

No Ex. reqd.

No returns rec.
on Inv. of April 1.

Application for Membership

Feb. 16, 1920

To the Secretary of the American Institute of Architects,
The Octagon House, Washington, D. C.

SIR:

I hereby apply for Membership in the American Institute of Architects.

I hereby certify that the following statements are correct:

Name Fred Fielding Willson

Address P.O. Box 497 Bozeman, Montana
[Number and Street.] [City.] [State.]

Place and date of birth Bozeman, Montana - Nov. 11 - 1877

Graduate in architecture Columbia University - Class 1902.
[If required in your case, give name of institutions and year.—Attach evidence of Diploma or Certificate of graduation.]

Holder of Scholarship in architecture _____
[If required in your case, attach evidence.]

Passed the qualifying examinations of the Royal Institute of British Architects, or the examinations for the first class of the Ecole des Beaux Arts _____
[If required in your case, state which, and attach evidence of Certificate.]

If an Associate of a Chapter of the Institute, give name of chapter _____

If practicing architect, firm name Fred F. Willson - Architect.

Have been in practice Bozeman Montana years ten.

If draughtsman, employed by _____
[State number of years.]

Collegiate and office training Grade schools - Montana College of Agriculture & Mechanical Arts - Columbia University. Office C. S. Hama - Helena - 1902-1904 - Junks + Haine Bitter - 1906-1910.

I have carefully examined the Constitution and By-Laws of the Institute and the "Circular of Advice Relative to Principles of Professional Practice and Canons of Ethics," and I agree, if elected, honorably to maintain them.

I further agree, if elected to membership in the American Institute of Architects, that if at any time my membership shall cease, either by my own resignation or by any action taken by the Institute, I will then, by that fact, relinquish all rights of any character that I may have acquired by reason of such membership in the property, real or personal, of the American Institute of Architects, and of the Chapter of the Institute of which I am then a member.

Fred F. Willson
[Signature of Applicant.]

I hereby certify that the signer of this application was duly elected an Associate of the _____
[For use when the applicant is an Associate.]

Chapter, A. I. A., on the following date _____
[Insert date of election to chapter.]

Secretary.

Chapter, A. I. A.

We, the undersigned members of the American Institute of Architects, have carefully examined the foregoing statement and believe it to be correct. We know the applicant personally, and consider that his work and practice warrant his admission to Membership.

- (1) John G. Link
- (2) Wm. E. Morris
- (3) Charles Bell

[The signatures of three Institute members are here required unless the applicant has the unanimous endorsement of his Chapter, in which case certification to that effect should be made above by the Secretary. Unanimous endorsement is that endorsement in which each Institute member of the Chapter had an opportunity to express himself by letter ballot either for or against the member proposed. No other form of unanimous endorsement will be accepted.]

Do not know him personally but believe him thoroughly qualified.

Recd. Feb. 16 1920
 Initiation must pay \$15.00
 Inst. Exp. 2.00
 Total 17.00
 Paid to Sec. of April 1, 1920

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Columbia University
in the City of New York

THIS IS TO CERTIFY

That on the eleventh day of June, 1902

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY conferred upon

Fred Fielding Willson

The degree of

Bachelor of Science (Arch.)



Acting Edward J. Grant
REGISTRAR OF THE UNIVERSITY

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

COPY

213

May 17, 1920.

My dear Sir:

Acting for the Secretary, I am pleased to advise you of your election to membership in the American Institute of Architects, effective May 1, 1920.

You will receive later the Proceedings of the Fifty-third Convention and the Year Book for 1920.

You have been assigned to the Minnesota Chapter as an Institute member in good standing therein, and the Secretary of the Chapter so notified.

The enclosed statement for dues should receive early attention, as the engrossed Certificate of Membership is not sent until the dues for the first year have been paid, and election becomes void for non-payment within three months of this date.

May I take this opportunity to say that the office of the Secretary at the Octagon is for the service of every Institute member. Should the occasion arise, we will be glad to give you our best co-operation.

Very truly yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Fred Fielding Willson,
P.O. Box 497,
Baldwins, Mont.

E/H
Encl.

CC to Secretary Minnesota Chapter.

P.S. Pressure of Convention business has delayed the sending of this letter.

FRED F. WILLSON
ARCHITECT
BOZEMAN, MONTANA

June 2, 1920.

