Anditects Proposals William Gordon Beeden 8054-31-17

Hally Links January 12th 1932. Beecher Mr. William Gordon Beecher, 12 East Pleasant Street. Baltimore, Maryland. Dear Mr. Beecher -I have your favor of January 11th. The State Comptroller, Mr. William S. Gordy, Jr., has been gathering data with regard to the architects suggested by the American Institute for the Hall of Records; and he has not submitted this data yet to the Board of Public Works by whom the selection will be made. There certainly can be no doubt of your qualifications, and no doubt either that the Board will give them the fullest consideration when the time comes. With best wishes, I am Sincerely yours. GOVERNOR. R-E

WM · GORDON · BEECHER

ARCHITECT

12 · E · PLEASANT · STREET BALTIMORE · MARYLAND

January 11, 1932

Honorable Albert C. Ritchie Governor of Maryland Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Governor:

Several weeks ago, I was notified by the Secretary of the Baltimore Chapter of The American Institute of Architects that as the result of a State-wide ballot, my name, together with those of five other Architects, was submitted to you as being one of a group possessing qualifications desirable in the choice and appointment of an Architect for the proposed Memorial Hall of Records to be built in Annapolis, Knowing that several of my very good friends have spoken to you on my behalf in connection with this work, I am herewith adding my personal request for the appointment.

I am well aware that the problem of designing this particular building is one which should be approached with an understanding and appreciation of its proposed function, coupled with a due regard and profound respect for its historic background and equally historic surroundings.

Feeling that it is not altogether immodest for me to lay claim to the possession of the necessary qualifications, I most respectfully ask your favorable consideration.

With kindest regards, and best wishes, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Mm Grum Buchen

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Number 11

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HELP THE COMMUNITY FUND DRIVE

Never before, officials of the Community Fund declare, has there been encountered so much suffering and want as this year.

If you came personally into contact with even one of the numberless cases of heartbreaking misery, you would not have to be urged, in the slightest degree, to assist in the city-wide effort that is being made to relieve the situation.

It is dreadful enough to consider the condition of men and women who, used all their lives to high standards of living, have been forced by unemployment to a state where despair stares them in the face and where they have nothing left to sustain them but their shattered pride and such courage as they have managed to salvage. Stamina and breeding tell here as in every other ordeal of life, still, after all, human necessity is human necessity.

But what of the multitudes of people who never possessed these saving qualities nor had a chance to develop them? Glance back a short way into history and note to what terrible climaxes the desperation of the lower classes has led.

It should not be necessary, though, to look at the existing state of affairs from such an angle; it would not be if we all could only have it fixed firmly and constantly in our counsciousness that many grave and delicate social problems are quickest and most enduringly solved by simple and unostentatious kindness of heart.

You, who are reading this, cannot think for a moment of the thousands of little children who are facing actual starvation, nor of their parents who, frantic with dread, watch winter's oncoming not knowing where to turn for food, clothes or fuel—you cannot think of this even the fraction of a second without a deep determination to do all you can to help.

After the most careful figuring, it was found that the smallest possible amount needed for Baltimore to take care of its impoverished citizens during the coming year was \$2,130,711.

The campaign continues until November 23. There are more ways than one in which you can be of splendid assistance—give all you can, "until it hurts," as we used to say during the World War when needs were scarcely more bitter, and then get out among your friends and urge them to do their part nobly.

Your contributions may be sent to any of The District team captains and workers, as follows: Mrs. Theodore C. Waters, 107 Tunbridge Road, Homeland; Miss Helen H. Carey, 2220 North Charles Street; Mrs. John K. Brigstocke, 312 Suffolk Road; Mrs. George A. Solter, 3937 Canterbury Road; Miss Mary Goodwillie, 205 Wendover Road; Mrs. Thomas P. Sprunt, 4407 Norwood Road, Guilford; Mrs. A. D. Foster, 830 University Parkway, and Mrs. C. J. B. Swindell, 4828 Roland Avenue.

George C. Buck, 12 Overhill Road, heads the Community Fund this year; Friend L. Wells, 116 Ridgewood Road, president of the Roland Park Civic League, is head of the Speakers' Bureau; Austin McLanahan, president of the Savings Bank of Baltimore, is chairman of the Special Gifts Committee; Blanchard Randall, Jr., is campaign manager, having Col. S. B. Hartz as his assistant, and James M. Hepbron is its executive secretary.

