

8054-31-16

Architects Proposals & Recommendations

Wyatt & Holtz, Palmer & Lundin

December 28, 1931

Handy Receipt
Hall of -
Wyatt & Nolting

Mr. R. Howard Bland,
U. S. F. and C. Company,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Howard:-

I received your favor of December 23rd, about Messrs. Wyatt and Nolting. Of course, I know this firm's high standing. Their name is one of six which have been recommended to the Board of Public Works as having the special experience needed for the construction of the Hall of Records, and all six of these are being given the most careful consideration.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Governor.

R-L



UNITED STATES FIDELITY AND GUARANTY COMPANY
OF BALTIMORE

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE

P E R S O N A L

December 23, 1931.

Honorable Albert C. Ritchie,
Governor of Maryland,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Governor:

With your permission I would like to recommend Mr. William G. Nolting of Wyatt & Nolting as an architect for the new Hall of Records to be built in Annapolis. I consider Mr. Nolting one of the outstanding architects and believe the State will make no mistake in appointing him for this work.

With personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

W. Howard Hand

EDWARD L. PALMER, JR., A. I. A.
WILLIAM D. LAMDIN, A. I. A.
J. SWING WILLIS, A. I. A.
MILLARD E. DONALDSON

PALMER AND LAMDIN
ARCHITECTS
518 N. CHARLES STREET BALTIMORE

December 8, 1931

Honorable William S. Gordy, Jr.
State Comptroller
Union Trust Building, Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:

We have, under date of December 2nd, a letter from his Excellency, Governor Ritchie, in reply to our communication of November 30th, a copy of which letter we enclose.

The Governor has asked us to send you a statement of the work which our firm has done with particular reference to Colonial architecture.

The writer has practiced architecture in Maryland since 1907, having received his education in the local schools and in Johns Hopkins University and the University of Pennsylvania, having graduated in architecture in 1903. He spent four years in travel and in work of other kinds; returned to Baltimore in 1907, since which time he has been in continuous practice of his profession.

Mr. Lamdin, the junior member of the firm, is a native of Baltimore, received his education in the local schools and his professional training at Cornell University, and graduated from the above school in 1913, after which we returned to Baltimore and has since been continuously in the practice of architecture since that time.

The firm has executed a total of something over twenty million dollars worth of work of all sorts. Included in this work there are a hundred or more residences of various sizes, many of which were executed in the Colonial style.

The writer for ten years was the resident architect for the Roland Park Company, and in this connection made a detailed and extensive research on this type in connection with developing the projects sponsored by the Roland Park Company, namely, Roland Park, Guilford and Homeland.

For the past twelve years the writer has also been Secretary of the committee of the Trustees of the Johns Hopkins University entrusted with the guidance of the development of the buildings at Homewood. In connection with this group of buildings this committee has made extensive studies of Colonial and Georgian architecture. The buildings at Homewood have been designed by various architects under the direction of this committee. The writer was awarded the contract to design two of the buildings of the group, namely, the Memorial Dormitory and Levering Hall, which are again referred to below in a list of projects which we have done.

The following projects have either been designed under the name of Edward L. Palmer, Jr., Architect, or under the name of Palmer and Lamdin, after the existing firm was formed:

Colonial Residences:

Residence of Mr. Albert G. Towers	-	212 Wendover Road, Guilford
Residence of Mr. Harry A. Busick	-	Greenway near St. Martin's Rd. Guilford
Residence of Mr. James Carey, Jr.	-	Greenway and St. Martin's Road Guilford
Residence of Mr. John Schoenwolf	-	39th St. and Greenway, Guilford
Residence of Mr. Henry Williams	-	39th St. and Stony Run Lane
Residence of Mr. Clarence K. Bowie	-	106 Charlcote Rd. Guilford
Residence of Mr. Henry J. Fisher	-	located in the Worthington Valley
Residence of Mr. Daniel Willard	-	Goodwood Gardens, Roland Park
Residence of Mr. John C. Hegg (originally constructed for Mr. Theodore K. Miller)	-	39th St & University Pky.
Residence of Mr. J. Rulon Miller, Jr	-	Mountain Road near Gibson Island.

