Irwin, Clarence Wentworth
Iowa.

Must send Fp.
Rec'd.

Application for Membership

August 2, 1923

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 Clarence Wentworth Irwin

Address 627 Baltimore St. Waterloo Iowa
[Number and Street.] [City.] [State.]

Place and date of birth Hamilton, Ontario, Canada Oct. 5, 1891.

Graduate in architecture
[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 Ecolè 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 Iowa

If practicing architect, firm name

Have been in practice years

If draughtsman, employed by J. G. Ralston 1½ yrs.
[State number of years.]

Collegiate and office training 2 yrs. Art. & Tech. School after High School
12 years office experience

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.

C. W. Irwin
[Signature of Applicant.]

I hereby certify that the signer of this application was duly elected an Associate of the Iowa
[For use when the applicant is an Associate.]
Chapter, A. I. A., on the following date February 1921
[Insert date of election to chapter.]

W. J. Brown Exec. Secretary.

Iowa 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) Mortimer B. Cleveland
(2) Clinton P. Shockley.
(3) W. J. Brown.

[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, and in which there are no negative votes. No other form of unanimous endorsement will be accepted.]

$5 Check returned to Brown, Fp. Secy of Iowa Chapter for endorsement over to Institute
8/8/23

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THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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November 30, 1923.

Dear Mr. Irwin:-

Acting for the Secretary, I am pleased to advise you of your election to membership in the American Institute of Architects, effective November 17, 1923.

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

No charge for 1923 dues will be made against you and your subscription to the Institute Journal will begin with the January issue.

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 shall be glad to give you our best cooperation.

Very truly yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Clarence Wentworth Irwin,
627 Baltimore Street,
Waterloo, Iowa.

K:VB

COPY TO
FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
AUG 23 1926
RECEIVED
RFD.

Jacksonville Beach, Florida,
August 19, 1926.

Secretary,
American Institute of Architects,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir;-

Enclosed find money order for $2.50 and a statement of my standing with the Iowa Chapter.

Please arrange for my transfer from the Iowa Chapter to the Florida Chapter.

Also please let me have a statement of my standing with the A. I. A. I desire this for the Florida State Board of Architecture.

Yours very truly,

C. W. Irwin

American Institute of Architects
8/22/26

1926 Dues paid in full

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...A CHAPTER
...OF THE
...AN INSTITUTE OF
...ARCHITECTS

OFFICE OF

Sect-Treas.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTS
AUG 23 1926
RECEIVED
RFD.

Mr.C.W.Irwin,
Jacksonville Beach,
Florida.

Dear Mr.Irwin:-

Regarding your transfer from the Iowa Chapter to the Florida Chapter of the A.I.A. I wish to state that you are in good standing and under no financial obligation to the Iowa Chapter.

It is with regret that we loose you as a Chapter member, but wish you continued success in your new location.

Yours very truly,

R W Liebsle

Sect. Iowa Chapter.

RWL/SC

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August 24, 1926

Dear Mr. Irwin:

In accordance with your letter of August 19th, and that of no date, from Mr. Leibsle, Secretary-Treasurer of the Iowa Chapter, we beg to advise that you have been formally transferred, as an Institute Member in good standing, from the Iowa to the Florida Chapter, effective August 24, 1926.

The Secretaries of the two Chapters concerned have been so notified.

Very truly yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. C. W. Irwin,
Jacksonville Beach,
Florida.

K/FHG

COPY TO
FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

2 -3

COPY

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

August 24, 1926

Dear Mr. Irwin:

In response to your letter of August 19th, please accept this as a certification of your good standing as a member of The American Institute of Architects.

A separate letter, transferring you from the Iowa Chapter to the Florida Chapter is transmitted herewith.

Very truly yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. C. W. Irwin,
Jacksonville Beach,
Florida.

K/FHG

Enc.

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MILTON B. MEDARY, JR., PRESIDENT, PHILADELPHIA
WILLIAM EMERSON, 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT, BOSTON
C. HERRICK HAMMOND, 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT, CHICAGO

FRANK C. BALDWIN, SECRETARY, WASHINGTON, D. C.
EDWIN BERGSTROM, TREASURER, LOS ANGELES
EDWARD C. KEMPER, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 7, 1926

Memorandum - For Mr. Baldwin:

There is submitted, herewith, original letter of September 2nd from Mr. Cunningham, President of the Florida Chapter, and attached to it is the file of correspondence showing the record on which the transfer was made.