FRENCH TRANSLATION CONTEST STILL OPEN

Soon after the announcement in the October issue of Gardens, Houses and People that it was going in for another French Translation Contest this year, contributions began to come in. As was the case last year, the quality of the translations, generally speaking, was exceptionally high.

The poem selected, a Sonnet by the Sixteenth Century poet, Joachim du Bellay, evidently struck a responsive chord in the hearts of numerous readers of this magazine, judging by the tone of the English versions submitted and also by comments made about it.

Attention is directed to the fact that there is still plenty of time to join the contest, since it does not close until November 25. Please mail your translations to the Editor of Gardens, Houses and People, 18 East Lexington Street.

It is desired to have as many take part as possible, since the keener the competition the more the fun and the more the credit for winning.

A notable feature of last year's contest for the translation of Botrel's "L'Echo" was that so many people spoke of the enjoyment they took in the task; it was at once apparent in the present concours that this sentiment was again prevailing.

If space were not so limited, the Sonnet would be reprinted this month; however, in case you have mislaid the October copy containing it and will telephone a request to Calvert 5700, a typed transcript of it will be gladly sent you.

The judges will be Mrs. Felix R. Sullivan, Jr., and Willem Wirtz; the prize is an attractive edition of a famous French book.

The only requirements of the contest are those of the Petrarchan sonnet form, which is the same both in regard to rhyming order and, of course, the decasyllabic line, in French as in English.

If those who find their supply of ten syllable sequences dwindling can stick it out for thirteen verses, they will be safe, since an eleven syllable final line is permissible—though Bellay did not find it necessary.

A NOTABLE NEW HOMELAND HOUSE

Nor recently has there been erected in Baltimore a residence that has, perhaps, attracted more attention on the part of both connoisseurs of architecture and the general public than that of Mr. and Mrs. Philip I. Heuisler at the northeast corner of Charles Street and St. Alban's way, Homeland.

At the request of the editor of Gardens, Houses and People, the following description of this beautiful house was kindly supplied by its architect, William Gordon Beecher:

"Despite the thousand and one details necessary to provide the comfort, convenience and the smooth operation of a modern home, the single objective of both owner and architect in building this house was a simplicity and directness in both plan and design consistent with the traditions of Colonial Maryland.

"To this end, they sought to give it the expression of a town, rather than a country, house such as one might find in Annapolis, Chestertown, Princess Anne and other quaint towns throughout the State. To give further emphasis to this thought they placed the building in rather intimate relation to the street, reserving the larger part of the lot at the rear or north side of the house for the development of an old-fashioned garden in the spirit of our urban forefathers.



AN INVITING INTERIOR

The hall doorway frames a delightful view of the dining room of Mr. and Mrs. Philip I. Heuisler's new residence in Homeland.

"The bricks were chosen in a range of colors to produce a wall of light red effect with gray undertone obtained by using a gray joint. The wood trim was painted oyster shell white to keep the gray tone moving throughout the composition; the green blinds also reflect this influence and the roof in three shades of gray slate, together with the gray limestone of the entrance steps, window and door sills, and chimney caps, complete the exterior color scheme.

"It is expected that the seasonal colorings in the foliage of the deciduous trees, of which there are many, together with the rich, deep green of English Boxwood in the future garden, will produce an effect that will justify this selection.

"A hall of generous proportions runs directly through the house and a door on the axis of the main entrance leads into the garden and affords a glimpse of it from within the cool shadows of the hallway. The feature of this hall is a large Palladian window on the stair landing, the lower part of which is only partially veiled by the delicately turned balusters forming the stair railing.

"The living room, which, as does the hall, runs entirely through the house, would be quite severe were it not relieved by a large fireplace faced with black marble, the mantel of which is a carefully measured replica of an exquisite example now in the American wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. This was chosen partly for its beauty and also because the original was taken from an old house in Baltimore, now demolished.

"The living room and the dining room which balances it on the opposite side of the hall, open upon brick terraces through French windows.

"The mantel in the dining room is of Adam design with

insert Wedgewood medallions in the frieze; this fireplace is also faced with black marble. The crystal lighting fixtures in this room are of old Waterford design.

