

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

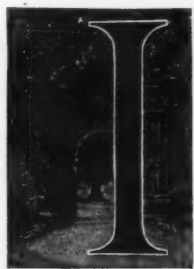
VOLUME CIV.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1913

NUMBER 1964



THE MAPPA HOUSE, TRENTON, N. Y.



IN a valley, where two streams unite, lies the quiet and beautiful village of Barneveld. At first it was named Olden Barneveld by Gerrit Boone, one of a group of sturdy Hollanders that settled in this vicinity, in honor and love of John of Barneveld, the famous Dutch patriot and statesman; a martyr to breadth of thought and depth of vision.

They were hard and clear-headed business men, these Dutchmen. It would seem absurd to accuse them of being carried away by fantastic humanitarian schemes,

and yet, if the story told by one who, being a fellow Dutchman, knew them well is to be believed, this village owes its origin to a magnificent scheme for the suppression of the slave trade. The story is thus related:

"Some Dutch gentlemen, misled by the statement of Brissot de Warville and others into the belief that sugar might be manufactured from maple trees in such quantities and at such prices as to supersede West India sugar, and that thus the slave trade might be greatly curtailed, resolved to make the experiment. They accordingly purchased about 23,000 acres of land, chiefly covered with sugar maples, and sent Mr. Boone, a sugar refiner by profession, to superintend the manufacture."



A CHAMBER MANTEL

Mr. Boone was likely enough a good, practical sugar refiner, but he knew little of its manufacture from the sap of the trees. His first step was to plan to manufacture it on an extensive and economical scale. He thought of the sap as "flowing," not "dripping" from the trees, and not for only a few days, but the whole year around. To save time and labor, he had built thousands of feet of small troughs (that is, grooved slats) for the purpose of conveying the sap to a large reservoir or boiler. The results were so poor that the "grooved slats" were more serviceably used "for the sides of a large cornhouse," and are still doing service in one of the small dwellings of the village.

Barneveld is surrounded by pleasing landscapes, hills rolling in graceful forms, valleys sloping into deep ravines, flat lands dotted with elms of giant stature and ribboned with brilliant curving streams. Barneveld is the centre of a group of other villages all within short walking distance—South Trenton, Holland Patent, Steuben, Prospect, Remsen and Trenton Falls. The last mentioned is of special interest, lying at the lower end of a remarkable chasm the stream forming a series of cataracts and rapids of never-failing interest. Just beyond Remsen, the northerly village, is the splendid monument of the celebrated Baron Steuben.

In the heart of Barneveld, on a plot of four acres of land, stands a stone mansion which has weathered more than a century of storms—"Rubble Manor" the structure is now named. The village clusters around it, the streets on all sides forming a square.

The mansion, with its vigor of design and regularity of plan, has been preserved in its early condition by well-directed repairs and little alteration. The original Dutch occupant, should he return, would find the house, furnishings, and premises much the same as when he enjoyed them himself.

The house, begun in 1804, was completed in 1809, and occupied for many years by Colonel Mappa, agent of the Holland Land Company in Oneida County. Colonel Mappa "at an early age entered the Dutch service, and gained marked distinction as a brave and enterprising officer during the brief opportunity afforded him before he retired." Presumably about the time of his marriage, in 1780, he left the army and

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entered the business of typefounding. When exiled from Holland, owing to the part he had taken in the attempt to throw off the royal yoke, he was advised by Benjamin Franklin, and by Thomas Jefferson, who was then United States Ambassador in Paris, to take with him to America a complete "Letter Foundry," there being at that time "not a single letter foundry in America," and it was recommended to Congress that a specially heavy tax be levied on all foreign "Letter-types" to encourage this new home industry. A New York Directory of 1792 announced that Adam G. Mappa was then engaged in the business of typefounding at No. 22 Greenwich Street. It would thus appear that he was the first typefounder in America. Three or four years later Mappa gave up typefounding and accepted the post of agent for the Holland Land Company, with headquarters at Barneveld.

Rubble Manor, which Mappa built, came into the possession of Mr. Wicks, Sr., some years before the Civil War, and, thirty-five years after, passed to his son, William S. Wicks of Buffalo.

The illustrations which accompany this article show the place to be one of great and singular distinction. It is a picturesque, effective building, possessing many points of originality, and is a fine example of the best period of Georgian Colonial architecture, ranking high among the architectural glories of early home building in America, both on the score of its magnificence and the wonderful skill shown in its construction and detail.

Before entering the house let us take note

of its setting. The building stands midway in the Village Square—an avenue of shade trees, stretching from the main hall-way to the west entrance, frames the house in a picture of irresistible charm. The driveway circles on the north side to the east porch and continues to the minor highway. A great heart in lovely green sod, kept in culture for a century, forms the turn of the avenues at the main entrance. This old-fashioned heart, lying free in the pathway, gives welcome such as no words can offer. The terraced land at the south is beautifully adorned with old-fashioned flowers, dear to all true garden lovers.



1 MANTEL IN NORTHEAST CHAMBER

(For measured drawing, see illustrations)



SITTING ROOM MANTEL

In the foreground of the property stands a group of trees, grown to prodigious size, each one more aged than the mansion it partly hides and partly reveals.

The south side is open to the sun. Here the big trees were banished, and an artistically arranged garden takes their place—regular walks, flowers outlining the borders and greensward center. An arbor stands half concealed in the native spruce hedge, separating the flower and vegetable gardens while at the south, on the axial lines of the house, is a roomy pergola, over which Dutchman's pipe, clematis and honeysuckle climb and trail in tangled beauty.

The east slope from the house reaches to the minor highway, beyond which the waters of the quiet Steuben and the swift, noisy Cincinnati come together in easy confluence. At the junction of these two streams Gerrit Boone pitched his tent. Beyond, again, are the hills and valleys among which the latter of the two streams has its source.

The windows on the northerly side of the mansion look over the village park, and out on to the distant hills.

As we walk around the house we may note the splendid rubble masonry that the skillful workmen laid, regularly irregular, plenty of joints and plenty of mortar, as enduring as the stone itself, all forming a wall of wonderful effect and strength, one to which the ivy loves to cling and grow.

Sit for a moment on the bench—it is a comfortable place, the distance is right to see the outline of the house—simple, old and genteel, a projecting base to the floor line in wrought stone to give indication of strength and stability, then two sheer stories of rubble walls crowned with cornices and stone gables pierced with oval windows. The Georgian period of the mansion's birth is marked in gables, cornices, porches, windows—a style of architecture as dear to the student of architecture as a fine piece of Chippendale or Sheraton is to the expert collector of furniture—a style chosen as much for comfort as for beauty.

We now proceed toward the house to the doorway—the principal one entering from the west front: The door is open, we are anticipating a look at the interior, but somehow our eyes are caught by the delicate

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work about the entrance, and we stop to examine the leaded glass, so superb in the opening on the sides and in the fan-light over the door. So delicate its rings and ovals—not double leads, but leads on one side of the glass and hard white lead putty on the other holding the wrinkled glass, with exquisite little rosettes clinging to the leads at the intersections. The frame wood-work of the doorway is wrought with clever moldings. The door, four and one-half feet wide, with six equal panels, swings smoothly and firmly on the old wrought hinges. The entrance is much recessed owing to the thickness of the stone walls, so thick that several could stand in the enclosure. We have a chance to summon the folk with the polished brass knocker of splendid antiquity. Let us pause long enough to examine its interesting workmanship. The keyhole of the door, some two inches in height and brass bound, prompts us to look on the opposite side of the door for the key. A key? Saints help us! We who use the comfortable little flat key for our city doors would swear it was an anchor—eight inches

long, weight about a pound, that is all! No slipping it into the pocket and forgetting where it is.

The main entrance hall, showing a noble room and lofty ceiling, reaches from the west to the east entrance, passing under the main staircase. It is a summer day, and the east door, like the one we enter by, stands wide open. It makes a frame to the landscape, blue sky at first, and, as we approach, the distant hill and the glint of the two streams as they come together; you can hear the murmur of the water as it falls.

Midway in its length the hall is broken by a fine specimen of arching before it widens out for the stairway. Twenty-eight steps and a landing bring you to the second story. Low risers and wide treads for the stairs, and at the side a rail, a perfect cylinder of mahogany, two and one-half inches in diameter, beginning at an ivory eye in the middle of a coiled ramp and extending in graceful curves to the uppermost step, polished and worn to that exquisite shade which only great age and long use



MANTEL IN SOUTHWEST CHAMBER

(For measured drawing, see illustrations)

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can give. Notice, too, the sunflower ornaments carved in the face of the skirting to the landings, the ornamental rosettes, flutes and other harmonious designs, and how gracefully they are extended from the bottom to the top of the stairs.

The stairway is five feet wide, not only

and on the south the sitting room and dining room. These rooms are very much alike, each born in the Georgian period, yet different in detail. They all contain molded cornices, each with a little echo molding on the ceiling. All of the rooms are finished in white woodwork, and have deeply recessed windows. The windows are provided with inside blinds, paneled, and folding into recesses. Outside blinds with fixed slats are swung from the jambs with wrought strap hinges which no storm has ever wrenched from their place.

The rooms and hall in the second story are much the same as those in the first story, and all the rooms of the main part are made comfortable with broad open fireplaces. The marble facings were taken from the gray marble quarries in the northern part of the state—quarries at present unworked. The columns, bases, caps, panels, cornices, carvings, cuttings, etc., of the mantels are remarkable for their intrinsic beauty—not too much of anything, just enough of everything.

The drawing room on the north is the most elaborate, having the work of the doors and windows echo the work of the mantels. No woodwork was more marvelously devised than the pairs of elliptical columns forming the casings to the doors and the supporting of the entablatures over.

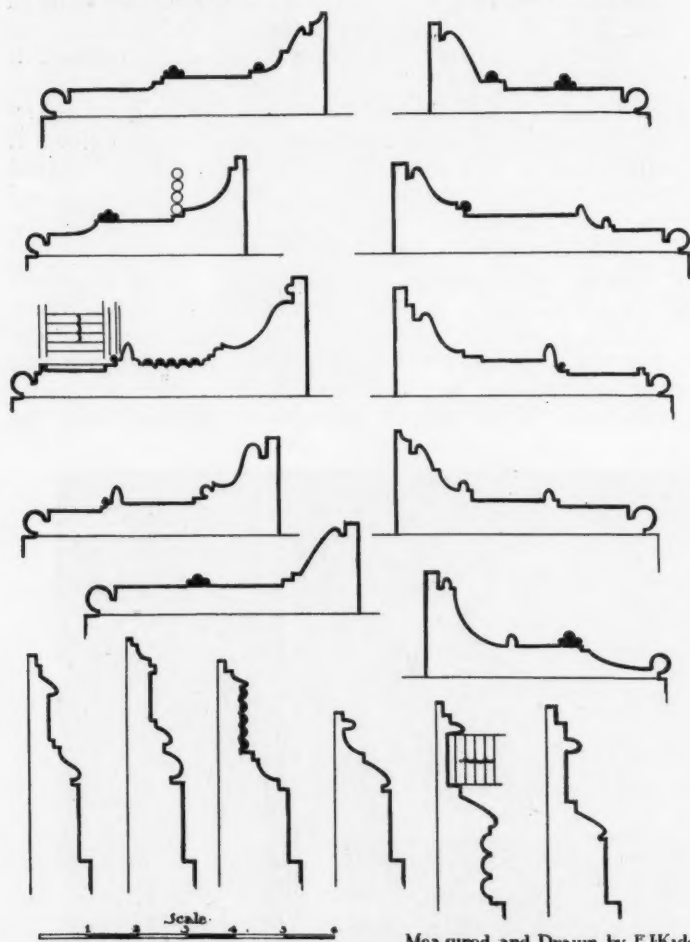
The commodious, interesting rooms give the key-note to the interior, and the furnishings belong mostly to the period and style of the construction of the house—in many cases antedating it. Some few pieces are from Holland and others of Holland influence, but mostly they are of the Colonial English styles of the early part of the century; many rare pieces of Sheraton and Chippen-

CASINGS AND BASES

Now Owned by W.S. Wicks Esq.

MAPPA HOUSE

TRENTON · N.Y.



commodious, but also of graceful beauty and simple grandeur.

The main hall is in effect a room. From it open four other rooms, the porches and a main staircase. It accommodates all the other rooms, yet has interest and comfort for itself.

The rooms on either side are in pairs—on the north the drawing room and library,

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dale; the dwelling is full of memorials of the past, in short, really a museum of genuine antique chairs, settees, tables, mirrors, pictures—all give the house the air of belonging to a gentleman of the early part of the eighteenth century. A gun or two hang over the writing desk, old fowling pieces long out of use.

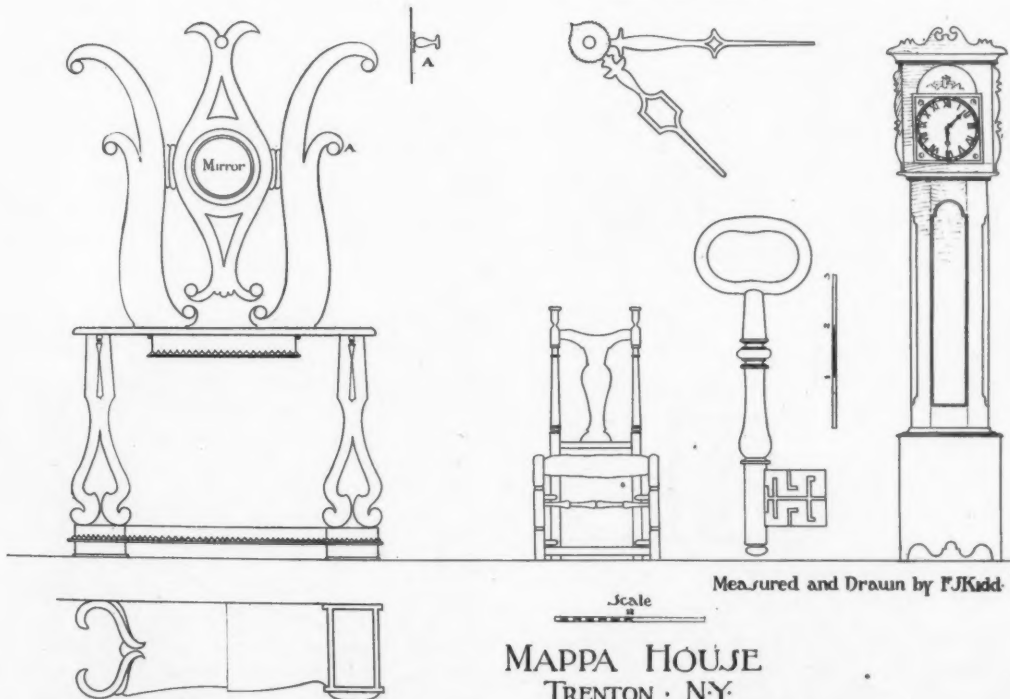
The construction, that is, the timber construction, of the mansion is made from the beech and maple of the former nearby forests.

The main framing timbers of the floors, eight inches wide and fourteen inches deep, and the intervening timbers, five inches thick and fourteen inches deep, all placed



THE HALL

The floors, two inches in thickness, are of native pine hewn in a way similar to that of the timbers, but matched and



Measured and Drawn by F.J. Kidd

MAPPA HOUSE TRENTON · N.Y.

Now Owned by W.S. Wicks, Esq.

twelve inches on centers and all hardwood, were hewn from the sturdy trees and bear the marks of the broadaxe and adz. They are framed with mortise and tenon and pinned together with wood dowels.

grooved together at the edges and hand planed on the upper surface.

The roof is fashioned like a mill, the ridge tree eight inches on faces pentagonal in shape, the plates anchored to the walls,

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the purlin frames for undoubted strength and the rafters framed and pinned to the supporting timbers. Once the gutters were formed of logs, hollowed out and lined with sheet lead, but these gave way some few years ago to metal gutters.

