

8054-31-18

Architects Proposals & Recommendation

Wickens & Cross

January 26, 1932

Hall of Records  
Mackenzie & Cross

Mr. William C. Schnabel,  
Pleasant and Davis Streets,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Schnabel:-

I have your favor of January 22nd,  
recommending Messrs. Mackenzie and Cross as  
architects for the Hall of Records. I am  
disposed to think that the selection will be  
made from a comparatively small number  
recommended by the Institute of Architects  
as those most experienced in Colonial work.

With kind regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

Governor.

R-L

# DIETRICH BROTHERS

## STRUCTURAL STEEL - ORNAMENTAL IRON

PLEASANT & DAVIS STS.

BALTIMORE, MD.

January 22, 1932.

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

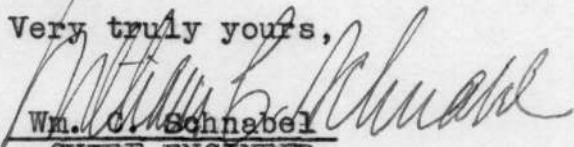
Dear Governor Ritchie:-

I am writing you with reference to the selection of an architect for the Memorial Hall of Records Building to be erected in Annapolis, Maryland.

As a member of the Baltimore Architectural Commission and the Architectural Committee of the Public Improvement Commission, I can assure you that Mackenzie and Cross, architects, are well qualified to design this building in Colonial style.

Hoping that you will give them your favorable consideration, I am,

Very truly yours,



Wm. C. Schnabel  
CHIEF ENGINEER

WCS:RMS

December 13, 1931

*Hall of Record  
Architects  
Crum + MacKenzie*

Mr. John K. Cross,  
315 Professional Building,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Cross:

I received your favor of December 4th on my return yesterday from a trip to Chicago. The State Comptroller, Mr. William S. Gordy, J., is now making some inquiry into the selection of an architect for the Memorial Hall of Records. The Board of Public Works wants to get the best architect who can be secured, and who has had the most experience in work along colonial lines. I will be glad to see that your firm is considered at the proper time.

Very truly yours,

Governor.

December 7, 1931.

Mr. John K. Cross,  
415 Professional Building,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Cross:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor of December 4th, to Governor Ritchie, setting forth your qualifications as architect for the new Hall of Records Building which is to be erected in Annapolis. The Governor is in Chicago and will not return until the end of this week, at which time I will be glad to give him your letter.

Very truly yours,

Raymond M. Lauer,  
Secretary.

MACKENZIE AND CROSS  
ARCHITECTS

415-416 PROFESSIONAL BUILDING  
BALTIMORE

TELEPHONE: VERNON 5621

SUBJECT: HALL OF RECORDS BUILDING

December 4, 1931

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

Dear Governor Ritchie:

We are writing you this personal letter in hope that we might receive your favorable consideration when you appoint an architect to design the Hall of Records Building which is soon to be erected in Annapolis.

We are informed that the architecture of this building is to follow closely the Colonial style of the present state buildings in our Capitol. Since our most recent buildings have been designed very successfully in that style, we feel that we are specially qualified to receive this appointment.

We were selected by the Architectural Commission of Baltimore in 1928 to design the Brehms Lane Public School. The School Board and the Public Improvement Commission were so well pleased with this building that upon its completion in 1930, they appointed us to design the new School for Handicapped White Children. The renderings of these two school buildings, designed in the Colonial style, are enclosed for your inspection.

For further identification we refer you to Mr. Wm. C. Schnabel, a member of the Baltimore Architectural Commission and the Architectural Committee of the Public Improvement Commission, Mr. Wm. L. Rawls, president of the Baltimore School Board, Mr. James H. Preston, former Mayor of Baltimore, and Mr. Wm. L. Marbury.

Previous to 1928 this office practiced under the name of George Norbury Mackenzie, 3rd., and since 1928 under the name of Mackenzie & Cross. The following buildings have been designed and erected under the supervision of this office.