"The breakfast room, which adjoins the dining room, also opens upon one of the terraces. This sunny, cheerful room has a tessellated floor of black and white tile and full length casement windows.

"The library, with windows to the floor, bookshelves to the ceiling and a large fireplace, makes an agreeable substitution for the customary sun room, combining its advantages for light and air with a cheerful interior atmosphere. This room likewise opens upon a terrace.

"The club or recreation room in the basement, and the stairway and hall leading to it, are treated in a more primitive manner. Considering its floors of oak, walls of knotty pine, and huge fireplace of fieldstone, all suggestion of formality vanishes.

"On the second floor, in addition to the master's suite, there are seven rooms and four baths.

"The trim throughout the interior is also in oyster shell white. Orientation of rooms, conditioned air, screens that disappear, garage doors that raise and lower at the touch of a button, complete insulation, damp-proofing and weather-proofing, all contribute to the living comfort of this home."

THE NIGHT WATCH BY ALICE RUSH McKEON

On summer evenings when we walk, My mother often has a talk About the different things we see—, Sometimes a bird, or beast or tree.

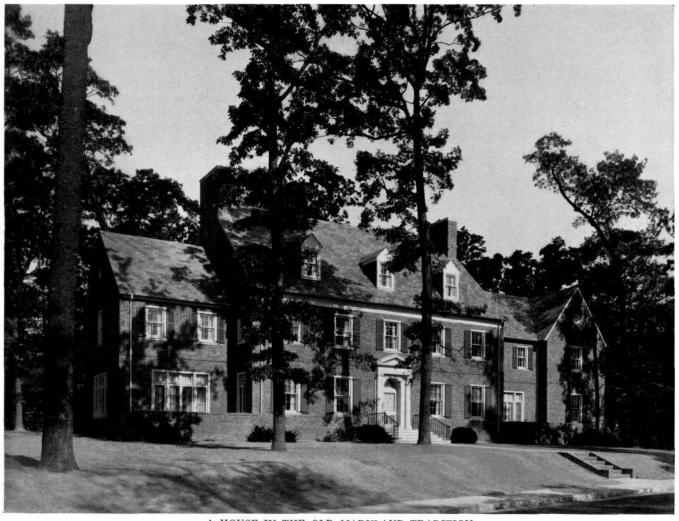
This evening, it was almost dark As we were coming through the park And most a *million* fire-flies glowed Among the grasses, by the road.

I've often wondered why they go, Just twinkling-twinkling, to and fro. It seems so useless, I should say, To fly all night and hide all day!

But Mother says, unless they flew With glowing lanterns, all night through, The Robber Bugs (who hide from sight) Would creep about, to steal and fight!

So now I know why Fire-Flies go With waving lanterns, to and fro—, That all the wood may sleep in peace, Protected by the Bug Police!

Dull November brings the blast, Then the leaves are whirling fast.—OLD RHYME.



A HOUSE IN THE OLD MARYLAND TRADITION

Mr. and Mrs. Heuisler's house was designed with the aim of achieving the simplicity and directness that characterized the best domestic architecture of Colonial Maryland.

DR. BARKER VISITS RUSSIA



DR. L. F. BARKER Dr. Barker lives at 208 Stratford Road, Guilford,

As a result of observation of conditions made in Russia last summer, Dr. Lewellys F. Barker, world famous medical scientist, Professor Emeritus of Medicine at the Medical School of the Johns Hopkins University, said that it was plain that the entire psychology of the Russian people had changed under the Soviet régime.

"The atmosphere of gloom and despair has gone," he said, "and one finds the young people full of hope for the future. The experiment Russia is making is an amazing one and the opportunity I had to observe it was vastly interesting.

"It is no place to go, however, merely for a vacation, since food is none too good and traveling far from comfortable. Mrs. Barker and I traveled several thousand miles in different parts of Russia during the 25 days we spent there while on a three months' trip abroad, from which we returned early in October.

"A great deal is being done for the peasant and the workingman, but it has been necessary to recede from the strict communism idea. The government, at present, makes use of a sort of state capitalism; individuals are, however, allowed to own a little private property-not much, for anything over a certain amount would be taxed out of existence. This present economic system, they say, is merely temporary, the purpose being to go back eventually to communism.