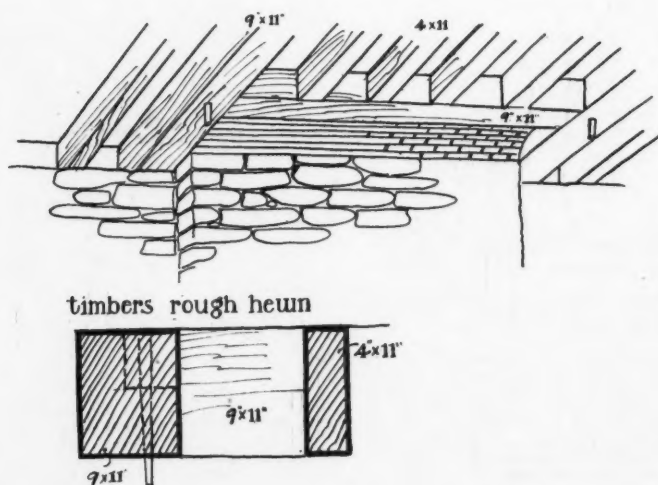
As one sits upon the porch, so ample in all its proportions, surrounded by the quiet loveliness of the old village, feeling, as he well may, very "far from the maddening crowd's ignoble strife," it is with difficulty that he can bring himself to believe that for social advantages and business prospects the place ever rivaled the city of Utica, which is but a few miles to the southward. Yet so it was, according to traditions which are unquestionably accurate—a characteristic not common with traditions.

Rubble Manor was the scene of much social entertainment carried out with all the old-world gentility. One of the old letters found tells of the writer being obliged

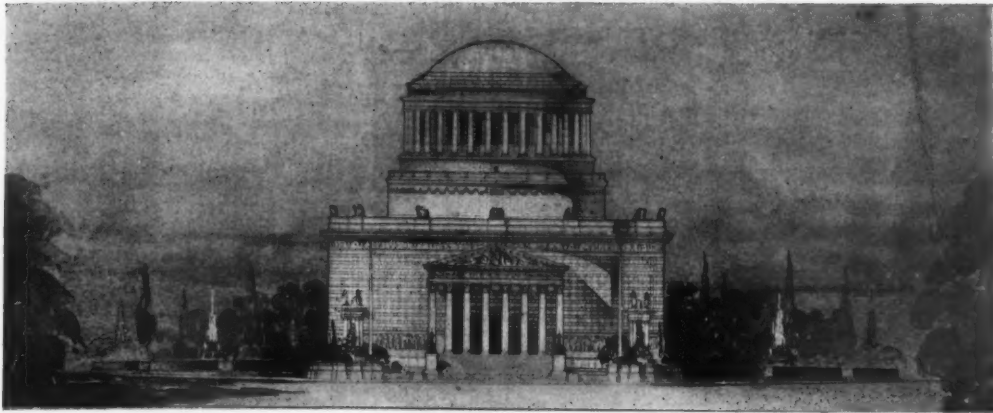
to be brief because he has agreed to be at the "red-house" to make up a set in Quadrille.

Among the literary scraps, carefully preserved by the present owner, is a clipping which gives Governor Clinton's entertaining account of a dinner, a dinner furnished partly by his successful gunning, eaten here with Colonel Mappa and his most scholarly friend and near neighbor, Judge Van der Kemp.

And of Van der Kemp what could not be written? There would be no stopping place did one begin. For we should be led into the company of as interesting a group of people as searcher of old houses and records ever met with. But one cannot help imagining the graciousness and courtly manner with which Baron Steuben was welcomed to the old house. They were indeed a distinguished and cultured people who settled the wilds of the Empire State.



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FIRST PRIZE

COMPETITION IN ARCHITECTURE, 1913

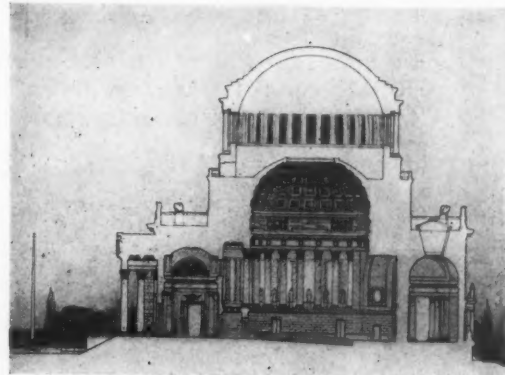
WALTER L. WARD

THE AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

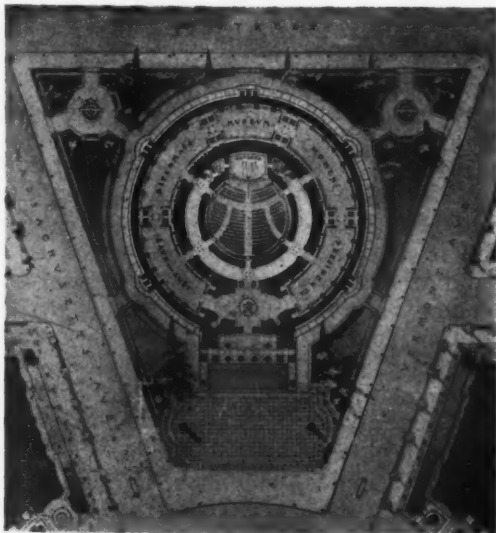
THE annual competitions for the scholarships of the American Academy in Rome have been this year won by the following students: In Architecture, Walter L. Ward; In Sculpture, Leo Friedlander; In Painting, George Davidson.

The subject for the competitions in both Sculpture and in Painting was "WORK," while in Architecture, a Hall of Fame to be located in Washington, D. C., was the problem assigned.

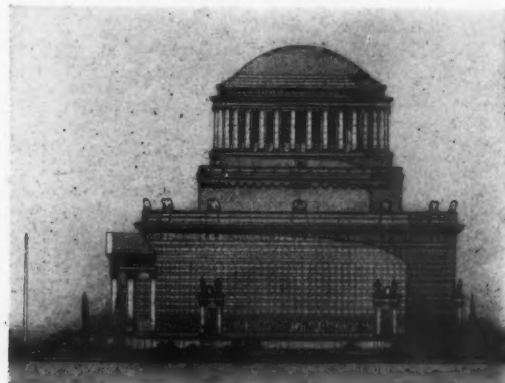


SECTION

These scholarships are each for \$3,000, payable to each student at the rate of \$1,000 a year for three years, and in addition to



GROUND PLAN



ELEVATION

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"WORK"
FIRST PRIZE COMPETITION IN PAINTING, 1913 GEORGE DAVIDSON
THE AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

this each scholarship winner on his departure for Rome receives traveling expenses directly to that city, and on completion of



"WORK"
FIRST PRIZE COMPETITION IN SCULPTURE, 1913
LEO FRIEDLANDER
THE AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

his full three years' course his return expenses are paid to his home in the United States.

During the first year of their term the students are obliged to remain in Rome, or in Central Italy. During the next year they travel in Italy and Sicily, and the third year of their term, in Italy, Sicily and Greece, and other countries where classic and renaissance remains exist.

Through the courtesy of the Secretary of the Academy in New York, we are enabled to illustrate in this issue reproduction of the Prize Winning Designs.

The officers of the American Academy in Rome are: Wm. Rutherford Mead, president; Theodore N. Ely, vice-president; C. Grant La Farge, secretary, and Wm. A. Boring, treasurer.

The jury in Architecture was composed of Messrs. Breck Trowbridge, Chairman; Henry Bacon and Wm. M. Kendall, Architects, E. H. Blashfield, Painter, and D. C. French, Sculptor. In Sculpture, Messrs. D. C. French, Chairman, Herbert Adams and James E. Fraser, Sculptors, E. H. Blashfield, Painter, and Breck Trowbridge, Architect. In Painting, Messrs. E. M. Blashfield, Chairman, Kenyon Cox and Francis C. Jones, Painters, D. C. French, Sculptor, and Breck Trowbridge, Architect.

The record of the prize winning students is as follows:—

Mr. Ward is 24 years of age, and studied at Princeton and Columbia universities.

Mr. Friedlander is 25 years of age. He has studied at the Beaux-Arts, Brussels and Paris, and at Cooper Union and the Academy of Fine Arts, New York. In addition to this he has had seven years' experience in practical studio work. He was second in the Competition in Sculpture last year.

Mr. Davidson is 24 years of age, studied at the National Academy of Design, New York, and was admitted to the Final Competition in Painting last year.

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OMNIBUS CLAUSES—THEIR CAUSE AND EFFECT

NO other profession, probably, is so spurred onward by the march of science, on the one hand, and retarded on the other by the apparent necessity for practical adherence to custom, as is the practice of Architecture. Both of these contending, yet complimentary, forces are probably essential to the most healthy development of any living organism, but it is advisable frequently to make sure that the one is not being atrophied by the other.

A case in point is that portion of the uniform specifications proposed by the American Institute of Architects which provides that "all materials, unless otherwise specified, shall be new and of the best qualities of their respective kinds." This clause, or one of similar purport, was probably incorporated in the earliest formal building specification and has been copied with unswerving faithfulness ever since. Its purpose is of course entirely commendable—to protect the owner against the use of inferior materials. The most dangerous feature of the clause is not its intention, but its ambiguity, and the possibilities of its flexible interpretation by competing bid-

ders, by the contractor to whom the commission is awarded, and by the architect on behalf of the owner.

Probably the field of structural contracting boasts as large a proportion of intelligent, capable, well-intentioned operators as that of any other business, but the presence of a small proportion of the irresponsible type, together with the large financial interests frequently involved, have possibly caused architects to resort to the incorporation of comprehensive omnibus clauses for the surer protection of their clients. When, in carelessly drawn specifications such clauses are used merely to save time, cover up a lack of definite technical knowledge and shield the architect from responsibility, the practice is to be strongly condemned.

The loophole, "unless otherwise specified," is evidently intended to cover omissions in the specifications, and provides that the contractor shall supply them, of the best quality. As drawn, this article would for example require the contractor to furnish all heart lumber for concrete forms and for scaffolding, unless the character of lumber for these purposes was accurately defined. Men's ideas vary, and naturally when estimates for bids are made on a building, the interpretations of bidders left to exercise their own judgments, are different. As a result, the owner does not secure exact competition and receive the low price to which he is entitled, but receives bids based upon the individual bidder's interpretation of the omnibus discretionary clauses.

It would seem more equitable to contractors and more studious of the owner's interests to modify the above clause by stating that "all materials entering into the construction of a building shall be accurately specified, and shall in each instance be of the quality described." The popular belief that an "architect's building" is much more expensive than one designed without his services, if justified, is no doubt due in part to the use of evasive clauses in the specifications. The profession must work out its own salvation in this matter, and a good beginning would be a careful revision of the cant specification phrases instead of their mere recopying by a stenographer.

THE ENFORCEMENT OF ANTI-SMOKE LAWS

WE HAD occasion a few weeks ago to refer to the repudiation by the Supreme Court Justices of Mr. Guy Lowell's accepted design for the New York County Court House, and in that connection voiced a protest against "the assuming of professional prerogatives by laymen" when the public welfare is at stake. An equally arrogant position has been recently taken by the Court of Special Sessions anent the enforcement of the anti-smoke provision of the Municipal Sanitary Code.

A committee of eminent physicians was overruled when the Court decided that the emission of dense smoke in New York City, from buildings, vessels, engines and motor vehicles, does not constitute a nuisance injurious to health. The Court further declared that it was impossible to prevent the discharge of noisome smoke and gases, even in the face of the fact that the Health Commission has demonstrated the possibility of its prevention and has repeatedly deterred stokers and chauffeurs from perpetrating the nuisance in many parts of the city. Every well-read or experienced architect knows there are mechanical devices for consuming soft coal smoke, that it can be largely accomplished simply by intelligent stoking, and that by the exercise of reasonable care in running gasoline engines, even the automobile may cease to offend sensitive nostrils.

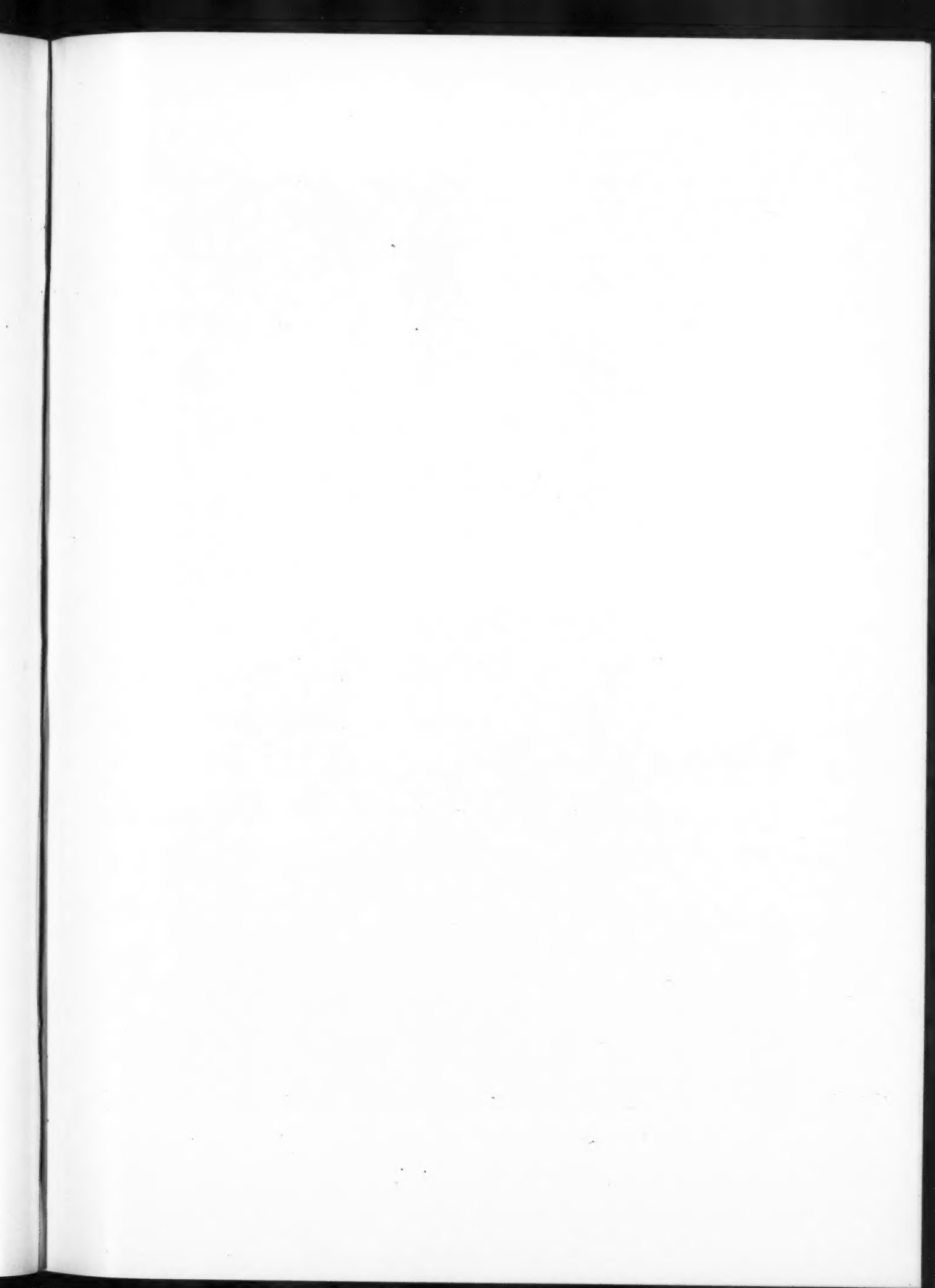
We are not anarchists. On the contrary, we lament the increasing disrespect in which the judiciary is held by the American whose loudest and often most stupid boast is

"personal liberty." In the light of the statements submitted, however, we are forced to believe either that the people of New York are not so affected by the gases and acids in bituminous coal smoke as were those in the twenty-eight other large American cities which, advised by experts, have passed anti-smoke ordinances, or, much against our inclination, we must believe that the Court of Special Sessions is mistaken. Any authority to win or to merit general respect must be a reasonable one. If a body of jurists has no regard for the professional opinions of eminent men in other professions, how can it possibly expect and why should it deserve respect for its dogmatic "decisions" on matters of which it has, apparently, no accurate knowledge?

The phase of this question of chief importance to architects has received little if any attention from the lawmakers or the lawbreakers—the harmful action of smoke gases and acids on limestone, marble and other building materials.