- \$15,000 Office Building for the Towson Nurseries, Inc., Towson, Md.
- 90,000 Office Building for the Black & Decker Mfg. Co., " "
- 200,000 Factory Building " " " " " " " "
- 85,000 Bank Building for the Baltimore County Bank, " "
- 55,000 Church for the Towson Presbyterian Church, " "
- 40,000 Theatre for the Towson Theatre Company, Inc. " "
- 90,000 Residence for Mr. J. Harry West, in Guilford, Baltimore, Md.
- 25,000 Residence for Mr. & Mrs. A. P. Marty, " "
- 35,000 Residences (2) for Mr. W. Guy Crowther, " "

MACKENZIE AND CROSS  
ARCHITECTS  
415-416 PROFESSIONAL BUILDING  
BALTIMORE

TELEPHONE: VERNON 5621

SUBJECT:

-2-

December 4, 1931

\$30,000 Residence for Mr. Laurence M. Simmonds, Harford County, Md.  
230,000 Brehms Lane Public School for the Mayor and City Council of  
Baltimore, Maryland  
275,000 Factory Building for the Black & Decker Mfg. Co., Towson, Md.  
25,000 Storage Building for the Oil Seeds Crushing Corp., Balto., Md.  
50,000 Addition to be made to the Hillendale Golf Club, Towson, Md.  
500,000 School for White Handicapped Children for the Mayor and City  
Council of Baltimore, Maryland.

In the hope of your favorable consideration we await your  
decision with keen interest.