In this connection attention is called to Section 5 of Article V of the By-laws, with regard to transfer of Institute membership.

K/FHG

Enc.

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FLORIDA CHAPTER
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
J. Bruce Smith Building
SAINT PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
SEP 7 19[illegible]
RECEIVED
RFD.

2nd September, 1926

The Secretary,
American Institute of Architects,
The Octagon,
Washington,

Dear Sir:-

With reference to your letter of the 24th August, addressed to Mr Clare C Hosmer, Secretary of the Florida Chapter, and to Mr R W Leibsle, Secretary of the Iowa Chapter, announcing the transfer of Mr C W Irwin to the Florida Chapter; your attention is invited to my communication under date of 13th August, 1926, addressed to the Board of Directors. My letter referred to, informs the Board that the Florida Chapter will not accept for Membership in the Chapter, "either by election, assignment, transfer, or by any other means, any person who has not previously been registered according to Law as an Architect in the State of Florida".

You are advised that Mr C W Irwin is not registered according to Law as an Architect in the State of Florida - has not even filed an application for Registration - and is not acceptable to the Florida Chapter for membership therein until he has been registered in the State.

You will therefore please notify Mr Irwin and the other parties concerned, that his "transfer" was a bit premature, and is withdrawn, as being impossible for the moment.

It is suggested that you inform yourself as to the registration of individuals desiring to become members of the Florida Chapter in the future - since we have a very hard and fast RULE that admits of no exceptions, to the effect that membership in this Chapter may only be had through prior registration.

Sincerely yours,

Harry F Cunningham, AIA
President, Florida Chapter, AIA

C/c State Board
Sec Iowa Chapter
Sec Fla Chap

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

COPY

September 7, 1926

Dear Mr. Cunningham:

Your letter of September 2nd to the Secretary, concerning the transfer of Mr. G. W. Irwin, is at hand this morning and will be submitted to Mr. Baldwin tomorrow, when he is expected at the Octagon.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Harry F. Cunningham, President,
Florida Chapter, A.I.A.,
J. Bruce Smith Building,
St. Petersburg, Fla.

K/FHG

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
J. Bruce Smith Building
SAINT PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

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17th November, 1926

The Secretary,
The American Institute of Architects,
The OCTAGON,
Washington

Dear Mr Secretary,

At the last regular meeting of the Florida Chapter, all the correspondence concerning the matters discussed in connection with this Chapter at the recent Executive Committee of the Board meeting was read.

The Chapter voted unanimously - on motion of Mr George L Pfeiffer - that the "past action of the President and Executive Committee of the Chapter, with reference to non-acceptance of non-registered Architects as members of this Chapter, is approved and endorsed, and future action in this same connection is left to the discretion of the President and the Executive Committee".

I would suggest, if I may, that the Octagon advise Mr Irwin, who was "transferred from the Iowa Chapter to the Florida Chapter", that it would be the courteous and proper thing to do, if he might request Registration in Florida without delay. As soon as he has fulfilled this apparently simple requirement, we shall be happy to welcome him into our Chapter as of the date of his "transfer".

Future difficulties will be avoided by the same advice being offered to prospective Members desiring transfer and by the notice in the JOURNAL. Mr Marvin's case has disposed of itself automatically through his assignment to the North Carolina Chapter.

If matters may rest therefore, as they are at present, another "War of Secession" will be avoided - which is very well, and a distinct triumph for modern "Diplomacy".

With best wishes,
Faithfully yours,

Harry F Cunningham

C/c to Mr Hosmer.

Harry F Cunningham, AIA
President.

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THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2-3

COPY

January 22, 1927

My dear Mr. Irwin:

The Secretary's Office is under the impression that you are elligible for registration in Florida, as you are a member of the Institute in good standing.

The purpose of this letter is to ask if you will not give early attention to registration with the Florida Board. The Secretary is Mr. Mellen C. Greeley, 52 W. Forsyth Street, Jacksonville, Fla.