The laws undertake to fully protect building owners from the more obvious forms of injury to their property. Abutting property owners are no more permitted to undermine the foundations of a party wall than the man on the street is permitted to break a plate-glass window. Just why the laws should ignore the insidious and preventable injury to buildings perpetrated by the smoke producers is not easy to understand unless we assume that the matter has not been sufficiently agitated by architects and owners.

We trust that the anti-smoke ordinance in New York will be enforced and that a higher tribunal will reverse the decision of the inferior Court.



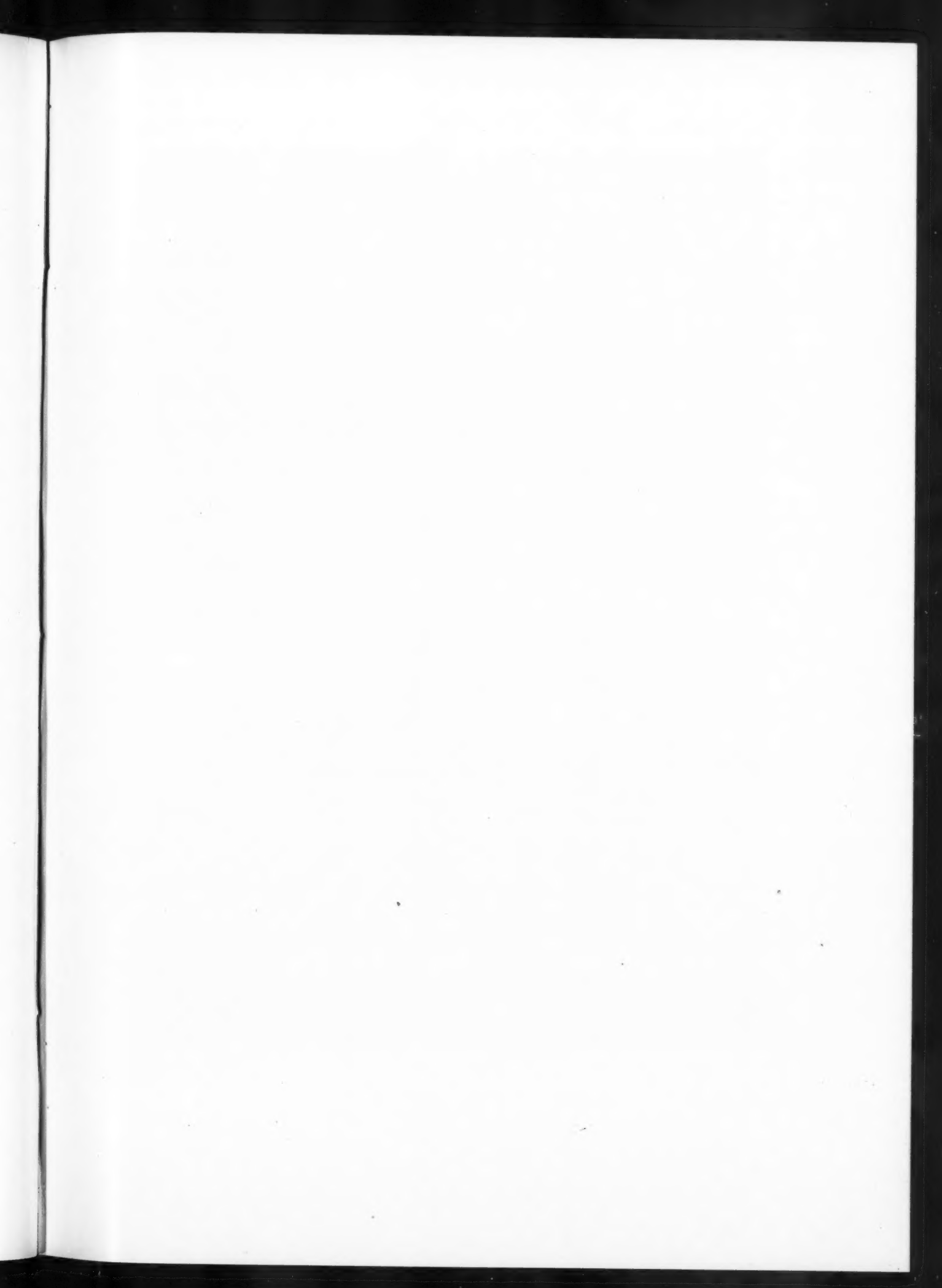
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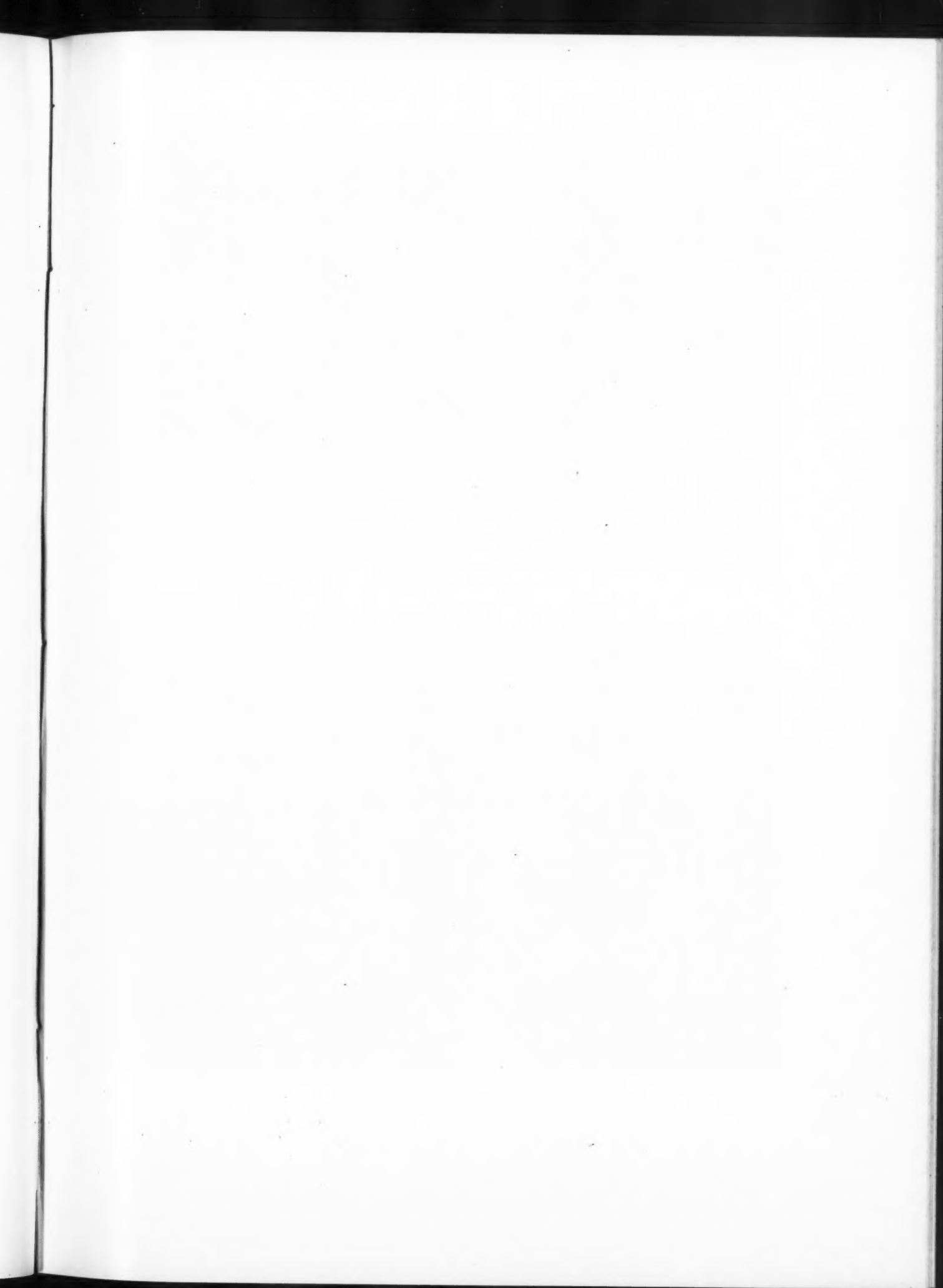




THE PORCH

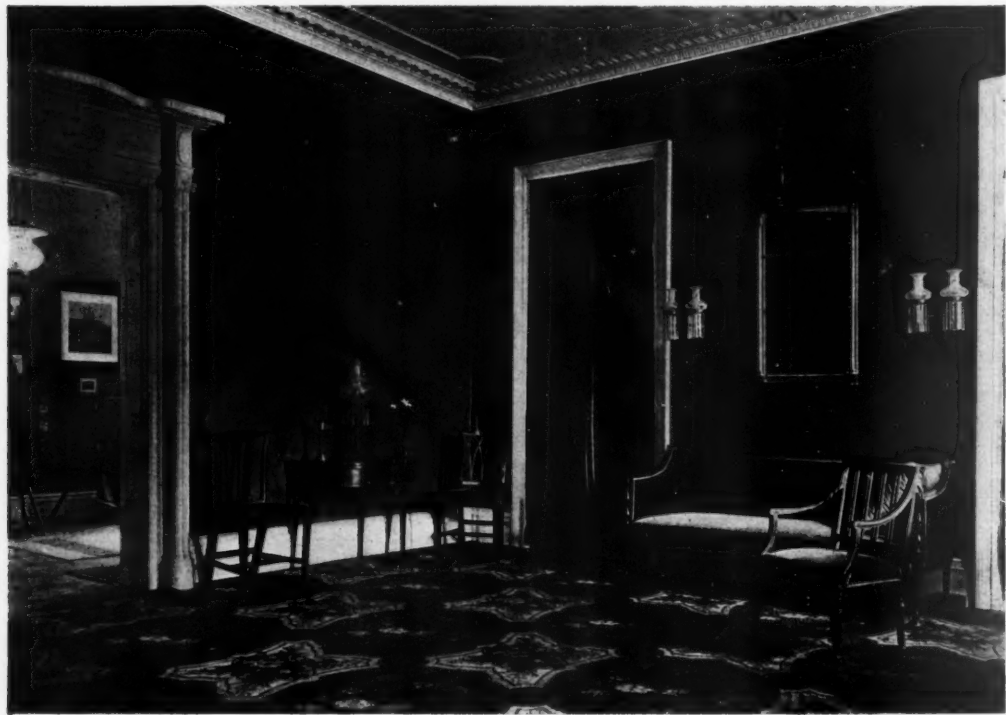
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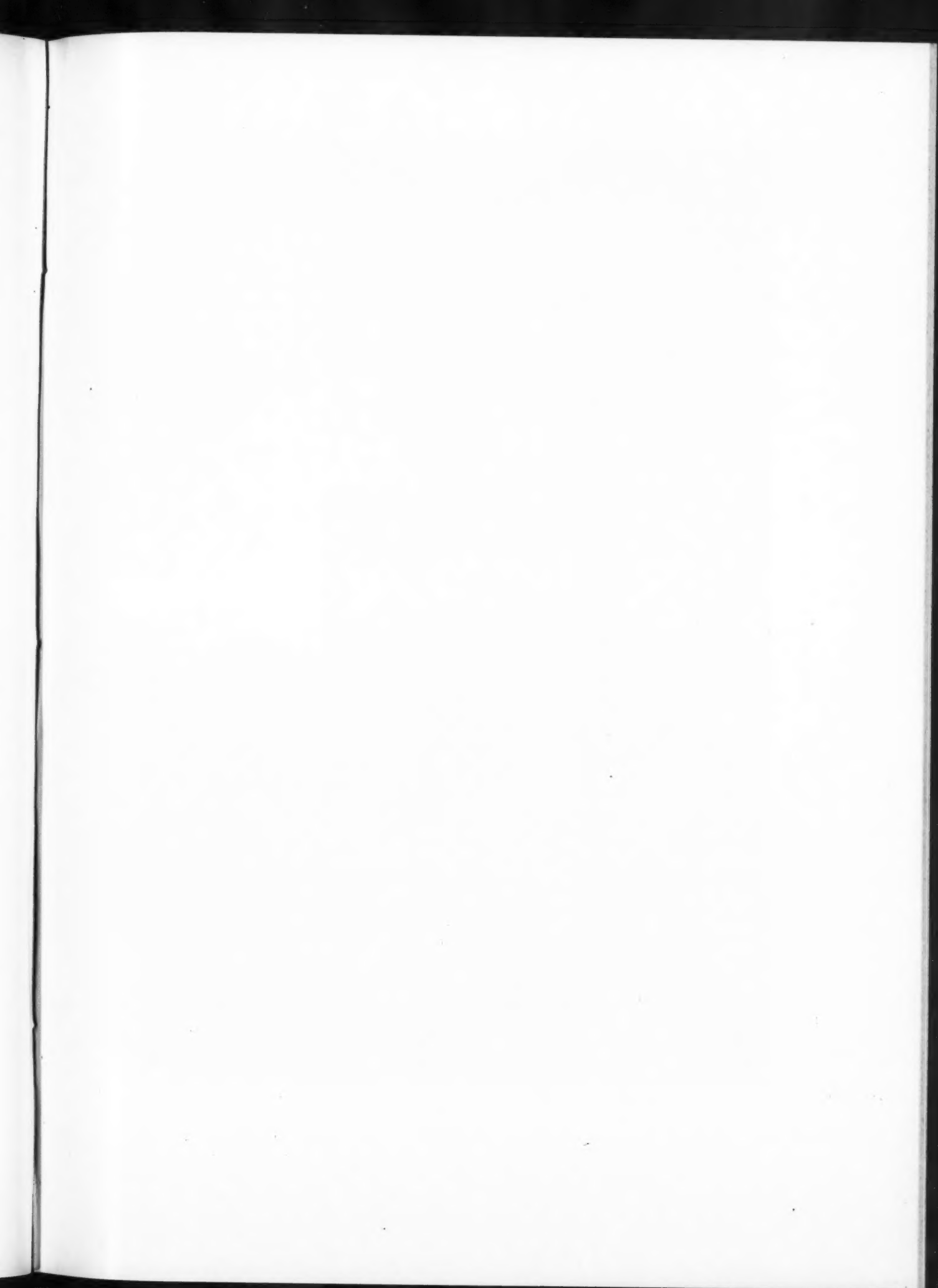
THE SITTING ROOM

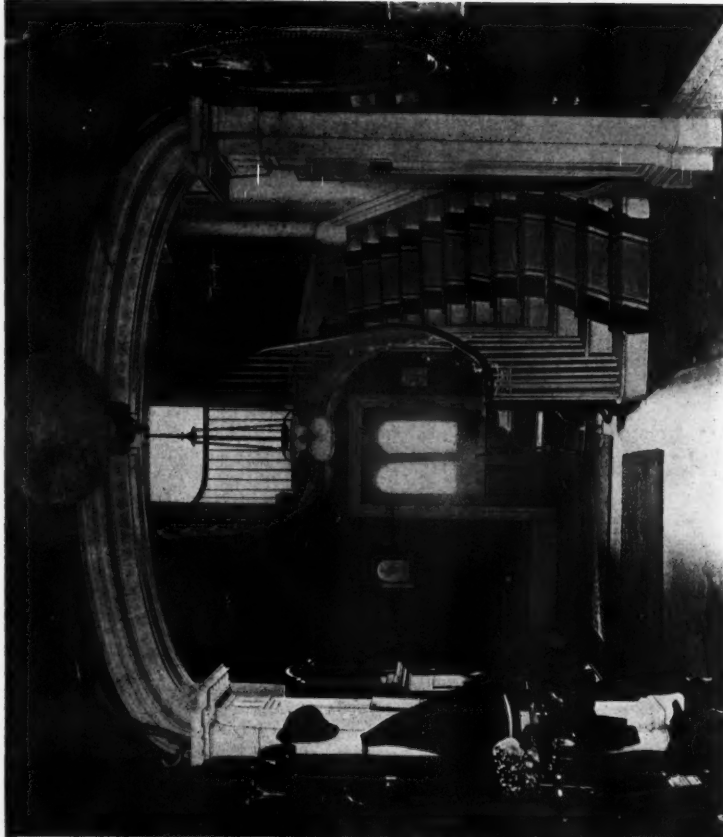


LOOKING FROM DRAWING ROOM TOWARDS THE HALL

THE MAPPA HOUSE, TRENTON, N. Y.

