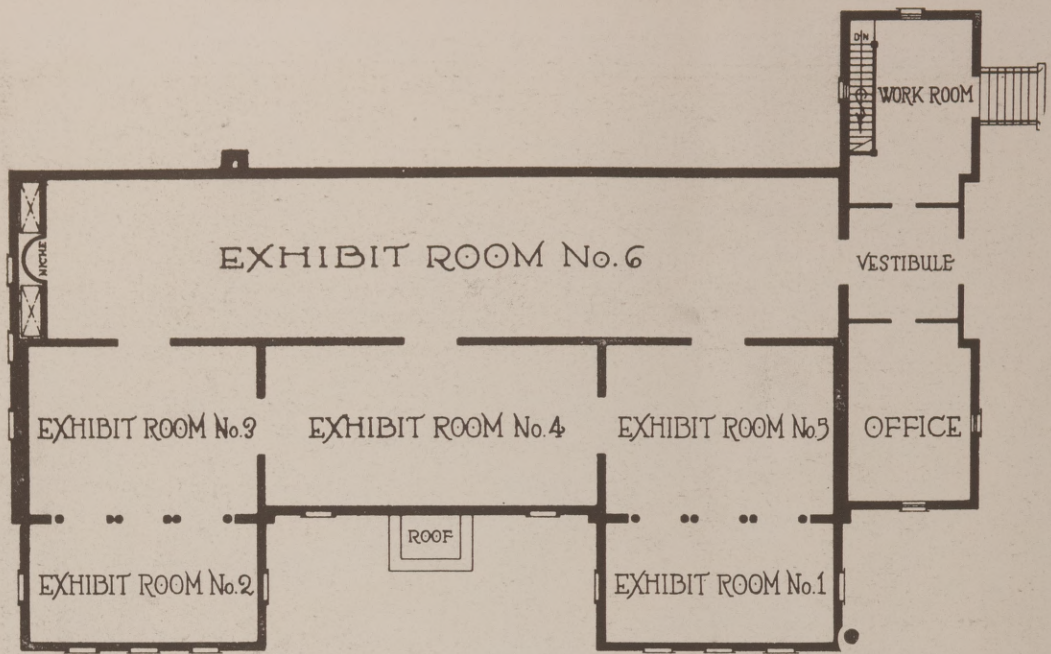


Librarian's Office, Rogers Library, Laurel, Miss.