"The Russians are truly making a great effort and they believe that they are doing the best they can for their country. The old régime undoubtedly had to go. I saw several professors in the medical schools and inspected a number of hospitals and research institutes; all are doing the best they can in the circumstances. The hospitals are badly handicapped for supplies and laboratories need chemicals, but some good scientific work and research is being done. Investigators complain of the small amounts available for the importation of foreign scientific books and journals. I talked to one doctor who had been rich in the old days but whose property had been taken from him. He was philosophic about it, for he had adjusted himself to the new conditions and was engaged in teaching and research. He spends his whole income since he said that incentives for saving no longer exist.

"There is great overcrowding in all the large cities, notably in Moscow, but houses for the workers are going up everywhere. There is a demand all over Russia for American machines, though it cannot be filled to the extent desired because of the lack of credit. Tourists are welcomed because of the money they bring in. Before we went, several friends made the comment that we would not see muchonly what they chose to show us. This was an error, for we were permitted to go freely everywhere and no request of ours to inspect special features of the Soviet life was refused.

"One of the great practical difficulties is the conversion of an agricultural nation very rapidly into an industrial one. There are no classes, strictly speaking, in Russia, now, and its government seems to be as stable as any in Europe. An anti-Soviet movement or revolution of any kind is apparently impossible, since the first indication of such a thing would send the leaders to the forests of Siberia.

"As everybody wears about the same sort of clothes, the people all look very much alike. A great deal is made of equality of the sexes. When I got up to give my place to a young woman in a crowded Moscow street car I was told that it was an insult to her but that it would have been in order had she been old or if a baby had been with her."

Besides visiting Russia, Dr. and Mrs. Barker toured in Italy and Switzerland. They returned to this country in time to witness the première in New York of Paul Green's "The House of Connelly" in which their daughter, Miss Margaret Barker, has a leading part.

Metropolitan critics have declared that Miss Barker's work in this rôle further strengthens the opinion, frequently expressed, that she is one of the ablest young American actresses of the day; the hit she made late last season in "The Barretts of Wimpole Street" was second only to that of Katherine Cornell, its star.

ROADSIDE PLANTING

THE report of the Committee for Roadside Planting of A the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, of which Mrs. Donald Symington is chairman, states that eight stretches of state road were planted last spring through the coöperation of the State Roads Committee, the State Foresters and neighboring garden clubs. They are York Road, north from Timonium Fair Grounds; Frederick Road, west of Catonsville; Falls Road, south from Shawan, and also south from the Valley Road; Seminary Avenue, east of Falls Road; the Defense Highway, the Crain Highway, and the Gibson Island Road.

"Cooperation in the nature of additional labor and plant material was given by two property holders, and promises were made by two others to plant their own frontage next spring," the report continues.

"The trees planted are, with a very few exceptions, in excellent condition.

"Your committee hopes to encourage the private planting of evergreens this autumn; to repeat on different roads, or extend on the same roads, this year's operation next spring; to begin its publicity work next February so that property owners may, in some cases, plant their own frontage.

