

terior of the old State House has been changed from its original shape to such an extent that it is practically impossible to attempt to restore the entire building to its former condition. After a careful examination and research it is believed to be possible to restore the old Senate Chamber to its original plan and design. I urgently recommend this to be done, and that the old Senate Chamber be restored and retained as a historical memorial.

The appropriation available for the addition to the State House is inadequate. I respectfully recommend that your Honorable Body authorize the Building Commission to complete the structure carrying out the work as started and as recommended by the commission after a most careful and exhaustive study of the subject.

The construction of the new building adjoining the old State House developed a very unsatisfactory and serious condition in respect to the latter. It has been necessary to underpin and reconstruct most of the adjoining wall of the old State House. The old building needs a thorough renovation. The floors, roof and dome are of wood construction, and should a fire occur in the old building, it would seriously jeopardize if not destroy the new building also.

A careful examination of the old building discloses the fact that many joists are resting on wooden bearing timbers bedded in the brick walls. These bearing timbers were absolutely rotten, and the ends of the joists in the same condition. Some of these have been removed and the rotten timbers replaced with cement and brick. There is reason to presume the same condition extends to other parts of the building. For this reason and for the safety and preservation of the new building the present floors and roof of the old building should be replaced by fire proof construction, and the outside cornice and portico, which is now of wood in bad condition, be replaced with marble to correspond in design with the old work.

These suggestions are not intended to mar or alter the general appearance of the building, but on the