One of the reasons for this request is the very proper desire of the Florida Chapter to have on its rolls only those Institute members in the State who are qualified to practice architecture. The Institute Board is in full sympathy with this position of the Chapter.

Please advise in due course if you are practicing in the State, and if your registration is under way.

By direction of the Secretary.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Clarence W. Irwin,
Jacksonville Beach,
Florida.

K/FHG

COPY TO FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

Copy to Messrs. Cunningham, Hosmer and Greeley.

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MARK & SHEFTALL
ARCHITECTS
CLARK BUILDING
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
FEB 9 1927
RECEIVED
REC'D.

Route 4, Box 729-B,
Jacksonville, Fla.,
February 7, 1927.

Secretary, A. I. A.,
1741 New York Ave.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The reason I did not reply promptly to your letter of January 22nd, is that I have recently moved to a permanent residence and wished to forward my new address with my reply to your letter.

My move to Florida was urged by our doctors for the benefit of our children, and as I expected to remain for one winter only, I secured employment with a local firm of Architects and am still employed by the same firm. The only reason I asked for a transfer from the Iowa to the Florida Chapter was because I thought it looked as if I were slighting the Florida Chapter by living here and being affiliated with another Chapter. Your letter was the first intimation I received that there was any question about my transfer and as soon as possible after receiving it, I called on Mr. Greeley, Secretary of the Florida Board, and explained what I am doing and why. It was my belief that the Florida Chapter thought I was practicing illegally and objected on that ground, but Mr. Greeley told me that such is not the case and he also assured me that there was no animosity against me personally. The entire matter seems well muddled but I suspect that after making the State Law exempting members of the Institute from taking an examination before practicing, some of the old gang now object to this clause but dare not attempt to have it changed because they are in such poor standing with the legislators. The Institute is not considered "up to much." The Florida Chapter endorses this idea and, as per your letter, "the Institute Board is in full sympathy with this position of the Chapter!" Surely, there is a smile here somewhere.

As I am now a permanent resident, I will eventually register with the State Board but as there is no legal reason for doing so immediately, I shall not register just now. Did you know that after a man registers with the State Board and pays $26.00 plus the cost of a seal, he must secure a State License, a County License and A City License before he can call himself an Architect? This amounts to an annual charge of about $50.00. By the way, assuming that as an Institute member without a Chapter, I am not required to pay the customary $10.00 blackmail to the Florida Chapter, what shall I do with this sum?

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MARK & SHEFTALL
ARCHITECTS
CLARK BUILDING
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

Secretary A. I. A.

Until the past week or two, I didn't realize how petty and yet irritating, many of the tasks handled by the Secretary's office must be. I do hope you can get a smile out of this.

Cordially yours,

C. W. Irwin

C. W. IRWIN

CWI:NP

Copy to
Secretary, Florida Chapter.

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2-3

Office
Please note.

MARK & SHEFTALL
ARCHITECTS
CLARK BUILDING
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

February 8, 1927.

Secretary, A. I. A.,
The Octagon,
Washington, D. C.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTS
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Dear Sir;-

In my letter of yesterday, my new address was given incorrectly.

The correct address is

R 6, Box 729B,
Jacksonville, Florida.

noted

Yours truly,
C. W. Irwin
C. W. Irwin.

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2-3

File

X

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
FEB 14 1927
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REC.

9th February 1927

C. W. Irwin, Esq.,
Route 4, Box 729 - B,
Jacksonville, Florida,

Dear Mr Irwin,

I have just received a copy of your letter of the 5th instant addressed to the Secretary of the Institute. Since I was President of the Chapter at the time the matter you refer to occurred, I shall take it upon myself to reply.