Very respectfully yours,

MACKENZIE & CROSS



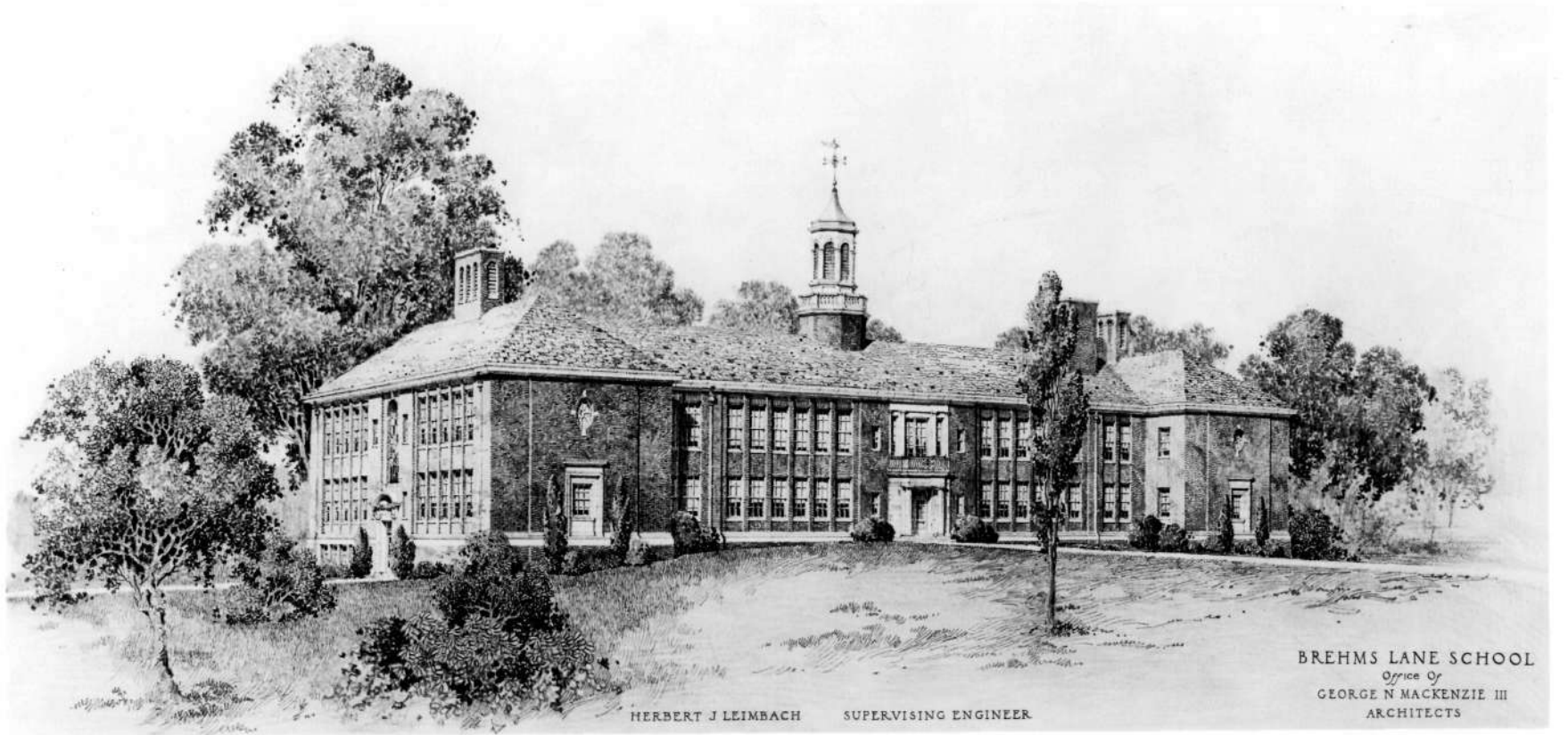


*Robert J. Lymbach*  
*Supervising Engineer*

*School For Handicapped White Children*  
*For Mayor & City Council of Baltimore*

*Mckenzie & Cross*  
*Architects*





HERBERT J LEIMBACH      SUPERVISING ENGINEER

BREHMS LANE SCHOOL  
*Office of*  
GEORGE N MACKENZIE III  
ARCHITECTS

December 10, 1931

Hon. John L. G. Lee,  
509 Calvert Building,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Lee:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor of December 9th, to Governor Ritchie, and thank you for giving him the benefit of your views regarding Mr. John M. M. Mackenzie, who would like to be appointed architect for the new Hall of Records building which is to be erected in Annapolis. The Governor will, of course, give Mr. Mackenzie's name consideration.

Very truly yours,

Raymond M. Lauer,  
Secretary.

LAW OFFICES

**BONSAI & LEE**

509-519 CALVERT BUILDING

BALTIMORE,

December 9th, 1931.

His Excellency,  
Albert C. Ritchie,  
Governor of Maryland,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

My dear Governor Ritchie:

John M. M. Mackenzie, a grandson of the late Judge George Y. Mayhadier of Harford County, is a friend of mine and a member of the firm of Mackenzie and Cross, architects, with offices in the Professional Building, Baltimore.

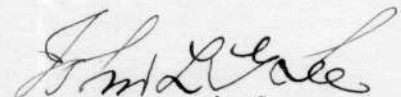
Mr. Mackenzie is anxious to have his firm appointed as architects for the "Memorial Hall of Records Building" which is to be erected in Annapolis. John advises me that the Board of Public Works, of which you are the presiding officer, will make the selection. His firm has done some very good building in Baltimore and vicinity, among the latest being two schools for the City of Baltimore, the first one costing about a quarter of a million dollars and the second one nearly a half million dollars; these buildings were of brick colonial style and have received favorable comment. John was advised that the "Memorial Hall of Records Building" is to be of this style of architecture, and I believe his firm is well qualified to do this work.

It would be a great pleasure to me if you could say a word for this firm.

Your trip to Chicago seems to have been a great success, and all of your friends were interested in the good, sound, democratic talks you made there.

Respectfully yours,

L.E



December 9, 1931

Hon. William L. Marbury,  
Maryland Trust Building,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Marbury:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor of December 8th, to Governor Ritchie, and thank you very much for sending him Mr. John M. Mackenzie's letter to you setting forth his qualifications as architect for the new Hall of Records building which is to be erected in Annapolis.

Very truly yours,

Raymond M. Lauer,  
Secretary.

LAW OFFICES  
**MARBURY, GOSNELL & WILLIAMS**

WM. L. MARBURY  
GEO. WEEMS WILLIAMS  
JESSE SLINGLUFF  
WILLIAM L. RAWLS  
L. VERNON MILLER  
—  
WM. L. MARBURY, JR.  
BOYD B. GRAHAM  
JESSE SLINGLUFF, JR.

TELEPHONE PLAZA 2587  
—  
CABLE ADDRESS  
"EMGE"  
—

MARYLAND TRUST BUILDING  
CALVERT & REDWOOD STREETS  
BALTIMORE, MD.

1-K

December 8, 1931.

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

Dear Governor,

I am enclosing herewith letter received from  
Mr. John M. Mackenzie, of Mackenzie & Cross, architects, in  
reference to the selection of an architect for the Memorial  
Hall of Records. I should appreciate it very much if you and  
the Board of Public Works would give it your serious consider-  
ation.

Very truly yours,



MACKENZIE AND CROSS  
ARCHITECTS

415-416 PROFESSIONAL BUILDING  
BALTIMORE

TELEPHONE: VERNON 5621

SUBJECT:

December 4, 1931

William L. Marbury, Esq.  
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Mr. Marbury:

You will recall my visit to your office a few days ago when I was introduced to you by my good friend Mr. L. Wethered Barroll. You may also remember my mission was in connection with the Memorial Hall of Records Building to be erected at Annapolis.

Since seeing you we have heard from Mr. George R. Callis, who told us that the selection of an architect for this building is to be made by the Board of Public Works, composed of Governor Albert C. Ritchie, Mr. John M. Dennis, and Mr. Wm. P. Gordy.

We are informed that the architecture of this building is to follow closely the Colonial style of the present state buildings in our Capitol. Since our most recent buildings have been designed very successfully in that style, we feel that we are specially qualified to receive this appointment.

We were selected by the Architectural Commission of Baltimore in 1928 to design the Brehms Lane Public School. The School Board and the Public Improvement Commission were so well pleased with this building that upon its completion in 1930, they appointed us to design the new School for Handicapped White Children. The renderings of these two school buildings, designed in the Colonial style, are enclosed for your inspection. Will you kindly hold these photographs until we call for them in a few days.

Previous to 1928 this office practiced under the name of George Norbury Mackenzie, 3rd., and since 1928 under the name of Mackenzie & Cross. The following buildings have been designed and erected under the supervision of this office.

- \$15,000 Office Building for the Towson Nurseries, Inc., Towson, Md.
- 90,000 Office Building for the Black & Decker Mfg. Co., " "
- 200,000 Factory Building " " " " " " " "
- 85,000 Bank Building for the Baltimore County Bank, " "
- 55,000 Church for the Towson Presbyterian Church, " "
- 40,000 Theatre for the Towson Theatre Company, Inc. " "
- 90,000 Residence for Mr. J. Harry West, in Guilford, Baltimore, Md.
- 25,000 Residence for Mr. & Mrs. A. P. Marty, " " "
- 35,000 Residences (2) for Mr. W. Guy Crowther, " " "

MACKENZIE AND CROSS  
ARCHITECTS415-416 PROFESSIONAL BUILDING  
BALTIMORE

TELEPHONE: VERNON 5621

SUBJECT:

-2-

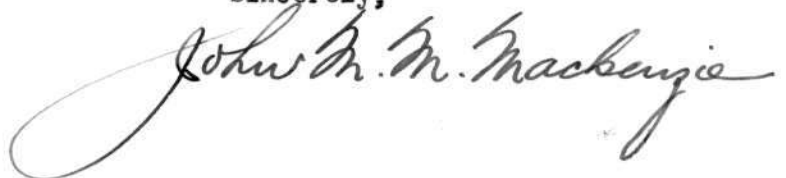
December 4, 1931

\$30,000 Residence for Mr. Laurence M. Simmonds, Harford County, Md.  
230,000 Brehms Lane Public School for the Mayor and City Council of  
Baltimore, Maryland  
275,000 Factory Building for the Black & Decker Mfg. Co., Towson, Md.  
25,000 Storage Building for the Oil Seeds Crushing Corp., Balto., Md.  
50,000 Addition to be made to the Hillendale Golf Club, Towson, Md.  
500,000 School for White Handicapped Children for the Mayor and City  
Council of Baltimore, Maryland

We will appreciate it very much indeed if you will write a personal appeal to Governor Ritchie that we be given consideration in the making of this appointment.

You told me you knew my grand father, George Norbury Mackenzie, who wrote the book "The Colonial Families of the United States of America," and it probably would help some should you mention the fact that you have known my family for a number of generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John M. M. Mackenzie". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "John M. M. Mackenzie".

December 8, 1931.

Hon. James H. Preston,  
911 Munsey Building,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mayor Preston:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor of December 7th, to Governor Ritchie, recommending Mr. John M. M. Mackenzie for architect in connection with the new Hall of Records building which is to be erected in Annapolis. The Governor is in Chicago and will not return until the latter part of this week, at which time I will be glad to give him your letter.

Very truly yours,

Raymond M. Lauer,  
Secretary.



JAMES H. PRESTON  
ALEXANDER PRESTON  
WILBUR J. PRESTON  
H. SYDNEY BECKER  
DONALD P. ROMAN

LAW OFFICES  
PRESTON AND FIELD  
911 MUNSEY BUILDING  
BALTIMORE

TELEPHONE  
PLAZA 1900

December 7, 1931.

Hon. Albert C. Ritchie,  
Governor of Maryland,  
Annapolis, Md.

Dear Governor Ritchie:

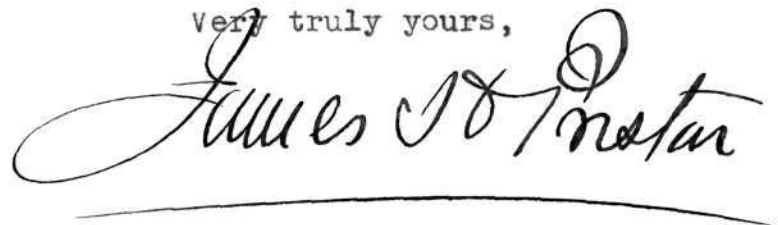
My young friend John M. M. Mackenzie, of Mackenzie & Cross, architects, are asking to be designated as the architects of the Memorial Hall of Records building to be erected by the Board of Public Works, of which you are the presiding member.

I write to say that I know young Mackenzie very well. He is a grandson of George N. Mackenzie, who wrote the book "The Colonial Families of the United States", and he is also a grandson of the late Judge George Y. Maynardier of Bel Air.

Mr. Mackenzie recently designed two large schools for the City of Baltimore in the colonial style, and which was very well done, I think.

I will be glad to have them selected, and recommend them to you.

Very truly yours,

A large, elegant handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James H. Preston". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "James H. Preston".

JHP/BSB

December 7, 1931.

Mr. F. M. Supplee,  
15 E. Fayette Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Supplee:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor of December 5th, to Governor Ritchie, setting forth the qualifications of Messrs. Mackenzie and Cross as Architects for the new Hall of Records Building which is to be erected in Annapolis. The Governor is in Chicago at the present time and will not return until the end of this week, but I will be glad to give him your letter upon his return.

Very truly yours,

Raymond M. Lauer,  
Secretary.

F. M. SUPPLEE  
10-SOUTH STREET  
BALTIMORE

December 5, 1931


Governor Albert C. Ritchie,  
Executive Mansion,  
Annapolis, Md.

Dear Governor:

Mackenzie & Cross, Architects,  
are anxious to plan the Hall of Records  
Building at Annapolis, and I enclose here-  
with letter showing their qualification.

Your kind consideration in  
their behalf will be appreciated by,

Very truly yours,



FMS-AK  
ENC

15 E. Fayette Street

MACKENZIE AND CROSS  
ARCHITECTS

JOHN KROZER CROSS

415-416 PROFESSIONAL BUILDING  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

---

Jos. S. Knapp.  
 1315 FIDELITY BLDG.  
 CHARLES AND LEXINGTON STS.  
 BALTIMORE, MD.

Balt Md. Dec 4<sup>th</sup> 1931

Mr. F. M. Supplee  
 City

My dear Mr. Supplee:

I wish to advise that there is to be erected in Annapolis - a Hall of Records Building. This building is to be erected in the Georgian Colonial Style. Messrs. Mackenzie & Cross, especially specialize in this type of Architecture, (Mr. Cross being my son-in-law) I am desirous - that they be given an opportunity on this State building.

I will only mention the most recent of their creations. The Brehms Lane School, that has met with not only local praise & but the recommendations of the New York School Authorities.

They are now working on the plans for The White Handicapped Children to be located on North Ave. These do not constitute all the work that they have done, but I particularly mention these two buildings as they are recent public buildings and would tie in with the state building to be erected and that I have mentioned.

Anything that you may do, or influence used to have Governor Ritchie appoint them as Architects for this building will be greatly appreciated by me.

Sincerely yours  
 Jos. S. Knapp

December 6, 1931

Hon. Ambrose J. Kennedy,  
Morris Building,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Senator Kennedy:

Your letter of December 4th to Governor Ritchie, with regard to the architects in connection with the Hall of Records, has been received while the Governor is out of the State, and will be directed to his attention upon his return.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Elizabeth W. Smith

# AMBROSE J. KENNEDY

## INSURANCE

26 SOUTH CALVERT STREET

BALTIMORE

ASSOCIATED WITH  
**POOR & ALEXANDER**  
INCORPORATED

PHONES  
OFFICE PLAZA 6004-5-6-7-8  
RESIDENCE VERNON 2525

DECEMBER 4TH, 1931.

W  
  
HIS EXCELLENCY,  
GOVERNOR ALBERT C. RITCHIE,  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND.

DEAR GOVERNOR RITCHIE:

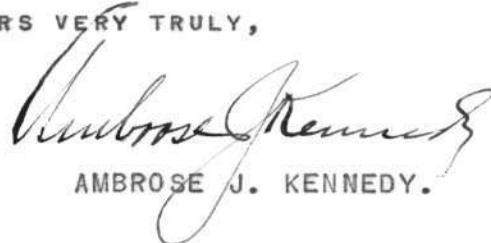
YOU WILL RECALL I SPOKE TO YOU  
THE OTHER NIGHT REGARDING CONSIDERATION OF MACKENZIE  
AND CROSS, ARCHITECTS, IN CONNECTION WITH APPOINTMENT  
TO DESIGN THE HALL OF RECORDS BUILDING TO BE ERRECTED  
AT ANNAPOLIS.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS CONCERN  
HAS DESIGNED SEVERAL COLONIAL TYPE STRUCTURES; THE  
MOST RECENT ONE BEING FOR THE BALTIMORE SCHOOL BOARD,  
WHICH BUILDING IS TO COST SOMETHING OVER \$500,000.00.

I AM TOLD THAT MR. MACKENZIE'S  
FATHER, WHOSE BUSINESS MACKENZIE AND CROSS SUCCEEDED,  
WAS A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE.

ASSURING YOU THAT ANY CONSIDERA-  
TIONS GIVEN THESE PARTIES WILL BE PERSONALLY APPRECIATED  
AND WITH KINDEST PERSONAL REGARDS, I AM

YOURS VERY TRULY,

  
AMBROSE J. KENNEDY.

AJK:HJR.

*Hally Records*

*Mackenzie & Cross*

November 27th 1931.

Miss Lillian R. Forwood,  
Bel Air, Maryland.

Dear Miss Lillian -

I have your favor of November 22nd, and will be glad to look into the qualifications of Messrs. Mackenzie & Cross.

As a matter of fact, the Hall of Records is attracting a great deal of attention among architects and others, and the Board of Public Works will have to give this job to the firm which has had the most experience with buildings of Colonial character. There seem to be one or two firms which have more or less specialized along these lines.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

R-E

GOVERNOR.



LILLIAN R. FORWOOD

19 N. Main St.  
BEL AIR, MD.

11-22-31.

Governor Albert C. Ritchie;  
My Dear Gov. Ritchie.

Enclosed letter will explain the reason of this communication better than I could, so I hope you will give it some consideration.

Mr. Mackenzie, is the Grandson of my brother in law, the latter marrying my sister, his second wife.

I am very much interested in John Mackenzie, and would like to see him secure some State work, as it would mean a lot to this young firm, and would certainly be very gratifying to me.

I remain.

With my best wishes

As ever Sincerely.

*Lillian R. Forwood*

MACKENZIE AND CROSS  
ARCHITECTS415-416 PROFESSIONAL BUILDING  
BALTIMORE

TELEPHONE: VERNON 5621

SUBJECT:

November 20, 1931

Miss Lillian R. Forward  
Main Street  
Bel Air, Maryland

Dear Miss Forward:

You will recall my visit to your office in Bel Air last Friday, at which time I told you of my hope that you would be kind enough to bring our qualifications as architects, to the attention of Governor Albert C. Ritchie, who, with the aid of Mr. William P. Gordy and Mr. John M. Dennis, will shortly make a selection of an architect to design the Memorial Hall of Records Building at Annapolis.