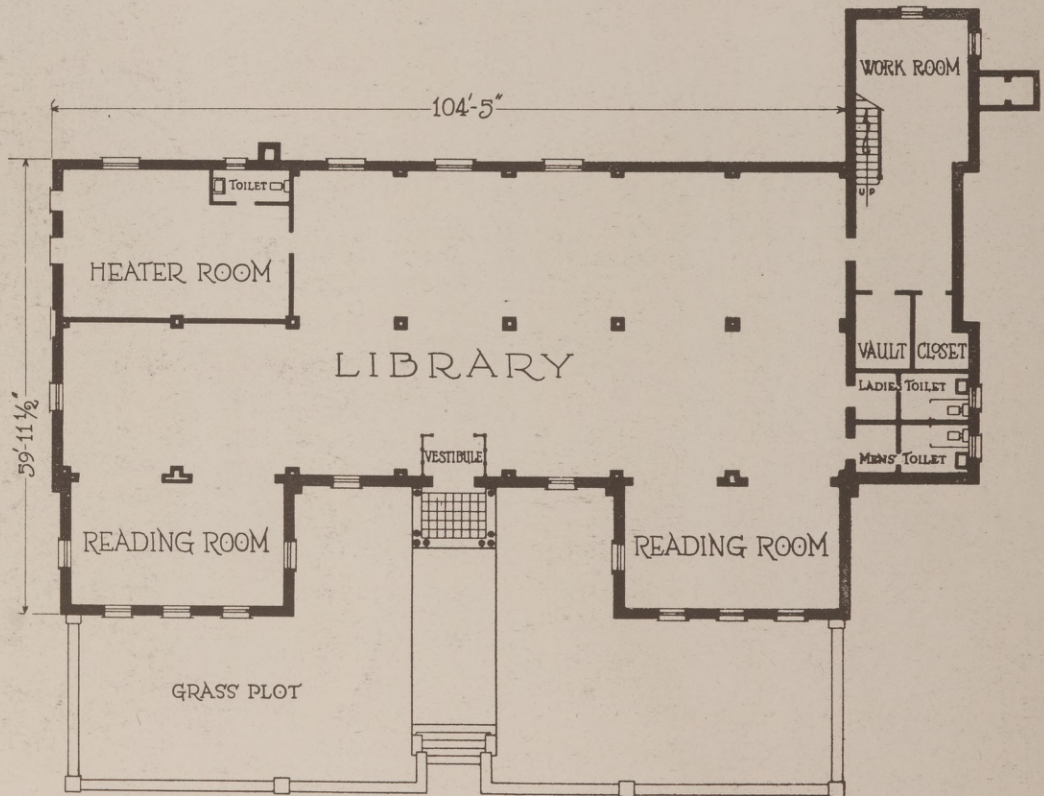


Photos By Tebbs & Kneil, Inc.

THE ROGERS LIBRARY, LAUREL, MISS.
RATHBORNE DE BUYS, ARCHITECT.



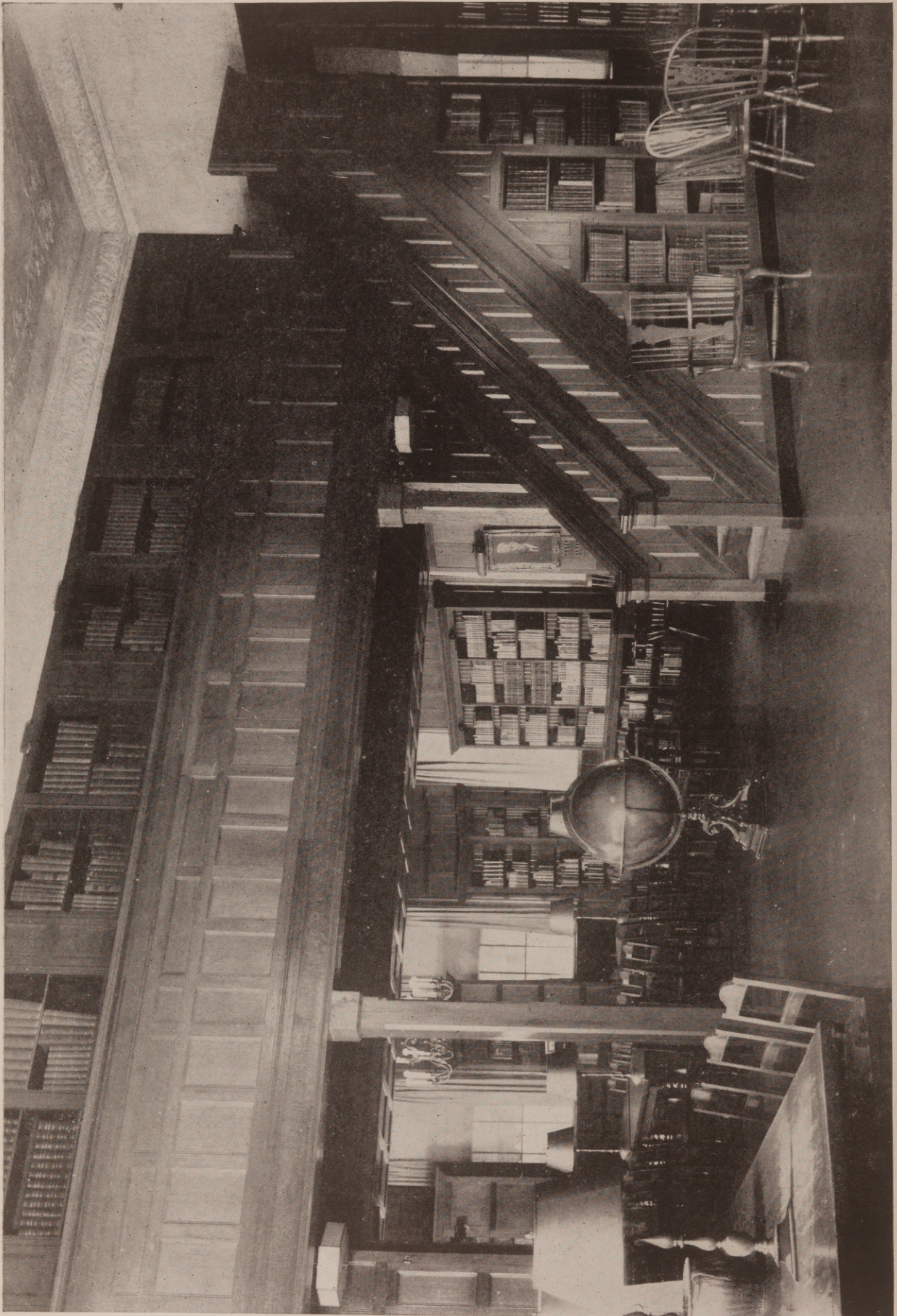
SECOND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN
 ROGERS LIBRARY, LAUREL, MASS.
 RATHBONE DEBUYS, ARCHITECT