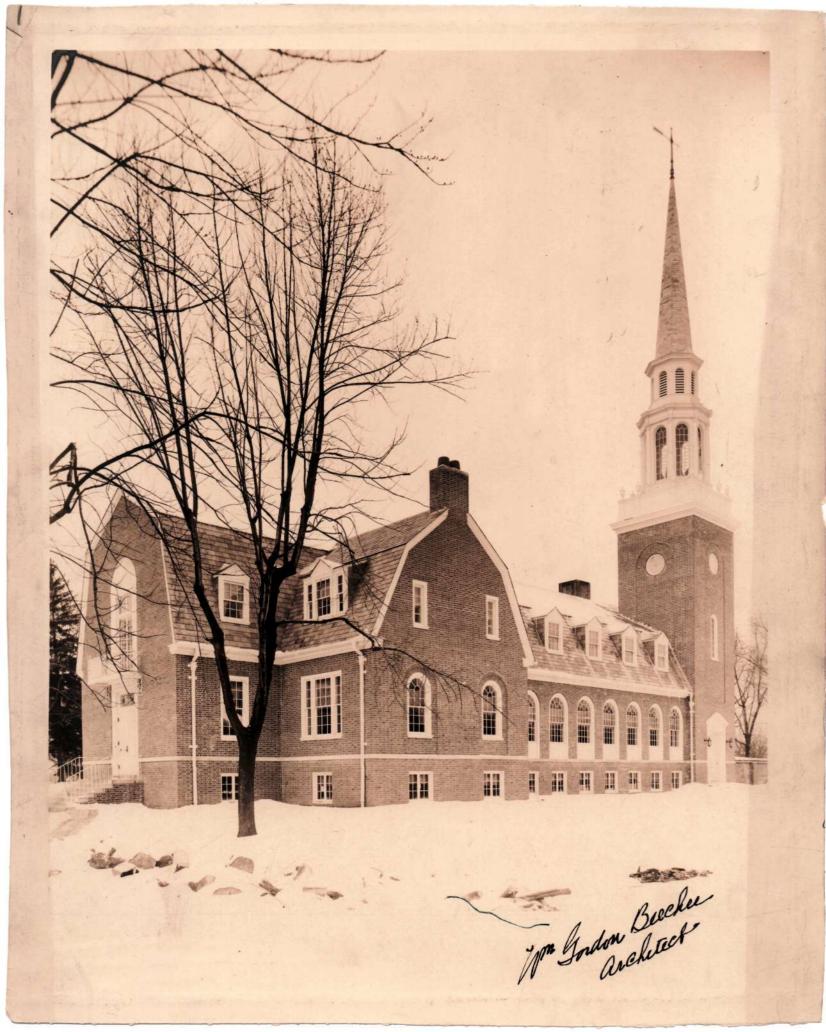
'Conferences with the State Foresters, we hope, will result in their having plenty of suitable material ready for Roadside Planting next March."

Members of Garden Clubs were asked to carry with them last summer in their cars notebooks in which to list raw banks, trash piles or long bare stretches of road requiring planting and to send in before fall all such notes to the presidents of their clubs who will give the information to the Roadside Planting Committee.

Organizations that supervised the respective plantings were the Green Spring Valley Garden Club, the Hardy Garden Club, the Catonsville Garden Club, the Four Rivers Garden Club, the Severn River Garden Club, the Gibson Island Garden Club and the Garden Club of Twenty. The trees planted were elms, oaks, sugar maples, red gums, tulip poplars, ash, honey locusts, sycamores; laurel and

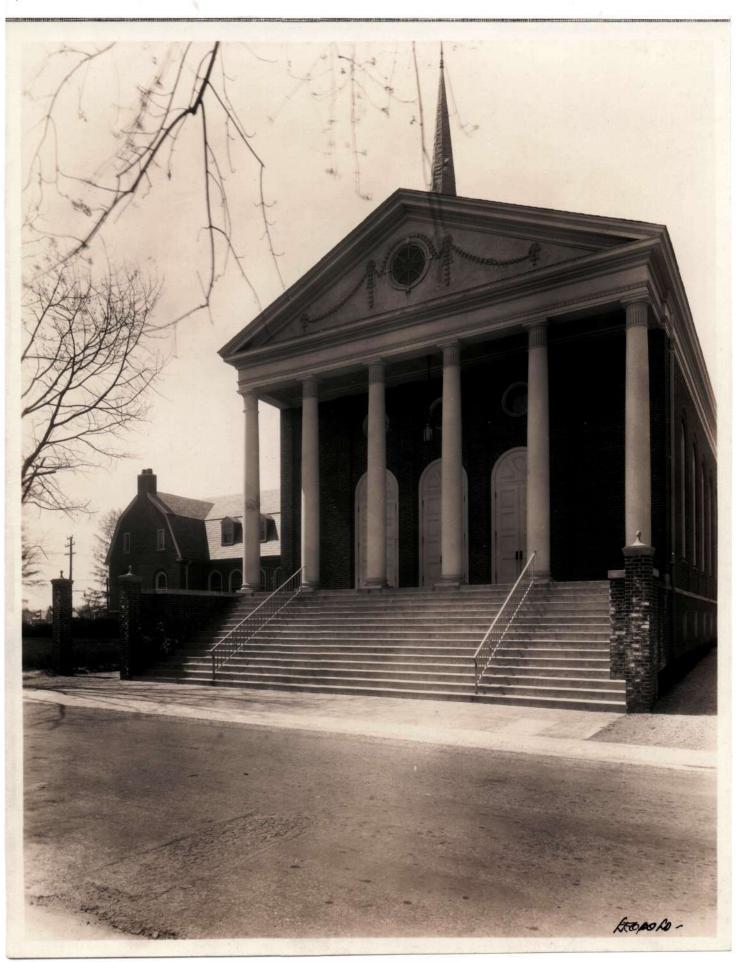
vines were used on a raw bank along Falls Road.

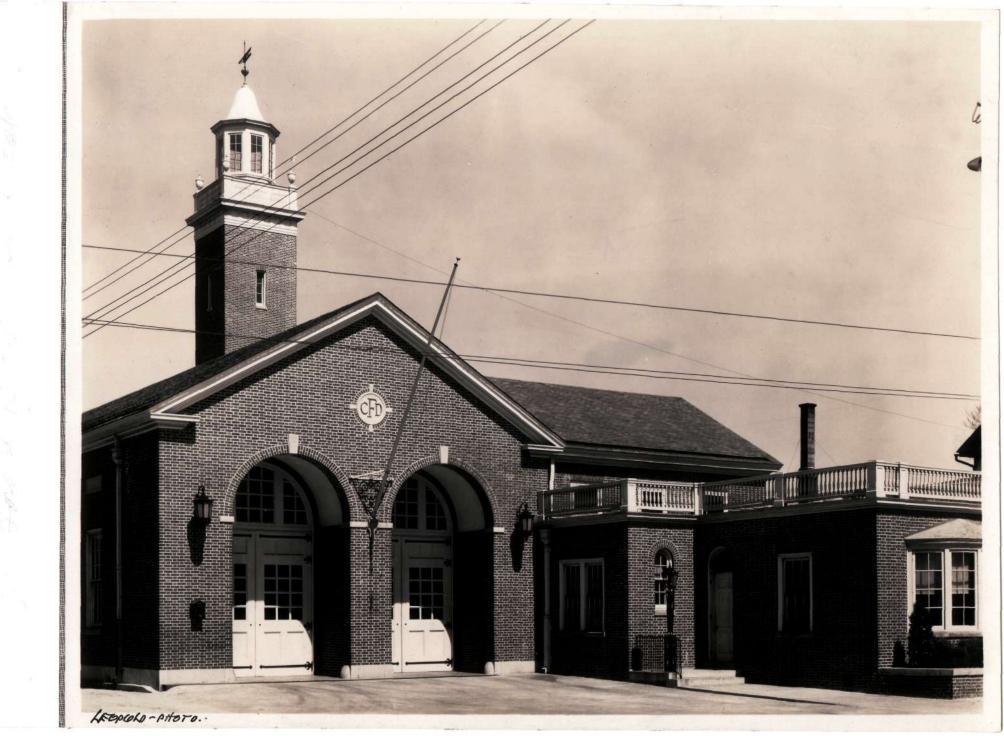
The State Roads Engineer has agreed to let each of the twenty-three clubs of the Federation select pieces of State road in their respective neighborhoods which they want to plant next March. The committee has requested the State Forester to have ready for next spring's planting an ample supply of elms, ash, sugar maple and in addition dogwood and climbing roses.