I am enclosing a list of our work from which you will see that we have designed a number of important buildings in Maryland. We have not, however, been as fortunate as a number of our fellow architects, in so far as State work is concerned. On a good many occasions we have endeavored to secure some of this work but to date have been totally unsuccessful.

In considering the selection of an architect for the Memorial Hall of Records Building, we understand that Governor Ritchie has asked the President of the Baltimore Chapter of the American Institute of Architects to have the Institute submit to him a list of six architects of the State of Maryland whom the Institute think capable of producing the best design for this building. This, no doubt, is a step in the right direction, but it is also a fact that there are a number of well qualified architects in Maryland who are not members of the Institute.

I understand that the Institute's selection is not limited to its members only, but it would naturally follow that their selections will all be within their membership especially when their method of selection will be to allot six votes to each member, one of which he can cast for himself, and the other five for other firms. Although my father was an architect before me, and a member of the Institute, I, for no good reason at all, have failed to join, but have been invited a number of times to take out membership in it. It

MACKENZIE AND CROSS  
ARCHITECTS415-416 PROFESSIONAL BUILDING  
BALTIMORE

TELEPHONE: VERNON 5621

SUBJECT:

Miss Lillian R. Forward

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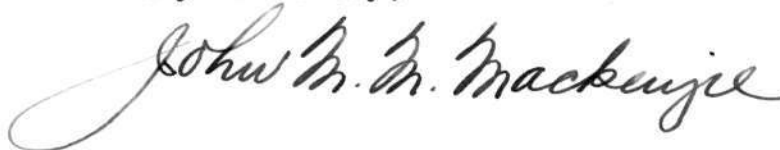
11/20/31

would seem rather unjust to be eliminated from consideration simply because of this fact.

It would also seem unfair if an architect is selected for this commission who is now doing a great deal of State work or who has had State work when there are architects like ourselves, who are well qualified for this job, and who have never been favored with a single commission of any description of the many millions of dollars that are spent annually in State Building projects in Maryland. It surely does not seem fair for this to continue when my family have been citizens and taxpayers in this state for five generations, without a single favor ever having been given them although, as said before, my father before me was a practicing architect in Baltimore for over thirty years, and I myself for a good many years.

I truly hope you will be sufficiently interested in me to give these facts to Governor Ritchie, with a strong recommendation that he do what he can for me. You probably know that there is practically no private work being done at this time and that the only work that is being undertaken is public projects. It is also a fact that this is the last State job that I know of, which was authorized by the last Legislature, for which an architect has not been selected. The other ones all went to the same few architects who have been given the work time and again, but we do hope that with your help we may be able to obtain this last commission, for it will mean a great deal to us.

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John M. M. Mackenzie". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "John M. M. Mackenzie".

MACKENZIE AND CROSS  
ARCHITECTS

415-416 PROFESSIONAL BUILDING  
BALTIMORE

TELEPHONE: VERNON 5621

SUBJECT:

The two lists below cover some of the buildings designed by Mackenzie and Cross, Architects, and their predecessor, the Office of George Norbury Mackenzie, III, Architects.

The group immediately below is work done by the Office of George Norbury Mackenzie, III, all of these buildings having been designed and erected prior to 1928.

\$15,000	Office Building for the Towson Nurseries, Inc., Towson, Md.		
90,000	Office Building for the Black & Decker Mfg., Co.,	"	"
200,000	Factory Building	"	"
85,000	Bank Building for the Baltimore County Bank,	"	"
55,000	Church for the Towson Presbyterian Church,	"	"
40,000	Theatre for the Towson Theatre Company, Inc.	"	"
90,000	Residence for Mr. J. Harry West, in Guilford, Baltimore, Md.		
25,000	Residence for Mr. & Mrs. A. P. Marty,	"	"
35,000	Residences (2) for Mr. W. Guy Crowther,	"	"
30,000	Residence for Mr. Laurence M. Simmonds, Harford County, Md.		

The list below is some of the work done since 1928 by the firm under the name of Mackenzie & Cross.

\$230,000	School for the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, Md.
275,000	Factory Building for the Black & Decker Mfg. Co., Towson, Md.
25,000	Storage Building for the Oil Seeds Crushing Corp., Balto., Md.
500,000	School for White Handicapped Children for the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore Maryland.