SIDE ENTRANCE DETAIL
THE ROGERS LIBRARY, LAUREL, MASS.
RATHBORNE DE BUYS, ARCHITECT.



THE ROGERS LIBRARY, LAUREL, MASS.
RATHBORNE DE BUYS, ARCHITECT.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Vol. 53.

OCTOBER, 1927

Number 10.

ARCHITECTURE AND THE PRESS.

WE believe every architect will agree that the future of architecture and art in the South depends largely upon the development of good taste on the part of the lay-public and their appreciation of what constitutes good architecture. There can be hardly a doubt as to the capability of the profession as a whole being able to produce designs that will meet the most exacting criticism, especially is this true in the field of Domestic architecture. The South certainly compares most favorably with every other section when it comes to residential work, and her public, private and institutional structures will measure up to the high standard of the rest of the country.

So far the profession has had no encouragement from outside sources, having to rely entirely upon the attractiveness of their work to influence others to retain their services. The architectural press (The Southern Architect And Building News) being the only journal whose circulation covers the South to any marked degree is continually showing the best work being done in this section, but unfortunately this work seldom reaches the eyes of the general public.

Therefore, the only medium through which the layman can be reached is through the local newspapers in every section. It seems that the newspaper press of the South has so far been so busy playing politics, boosting our commercialism, and keeping up with the crime wave, that seems to be sweeping the country, that they have had little time to give any thought whatsoever to the cultural side of life in this section.

We believe that the newspapers, their owners and editors, are at heart interested in the development of civic beauty, art and culture as expressed in buildings, but unfortunately knowing very little about architecture have felt that their criticism might not be worthy of the space required that might so easily be given over to a discussion of political questions. Far be it from us to recommend to the newspapers that they put in an art critic, as that would no doubt result in a lot of ballyhoo on the subject of architecture, and do more

harm than good. We do however, think it would be a very good idea if the newspapers would pay a little more attention to the featuring of good buildings in their cities through illustrations and certainly not forget, as is the usual case when a building is published, to give credit to the poor architect whose brain was worked overtime to product the structure. A few days ago we read quite an extended story in the magazine section of a Southern paper on the house of one of the city's ultra wealthy gentlemen, and we happened to have had the pleasure of going through this house with the architect. It is really a gem in architectural design, but alas! the poor architect was not even mentioned as having had anything to do with the house. Little Margaret's room was described in detail and a few minor things of interest about the house were played up to perfection, but for the public knowing that this house was anything but another expensive house from the description, was impossible.

When the newspapers discontinue the publication of stock houses obtained from the "ready-cut plan house service bureaus" and get their local architects to write a few articles on the subject of architecture they will be doing something then to educate the public to appreciate good architecture and go a long way towards developing a city beautiful.

WHO READS THIS JOURNAL?