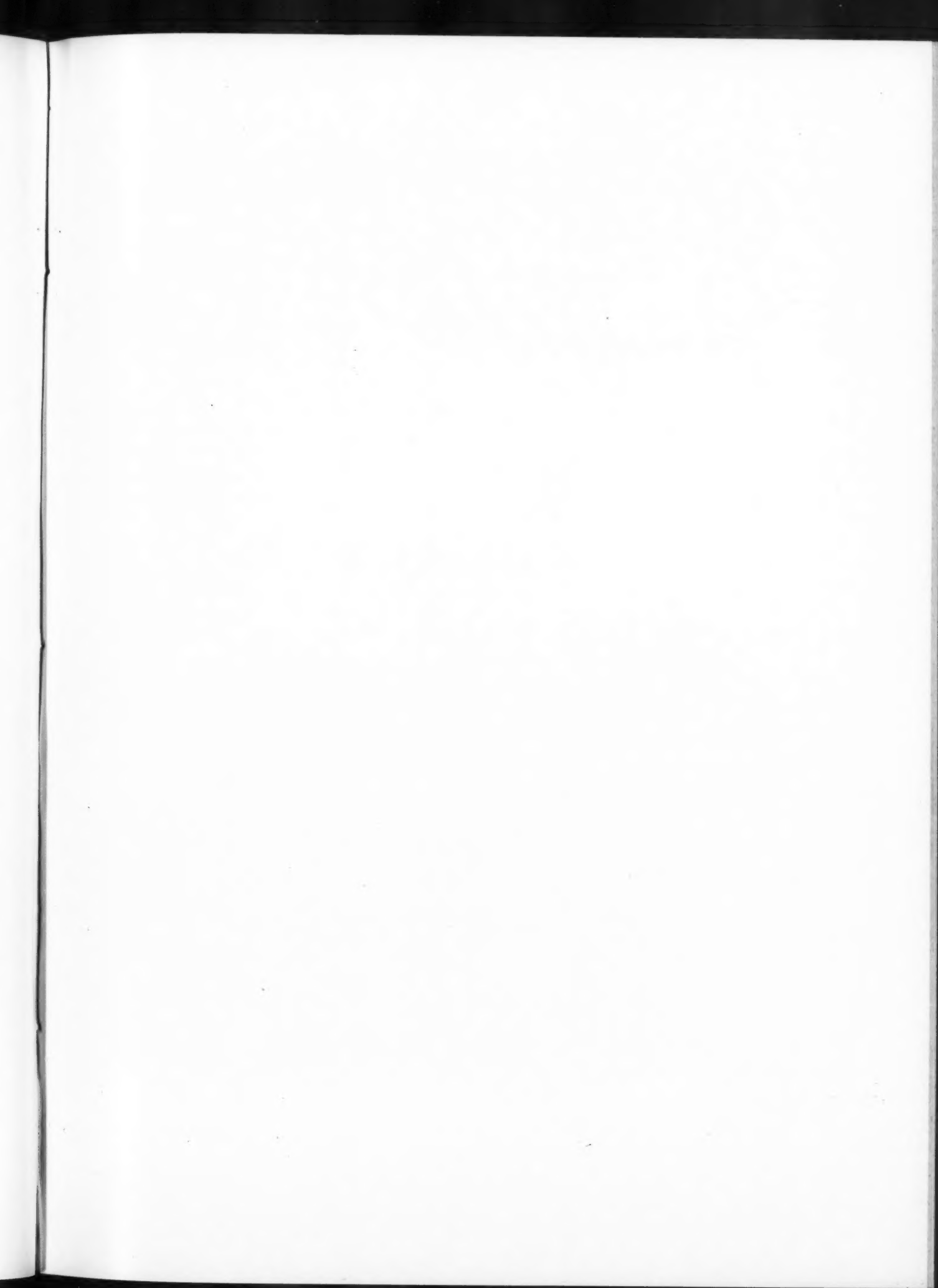
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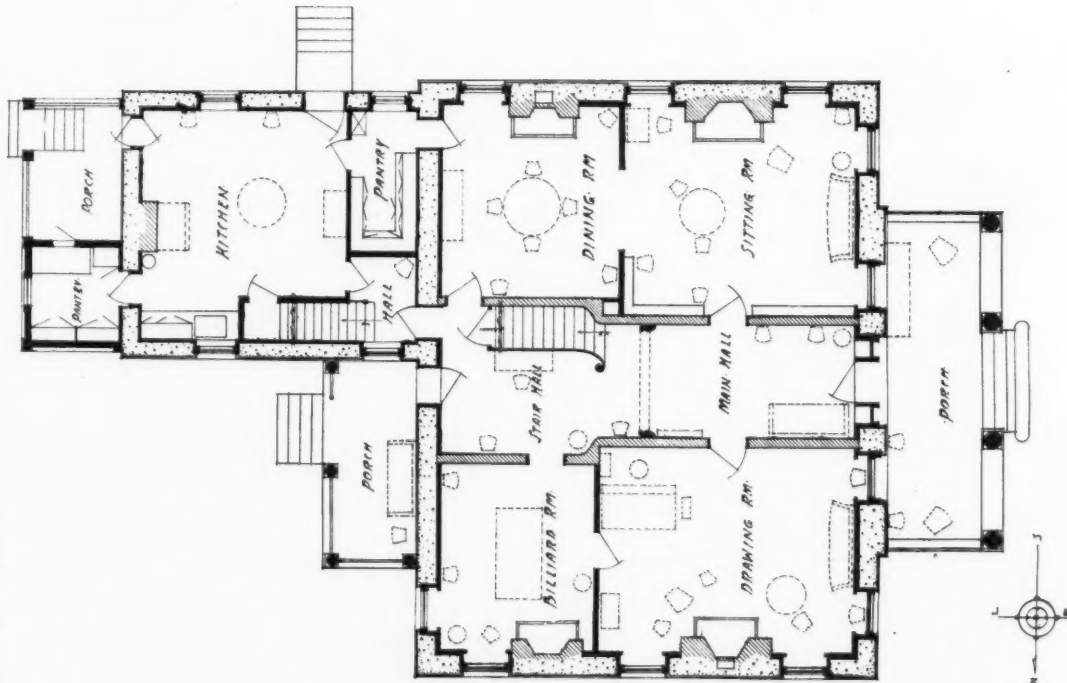




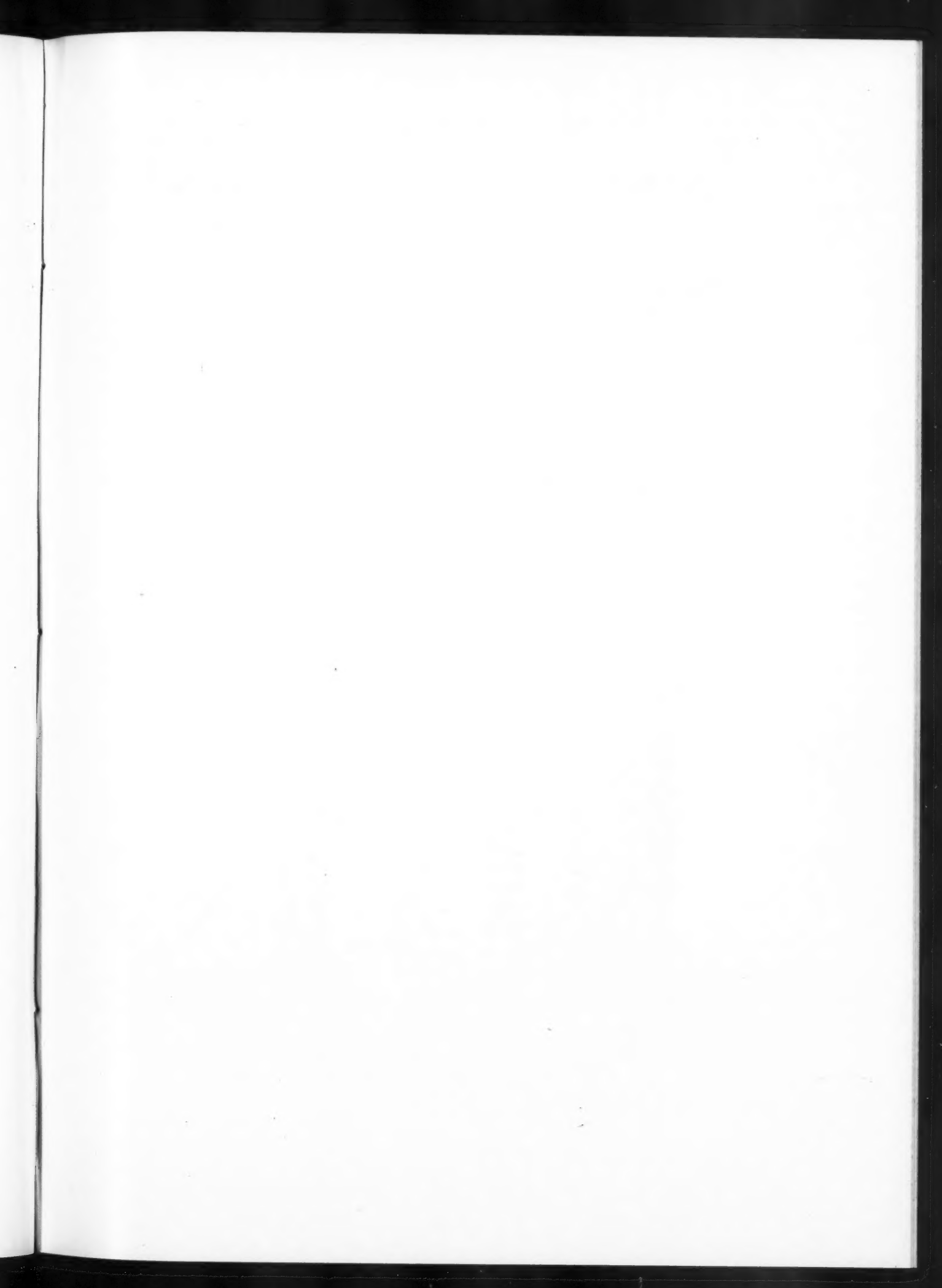
TWO VIEWS OF STAIRCASE, SHOWING DETAIL.

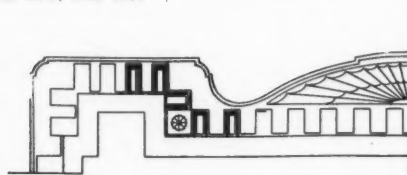
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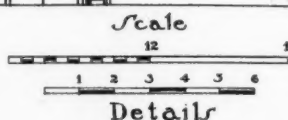
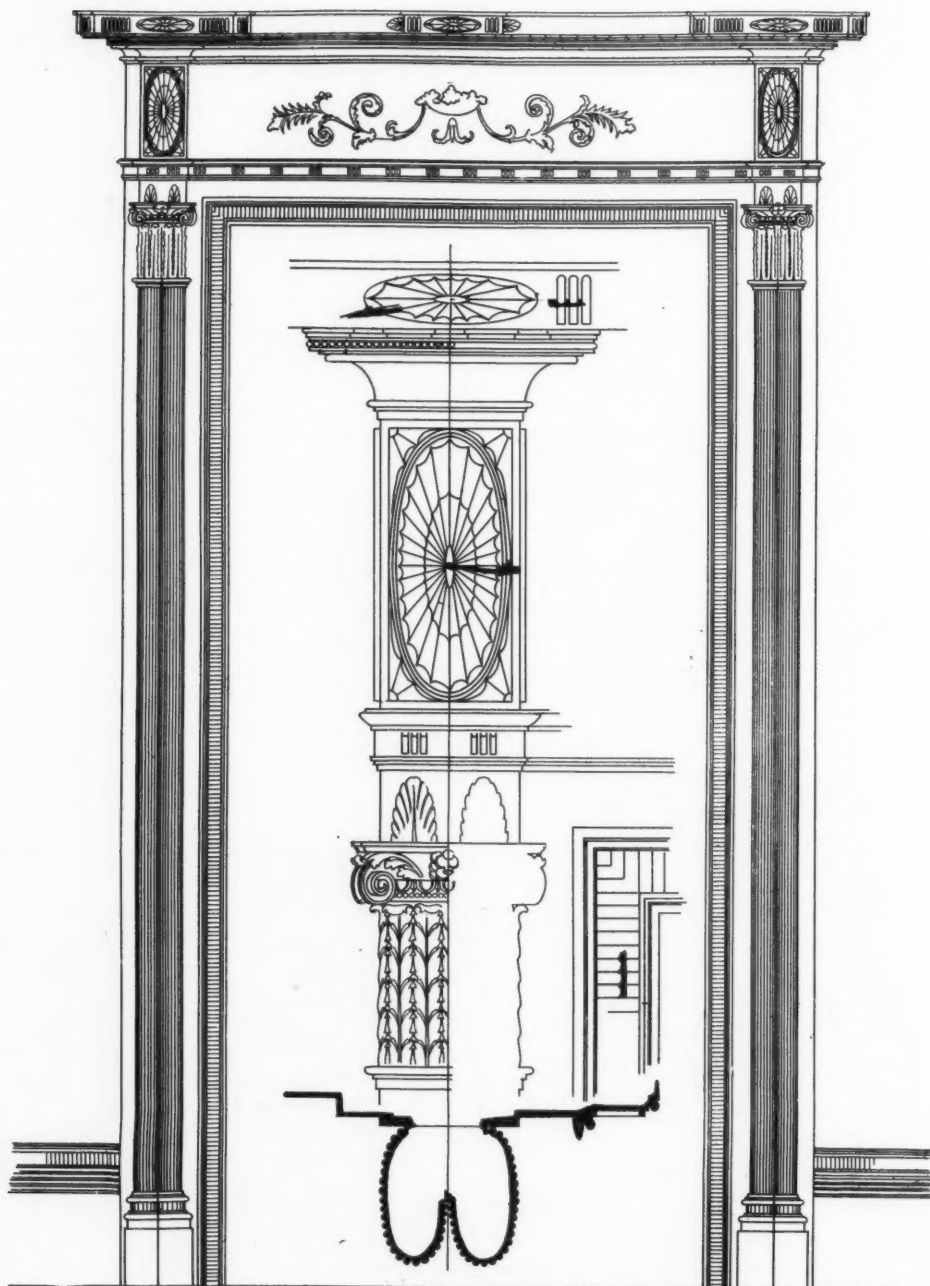
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DOORWAY IN PARLOR MAPPA HOUSE TRENTON N.Y.