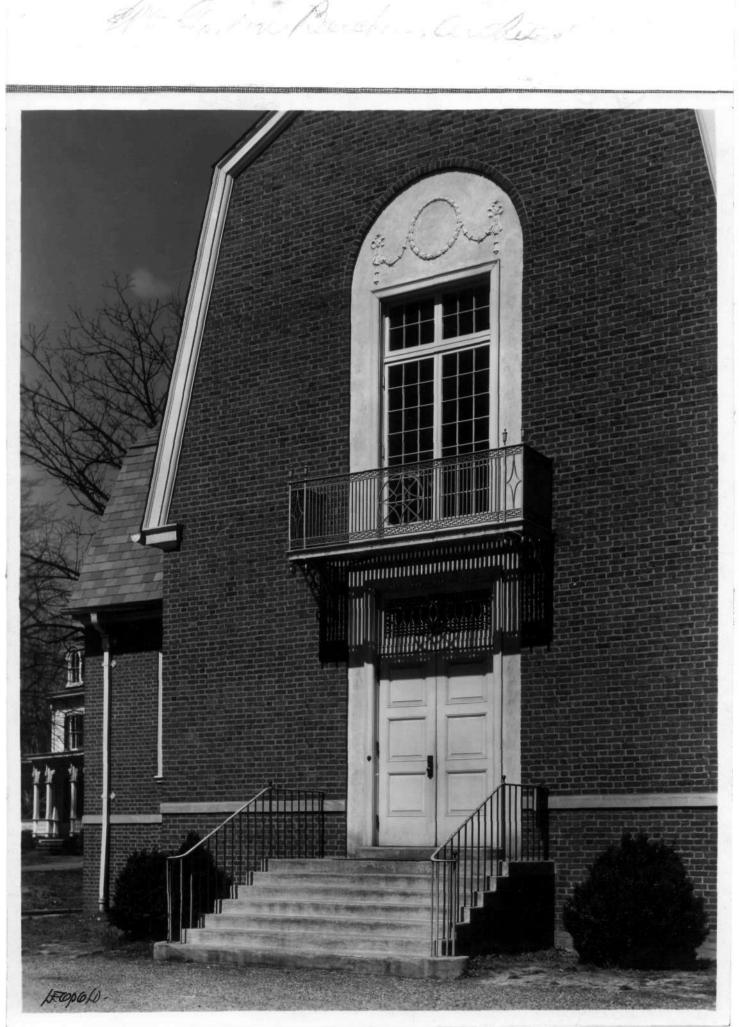


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A.G. B. chen, architect



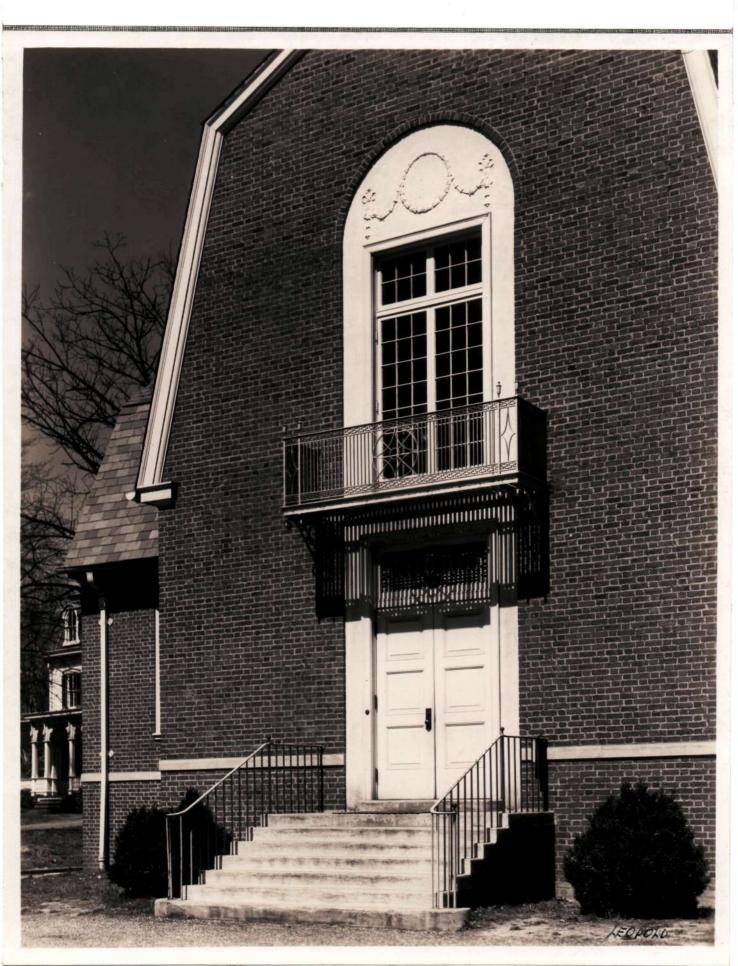




PRESONYERIAM CHORCH



CATONSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WN. GORDON BEECHER ARCHITECT





CATONSVILLE PRESOYTERIAN CHURCH WM. GORDON BEZCHER, ARCHITECT.