SEVERAL days ago while talking with an architect friend, the conversation being devoted mostly to a discussion of the future of architecture and the allied arts in the South, he inquired as to how many people read the Southern Architect And Building News? When my answer was 6,500 national circulation he was astonished and replied that he had no idea we had such a large circulation. His curiosity seemed to get the best of him so the following questions followed in sequence; how does your circulation compare with the national magazines published in the East? and how does their circulation compare with yours in the Southern

states? I immediately informed him that I was no statistician but would try to give him the information as soon as our circulation manager could be reached over the telephone. Here was the answer I gave him. The average circulation of all other architectural journals is 8,492 according to their latest statement and their average circulation in the Southern states is 1,120 against our southern circulation of 3,566. He ended the conversation on this point by saying, "Well, you have a mighty good magazine and I don't know why I never thought of the number of architects like myself that might be just as interested in the magazine as I am".

This talk with my friend put me to thinking that perhaps all our readers might be interested in knowing the same thing and a little more about those who are subscribers. Since May 1st, more than 2,606 architects, draughtsmen, engineers and others interested in the building industry have joined our family round table of readers.

We are of course delighted with this concrete evidence of interest in our magazine and the fact that 95 per cent of the architects in the South have paid up subscriptions, most of them for a period of three years is certainly encouraging and about all that we can ask of them. You might like to know the names of some of the leading men in the East who read the magazine so will quote just a few for fear you might grow tired of reading this, which has already gotten beyond what I intended in the way of statistics when I began writing. In New York City, there is McKin, Mead & White, Delano & Aldrich, Office of John Russell Pope, Starrett & Van Vleck, Howells & Hood, Dwight James Baum, Electuc D. Litchfield, Grosvenor Atterbury, Wm. Harmon Beers, Boring & Tilton, Alfred C. Bossom, Aymar Embury, 11, Arthur C. Holden & Associates, LaFarge, Warren & Clark, McGill & Hamlin, Shreve & Lamb, Warren & Wetmore, etc. Up in Boston, there are Cram & Ferguson, Coolidge, Shepley, Boalfinch & Abbott, Ritchie, Parsons & Taylor, Shepard & Stearns, Strickland, Blodgett & Law, etc. At Philadelphia there are Fiske Kimball, Rankin, Kellog & Crane, Stewardson & Page, Horace Traumbauer, etc. In Detroit there is Albert Kahn, Rupert W. Koch, etc., and in Chicago there are N. Max Dunning, Marshall & Fox, Otis & Fuller, Russell S. Walcott, Geo. C. Nimmons & Company, Holabird & Roche, etc.

In just a few words, the Southern Architect

And Building News, is being read by the cream of the architectural profession throughout the country and in the South the entire building industry, including 95 per cent of the architects, contractors, builders and building material dealers are in constant touch with the progress of architecture and building construction in the South through our pages.

RESEARCH FOR ARCHITECTS.

WHEN one stops to think, he is astounded by the amount of scientific research being conducted and supported in various technology institutes by the manufacturers of this country, especially is this true among those serving the building industry, while the Bureau of Standards at Washington is designed to test materials that the Government will use. In other bureaus and laboratories all manner of investigations are being conducted to the end that better products may be evolved and better and more varied uses for them discovered.

Here a manufacturer of steel beams is supporting an investigation into the stress and strain that certain length beams will carry; there the strength of wood, plaster or brick is being studied; in another place master craftsmen are evolving a new stucco finish. The variety of investigations are really amazing. There is hardly a mail delivery at our office that does not bring some important message on new building products or increased efficiency of those already well known. Today, as never before there is being placed at the disposal of the architectural profession scientific data, that he cannot afford to overlook.

For one reason or another we are to often guilty of laying aside the literature that comes to our desk without giving it proper attention to see whether or not it is really worthwhile. It is very important to good building that the architectural profession keep posted on the new scientific developments taking place among manufactured products, and we know of no better way to broaden our knowledge of what is taking place than to study thoroughly the literature that is being sent out by manufacturers throughout the country, as well as studying the advertisements being presented in the Architectural Journals. There is much to be learned by reading the advertisements—they are important as the editoria text.