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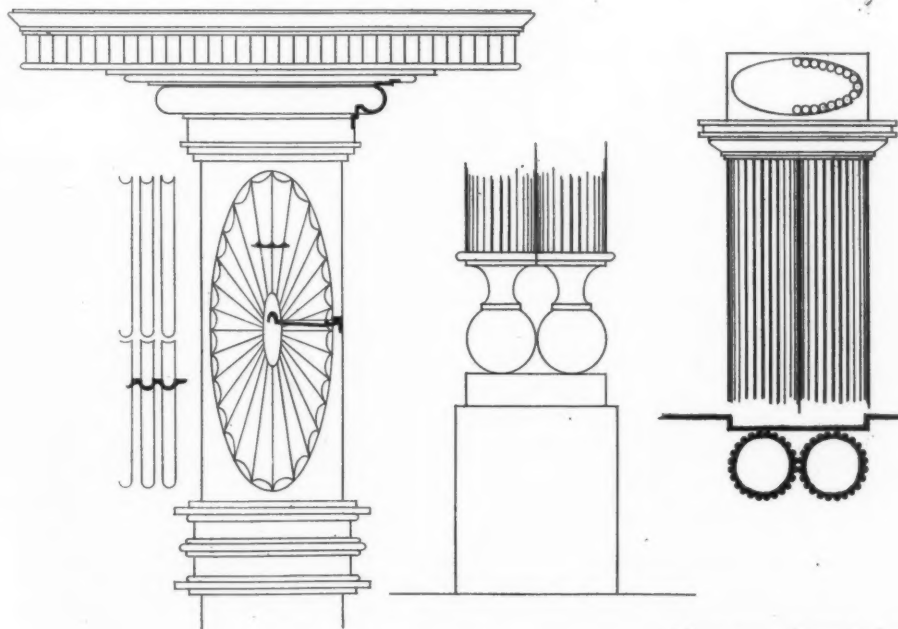
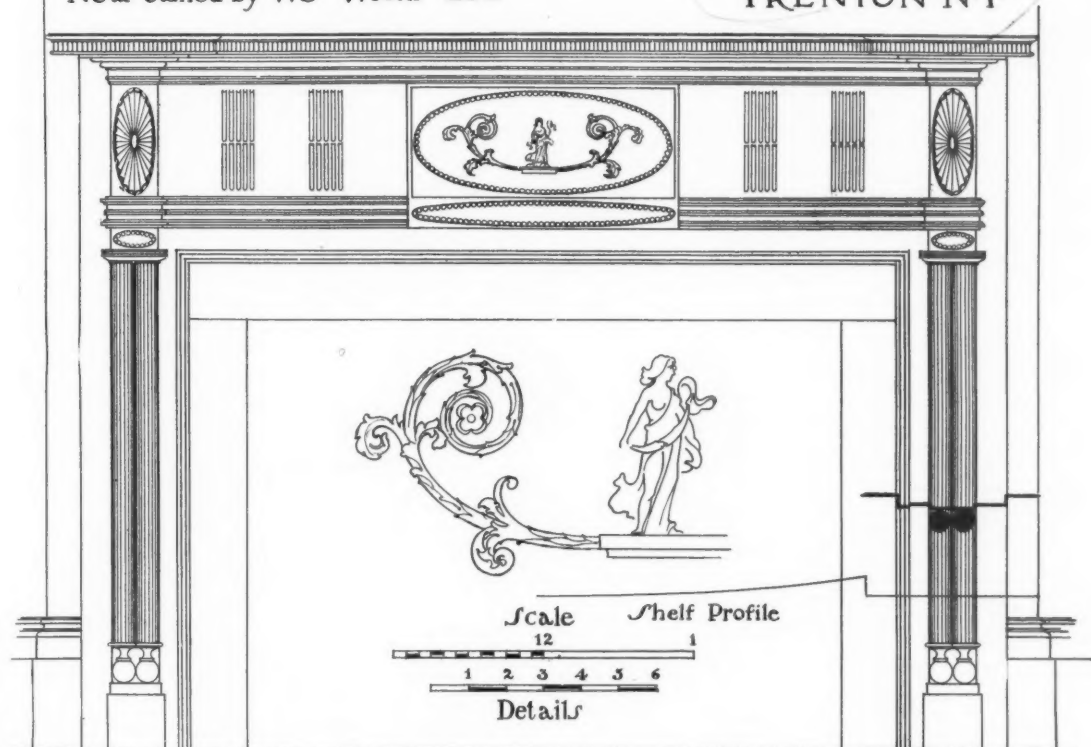


Measured and drawn by F.J. Kidd

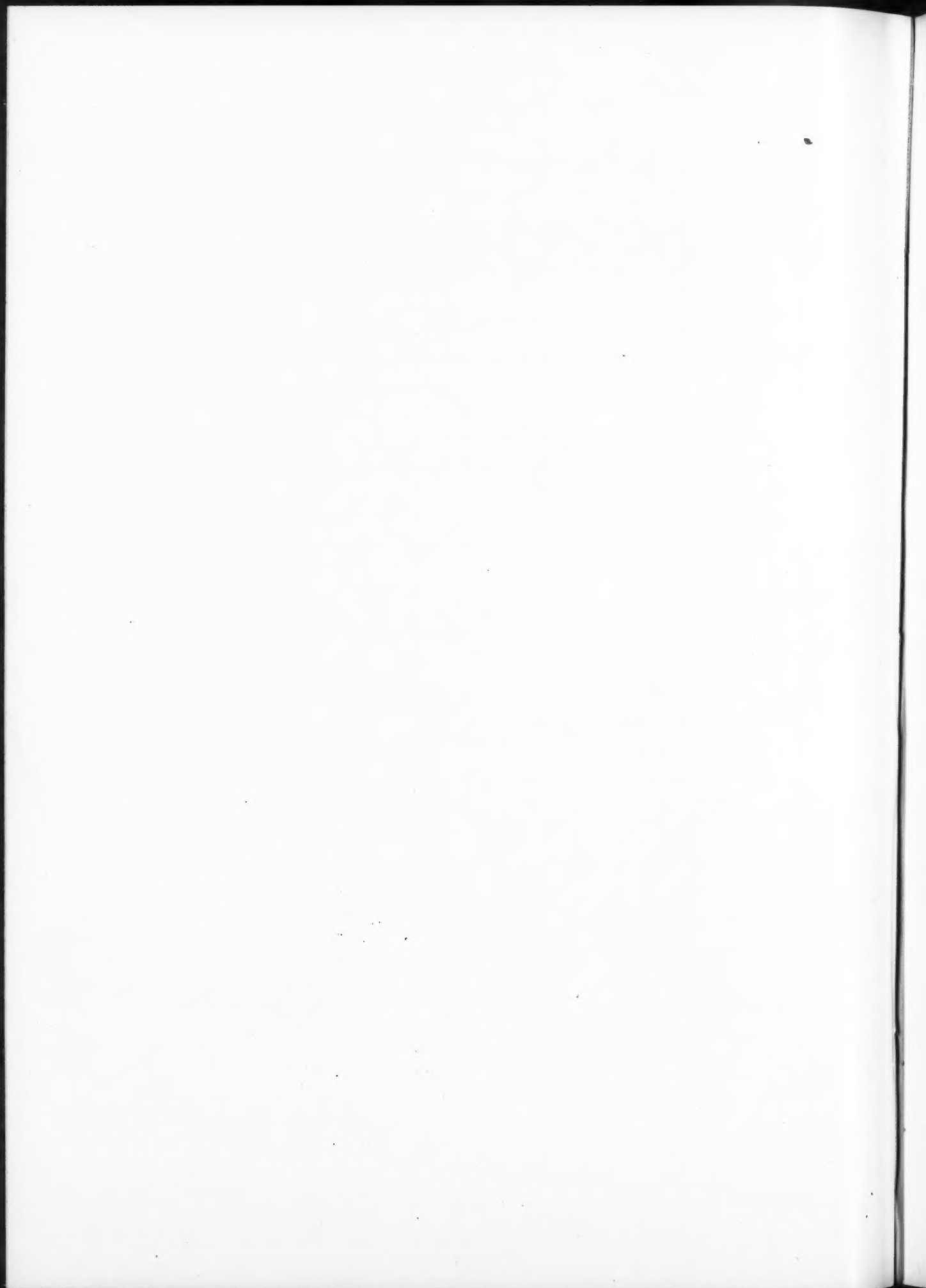
MANTEL IN DINING ROOM-MAPPA HOUSE

Now owned by W.S. Wicks Esq.

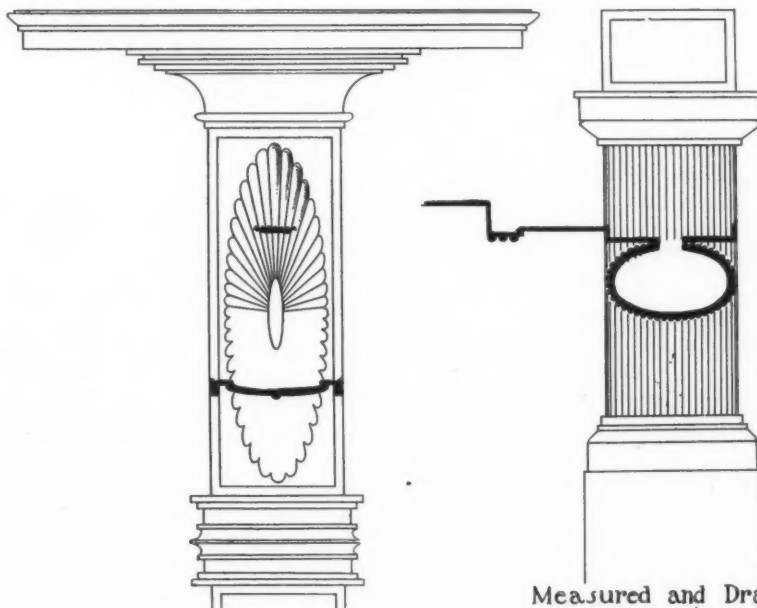
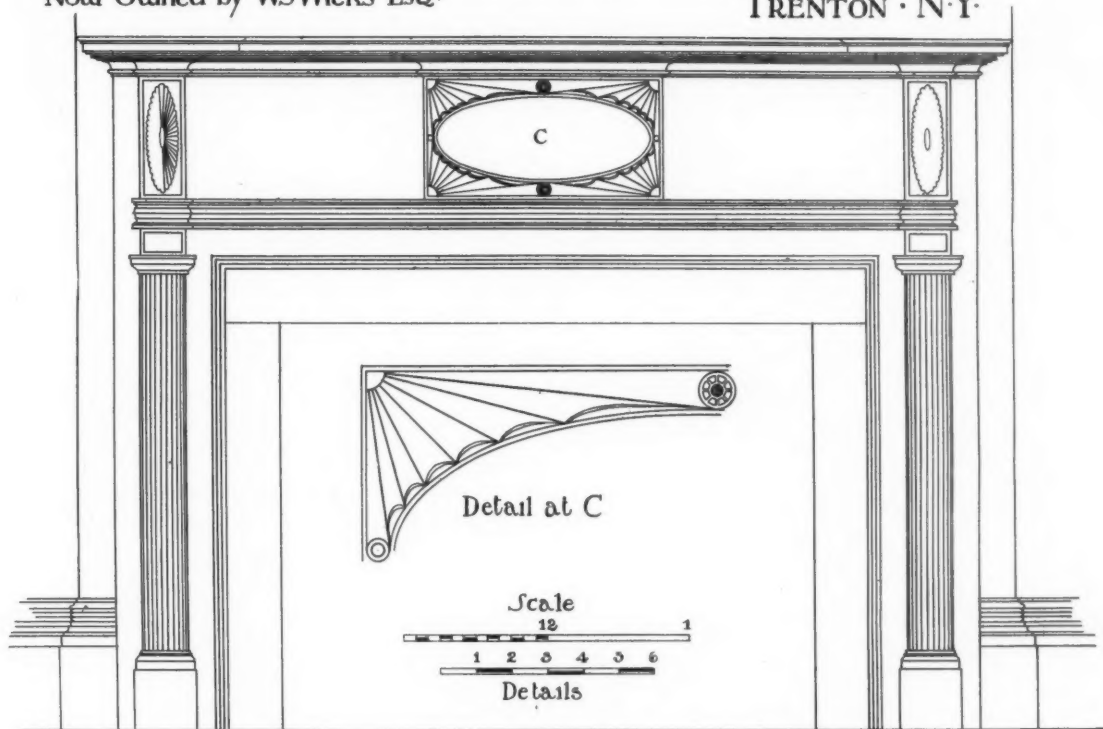
TRENTON N.Y.



Measured and drawn by F.J. Kidd



MANTEL IN S W CHAMBER MAPPA HOUSE Now Owned by W. F. Wicks Esq. TRENTON · N.Y.



Measured and Drawn by F. J. Kidd

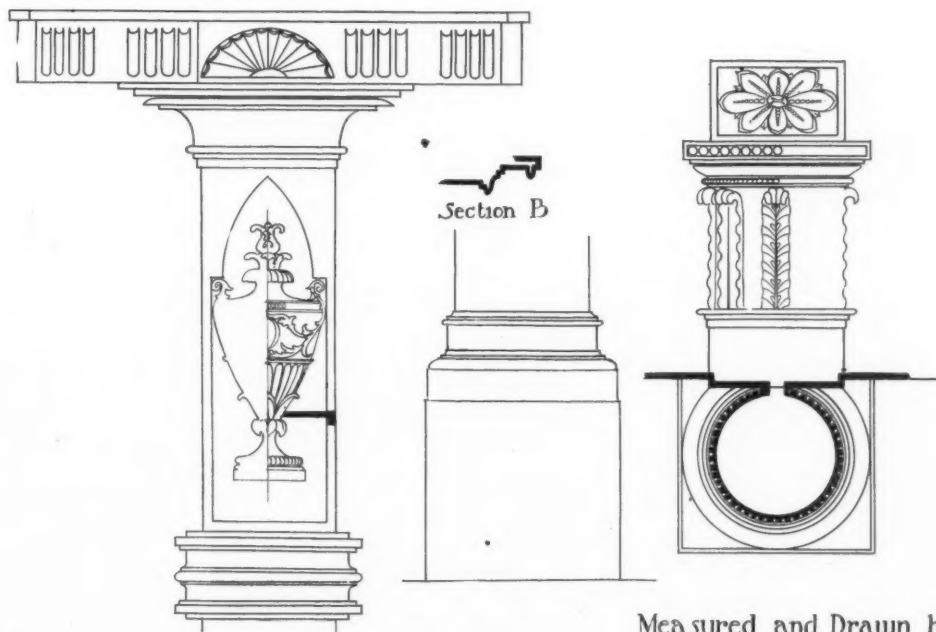
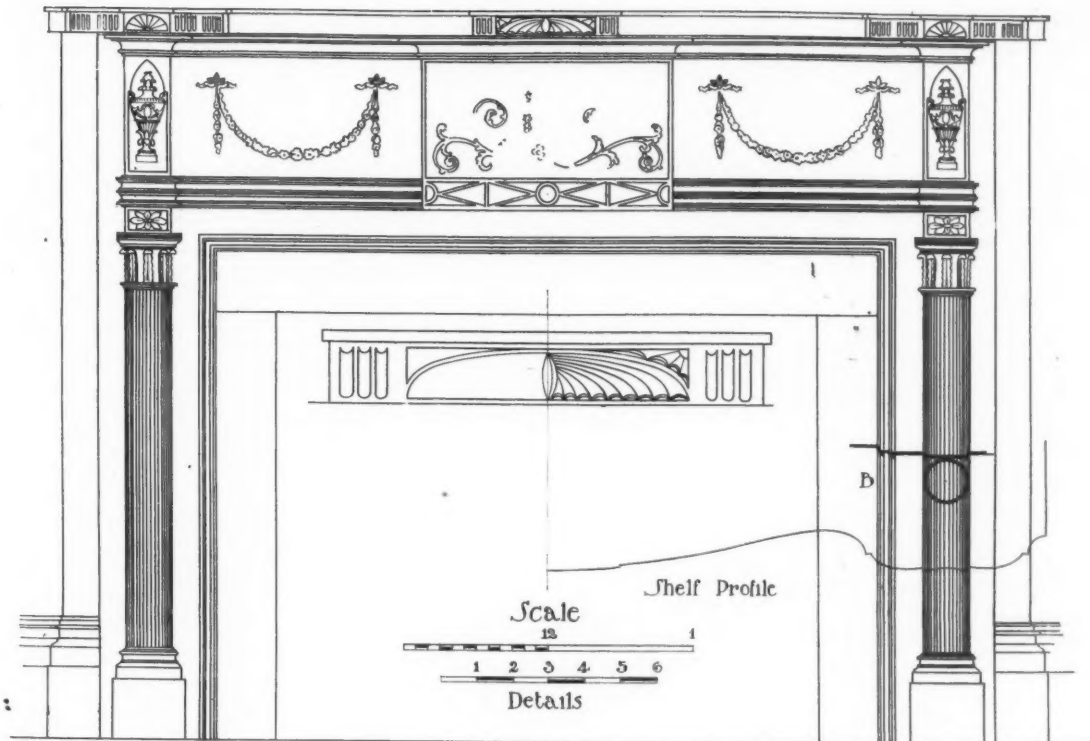
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MANTEL IN N E CHAMBER

Now Owned by W S Wicks Esq.