Please note that neither the Chapter, nor any individual in the Chapter, had "any animosity toward you personally". I have not found anyone who knew you personally at the time the matter came up. My personal attitude toward you, if in my position as President of the Chapter I might have had a personal attitude, would have been one of the greatest cordiality, for the reason that you came from the Chapter of one of my dearest friends, Mr William L Steele. But, in organisation affairs, the individual must always be subservient to what is, or may appear to be, the interest of the whole. The Board had lately removed the Mandatory requirement of prior registration for Institute Membership in a State having registration. We were in dispute at the time of your "transfer" over the assignment to our Chapter of a man who had tried to register in this State and failed and then secured Institute Membership and endeavoured to use that to secure registration by exemption. And therefore, sometime prior to your "transfer" to this Chapter we had agreed to "not accept for membership in the Florida Chapter any man who has not previously registered according to Law as an Architect in this State", and this refusal to accept such unregistered persons was worded so as to cover the cases of "election, assignment, transfer, or by any other means".

All of this was intended to protect the Board of Architectural Examiners in its efforts to enforce the Law and was brought about by several efforts (one of which slipped across) to secure registration by exemption based upon Institute Membership, by persons who had previously failed of registration by examination. And you were only the "victim of the circumstance" - for which we are all very sorry. And since you are not practising, and have no present expectation of so doing, it may be that the present Chapter Administration might welcome you into the Chapter by transfer, with the understanding that you would fulfill the requirements as to registration at such time as you were ready to practise. I would recommend such action by the Chapter, if I were in a position to recommend - which I am not. But the Chapter "blackmail" is fifteen dollars per year - not ten.

With best wishes,

C/o Presdt, Secy, Octagon.

Harry F Cunningham, AIA
Past President, Fla Chapter.

2-3

American Institute of Architects

Inter-Office Communication

Subject	From	To	Date
	E.C.K.	Frank C. Baldwin	Feb. 16, 1927

Memorandum for Mr. Baldwin:

Attached is a letter of February 7th from Mr. C. W. Irwin.

He was transferred to the Florida Chapter under the By-laws and the Chapter refused to accept him because he was not registered in the State. His letter explains why he has not registered.

The question is as to future procedure.

Perhaps a way out would be to cancel Mr. Irwin's transfer from Iowa to Florida and ask the Iowa Chapter to carry him on its non-resident list. The other course is a battle with the Florida Chapter over the principle involved.

K/FHG
Enc.

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2 - 3

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THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 19, 1927

Dear Mr. Irwin:-

Your letter of February 7 was received, but the pressure of work in connection with the effort which the Institute is making to save the L'Enfant plan of Washington from encroachments has caused a delay in answering.

At the direction of the Secretary, Mr. Baldwin, we are corresponding with the Florida Chapter and will write you again in due course.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary

Mr. C. W. Irwin,
R. 6, Box 729 B,
Jacksonville, Florida.

K:VB

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COPY 2-3

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May 29, 1929.

My dear Mr. Irwin:

The Florida Chapter, which covered the entire State of Florida, has been divided into three new Chapters, namely, the Florida North Chapter, the Florida Central Chapter, and the Florida South Chapter.

Under resolutions of the Board of Directors creating these new Chapters in Florida, it was directed that all members of the old Florida Chapter be transferred to the new Chapter having jurisdiction of their place of residence.

According to our records you are now located in Waterloo, Iowa. The purpose of this letter is two-fold:

To suggest that you transfer to the Iowa Chapter. The procedure is shown on the enclosed document, as marked. I am sure the Secretary of the Chapter - Mr. Vernon F. Tinsley, of Hubbell Building, Des Moines, Iowa - would be glad to hear from you, and that the Secretary of the old Florida Chapter, Mr. Clare C. Hosmer, of P.O. Box 2136, Sarasota, Florida, would be glad to give you the necessary letter of good standing.

The alternative and what seems to be a less desirable course, is to transfer you to the new Chapter in Florida, which has jurisdiction of your place of residence in that state. If you elect this course, please advise us of the city which is your legal residence in Florida, in order that the necessary letters may be written.

There are some four or five other members of the Institute who are receiving letters similar to this. We hope for your early response so that the cases can be cleared up and all of the requirements of the Institute fully met.

By direction of the Secretary.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Clarence W. Irwin,
826 Campbell Avenue,
Waterloo, Iowa.

K-G
Encl.

COPY TO
FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

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

2-3
COPY

August 2, 1929

Dear Mr. Irwin:

This is in the nature of a formal and routine letter to advise you of the creation of the Florida North Chapter, and your assignment thereto, by resolution of the Board of Directors of the Institute, effective April 27, 1929.