RECEIVED
JUN 7 1920
REFERRED
2-3

Mr. E. C. Kemper,
The Octagon,
Washington, D. C.,

Dear Sir:

Upon my return from the East, I find your letter of May 17, stating that I have been elected to membership in the American Institute of Architects, which I assure you I appreciate most highly and is an honor greatly prized.

I am herewith enclosing a draft for Fifteen Dollars covering the initiation fee as per statement attached.

May I again thank you for the many kindnesses extended during the Convention which to me was the greatest meeting I have ever had the pleasure of attending.

Very truly yours,

Fred F. Willson
[Signature]

FFW/FGW

American Institute of Architects
Paid \$15.00 6/7/20
[Signature]

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

COPY

23

March 18, 1921.

My dear Mr. Willson:-

I enclose copy of letter of this date to Mr.
George H. Shanley which is self explanatory.

This will formally advise you of your trans-
fer, as an Institute member in good standing, from the
Minnesota Chapter to the Montana Chapter, effective
March 11, 1921.

Very truly yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Fred F. Willson,
P. O. Box 497,
Bozeman, Montana.

K:VB

From the desk of—
FRED F. WILLSON

4/14/32

With many & profuse
apologies —

Hope to see you all
next week —

Fred F. Willson

Checked Payment
Federal Reserve Bank of New York
\$25.00 - 4/19/32 (1932 dues)
Prof.

FRED F. WILLSON, A. I. A.
ARCHITECT
P. O. BOX 497
BOZEMAN, MONTANA



My dear Kemper:

Just a note to express my chagrin for not having replied to your many letters of the winter, nor having completed the Questionnaire -

It is a shame, but I find myself in the condition of most of the other Architects throughout the country, broke, or badly bent, no stenographer, and trying to do everything myself, consequently nothing done -

Have put in the busiest winter I ever experienced, working twelve to fourteen hours a day including Sundays on P.W. a projects, and we now expect to receive bids on one of them May 1st, that is if the government ever reaches a point where we do not have to put in new clauses stipulations, regulations, etc, where I hope to receive the first monetary commission

so that I may square up with the Institute and everyone else. I never went through anything like it before in my life. It makes one wonder just what is Architecture, when you look at the peanut or pop-corn vendor.

I often wonder what you are all doing, and appreciate the terrible problems you have on your hands.

I will complete the survey just as soon as possible.

Sister, my son wanted me to tell you that he wants Sigma Chi.

With kindest regards to both you and Mr. Baldwin -

Sincerely yours -

Fred S. Wilson

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2-3
COPY

April 20, 1934.

Dear Mr. Willson:

This is a quick response to yours of the 15th. I am indeed glad to hear from you and to know that you have been busy.

If we can be of any help here in connection with any Public Works Administration projects in which you are interested, please let us know.

This has been a tough winter for the Octagon staff in many ways. We are greatly reduced in numbers and in other respects - but not in morale.

Generally speaking, things look a little better for the architectural profession, and if the Institute will seize its opportunities - at this coming Convention - the future can be faced with greater confidence.

You should have by now the April number of THE OCTAGON. Please take steps in some way to assure that the Montana Chapter is represented by one or more delegates. Would it be possible for you to make the trip yourself? Couldn't you combine a Convention trip and a P. W. A. trip under one head?

Please give my sincere and fraternal congratulations to your son, Lester. I am glad he went Sigma Chi for his own sake and because he will honor the Fraternity. My own son was initiated last winter and it is a great satisfaction to me and to him.

F.C.B. joins me in best personal regards to you, and we look forward to seeing you in Washington at the Convention.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Fred F. Willson, A.I.A.,
P.O. Box No. 497,
Bozeman, Montana.

ECK*B

FRED F. WILLSON, A. I. A.
ARCHITECT
P. O. BOX 497
BOZEMAN, MONTANA

June 20, 1936

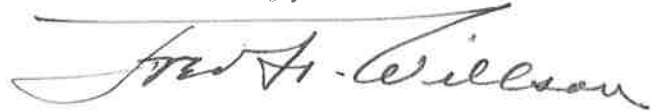
Mr. E. C. Kemper
The Octagon
1741 New York Avenue N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Ed:

This will introduce to you Jack Purdum of Bozeman who has worked in my office and has this year graduated from the architectural course here at the College, under Mr. Flew.

Anything you may show him or tell him will be greatly appreciated by me and I am sure, by Jack also.