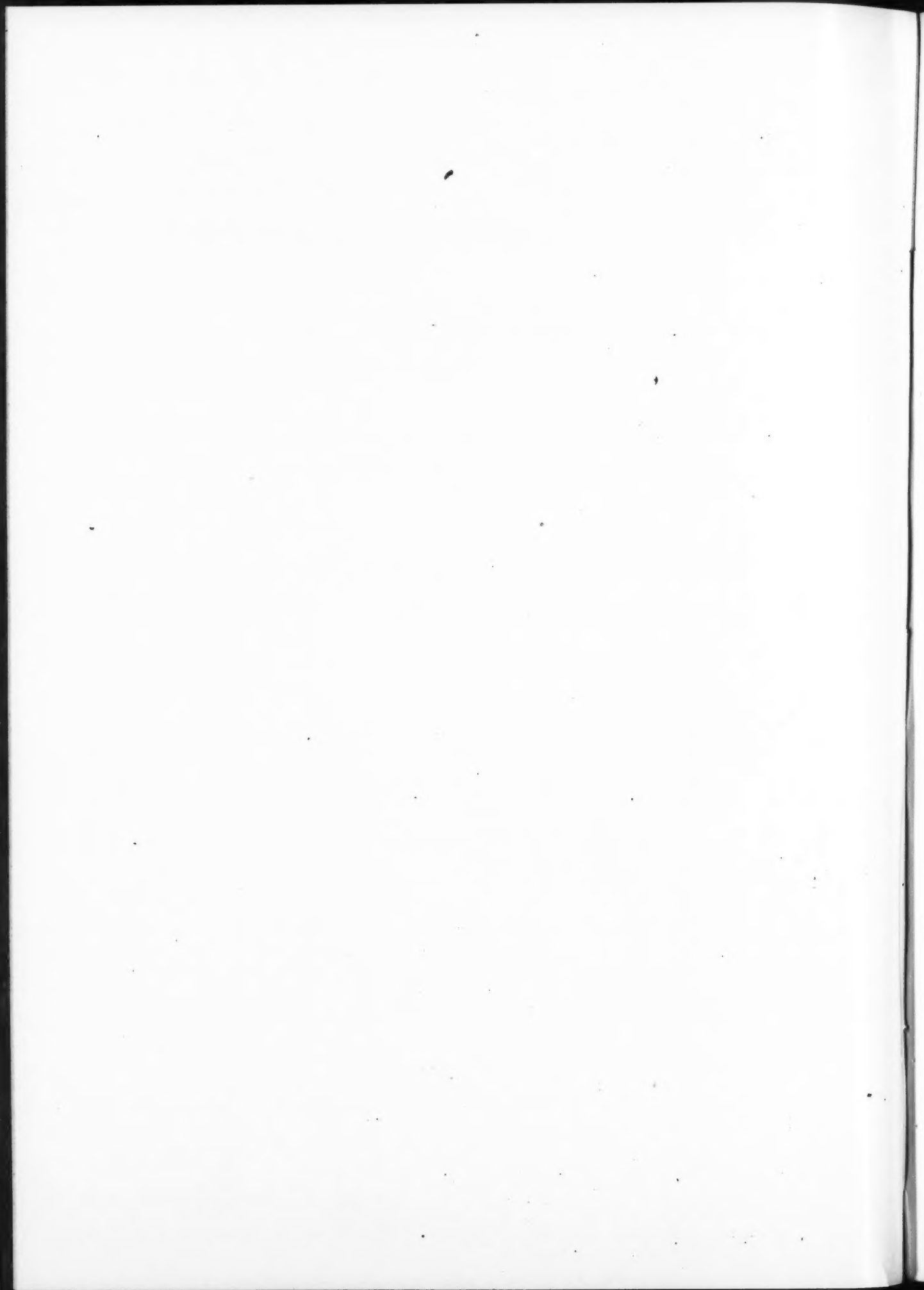
MAPPA HOUSE

TRENTON NY



Measured and Drawn by F J Kidd

(See text for photograph of this mantel)

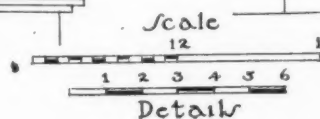
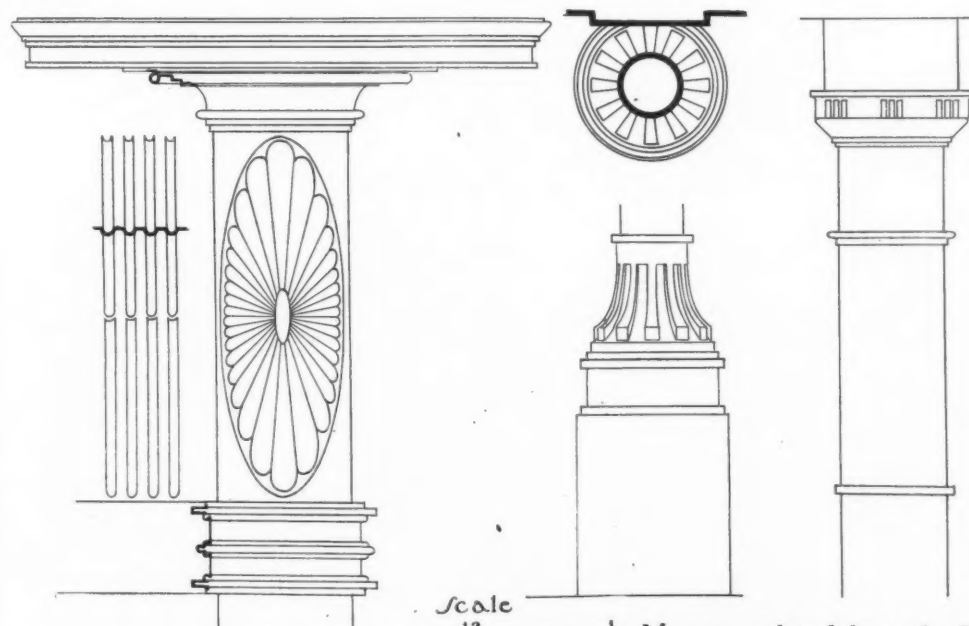
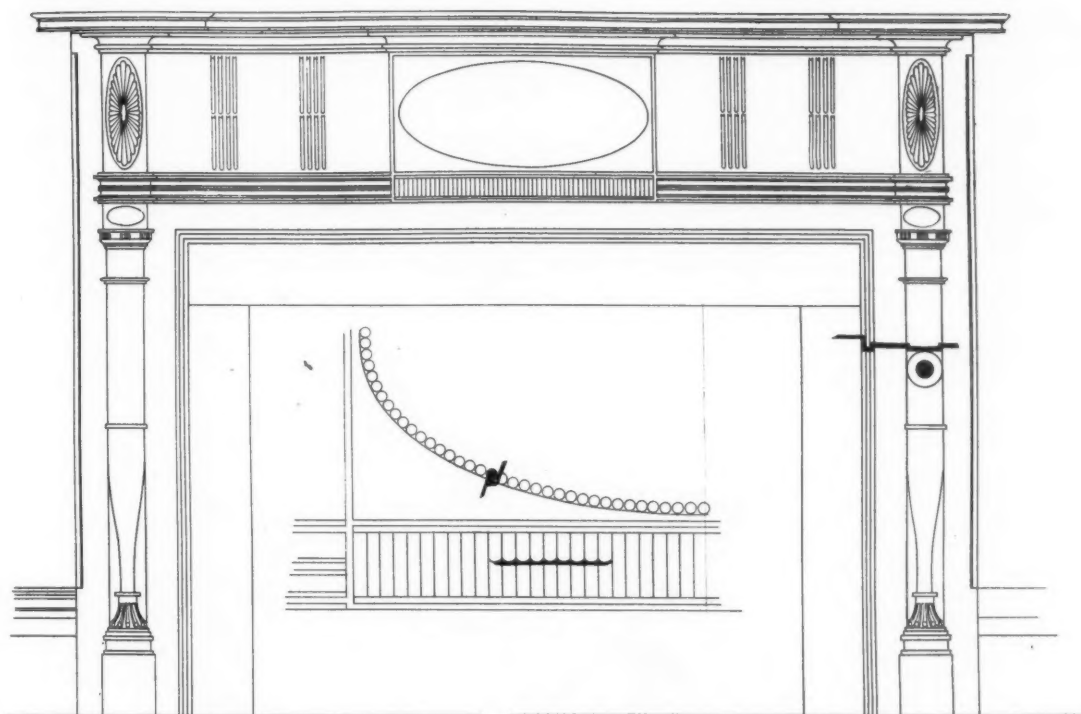


MANTEL IN LIBRARY

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MAPPA HOUSE

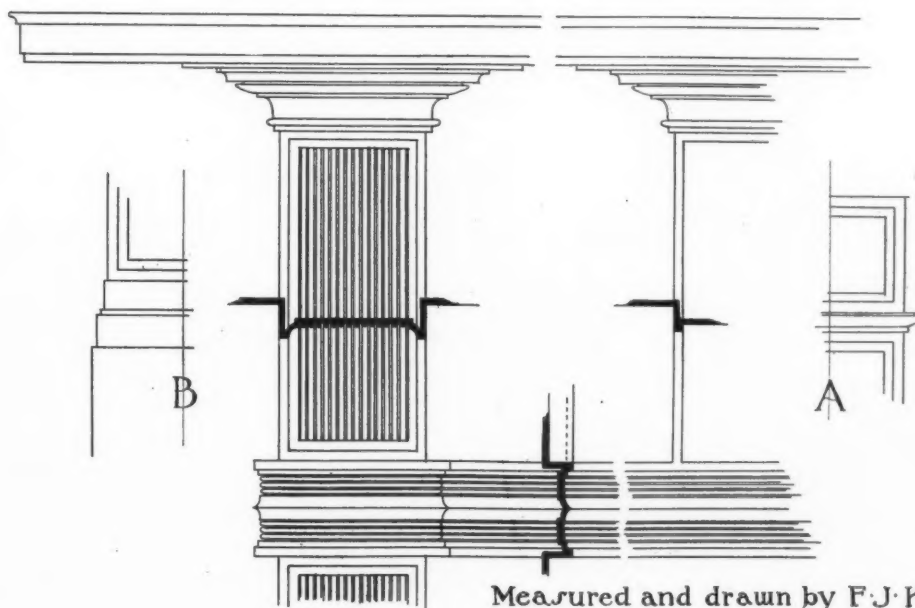
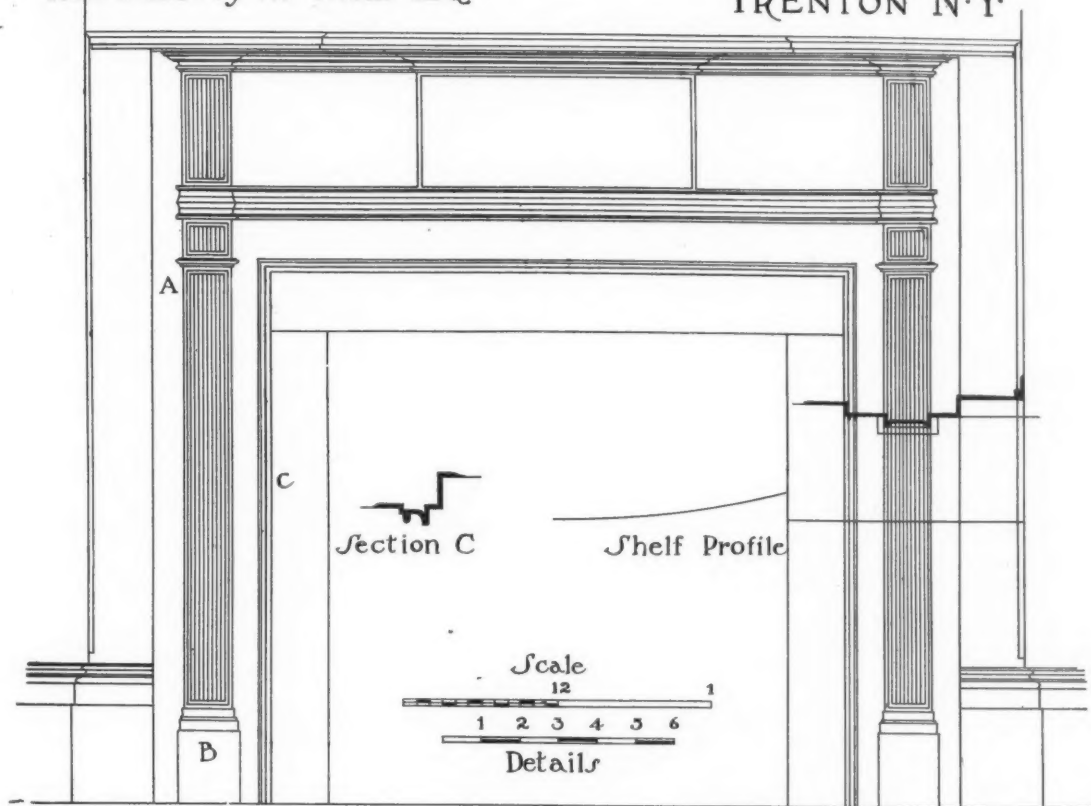
TRENTON N.Y.