The President of the new Chapter is Mr. Rudolph Weaver, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla; and the Secretary is Mr. W. Kenyon Drake, 21 Ocean Street, Jacksonville, Fla. Each has been advised of your transfer from the old Florida Chapter to the new Florida North Chapter.

Your obligations and privileges will remain the same as heretofore, with respect to Chapter and Institute affiliation, and we hope that you will join with the new Chapter in making its work a success.

By direction of the Secretary:

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Clarence W. Irwin,
826 Campbell Avenue,
Waterloo, Iowa.

K/FHG

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RUDOLPH WEAVER, PRESIDENT
GAINESVILLE

H. J. KLUTHO, VICE PRESIDENT
JACKSONVILLE

W. KENYON DRAKE, SECRETARY-TREASURER
JACKSONVILLE

DIRECTORS

ROY. A. BENJAMIN JACKSONVILLE
MELLEN C. GREELEY JACKSONVILLE
LEEROY SHEFTALL JACKSONVILLE

RECEIVED
OCT 17 1929
THE A. I. A.
THE OCTAGON

FLORIDA NORTH CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Oct. 15, 1929.

Mr. Edward C. Kemper, Executive Secretary,
The American Institute of Architects,
1741 New York Avenue,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Kemper:-

At a meeting on September 26, 1929 of representatives of the three new Florida Chapters held in Tampa, Florida, the funds of the original Florida Chapter were allotted to the three new Florida Chapters. This allotment consisted of a proportionate sum of the cash on hand, together with Bills Receivable from Members assigned to the various chapters.

In the case of the Florida North Chapter, our allotment was $88.08 cash and $37.50 Bills Receivable. In the Bills Receivable Account, $20.00 is due from CLARENCE W. IRWIN of Waterloo, Iowa. The concensus of opinion of the Members of the Florida North Chapter is that Mr. Irwin never was accepted as a Member of the old Florida Chapter and that, therefore, he should not be assigned to any of the new chapters in the allotment of funds. This Chapter feels there should be a readjustment in the allotment and that the amount of cash received should be increased to offset the account due from Mr. Irwin.

The Chapter has instructed me to ask you to verify his credentials as a Member of the original Florida Chapter and whether or not he was carried on your records as a Member of that organization. Thanking you for this information, I am,

Very truly yours,
W. K. Drake
Secretary-Treasurer.

WKD:W

3-2
COPY

October 18, 1929

Dear Mr. Drake:

Your letter of the 15th concerning the status of Mr. Clarence W. Irwin, of Waterloo, Iowa; is at hand this morning. The records at The Octagon show as follows:

Mr. Irwin was transferred from the Iowa Chapter to the Florida Chapter on August 24, 1926. The transfer was made on his request and in accord with a letter from the Secretary of the Iowa Chapter, stating that Mr. Irwin was in good standing therein, and under no financial obligations. Under Article V, Section 5 of the By-laws of the Institute it was the duty of the Secretary of the Institute to make the transfer. It was made and the Chapter was duly notified as was Mr. Irwin. He therefore became a member in good standing in the Florida Chapter.

When the Florida Chapter was sub-divided we wrote to Mr. Irwin who is now located in Waterloo, Iowa, suggesting that he transfer his membership from Florida to the Iowa Chapter, but he did not make a reply. Under the Institute By-laws at present there is no way of forcing a transfer, so we are obliged to continue to carry Mr. Irwin as an Institute member in good standing in the Florida North Chapter.

Am sending two copies of this letter in case you should wish to refer them to Mr. Weaver and to Mr. Nat Walker who helped to organize the three new groups.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. W. K. Drake, Secretary,
Florida North Chapter, A.I.A.,
21 Ocean Street,
Jacksonville, Fla.

K/FHG
Encs.

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FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

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PHONE 1659

C. W. IRWIN
ARCHITECT
526 LAFAYETTE BUILDING
WATERLOO, IOWA

RECEIVED
OCT 28 1929
THE A. I. A.
THE OCTAGON

October 25, 1929.