Sincerely,



Fred F. Willson

FFW/dc

3/4

FRED F. WILLSON, A. I. A.
ARCHITECT
P. O. BOX 497
BOZEMAN, MONTANA

January 4, 1936



Mr. E. C. Kemper
American Institute of Architects
Washington, D. C.

Dear Ed:

Refer me to Robert Ripley "Strange as it Seems", the statement of the A.I.A. for 1937 dues arrived this morning and I am this morning, sending a check covering the years dues, "Believe it or Not". That at least is starting the new year as it should be started and I am very happy to say that it applies to all of my other creditors as well as The American Institute of Architects.

The past year has been very good to me and prospects for '37 are not bad. More private work, completion of P.W.A. projects, and if P.W.A. is continued, we have a number of projects which will be started.

Relative to P.W.A., I note that Mr. Ickes hopes to evolve a six year program and I sincerely hope he will be successful. I have come to the conclusion that a very much simplified P.W.A. project would be advantageous in keeping the construction industry on an even keel, in this way.

When private industries are up, taper down on Public Work, but when private industries begin to lag, if something on the order of P.W.A. would step in to fill the voids, a repetition of the past years would be obviated and we know that when the construction industry is in progress, general conditions in every other line benefit.

I note that you contemplate the 1937 meeting at Detroit. If it is at all possible, my wish is that I may be able to attend. I would appreciate renewing old acquaintances.

With best wishes to Mr. Voorhees, Louis La Beaume, Charles Ingham, Ed Bergstrom, yourself and any of the clerical force that were with you during my close association with the Institute, I am

Very cordially yours,
Fred F. Willson
Fred F. Willson

FFW/t

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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2-3
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File

January 12, 1937.

Dear Fred:

It was good to get your letter of January 4 and to note that business is better in Montana.

This will acknowledge with thanks your check covering Institute dues.

At the Board meeting, in December, it was decided to hold the 1937 Convention in Boston during the first week of June.

Information concerning the exact dates, the program, etc., will appear in various numbers of THE OCTAGON from now on.

We all send you best regards and the sincere hope that we will see you in Boston. It will be like old times to have you there, and I know you will enjoy meeting your many friends in The Institute who will be present.

As ever

Sincerely yours,

ECK*B

Mr. Fred F. Willson, A. I. A.,
P. O. Box 497,
Bozeman, Montana.

COPY TO
FILES

PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

FRED F. WILLSON, A. I. A.
ARCHITECT
P. O. BOX 487
BOZEMAN, MONTANA

JANUARY 25, 1938



MR. E. C. KEMPER,
C/O THE OCTAGON,
1741 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW
WASHINGTON, D.C.

MY DEAR ED:

STRANGE AS IT MAY SEEM, MY YEARLY EPISTLE AT THIS SEASON OF THE YEAR IS GOING FORWARD AND STRANGER THAN IT MAY SEEM, IT CONTAINS A CHECK FOR \$20.00 TO COVER THE INSTITUTE DUES FOR THE YEAR OF 1938.

I THINK I WROTE YOU LAST YEAR THAT I ANTICIPATED A BUSY SEASON WHICH MATERIALIZED AND FORTUNATELY, THE PAST THREE MONTHS HAVE BEEN MORE THAN BUSY, YOU KNOW, THE NIGHT AND DAY STUFF, HAVING YESTERDAY SUCCEEDED IN LETTING CONTRACTS FOR ANOTHER SCHOOL BUILDING IN LIVINGSTON WHICH RAN \$40,000. OVER WHAT THEY WANTED TO PUT INTO IT. SOME GOOD LITTLE FAIRY SEEMED TO SHOW THE BOARD THE LIGHT OF DAY, BACKED UP BY A MASS MEETING OF THE PEOPLE THAT THEY GO ANYWAY, SO I AM NOW SPENDING, AND WILL FOR THE NEXT YEAR, MOST OF MY DAYS DRIVING BACK AND FORTH THE 54 MILES, ENDEAVORING TO GIVE THE OWNER THE SERVICES WHICH WE ARCHITECTS ARE SUPPOSED TO GIVE.

I REGRET VERY MUCH THAT P.W.A. HAS BEEN DONE AWAY WITH FOR I FEEL THAT IT HAS BEEN A DISTINCT ADVANTAGE TO COMMUNITIES AND THE FOLLOWERS OF CONSTRUCTION IN THAT IT HAS GIVEN MUCH EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNITIES NOW DERIVING THE BENEFIT OF BETTER SURROUNDINGS AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS SUCH AS SCHOOL HOUSES, COURT HOUSES, ETC. I RATHER EXPECT TO SEE SOMETHING ALONG THE SAME LINE RETURN, AS I FEEL THAT P.W.A. HAS BEEN ONE OF THE VERY FEW COMMENDABLE STEPS TAKEN.