Other Larger Buildings:

The Memorial Dormitory for Johns Hopkins University
 Levering Hall, Johns Hopkins University
 Meeting House for Society of Friends - Charles Street north
 of 31st Street
 Church, Parish House and Manse,
 Second Presbyterian Church - located in Guilford between St.
 Paul, Charlcote Rd. and Stratford Rd.

We have from time to time been entrusted with extensive building programs which have not been executed in Colonial style, and therefore have not listed them, as we understand that you are only interested in buildings of this type.

We should be very glad to show you any of the above buildings if you will signify what time it would be convenient for you to do so; and if you would like to have them, we can furnish you photographs of some of them. On some others, however, we do not happen to have any in our files and it would be necessary for us to have them taken. We would appreciate it very much if you will let us know whether you feel photographs would be useful to you or not.

Very truly yours

PALMER AND LAMDIN

By *Ernest Lamdin*

ELP:MN

P.S. we have been advised that it is desirable that photographs be submitted. We are forwarding the same under separate covers
Ernest

C O P Y

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Annapolis, Maryland

December 2, 1931

Messrs. Palmer and Lamdin
513 N. Charles Street,
Baltimore, Maryland

Gentlemen:

I beg to acknowledge your favor of November 30th. The State Comptroller, Mr. William S. Gordy, Jr., who is a member of the Board of Public Works, has kindly agreed to give preliminary consideration to the architects who are applying for the Memorial Hall of Records. I do not think it will be necessary for the Board of Public Works to have these architects appear before them as you suggest, but I will appreciate it if you will send Mr. Gordy a statement of the work which your firm has done with particular reference to colonial architecture.

Very truly yours

(signed) Albert C Ritchie
Governor

R-S

C O P Y

November 30, 1931

To

The Honorable Albert C. Ritchie
Governor of Maryland
The Executive Mansion
Annapolis, Maryland

Your Excellency:

We note from a memorandum received from the Baltimore Chapter, A.I.A., that the name of our firm has been included in a list of six architects recommended to you in connection with Memorial Hall of Records.

We would appreciate it very much if we could appear before you or your Board of Public Works and have an opportunity to present more concrete evidence of our qualifications to perform such services.

We have never had the honor of an assignment of work for the State, though we are both natives of Maryland and have spent our entire business life in the State.

If you should feel that it would be useful for us to appear before your board, we shall be happy to do so at any time you may designate.

Very respectfully

PALMER AND LAMDIN

By /S/ Edward L Palmer Jr

ELP:MN

November 10, 1931.

Scarff
Wyatt + Nolting

(Recommended by
Hamilton Jones)

Mr. John H. Scarff,
Keyser Building,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Scarff:-

I appreciate your favor of November 3rd,
and thank you for sending me list of your work
along Colonial lines.

With kind regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

Governor.

R-L

WM. G. NOLTING
JOHN H. SCARFF

WYATT & NOLTING
ARCHITECTS
BALTIMORE

KEYSER BUILDING
PHONE PLAZA 2287

Baltimore, November 3rd., 1931.

The Honorable Albert C. Ritchie,
Executive Department,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Scarf

My dear Governor:-

I thank you for your letter of the second instant regarding the selection of architect for the proposed Hall of Records in Annapolis. It is a project that particularly interests me, both by reason of my training and my natural inclination and I should be gratified to be able to continue the architectural traditions of Annapolis.

As you request, I list the work of a similar nature with which I have been associated.

RESTORATION.

The Digges House, Yorktown, Virginia
Eltonhead Room, from Calvert County, Md., now in the Baltimore Art Museum.
The Peale Museum, Baltimore
The Chapel, Hannah More Academy, Reisterstown, Md.
The Montgomery Street Doorway, Baltimore Art Museum.
The Harper Dairy, Baltimore Art Museum.

NEW WORK.

Residence E. Bartlett Hayward Esq., Winchester, Severn River, Md.
Residence H. Findlay French, 4300 North Charles Street, Baltimore
Residence Hamilton Owens Esq., Riderwood, Md.
Residence John W. Owens Esq., Homeland, Baltimore.

I have made a study of the colonial architecture along the Atlantic Seaboard in the United States and of contemporary work in England, and have written a short history of Architecture in Baltimore which was published in Art and Archeology, June, 1925.

In the reconstruction of Digges House and the Peale Museum an especial effort was made, in spite of the extensive rebuilding necessary, to recapture the essential spirit of the old work. (You will find enclosed excerpts from the Sunday Sun of October 25th. which illustrates the completed Peale Museum). The Hayward residence is a solution of a modern residence in the "Annapolis Tradition". Both the John Owens residence and the French residence are examples of domestic architecture for clients whose tastes are particularly derived from our Georgian traditions.

I should consider my selection as architect for the Maryland Hall of Records a great opportunity and an honour, and our association a privilege.

I am at your service, and remain,
Very truly yours,

John H. Scarf

Hall of Records

November 2nd, 1931

Mr. John H. Scarff,
c/o Messrs. Wyatt & Nolting,
Keyser Building,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Scarff:-

You probably know that the last Legislature appropriated \$200,000 for a Hall of Records building in Annapolis. The Board of Public Works, consisting of the State Treasurer and the State Comptroller and myself, will select the architect and have charge of the work. We want to find out just what experience Baltimore architects have had in buildings of this kind, particularly along Colonial lines. Hamilton Owens told me the other night that you had had a great deal, and I will appreciate it very much if you will be so kind as to send me an outline of your work in this connection.

Very truly yours,

Governor.

R-L

November 2, 1931.

Mr. Hamilton Owens,
The Evening Sun,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Hamilton:-

Many thanks for your favor of October
29th, about John H. Scarff. I will be only
too glad to get in touch with him.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Governor.

R-L

October 30, 1931

Mr. Hamilton Owens,
The Evening Sun,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Owens:-

Your favor of October 29th, to Governor Ritchie, has been received. The Governor has left for New York and your letter will be referred to him upon his return the first part of next week.

Very truly yours,

Raymond M. Lauer.

Baltimore, Maryland,
October 29, 1931.

My dear Governor:

The architect about whom I spoke to you last night is John H. Scarff, of the firm of Wyatt & Nolting, in the Keyser Building. Wyatt, as you know, is dead and Scarff and Nolting are now the firm. He is a hard-headed fellow with little guff about him, but he knows his onions. He is especially good in the colonial period which is his enthusiasm and knows not only how things ought to be, but how to adopt the motives and materials of the present day to get the proper effects. I cite especially the restoration of the Peale Museum on Holiday street which he did practically as a labor of love. He also did some of the Yorktown houses which are being so much discussed at the present time. His work there, if I am not mistaken, was the first. There are scores of buildings in Baltimore which he has designed. I call to mind the Federal Land bank on St. Paul street (still unfinished), the Canton school, probably the best the city has got out of the recent program, and the Warrington Apartments of Charles street. Incidentally he designed my house and that of John Owens in Homeland which is just about finished. Maybe you know the Bartlett Hayward house on the Severn. He did that too.

In matters of taste he is at least as good as Lawrence Fowler who, by the way, is his intimate friend, but the reason I chose him for my work was because I knew he was a genius at getting a lot of house for a little bit of money. If there is anything else you would like to know about him, please ask me and I'll try to get the information.

From all reports your speech last night at the club was a knockout. Thank you again for coming.

Very sincerely,

Hamilton Owens

Governor Albert C. Ritchie,
Annapolis, Maryland.