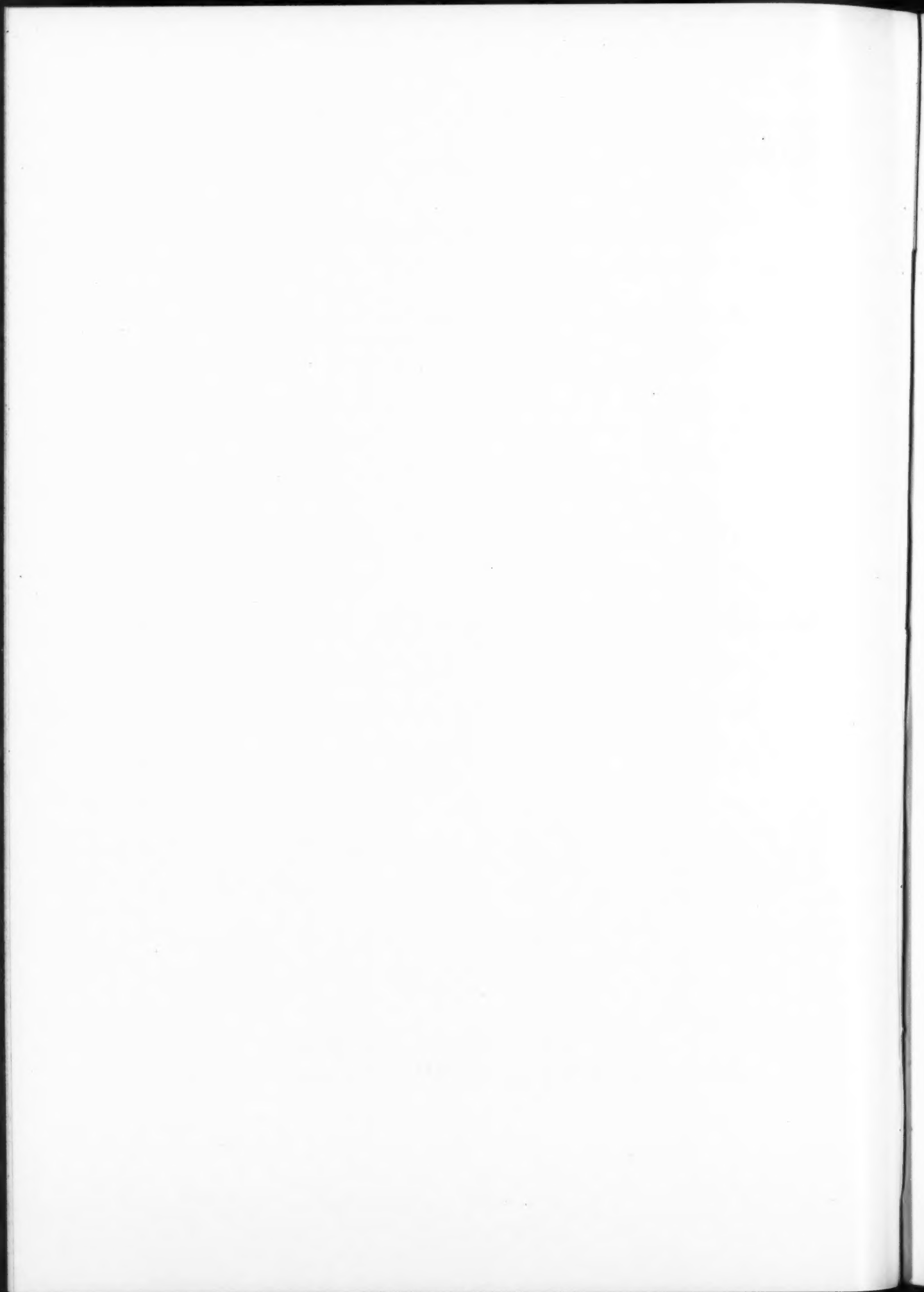
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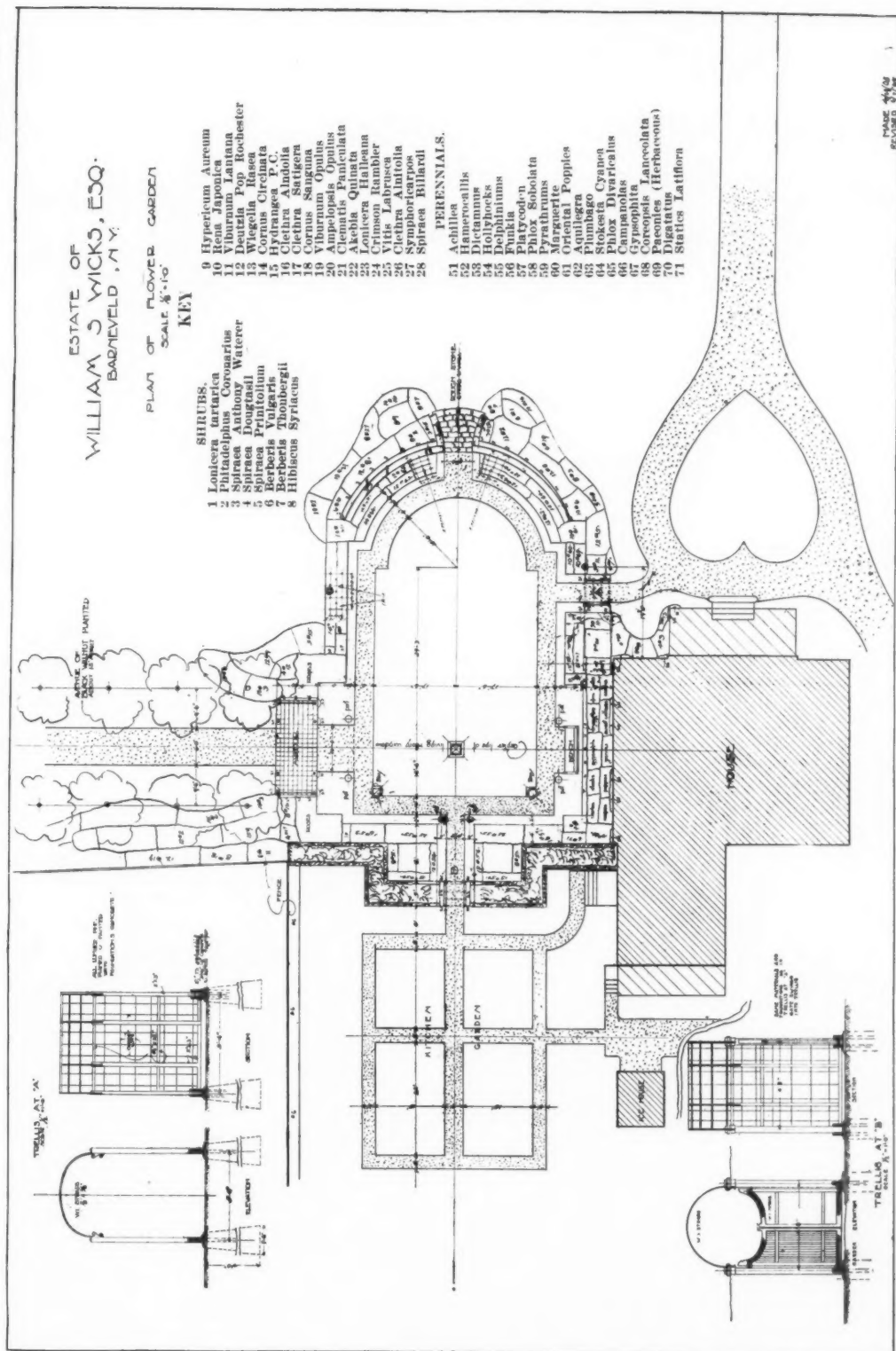
MANTEL IN S. E. CHAMBER - MAPPA HOUSE

Now owned by W. S. Wicks Esq. TRENTON N. Y.



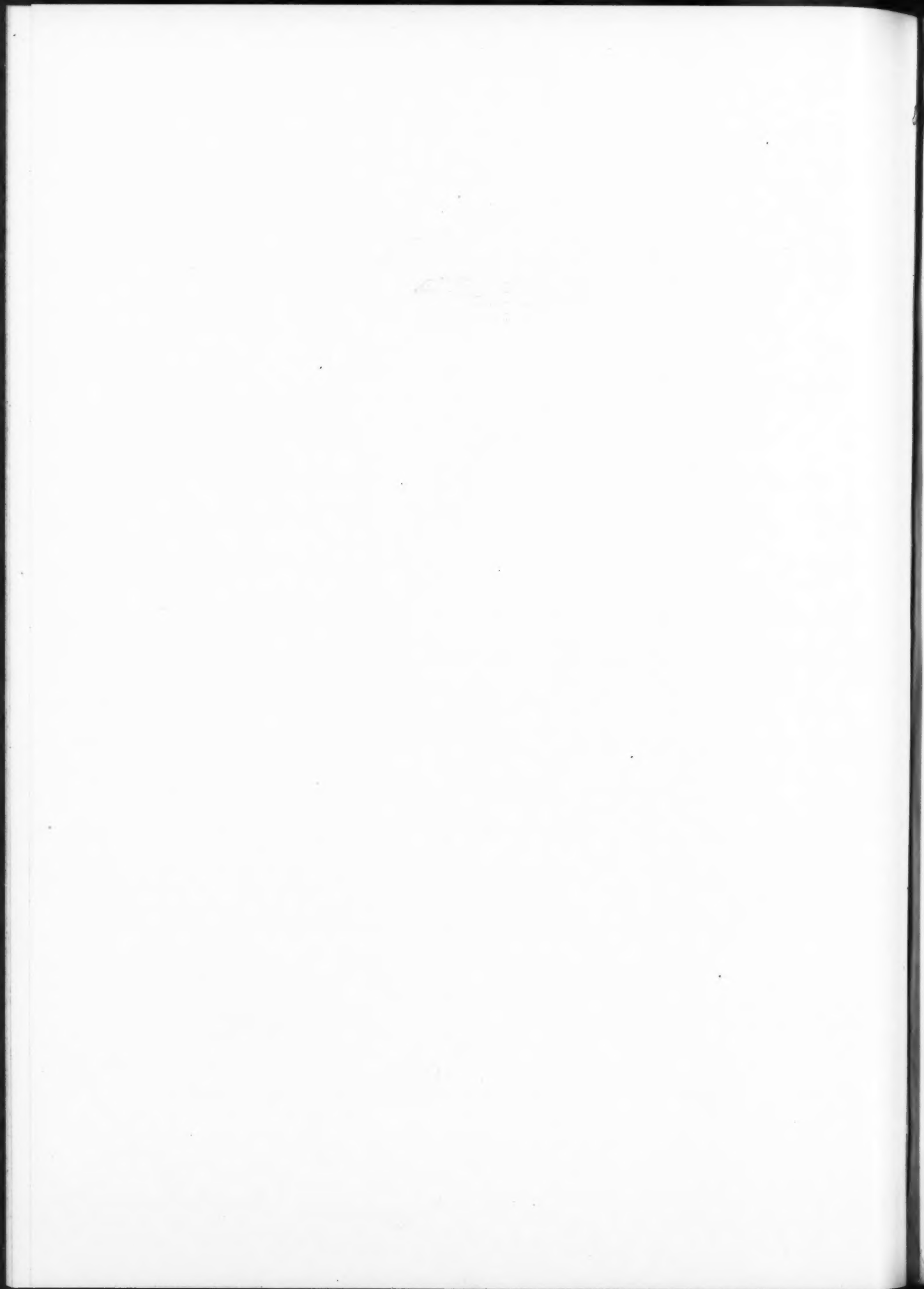
Measured and drawn by F. J. Kidd





PLAN OF FLOWER GARDEN

MADE 4/10/13
REVISED 7/1/13



CURRENT NEWS AND COMMENT

FIFTH AVENUE'S ARCHITECTURE

Chaos is the only word that one can justly apply to the quaint and inconsequent conceits in which we have indulged since that monumental moment in the early nineteenth century when, architecturally, all that had been since the beginning ceased, and that which had never been before on land or sea began. A walk up Fifth avenue from Madison Square to the park, with one's eyes open, is an experience of some surprises, and equal illumination, and it leaves an indelible impression of that primal chaos that is certainly without form, if it is not wholly void. Here one may see in a scant two miles (scant, but now replete with experiences!), treasure-trove of all peoples and all generations; Roman temples and Parisian shops; Gothic of sorts (and out of sorts), from the "Carpenter-Gothic" of 1845, through Victorian of that ilk, to the most modern and competent recasting of ancient forms and restored ideals. Venetian palaces and Louis Seize palaces and Roman palaces and more palaces from wherever palaces were ever built; delicate little Georgian ghosts, shrinking in their unpremeditated contact with Babylonian skyscrapers that poise their towering masses of plausible masonry on an unconvincing substructure of plate glass. And it is all contemporary—the oldest of it dates back not two generations, while it is all wildly and improbably different.—*Yale Review*.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

Sir Thomas Jackson, R.A., has written an important report on the signs of settlement and the work now being done to the fabric of St. Paul's Cathedral. Deep sewers have been made close to the building, much deeper than Wren's foundations, which are only 4 ft. 6 in. below the floor of the crypt, and at least one warehouse has a basement well below the level of those foundations. The sewers and basements were formed in the sand stratum, and from reports made during the formation of the sewer it appears the wet sand flowed in and had to be pumped out, an operation which lasted six months before an alarm was given which prevented the formation of additional sewers. Sir Thomas Jackson thinks it probable that drainage is still going on below the foundations. The sewer was formed with great difficulty owing to the rush of sand and water into the excavations, and even if the sewer is now watertight there would be a draught round it which would do mischief by drawing sand from below the foundations of the Cathedral. To underpin the piers of the dome would, it is said, be impracticable, as the same bed of run-

ning sand would be reached; but Sir Thomas suggested that it might be possible to inject cement round about the deep sewer from which the mischief probably arises. The work of consolidating the piers by injecting cement grout into the cracks by the Greathead machine appears to be satisfactory in its result. The report concludes with the statement that since underpinning appears to be out of the question the best thing to be done is to consolidate the structure so that if it sinks it will settle as a homogeneous structure without rupture. We hope that whatever is necessary to ensure the stability of the structure will be done without hesitation or consideration of cost.—*The Builder*.

TOWN PLANNING AT CALGARY

Mr. Thomas Mawson has been engaged by the City of Calgary, at a fee of £2,000, to produce a town-planning scheme for the city. Although the scheme prepared, as Mr. Mawson said, seems too great a burden to be assumed by the ratepayers, he has a scheme whereby its cost can be spread over a number of years. In one department alone it was pointed out that £2,000,000 could be saved by laying a width of only 3 yds. of macadam on residential streets which are at present so treated for their entire width of 66 ft. It was suggested that the space between the macadam and kerb should be planted with grass, so creating a park-like street. The future business blocks should also be standardized and sharp corners at the intersection of streets abolished and long gentle corners substituted for them. A large and beautiful municipal auditorium and civic centre are features of the new proposals for the city. The plans will be presented to the City Council at an early date for ratification. It would be fortunate if we could have the advantage of planning out many of our own towns on newer and more scientific lines, but we fear in many cases the new buildings which would be erected would compare disadvantageously with many of those existing which would be swept away under reconstruction proposals.—*The Builder*.

OLD ENGLISH MANSION

The old English carpenters used good woods and they did their work well. When they built a house they constructed it to last. This is called to mind now and then when historic buildings in England are examined. One of the latest to be brought to public notice is an old house which has stood for more than 700 years near Hereford, England, and known in English history as Rotherwas mansion.

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

The panelling and other interior woodwork consist of oak, sycamore, acacia and yew. There were twelve rooms finished in that way, and a comparatively large amount of wood was required, since veneers and thin boards were not fashionable when that house was built. Everything was solid and massive.

Collectors of antiques in England are expressing their concern just now because of the announcement that the woodwork is to be stripped from the interior of the mansion and offered for sale at auction. It is believed that some of it, perhaps all of it, will be bought by wealthy Americans, and that English museums will miss a valuable collection of panels, posts, capitals and other ornaments and carvings which bear the stamp of antiquity. The objects will be welcomed in this country, particularly if the purchasers should decide to place them in museums here where modern dealers and workers in wood will have an opportunity to study the workmanship of old craftsmen.—*Washington Star.*

FOR BEAUTIFYING CANAL

PLANS OF FINE ARTS COMMISSION TO GO TO CONGRESS

The report of the fine arts commission which was charged with the preparation of plans for the beautification of the Panama canal has been completed and will be transmitted to Congress through President Wilson. The plans embody landscape effects to make artistic the approaches to the canal, as well as the locks and the country through which the big ditch has been cut. As far as possible the commission proposes to preserve existing beautiful landscapes and to supplement them by the planting of additional trees.

The preliminary report was drafted by Daniel C. French, chairman of the commission, and Frederick Law Olmsted, who went to the Canal Zone as a special committee. Their recommendations were afterward considered by the entire commission and the report will be laid before President Wilson as soon as all of the members have signed it.

W. P. P. LONGFELLOW DEAD

William Pitt Preble Longfellow, nephew of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and an architect by profession, died at Gloucester, Mass., August 4. Mr. Longfellow was born in Portland, Me., in 1836, and was graduated from Harvard University in

1855. In 1869 he was appointed assistant architect of the Treasury Department. During the early days of THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT, Mr. Longfellow was associated in an editorial capacity. He was the author of several important works on architecture and other branches of the Fine-Arts. His connection with art institutions in Boston brought him into prominence in those circles. His labors in the advancement of his chosen profession will be gratefully remembered.

BOOK NOTE

GARDEN CRAFT IN EUROPE, by H. Inigo Triggs.

Full cloth, 332 pages, size 7½ x 10½ inches.

Price \$15.00. Published in London by B. T. Batsford. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

This attractive volume by the author of "Formal Gardens in England and Scotland" and "The Art of Garden Design in Italy," traces the historical development of garden craft from its inception in Egypt, Persia and Assyria, through the charming conceits of the French *jardinier* and closes with a chapter on the English landscape school and its influence on gardening on the Continent.

Throughout Europe remains of the old gardens are very fragmentary and therefore for these examples the author has preferred to take his illustrations as far as possible from contemporary engravings. In addition to these often bizarre, but always interesting cuts, the subject is profusely illustrated by the author's pen sketches and by photographs which recall the delightful, cool vistas of the Boboli Gardens and of Versailles with their accents of vase and fountain.

The text is frankly historical, rather than critical, and is therefore as interesting to the general reader as the illustrations are suggestive to the architect and landscape gardener. It is the work of a scholar who spared no pains in searching Egyptian Hieroglyphics, classical Latin, Mediaeval paintings and breviaries for any suggestion as to the ancient gardens which are now unintelligible ruins. After a discussion of ancient and mediaeval craft, there follows an account of gardens in Italy, France, the Netherlands, England, Germany, Austria and Spain. All the schools of design are represented, from the strictly formal work of Le Nôtre at Versailles to that of Kent, who was so ardent an admirer of Nature that in Kensington Gardens he planted dead trees "to give the greater air of truth to the scene."

INDUSTRIAL INFORMATION

In this section will be found information concerning late catalogues issued by manufacturers of building materials, fixtures or equipment. Also under this head will be printed, from time to time, certain data relative to new devices or methods of construction considered to be of interest to architects. Architects are invited to make use of THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT'S Catalogue Files and Information Department whenever they can do so to advantage. Any assistance we can render or information we can furnish in this connection will be freely given.

RUBBER FLOOR TILING

In a pamphlet issued by W. H. Salisbury & Co., Inc., Chicago, Ill., attention is directed to a form of flexible rubber tiling of which they are manufacturers.

These tile are said to possess all the usual features of rubber tiling, and in addition are claimed to be unfading and may be laid with unusual accuracy and expedition.

A form of elevator tile is illustrated. This tile is studded, the brass studs being molded into the rubber. This form of tile, the makers state, is particularly adapted to elevator floors and other locations subjected to hard wear.

Full particulars will be furnished on application.

IRON VAULTS AND VESTIBULES

A pamphlet specially prepared for the information of architects by Herring-Hall-Marvin Safe Company, Hamilton, Ohio, illustrates and describes vestibules and equipment for fireproof vaults made by this company. The styles shown are not, it is stated, arbitrary as to dimensions, but may be changed to meet special requirements.

SANITARY POTTERY

The July issue of Sanitary Pottery, the "house organ" of the Trenton Potteries Company, of Trenton, N. J., has an interesting article on sanitary cup making and describes an industry that is of but recent origin. The laws passed by various states prohibiting the common drinking cup in public places has served to stimulate ingenuity in providing an individual cup, at a minimum of cost. The means to this end are fully described and will be found to be entertaining reading.

SYSTEMS OF ILLUMINATION

The combination of Frink reflectors with the J-M. linolite system of illumination, as productive of satisfactory results in the proper lighting of switchboards and places where efficient lighting is absolutely necessary, is shown in a leaflet recently issued by the H. W. Johns-Manville Company, Madison avenue and Forty-first street, New York.

The J-M. linolite system presents a continuous line of light of the desired length, back of which are placed Frink reflectors. This method of illumination, it is claimed, secures absolute diffusion, a

steady intensity and facilitates every operation where correct lighting is required.

The H. W. Johns-Manville Company desire to place at the disposal of architects and others that have lighting problems to solve, the services of a trained corps of men who are said to be experts in illumination.

NATIONAL TUBE COMPANY ENTER THE ELECTRICAL CONDUIT FIELD

The National Tube Company, Pittsburgh, Pa., announce that they have contracted with the National Metal Moulding Company and the Safety-Armorite Conduit Company, both of Pittsburgh, to manufacture and sell electrical conduit, as their agents, under the various branches. For further particulars address National Tube Company, Pittsburgh, Pa.

"VACOGAS"

"Vacogas," as generated in the machines made by Alcohol Heating & Lighting Company, Chicago, Ill., is the result of the vaporization of gasoline by means of a vacuum process.

In a pamphlet recently issued by this company for free distribution the various applications of this gas to lighting, heating and cooking are described and the appliances illustrated.

The makers state that this gas is non-explosive, non-poisonous, non-asphyxiating and odorless.

STANDARD VARNISH WORKS WILL OPEN BRANCH ON PACIFIC COAST

The Standard Varnish Works, Chicago, Ill., announce that they will open a branch of their business at 113 Front street, San Francisco, Cal., and that Mr. F. T. McHenry, for a number of years the Pacific Coast representative of the company, will be in charge.

HEATING

Architects engaged in heating problems will find many suggestions of value in the issue of the "Ideal Heating Journal," published by the American Radiator Company, whose offices are in all principal cities.

The July issue contains articles on the "Testing Capacity of Water Boilers," "The Heating Power of Brass and Iron Pipe in Water Tanks" and a timely discussion on "Smokeless Heating."

BUILDING NEWS

To be of value this matter must be printed in the number immediately following its receipt, which makes it impossible for us to verify it all. Our sources of information are believed to be reliable, but we cannot guarantee the correctness of all items. Parties in charge of proposed work are requested to send us information concerning it as early as possible; also corrections of any errors discovered

ALABAMA

ANNISTON.—Inspector W. H. Oates has recommended to the Mayor and City Council the erection of a new jail, to replace the present city prison.

FLORALA.—Proposals for the construction of a high school building will be opened on Aug. 19. Plans have been prepared by William Drago, architect, 512 Audubon Building, New Orleans, La.

ARIZONA

PHOENIX.—Members of the Blue Lodge of Masons are planning for the erection of a four-story mercantile building and Masonic Temple to be erected on the corner of Third Ave. and Washington St. at a cost of \$100,000. The building will be of reinforced concrete.

ARKANSAS

TEXARKANA.—It is reported that the Kansas City Southern R. R. will build a new depot on its property on West Broad street. The proposed structure will involve an expenditure of \$200,000.

CALIFORNIA

ALAMEDA.—Plans of Mayor Frank Otis for a municipal swimming bath on a large scale are being pushed. In conjunction with City Engineer Frank H. Bartlett, the mayor has succeeded in getting the approximate cost of the structure, and the figure is set at \$40,000.

FRESNO.—An apartment house, to cost \$80,000, is to be erected for J. D. Stratham, on the corner of Mariposa and M St. Plans have been prepared by Architect Eugene Matthewson, Forsythe Bldg., Fresno.

GLENDALE.—Citizens have voted in favor of issuing \$100,000 bonds to be used for the erection of schools.

LOS ANGELES.—A five-story and basement reinforced concrete structure has been planned by Morgan, Walls & Morgan, architects, for Mrs. Magdalena W. de Sabichi on a lot at 753-761 South Los Angeles street.

Dr. Carl Kurtz will soon commence the construction of a five-story building on Los Angeles street, between Eighth and Ninth streets.

Plans have been completed in the office of Albert C. Martin, for a three-story and basement class C brick hotel building to be erected on the east side of Crocker street between Sixth and Seventh, for J. Domozzi.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Bids are being taken in the offices of Willis Polk & Co., architects, for all work on the Bush St. wing of the Mills Bldg. The new building will be 12 stories above the ground level and have a basement corresponding to that of the present structure. It will be of the class A type.

A large force of draftsmen is working on the drawings for the new 20-story and basement Hobart office building, to be erected upon the lot on the north side of Market St. adjoining the Nevada Bank Bldg and extending through the block to Sutter St. These drawings will be completed within two months, when estimates will be received.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Plans have been prepared by Charles J. Rousseau, architect, Phelan Block, San Francisco, for a seven-story and basement steel and brick hotel building to be erected on Turk St. at a cost of \$90,000.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Architects Rousseau and Rousseau are

taking estimates on a three-story and basement apartment building to be erected on the north side of Page St. The exterior will be cement plastered.

SANTA MONICA.—Four lots on the beach near Utah St. have been purchased by the Municipal Pier and Hotel Co., represented by George Plankette, as a site for a hotel and reinforced concrete pier to cost \$350,000.

SUISUN (Solano Co.)—Bonds in the amount of \$70,000 have been sold by the Armijo School District, with which it is intended to erect a new school building.

WHITTIER.—Plans have been drawn up for a large packing house for the La Habra Citrus Association to cost \$16,000. The building will be located on land owned by the association near the site of the old one. Mr. Frank Prond is manager of the company.

COLORADO

LAMAR.—The plans and specifications for the new condenser of the Helvetia Milk Company are now completed. Mr. L. Wirt Markham is interested in the project.

CONNECTICUT

WATERBURY.—Plans are being figured for an office building to be erected on Porter St. for the Waterbury Foundry Co. It will be 1-story high and of brick construction. Griggs & Hunt are the architects.

It is expected that the final plans and specifications for the new church to be erected at the corner of Grove St. and Central Ave. by the First Baptist Church Society will be completed in a short time. Preliminary sketches have been approved by the building committee, of which Loren R. Carter is chairman. George W. Kramey of 1 Madison Ave., New York, is the architect.

DELAWARE

NEWARK.—The property, owned by Charles Wollaston, on which the affiliated college for women is to be located, has been deeded to the State by the Affiliated College Commission. The commission will meet soon to receive competitive plans from architects.

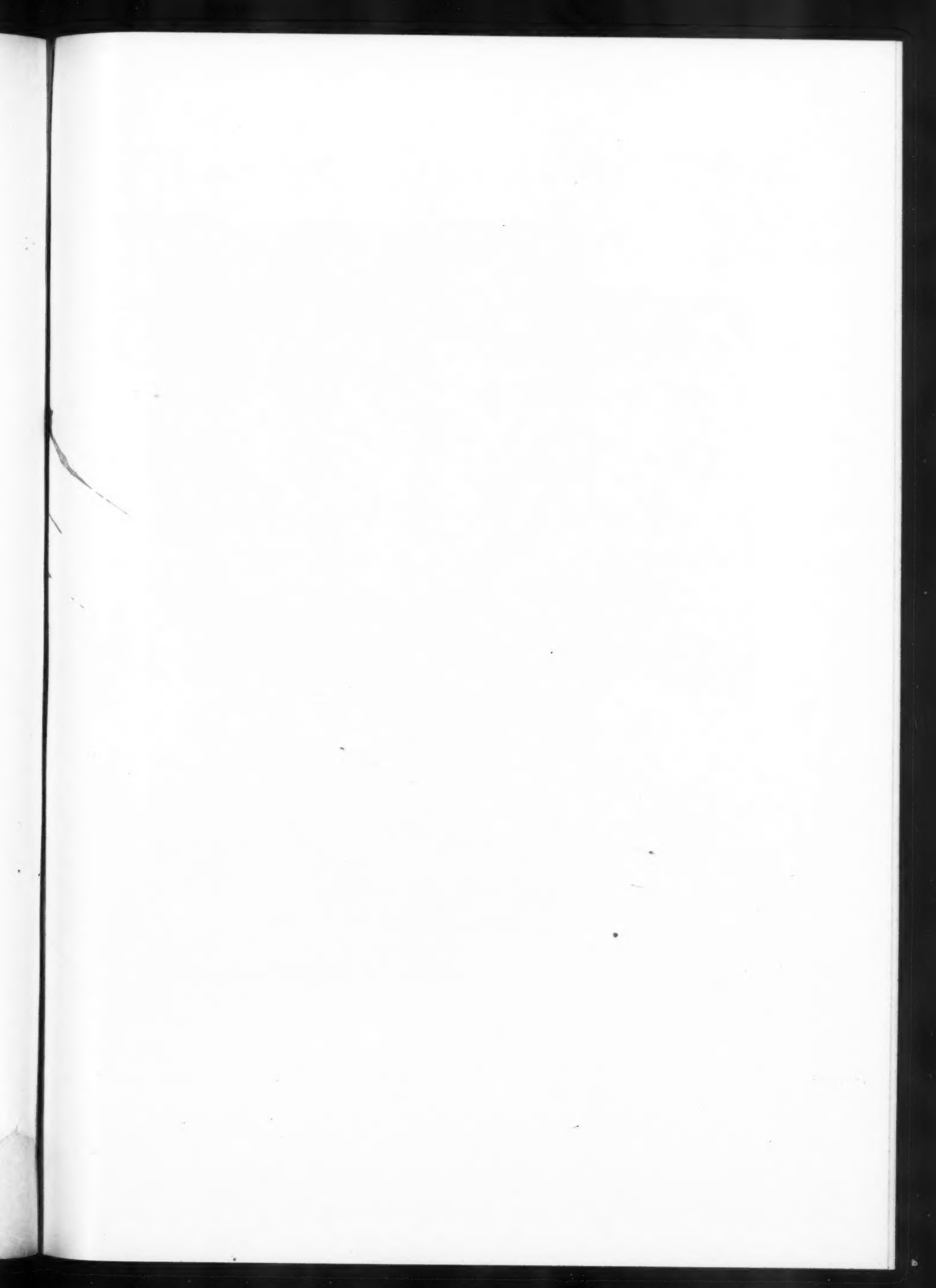
WILMINGTON.—Architects Brown & Whiteside, Dupont Bldg., have prepared plans for the proposed bee line building to be erected on Sixteenth St. Estimated cost, \$125,000.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

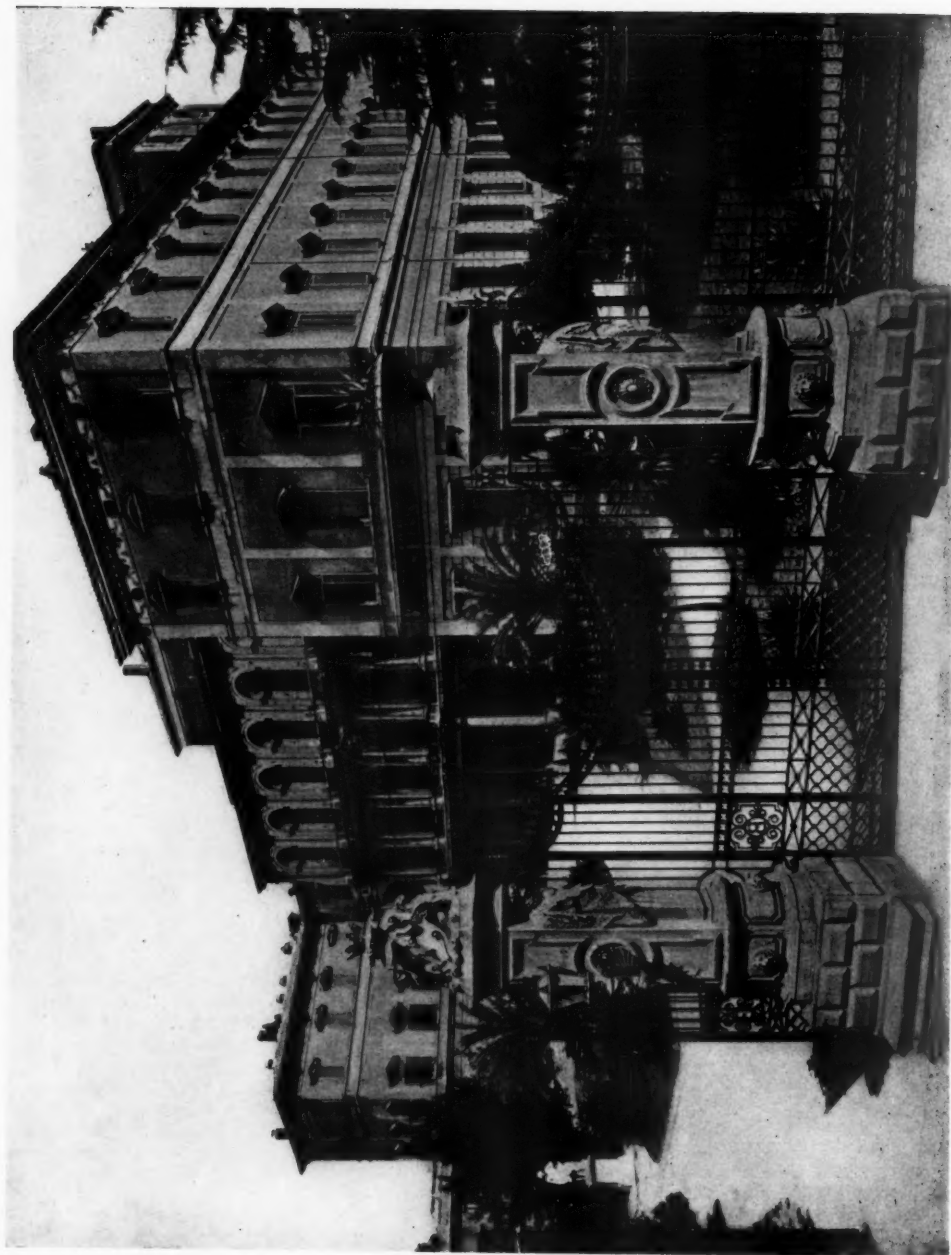
WASHINGTON.—A new armory, to cost \$1,750,000, is outlined in the bill introduced in the House of Representatives by Representative Dyer of Missouri. The bill authorizes the construction of an armory for the National Guard upon the site bounded by B St. NW., B St. SW., Twelfth St. and Fourteenth St., in accordance with the plans of the commission appointed under an act of May 30, 1908.

GEORGIA

ATLANTA.—The sub-committee of the Appropriations Committee has decided to ask the General Assembly for an appropriation of \$30,000 with which to establish the Georgia Industrial Home for Girls. Of this sum \$20,000 is designated as the amount to expend on a building for the institution.



THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT



PALAZZO BARBERINI, ROME