I HAVE ANTICIPATED BEING IN ATTENDANCE AT THE PAST TWO MEETINGS AND LOOKING FORWARD TO THE 1938 SESSION, BUT IT IS HELD SO FAR AWAY FROM MONTANA, AT THE PRESENT TIME IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE. I DISLIKE TO LOOSE THE CONTACT AND FRIENDSHIPS MADE WHEN I HAD THE PLEASURE OF BEING WITH YOU ALL. I RECEIVE CARDS FROM ED BERGSTROM AND OTHERS AND I TAKE ADVANTAGE OF INQUIRING FOR ALL OF THE FELLOWS WHEN I MEET SOMEONE WHO HAS ATTENDED SOME MEETING OR WHO HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH MY OLD TIME FRIENDS. PERHAPS I CAN MAKE IT YET THIS YEAR, AND IF SO, AM LOOKING FORWARD TO A MOST ENJOYABLE FOUR OR FIVE DAYS.

THE BUILDING BUSINESS IS DROPPING OFF HERE AT THE PRESENT TIME AND IT LOOKS AS THOUGH IT WOULD BE NONE TOO BRISK, HOWEVER, OUR JOBS ARE ALWAYS LATE IN COMING IN.

FRED F. WILLSON, A. I. A.
ARCHITECT
P. O. BOX 497
BOZEMAN, MONTANA

-2-

MY SIGMA CHI SON, LESTER, FINISHED HERE LAST JUNE, HE HAD BEEN ACTIVE IN MILITARY AFFAIRS AND RECEIVED AN APPOINTMENT TO SERVE AS SECOND LIEUTENANT IN THE 38TH INFANTRY AT FORT DOUBLAS, UTAH FOR A YEAR. HE IS GETTING SOME MIGHT GOOD EXPERIENCE AND AS TO WHETHER HE WILL CONTINUE IN MILITARY CAPACITY OR NOT, HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED.

WITH KIND PERSONAL REGARDS TO YOURSELF, AND WILL YOU TELL ANY OF MY OLD FRIENDS THAT I STILL CHERISH THE ACQUAINTANCESHIP AND PLEASANT TIMES EXPERIENCED WHEN I WAS CLOSER TO, AND MORE ACTIVE, IN INSTITUTE AFFAIRS.

VERY CORDIALLY YOURS,



FRED F. WILLSON

FFW/T
ENCL.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2-3
COPY

Willson

February 4, 1938.

Dear Fred:

It was surely good to get your friendly and encouraging letter of January 25, and to see that fortune has been doing at least a reasonable amount of smiling in your direction.

While general prospects for the profession are not as good as they were six months ago I do not believe we are in for anything like the major catastrophe that occurred in 1929.

Have just returned from a trip to New Orleans and a meeting there with President Maginnis, Secretary Ingham, and Director Goldstein - all for the purpose of making final plans for the convention.

It promises to be one grand party, and if you can possibly get away do not fail to come.

All of your old friends will be there and in addition a lot of the Young Turks who are now taking such an active interest in Institute affairs.

As a final inducement, I can mention the French Quarter, the old plantations, and the Ramos Gin Fizz.

We cannot take no for an answer on this so I will look forward to greeting you in New Orleans on the opening day of the convention, April 19 - if not the day before!

As ever,
Sincerely yours,

Mr. Fred F. Willson, A. I. A.,
P. O. Box 497
Bozeman, Montana.

F. L. C.

ECK:LF

From the desk of—
FRED E. WILLSON

9/6/43

Regret the enclosed has not been taken care of before now.

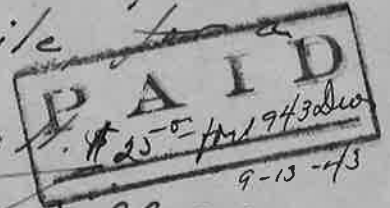
Office frozen & packed away.

Have been ^{out} on Defense Work most of the time for a year, yes even to working with a Contracting Firm, and must say got some damn good experience on the other side of the fence.