The Secretary,
The American Institute of Architects,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir;-

By way of explaining my failure to reply to several communications I have received from the Institute during the past year or so, I beg to make the following report;

About 1921 I became an Associate of the Iowa Chapter and in 1923 I became a full member and took an active part in the chapter until a series of very severe illnesses in my family made it necessary for us to seek a milder climate.

In the meanwhile, the Iowa Chapter sponsored an Architects' Registration Law and with the other members of the chapter, I donated my share towards the expenses, but the bill was voted down just before we went south.

We expected to stay away for only one winter but spring found us all so improved that we decided to continue the treatment and we stayed in Florida for two years.

After about one year in Florida, I thought that the proper thing for me to do would be to transfer to the Florida Chapter although I was not definitely settled there.

Transferred to Florida North Chapter 4/27/29 C.C.K. has correspondence

I have just finished reading some of the correspondence connected with this transfer and it now appears to be extremely funny although at the time I thought it quite otherwise. Briefly, the Florida Chapter refused to accept my transfer because I was not registered, and as I was working for others at the time, it was not legally necessary for me to register. To pacify the Florida people, I decided to register with their state board but when I attempted to do so they demurred very distinctly. According to the Florida State Law, any member of the Institute is entitled to registration without the formality of an examination and I could have demanded registration on that basis but didn't feel like wasting my time and money on their examination because I knew several men who had passed them and if these gentlemen were really qualified architects I felt that I was certainly something else and that Noah Webster & Co. didn't know what they were talking about when they defined "Architecture." As the whole matter seemed certain to stir up more hard feelings and as I still had interests in Iowa, I decided to let the matter drop.

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So we returned to Iowa, and then what? While I was away, the Iowa Registration Law had been introduced again and had passed. None of our friends had evidently thought it worth mentioning in their letters so when I returned I found that I was a sure 'nuff orphan again, a member of the Institute but not an architect! And so it was back to the board again at a salary and with business pretty punk.

Finally, last summer, I caught my breath and applied to the Iowa Board for registration. The Iowa law provided for a "practical" examination for "old-timers" so I did no plugging whatever for the examination. When I went to Des Moines, I was given the "whole works" with the youngsters. I have no complaints to make about this; in fact I was rather flattered to learn later that some of the board members told mutual friends that there was no doubt that I would pass although the examination is considered by some to be fairly stiff and it is recognized by the Illinois board. In course of time, I was advised that I had successfully passed the examination with an average of 85%. I promptly made arrangements for opening an office of my own and am rapidly becoming organized.

In addition to the above experiences, I have had several others of a disconcerting nature, in which the Institute, individually and collectively, didn't appear to me in a very flattering role.

For several years I was a member of a national engineering society until one day I read a paper in their journal, that was written by an architect whose name has been very prominent for at least fifteen years and who has taken a very prominent part in Institute affairs. The paper was simply ghastly. It was on a subject that every architect, worthy of the name, should be on intimate terms with but this gentleman evidently didn't know even enough to try to conceal a collossal ignorance. One of my earliest delusions was exploded.

Another time I worked on a project on which another very prominent Institute member was employed as "consultant". Until then I had always had a high opinion of this gentleman's ability and was very much upset to find that many of the ideas which he tried to have adopted, had been obsolete for at least one decade. For this man's reputation as a technician he apparently was entirely dependent upon two of his assistants, and it was with mixed feelings that we decided to deliberately ignore and veto several of their urgent recommendations which were obviously very poor. At the same time this project was being developed, the same "consultant" was employed for a similar building in the same neighborhood, the "architects" for which were of the type known as "house butchers". As these men had no technical training and had no employees who had, they hired the consultant to design the framing and mechanical equipment. The result was startling. The building I was interested in was so much superior and its cost was so much less, although it was erected under more severe building code requirements and was more nearly fire proof, that I lost every vestige of respect I had

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for this "expert".

During this same period, charges of unethical conduct were filed against a member of the Institute for protesting the award of some work to another architect. I knew nothing about this case but I was acquainted with a good architect who also had no connection with the case but who claimed to know the facts, and this man was so indignant about the findings of the judiciary committee that he promptly sent in his own resignation. His partner is still a member but is so inferior to the other man that I couldn't help thinking that this didn't improve the Institute much.