Am still doing Defense Work but can attend to it from home for a while.

change -
Regards to a

Fred E. Willson



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2-3
COPY
Willson

September 18, 1943

Dear Fred:

Thank you for your note of the 6th. This also acknowledges Institute dues, including a special gift of \$5.00 for the year 1943.

We all hope that the profession will come into its own when this war is over. Meanwhile, the going is tough, except for a very few.

We are operating with a reduced force and on a reduced scale here at The Octagon - riding out the storm as in the depression and as in World War I.

If we can be of any service to you in Washington in any way, please command.

With best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Fred F. Willson, A.I.A.
P. O. Box 497
Bozeman, Montana

ECK:ER

2-3

FRED F. WILLSON, A. I. A.
ARCHITECT
P. O. BOX 487
BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Sept. 22, 1943

THE AMERICAN
INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
1943 SEP 27 AM 9:10
WASHINGTON, D. C.

file

Dear Ed:

Your note of the 18th was like a breath from out of the old days, when I was more mixed up with Architecture than I have been for the past few years. I have certainly passed up Institute Duties in my wanderings, of the past year and a half.

Am really trying to do a little something for Stanley Parkers Committee on Contract Documents today, and hope I can secure the information for him he desires. Our architects are so scattered we cannot get enough together to make up a quorum, hence no meetings, and so McIver continues as Pres. and by the way is making a good job of it, and Flew continues on as Secy.

Closed my office in July of last year, since which time have been out on Defense Work much of the time. For the time being am working on a Housing Project at Great Falls, and can do some of the work at home, which is nice for a change. Also have some few Post War Projects upon which am doing sketching and study. Really have a lot of work after the war ends.

You are living in a mad house according to reports. Rest assured that should the occasion arise will call upon you for help, if needed. Yes I hope the time will come when the Architect will come into his own again. Am sure getting tired of the word "ENGINEER".

My Sigma Chi is stationed at Camp Campbell, Kentucky.

With kindest regards to all who may show up and perhaps remember me, I am

Very sincerely,



Fred F. Willson.

F. F. W. stenographer. Not such a bad job for one finger.

Again I apologize for not having sent dues etc. earlier. In my travels just put it off.

FRED F. WILLSON

ARCHITECT

P. O. BOX 497
BOZEMAN, MONTANA

June 20, 1945

4/16
THE AMERICAN
INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

1945 JUN 25 AM 9:47

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. Edward C. Kemper
1741 New York Avenue NW.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Ed:

Just a note to tell you that Mr. Plew died this morning.

He has been quite miserable for the past year and returned only last Sunday from a visit with his son-in-law, Gordon Cottier, who now is located in Yakima.

He will be a loss to the Architectural Profession here in Montana, for as you know he has been Secretary to the various Boards for many years and has the situation well in hand. You probably, also, know that the Architects in Montana are having their troubles because there are so few of us left. Many of them are still out on Defense work or in the Services, which leaves only McIver, Shanley, Bossout, and I understand he is out of the State, Link, and Myself. You can see how difficult it is for us to even have a meeting. Cushing is in the State but he is working with a Contractor and will not open his office until conditions will have settled themselves.

I am loaded to the guards with work and am fortunate in having one man with me and am unfortunate in not being able to find an idle draftsman between St. Paul and Seattle. For two years now, have been hanging over the drafting board right where I started 25 years ago. Am putting in 10 to 12 hours a day, have spent 3 evenings home since October and am feeling fine.

With kind personal regards to you, particularly, and to any of the fellows you may meet who will remember me.

Very sincerely,



Fred F. Willson
W/1

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2-3
COPY

Willson

file

June 26, 1945

Dear Fred:

It was good to get your letter of June 20th, at hand yesterday, although your news of the death of William R. Plew is a great shock. If there are any resolutions or other material concerning his life and work, which become available, we would appreciate copies for the historical file here at The Octagon.

Am hoping that some time in the future you and the new Director of the Western Mountain District, Mr. McIver, can have a talk about the Montana Chapter. Apparently, it has been hard hit by war conditions, but that is true of some of the other Chapters having scattered memberships.

If the Montana Chapter can hold on until peace comes, at least maintaining a skeleton organization, then it will be in a position to rebuild when the war is over.

Please let us know if we can be of any assistance here along this line at any time.

With best personal regards and hoping that you will be coming East some time, I am

Sincerely yours,

S. I. G.

ECK/am

Mr. Fred F. Willson, A.I.A.
P. O. Box 497
Bozeman, Montana