Before I went south, there were two other members of the Institute in Waterloo for whose ability I had a high regard. While I was away, one of these gentlemen died and the other resigned because he considered the Institute not worth the time and money required.

In Florida I heard many humorous stories about another fellow who is a persistent "advertiser" in the architectural magazines. This gentleman has served on some Institute committees and I always thought that he must be an unusually excellent architect although I never met him. I saw an entire edition of a popular architectural magazine almost entirely filled with perspectives by this gentleman of "buildings in Florida" and I showed the magazine to a Florida architect with some comment about the large number of prominent buildings designed in Florida by this man. My friend took one look and "bellowed in gusty mirth". Then he proceeded to explain that only about two of these buildings had ever been built and that the rest never would be. Surely such practises are questionable.

There are a number of other points on which I am quite bewildered, where the Institute and its leading members apparently view our work from angles of perspective quite strange to me. However, there seems no question that there should be a national organization to properly represent this vocation and the Institute is the logical body to do so, provided that it is done in a proper manner and fair to all. The fact that I know so many competent architects who are dissatisfied with the Institute, the statement from the treasurer that only about half the members think enough about it to pay their dues promptly, and my own rather peculiar experiences all make me feel quite doubtful about its value. To the average architect, even the comparatively small dues sometimes mean a sum he seldom parts with lightly.

Finally, my finances have, during the past two years, been completely wrecked several times and this is the principal reason I have been delinquent. It is almost a certainty that I will be able to settle my account for several months but I will most certainly do so regardless of any action by the board. Although for several years the Institute has been a complete case of all assessments and no dividends, and worse, I will not resign but if the board decides to count me out, I will accept with the best grace possible. Now you may yawn!

Sincerely yours,

C. V. Irwin

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THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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November 5, 1929

My dear Mr. Irwin:

This is the first opportunity to acknowledge your letter of October 25th. We are getting ready for the fall meeting of the Institute Board of Directors.

We find that your indebtedness to the Institute for dues is $50.00 for the years 1928 and 1929. Under the required procedure your name will come before the Board with other delinquents at the November meeting. We therefore express the hope that you can take some action before the end of the year which will preserve your Institute membership.

If you will send $25.00 to cover the year 1928, or if you will send a note for $50.00, payable in ninety days, your action will permit us to carry your name on the Institute rolls.

With reference to the transfer situation, there is nothing new that we can say. We are obliged to follow the requirements of the By-laws in acting on such matters. At the present time you are carried as a member properly assigned to the Florida North Chapter, of which Mr. W. Kenyon Drake of 21 Ocean Street, Jacksonville, Fla., is Secretary-Treasurer.

We have a letter of October 23rd from Mr. Drake, advising that he is communicating with you concerning the payment of dues to the Florida North Chapter.

Trusting that you will adjust these accounts, and will continue your affiliation with the Institute and some one of its Chapters, I am

Sincerely yours,

Mr. C. W. Irwin,
526 Lafayette Building,
Waterloo, Iowa.

Executive Secretary.

K/FHG

COPY TO
FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER
Copy to Mr. Drake

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February 14, 1930.

Dear Mr. Irwin:

It is with genuine regret that I write, as Secretary of the Institute, to advise you of the termination of your membership in the Institute and the Florida North Chapter, effective December 31, 1929, for non-payment of Institute dues.

The Treasurer, and the Secretary's Office, sent to you various statements of account and letters in the hope that you would find it possible to make a remittance in whole or in part, and thereby continue your support of The American Institute of Architects and your Chapter.

It is realized that conditions in the building industry have been unfavorable during much of the past year, and for that reason we made a special effort to retain your membership as long as possible.

May I venture to express the personal hope that conditions in your locality will soon improve, and that you will then make application for reinstatement in the Institute and your Chapter the first order of business.

The reinstatement procedure is easy and can be accomplished by addressing a letter to the Secretary of the Institute, through the Secretary of the local Chapter.

With best wishes, and with the hope that we may soon regain your affiliation and support, I am

Sincerely yours,

Secretary.

Mr. Clarence W. Irwin,
826 Campbell Avenue,
Waterloo, Iowa.

RCB:TRD.

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FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER