

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

COPY

*No copies made
March 4th 1918*

2-3

April 3

March 4th-1918

Dear Sir:-

The Secretary of the Institute has received application for Institute membership from Mr. Otto R. Eggers. I have received with this application a previous application made by Mr. Eggers for Chapter membership in the New York Chapter, which application was endorsed by you.

Unfortunately this application was made out on a wrong form which had become obsolete on account of the action taken at the last convention, and it was for this reason that the new application, in this case for Institute membership, has been made out and forwarded. Through some error it was understood that the signatures on the old application for Chapter membership would satisfy the requirements that were called for by the Institute membership application blank, but while I have no doubt that you are equally ready to endorse such application I do not feel at liberty to assume this.

In order to save trouble to the Chapter Committee on Admissions and the applicants incident to returning their applications for the various necessary signatures, I am writing you this letter, and if you will sign the subjoined statement, it will permit me to file this signature with the application which will be, I am sure, as satisfactory to the Board as if the signature were on the application itself. If you are willing to do this, will you not kindly sign and return this letter to the Octagon at your convenience?

Very truly yours,

Secretary.

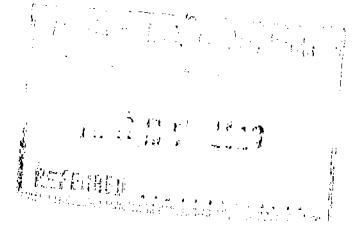
Mr. Philip Sawyer,
50 E. 41st Street,
New York City, N.Y
P:VB

DATE _____

AFFIDAVIT-The undersigned authorizes the appending of his signature to the application for membership, in the A. I. A. under Class --, of Mr. Otto R. Eggers, knowing the applicant personally, and considering that his work warrants his admission to membership in the Institute.

OFFICE OF
JOHN RUSSELL POPE
ARCHITECT
527 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

April 25th, 1918.



The American Institute of Architects,
E. A. Kemper, Exec. Secy.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:-

In accordance with your letter of April 4th I am sending you under separate cover, photos of three buildings executed by the office of John Russell Pope, with whom I am associated.

I very much regret the delay in submitting these but same was unavoidable.

Very truly yours,

O. P. Eggers

OFFICE OF
WILLIAM LAWRENCE BOTTOMLEY
ARCHITECT
TELEPHONE 1810 VANDERBILT
1311
597 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

Eggers, Otto R

Red

Oct. 9, 1918.

2-3

Wm. S. Parker, Esq.,
Secretary, A. I. A.
The Octagon,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

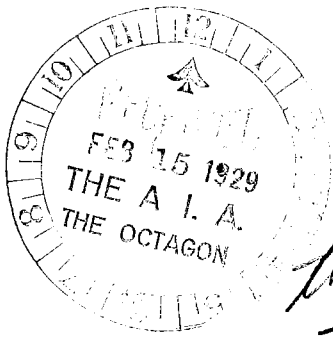
I have known Mr. Otto R. Eggers whose name will come before the Directors for admission to the Institute. I wish to strongly recommend Mr. Eggers whom I have known for a number of years; he is a fine designer and a thorough artist. Professionally I know he has very high standards and added to his other qualifications he is an agreeable man and would be a valuable addition to the New York Chapter.

I remain, dear sir,

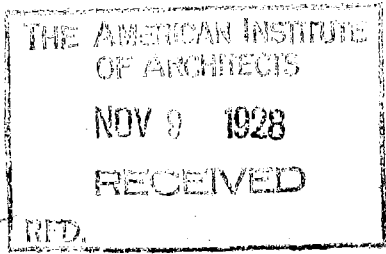
Yours very truly,

W. Lawrence Bottomley

WLB/GR



How date
AW



(Issued by the Jury of Fellows)

Confidential

The American Institute of Architects

The Octagon, 1741 New York Avenue
Washington, D. C.

Maurice
Dundson
Bosman
Grant

FORM OF PROPOSAL FOR FELLOWSHIP

(Before executing read carefully the accompanying document on Principles of Fellowship)

Name of Member Proposed—

Mr. Otto R. Eggers

Street 542 Fifth Avenue,

City New York City,

State New York

Notice—Use Ink and Write Legibly Throughout.

Chapter of Member Proposed—

New York
(Name of Chapter)

Date of Election to Institute—

1918
(The year is sufficient)

Place of Business—Location of Best Work.

New York City, N.Y.
(Principal Place of Business past Five Years)

(One or more cities in which best work is located)

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS ARCHIVES For information or study purposes only. Not to be recycled, quoted, or published without written permission from the AIA Archives, 1735 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS ARCHIVES For information or study purposes only. Not to be recycled, quoted, or published without written permission from the AIA Archives, 1735 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006

General Conditions of Fellowship: (Article 1, Section 1, By-laws:)

Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects is conferred upon a member who is a citizen of the United States, who, in the opinion of an authorized Jury of Fellows, shall have notably contributed to the advancement of the Profession in design, construction, literature, education or public service.

PROPOSAL FOR FELLOWSHIP

Nov 9 19 *28*

To the Jury of Fellows,
The American Institute of Architects,
The Octagon, Washington, D. C.

The following name of....., a member in good standing,
is submitted to the Jury of Fellows with a recommendation that he be advanced to Fellowship:

Name Otto R. Eggers
(In full)

Address 542 Fifth Avenue, New York City, N.Y.
(City and State)

Place and date of birth August 4, 1882, New York City, N.Y.

Graduate of Architecture --
(Name of College, University or School)

Holder of Scholarship in Architecture—

LeBrun Scholarship, 1912
(Name of Scholarship)

If practicing architect give firm name or names, and state how long connected with each:

Office of John Russell Pope
(Firm name) (Approximate time)

Connected with above office since 1908

Admitted as member of firm Jan. 1, 1922

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

My Architectural training began in 1899 when, having shown a talent for drawing and water color I entered an architect's office as a student. I have been continuously employed since then in various offices in New York.

I spent several years in study under the Beaux Arts system of education in Atelier Hornbostel. Won second place two years in succession in the Paris Prize finals and later became first holder of the LeBrun Scholarship.

I am now chairman of the Le Brun Scholarship Committee of the New York Chapter, A. I. A.

I have never attended any school or college for the study of Architecture except that mentioned above and have received most of my training as assistant in design to Mr. John Russell Pope.

Besides doing rendering and sketches for most important architects in the East I have been employed in the following offices.:

Elliott Lynch.

Tracy & Swartwout,

N. C. Mellen

J. E. R. Carpenter

Grosvenor Atterbury

John Russell Pope

ACHIEVEMENT IN DESIGN

1. Architectural Work—

Commercial Union Gas & Electric Bldg. Cincinnati, Ohio
Name of Building City or Town

Monumental MacDonough Memorial Plattsburgh, N. Y.
Name of Monument Place

Amer. Battle Monuments Montfaucon, France.

University Baptist Church Baltimore, Md.

First Presbyterian Church New Rochelle, New York

Domestic Res. and Bldgs, Estate of Marshall Field, Huntington, L.I.
Name of Owner Place

Residence - Mr. Moses Taylor Portsmouth, R. I.

" - Mr. Irwin P. Laughlin Washington, D. C.

" - Mr. Geo. Sicard Larchmont, N. Y.

" - Mr. Clarence Mck. Lewis Sterlington, N.Y.

Special Work Winner - Competition State Roosevelt Mem. - N.Y. City, N.Y.
Nature of Work Place

" " Nat'l " " - Washington, D.C.

Development and Illustration of Proposed - Ne Haven, Conn
Plan - Yale University

2. Here should follow a description of his work in design, showing special attention to the particular features the proponents believe worthy—

Facility in the use and execution of various style in design both interior and exterior as indicated on drawings and photographs herewith submitted. Monumental design and proportion as applied to Commercial Building. Preservation of American Tradition as in First Presbyterian Church of New Rochelle built on site of an early residence and surrounding left intact.

Ability to illustrate buildings and interiors for owners in renderings and sketches.

3. Photographs, sketches, or drawings should be submitted of two or three buildings or works—

Photographs Res. of Marshall Field, L.I. - Res. Moses Taylor, Portsmouth
Works R.I.
MacDonough Memorial, Plattsburgh, N.Y. - Bapt. Church, Baltimore, Md.
Residence of C. McK. Lewis, Sterlington, New York.

Drawings Main Elevation and detail of lower portion of Union Gas and
Works
Electric Building, Cinn. O. Competition Rendering, Roosevelt
Memorial, Washington, D. C.

Sketches Battle Monument - Montfaucon, France, First Presbyterian
Works
Church, New Rochelle, N.Y. State Roosevelt Memorial, N.Y. City, N.Y.
Union Gas and Electric Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.

ACHIEVEMENT IN CONSTRUCTION

1. Engineering Construction

Name of Building

Place

2. Books, Treatise, or Articles Written—

Subject

Name of Book or Periodical

3. Photographs

Works

Place

4. Drawings

Building or Works

Place

5. Here should follow a description of the notable work done by the applicant, with special stress laid on his particular achievements and recognition by societies, or other groups—

Dotted lines for writing a description of notable work.

ACHIEVEMENT IN EDUCATION AND LITERATURE

1. Literary Work—

Books, Treatise, or Articles Written—

Subject	Name of Book or Periodical
Design and Illustration -	Proposed Plan of Yale University
Research and Illustration	Early American Architecture
Illustration	Homes of Character

Dotted lines for additional entries in the table.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS ARCHIVES For information or study purposes only. Not to be recopied, quoted, or published without written permission from the AIA Archives, 1735 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006

Achievement in Education and Literature—*continued*

2. Here should follow a summary of particular influences that may have been created by any of the works above mentioned if known to the proponents and any recognition accorded by the profession, by societies, or by the public—

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

3. Educational Work—

The proponents should direct attention to the position held by applicant, his or her particular force or influence in his or her line of endeavor, and any evidence of recognition by pupils, by the profession, or by the public of his or her achievements.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

4. If under this class applicant has also designed or executed work, then proponents should fill out also the blanks under heading (Achievement in Design)—

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS ARCHIVES For information or study purposes only. Not to be recycled, quoted, or published without written permission from the AIA Archives, 1735 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006

ACHIEVEMENT IN PUBLIC SERVICE

1. Here should follow a clear statement of the field in which his activities have been directed, the influence of that leadership and what accomplishment has resulted—

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2. Recite the positions of trust held by applicant in evidence of his recognition as a civic leader—

Name of Societies or Civic Groups	Place
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS ARCHIVES For information or study purposes only. Not to be recycled, quoted, or published without written permission from the AIA Archives, 1735 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS ARCHIVES For information or study purposes only. Not to be recycled, quoted, or published without written permission from the AIA Archives, 1735 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006

Signatures: Submitted by

Date.....

(If suggested by Chapter)

Secretary.....Chapter

(If by Committee appointed by Chapter)

Date.....

26 238

I.V.E. Magonigle, R. D. Kohn, C. H. Aldrich, A. L. Hannon,

Ernest Swartwout, and F. L. Ackerman

by Charles Smith
Chairman

Committee *New York* Chapter

(If by Group of Five Fellows)

Date *Nov 5th 1928*

(1) *Chester Aldrich*

(2) *R. D. Kohn*

(3) *F. L. Ackerman*

(4) *Ernest Swartwout*

(5) *A. L. Hannon*

(If by A. I. A. Board)

Date.....

Secretary

(If by Jury of Fellows)

Date.....

Secretary

F.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTS
JUN 7 1928
RECEIVED
N.Y.C.

F · P · P L A T T & B R O ·
A R C H I T E C T S

FREDERICK PUTNAM PLATT A.I.A.
CHARLES CARSTEN PLATT A.I.A.
LOUIS O. ROHLAND
ALBERT E. PRICE
WILLIS A. CONKLIN

221 WEST FIFTY-SEVENTH ST
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONES CIRCLE 9600
9601 9602 6122

June 6,
1928

File
Putnam

The Jury of Fellows,
The American Institute of Architects,
Attention: Mr. Charles A. Favrot, Chairman,
New Orleans, La.

Gentlemen:

Having learned with pleasure that
Mr. Otto R. Eggers' name has been placed before
your committee for consideration, I wish to
heartily recommend his nomination for fellowship.

Mr. Eggers, through his exceptional
taste and artistic ability as a partner of
Mr. John Russell Pope of New York City, has
greatly enriched the work of our profession by
the production of architectural works and draw-
ings of the highest order and merit.

His ability, coupled with a charm of
character and high ethical standards round out,
in my opinion, his qualifications in full measure
for fellowship in the Institute.

Respectfully,

Frederick Putnam Platt
Frederick Putnam Platt.

FPP:MLB

Copy to The Octagon,
Washington, D.C.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS ARCHIVES For information or study purposes only. Not to be recycled,
quoted, or published without written permission from the AIA Archives, 1735 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006

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

2
COPY

file

March 15, 1944

Dear Mr. Eggers:

Your letter of March 3 came to hand on the 8th. This acknowledgment has been delayed due to a meeting of The Executive Committee in Baltimore, recently, which necessitated my absence from the city.

The submission of nominations for fellowship - either by individuals or by chapter or state association member action - should be made in the forms supplied by The Institute. Copy of each type of nomination form is enclosed.

On the last page you will note the instructions for submitting the required data, and we call to your attention particularly the paragraphs under the heading "Nomination Forms" which explain the need of The Jury of Fellows for extensive supporting letters from Institute members from as wide a territory as possible.

This need of the Jury was amplified in the notice which appeared in the December, 1942, issue of THE OCTAGON, which we enclose also.

With this information it is believed you will be in a position to prepare the nomination for Mr. Bosworth, should you desire to do so, and to arrange for fully supporting data as required.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
The Jury of Fellows

Mr. Otto R. Eggers, F.A.I.A.
Eggers and Higgins
542 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

K/g-Enclosures

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS ARCHIVES For information or study purposes only. Not to be recopied, quoted, or published without written permission from the AIA Archives, 1735 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006

COPY TO

FILES PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

O. E. Eggers, O.A.A. 50
From John Lane

November 19, 1950

SHIPPING NEWS

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SU

PIONEER FRIGATE IS BEING MODELED

Scale Work of the President by an Architect Here Is Nearing Completion

By JOSEPH J. RYAN

O. R. Eggers, New York architect, has designed the interior of many luxury ships, including a Presidential yacht, the United States liner America and the Santa Paula and Santa Rosa of the Grace Line. Buildings of all types from country bungalow to a \$15,000,000 structure for the National Art Gallery in Washington bear the stamp of his skilled draftsmanship.

But never in his 52-year career, he said yesterday, has he tackled a more difficult and exacting job than the one he is now completing—a 40-inch, scale model of the frigate President, little-known sister-ship of the famous Constitution and Constellation.

Probably the first hobbyist in the country to make a miniature of the President, Mr. Eggers said he worked on the boat for six years. In following the original construction plans as closely as possible, he has produced a model complete with gun ports and fifty-eight one and one-eighth-inch cannons.

The model is a maze of running rigging and shrouds, supporting three, cross-sparred masts, each complete with miniature fighting top. An indication of the complexity of the task is the fact that Mr. Eggers' index finger is five times the size of the two tiny ladders that lead from the main to the gun decks.

The model also contains one long boat, two lifeboats and the captain's gig. The last is three inches long and is suspended aft in the fashion of the times when the President was one of the fastest frigates in the Navy.

In the course of his work on the

WORKING ON MODEL OF FAMOUS SHIP



O. R. Eggers of Eggers & Higgins, architects, with his small reproduction of the frigate President, sister ship of the Constitution and Constellation, which he will finish this month after five years of labor.

frigate, the architect has amassed a collection of tiny tools and instruments that would do justice to the office of a dentist or the workbench of a jeweler.

Mr. Eggers said he chose to model the President because the fine record of the man-of-war has been shadowed by the much-publicized Constitution and Constellation.

Few people know, the architect said, that the frigate President was laid down about the same time as the Constitution, the Constellation and several other frigates, but the completion of the President was delayed until August, 1800.

Histories describe her as a favorite with seamen because of her

speed and appearance, he said, and the vessel served as a flagship in 1801 and in 1804. In 1811 she engaged the British sloop Little Belt and sank her in ten minutes.

In the War of 1812 the President was the flagship of Commodore John Rogers and of Commodore Stephen Decatur until she was captured by the British in 1815. According to Howard Chapelle's History of American Sailing Ships, the capture was effected only after the frigate ripped her bottom and had sprung her masts in a grounding off New York.

Even though crippled the President put the forty-four-gun Brit-

ish frigate Endymion out of action in the fight. She was taken by the frigates Pomone and Tenedos, according to Chapelle's history.

Mr. Eggers' model is forty inches in length, thirty inches in height and six inches in the beam. The width of the main yard is fifteen inches. With only a small amount of the running rigging still to be placed, the architect is planning an early launching at his Stamford, Conn., home.

While the cost of the materials that went into the construction of the model amounts to less than \$10, the builder feels that the amount of time and patience that it involved is priceless. He plans to insure his work for at least \$5,000. Eventually it will repose in a glass case in the office of Eggers & Higgins, architects, of which he is a partner.

Mr. Eggers was the first person to win the Le Brun scholarship for architectural study abroad. When not at work on his model he can be found at his drafting board at 100 East Forty-second Street, advising on and planning new schools, hospitals, museums, libraries, office buildings, chapels and ocean liner interiors.

At the end of his working day he can usually be found at the Museum of the City of New York studying the model of "Old Ironsides," from which he obtained much of his information on the rigging of a frigate.

Mr. Eggers entered the field of architecture in 1909 when he joined the firm of John Russell Pope. He became a partner in 1922. The company took its present name in 1937 on the death of Mr. Pope.

Muller Aides Appointed

The appointment of J. D. Richards as vice president and E. W. Schulthess as secretary of the William H. Muller Shipping Corporation, was announced yesterday by J. Frering, president. Mr. Richards will supervise the activities of the corporation's stevedoring, chartering agency and other departments. Mr. Schulthess will direct the shipping department.

227.

EGGERS AND HIGGINS
ARCHITECTS

100 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

OTTO R. EGGERS, F.A.I.A.
THEODORE J. YOUNG, F.A.I.A.
GEORGE S. HOLDERNESS, A.I.A.
BRADFORD N. CLARK, A.S.C.E.
RICHARD M. POTT, A.I.A.
R. JACKSON SMITH, A.I.A.
DAVID L. EGGERS, A.I.A.
DANIEL P. HIGGINS, JR.
RICHARD F. EGGERS

ALLEN R. CONGDON, A.I.A.
ARCHIE J. DOOLITTLE, N.S.P.E.
ELIOT B. WILLAUER, A.I.A.
GEORGE H. BUTERBAUGH, A.I.A.
GUSTAVE R. KEANE, A.I.A.
ALLEN C. PARRETTE, A.I.A.
C. GATES BECKWITH, A.I.A.
JOHN J. MCFADDEN, JR., A.S.C.E.

PHONE: OXFORD 7-3780

December 16, 1959

Mr. Joseph Watterson, Editor
Office of the JOURNAL
The American Institute of Architects
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Mr. Watterson:

At long last we have assembled the photographs in conjunction with the article you mentioned of the original renderings that Mr. Otto R. Eggers executed.

We have also enclosed a few pages of biographical material which Mr. Eggers has approved.

The rendering photographs enclosed are:

First Group:

- 1919... Yale University, a plan for its future buildings (never built)
- John Russell Pope, architect -
- Illustrations by O. R. Eggers
- The Old Library
- The Library (new) Interior
- The Gymnasium (ink)
- The Gymnasium, an Entrance
- The Gymnasium Court

DEC 17 1959

Mr. J. Watterson

- 2 -

December 16, 1959

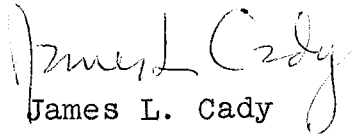
Second Group:

1922... Sketches of Early American Architecture,
by O. R. Eggers - published by The
American Architect
The Old Shop, Litchfield, Conn.
Old Dutch Farm House, Staten Island
A Providence Door-Yard, Providence, R.I.
A Doorway, Bristol, R.I.

We hope this material, pictorial and bio-
graphical, is what you require. If there is anything
else we can supply please let us know.

Yours very truly,

EGGERS AND HIGGINS


James L. Cady

JLC:mp

Enc.

OTTO R. EGGERS

Otto Eggers can boast that he is truly a native New Yorker. He was born in lower New York City in a part now known as Greenwich Village. His father was a machinist and mould maker and an expert worker in metals. His mother, more artistic in her tastes, had been a teacher in art and music.

He attended Public School No. 35 located on 13th Street and 6th Avenue and graduated from Grammar School No. 55 several blocks north on West 20th Street. He later attended evening school at West 46th Street and Cooper (Union) Institute. A few years later he gained more experience in an atelier conducted by Henry Hornbostel.

While he attended these schools his daytime occupation was as student and office boy with Elliott Lynch, Architect - 1133 Boardway where he remained about 5 years drawing architecture in the various styles; Classic, Gothic, Renaissance, etc. This work really started his career in architecture.

Eggers subsequent employers included Nathan C. Mellon, Grosvenor Atterbury, Egerton Swarthout and Thomas Scott.

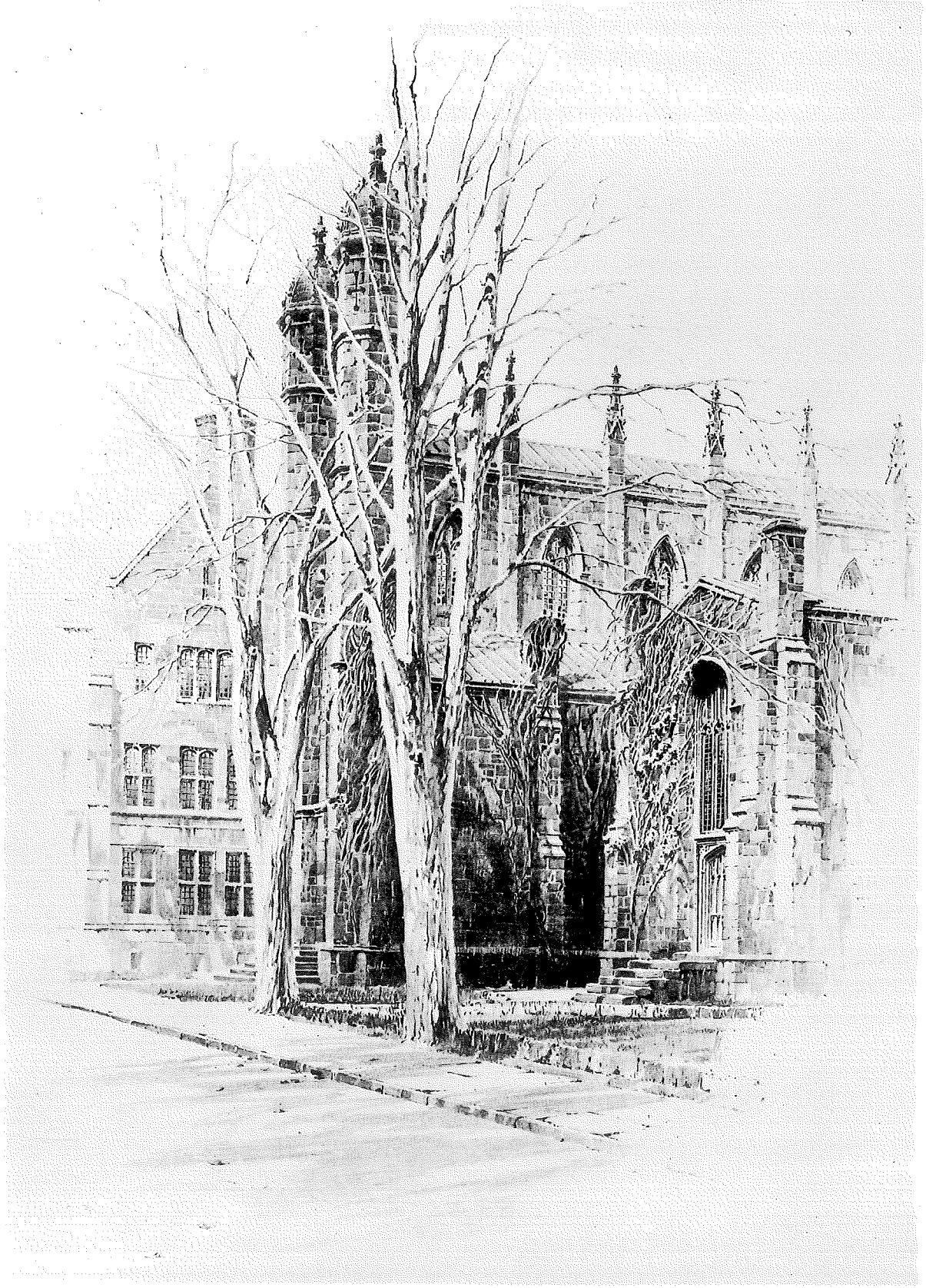
In 1907-08 he returned to the office of Mr. Lynch and then entered The Office of John Russell Pope, where he met Daniel Paul Higgins, who was then the bookkeeper and receptionist and with whom, at Mr. Pope's death 28 years later, he continued the office under the firm name of Eggers and Higgins

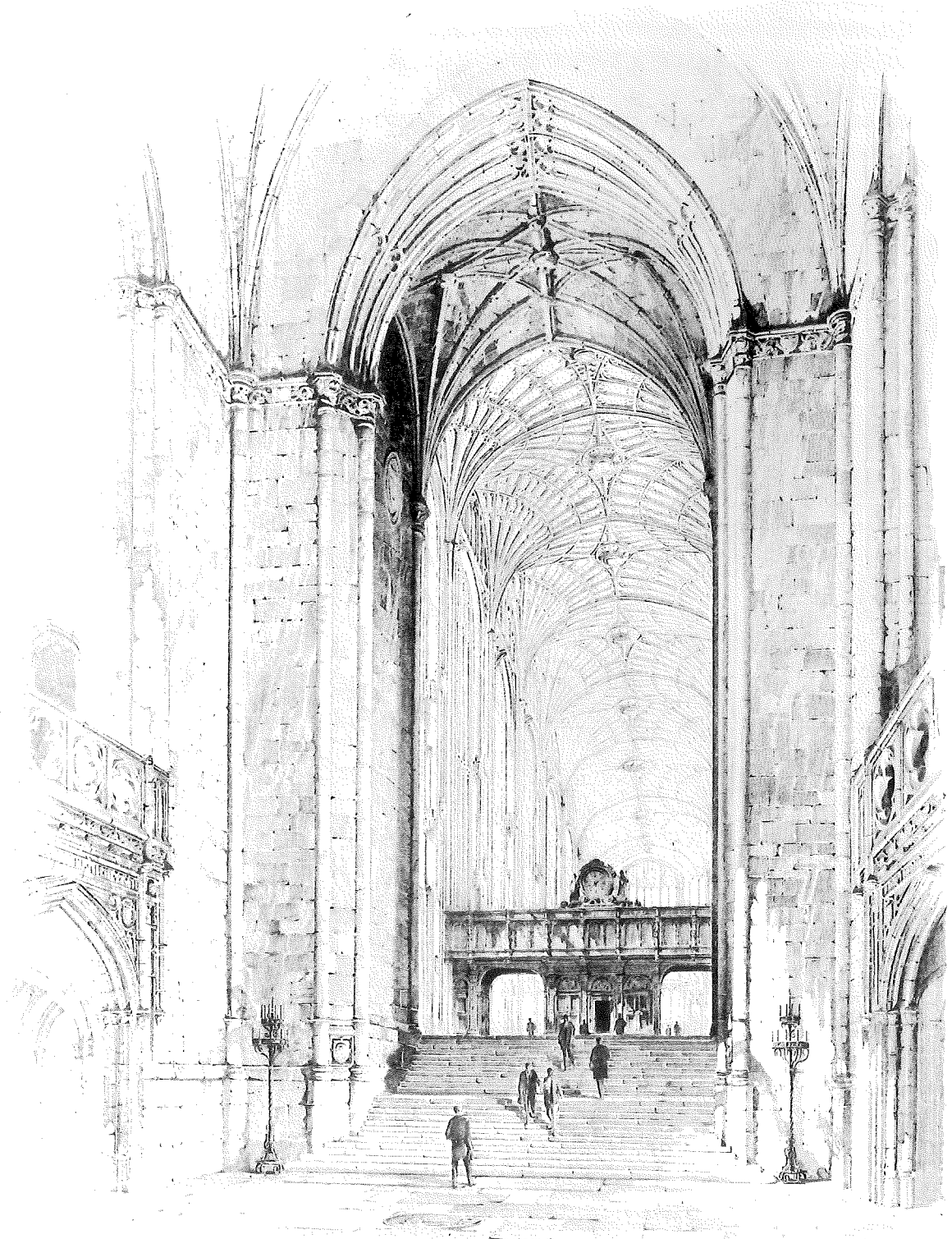
In 1912 having won the LeBrun Scholarship (the first one awarded) he, with his wife and small son, by adding a few hundred dollars to the \$1,500 which constituted the scholarship, ^{were} able to spend 6 months traveling and sketching in Europe. He was welcomed back to the Office of John Russell Pope where he did his part in designing and delineating some of the most beautiful projects to come out of that office.

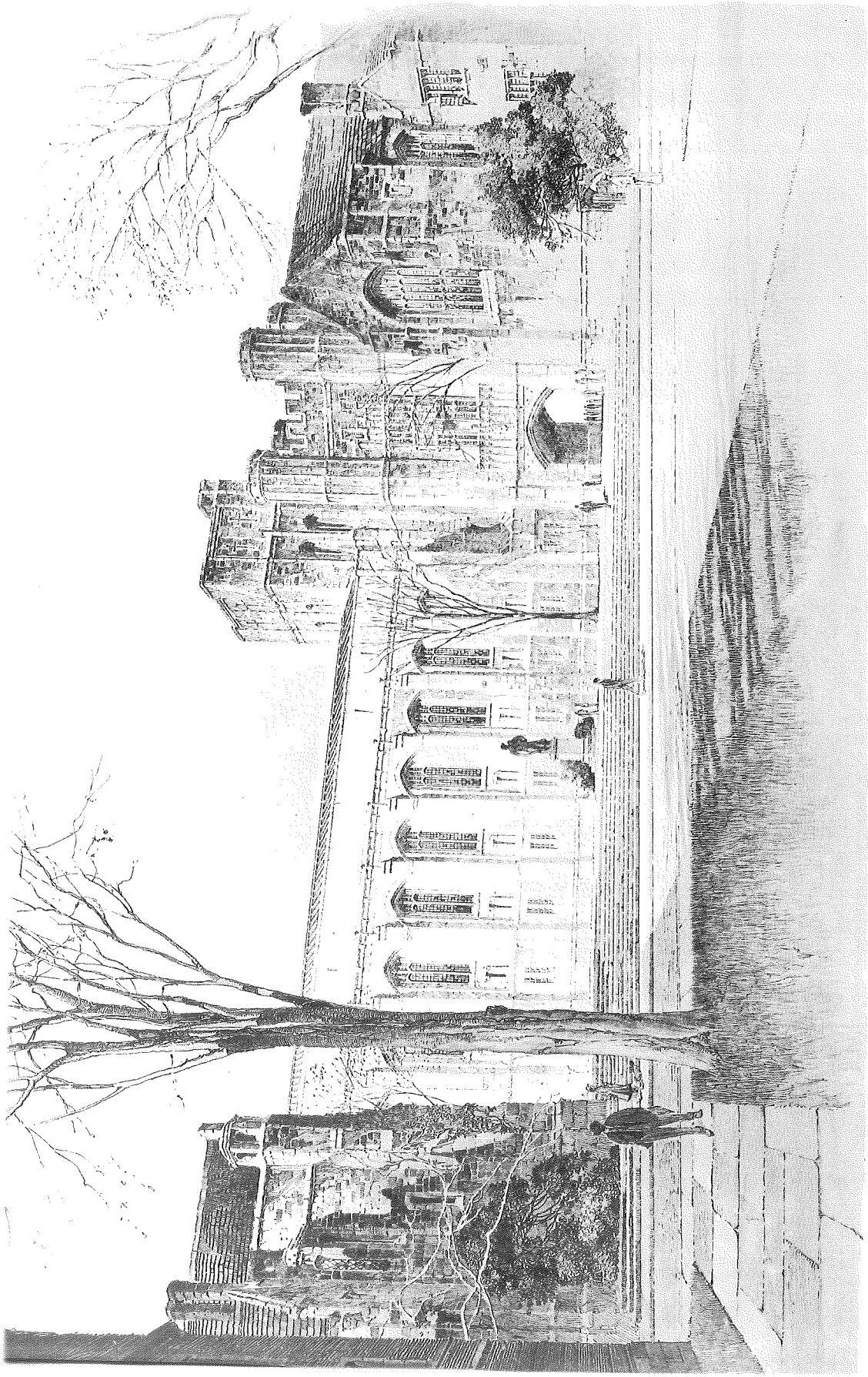
The years of the early partnership with Mr. Higgins saw much of the conception and the entire completion of such famous Washington landmarks as the National Gallery of Art and the Jefferson Memorial.

The designer first, then the draftsman, with the proper emphasis on each. To Otto Eggers, drawing is an instrument -- a means to an end -- but never allowed to become an end in itself... In a short time he has, by a rapid process of elimination, been able with the aid of his pencil to penetrate to the essence of the problem. This use of perspective at every stage of design, whether it be the mass of a building of complicated form or simply some small detail, is his guarantee that there can be no flaws in the final structure, and accounts for the well studied complete appearance of all buildings that have come from his hand, and as he visualized it would look upon completion.

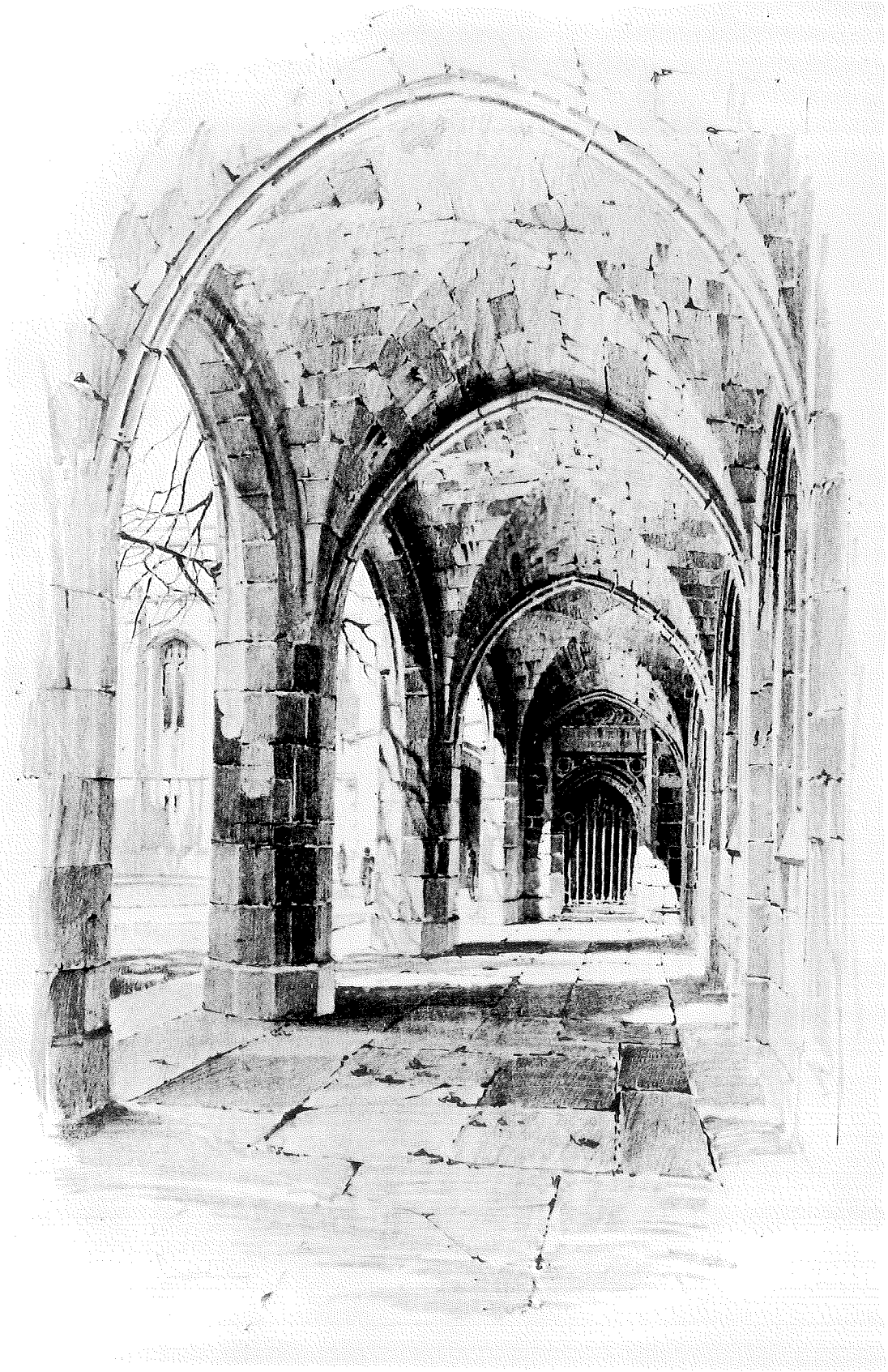
Mr. and Mrs. Eggers live in Mamaroneck and their twin sons, Richard and David, also partners in the firm of Eggers and Higgins, live with their families in nearby Larchmont.















OREGGER /
STATEN ISLAND



1850-1855
Residence of Dr. J. C. ...
1850-1855



C. B. GARDNER
BRISTOL, R. I.

Eggers, etc R

Office of the JOURNAL
January 6th, 1960

Mr. James L. Cady
Eggers and Higgins
100 East 42nd Street
New York 17, New York

Dear Mr. Cady:

Thank you very much indeed for the material you sent me on Mr. Eggers, and for the brief biographical sketch.

I regret to say that those to whom I wrote about biographical sketches of various architects of the past generation are very slow in coming through with the promised product. With yours, I have now received three - for which I am truly grateful. However, I shall hold them and try a little needling on the others, so as not to start publishing the series until I have at least a half dozen or so.

Thank you again for producing where others have apparently failed. I shall keep you informed later on as to when we plan to publish this series.

Cordially yours,

Joseph Watterson, AIA
Editor

JW:jbw

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS ARCHIVES For information or study purposes only. Not to be recopied, quoted, or published without written permission from the AIA Archives, 1735 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006



NEW YORK CHAPTER

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

October 24, 1961

Miss Florence H. Gervais, Secretary
Membership and Records
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Miss Gervais:

Please find enclosed an application for Membership Emeritus for Otto R. Eggers. Please be informed that Mr. Eggers is in good standing.

Sincerely yours,

Margot A. Henkel

Margot A. Henkel
Executive Secretary

MAH:em
enc.

1918

OCT 25 1961



DUPLICATE

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

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP EMERITUS

TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS:

*Strike out the
inappropriate
reason, a, b,
or c, as the
case may be.*

I wish to apply for Membership Emeritus in The Institute for the following reasons:

- X a. I am more than 70 years of age.
- b. I am 65 years of age, retired, and not engaged in the practice of architecture.
- c. I am unable to engage in any gainful vocation.

*Write in
name of
chapter.*

I have been in good standing in The Institute and the New York chapter
for 15 successive years or more immediately preceding the date of this application.

Respectfully,

Date October 20, 1961,

Otto R. Eggers
Signature
By David L. Eggen (sow)

The applicant may supplement the above reasons in writing below or on sheets which he shall attach to this application. Under exceptional conditions and circumstances, The Board of Directors may lessen the period of good standing but not the requirements of a, b, or c.

OCT 25 1961

Members
Eggers, Otto R.

B. L. D. M.



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

NOTICE OF ELECTION—MEMBER EMERITUS

TO **Mr. Otto R. Eggers, F.A.I.A.**
100 East 42nd Street
New York 17, New York

It is my privilege to advise you that The Board of Directors has conferred upon you
the title

MEMBER EMERITUS

of The American Institute of Architects and of its component organizations of which you are
a member, exempting you from the payment of annual dues to The Institute and such
organizations, effective **November 15, 1961.**

Date **November 15, 1961.**

[Signature]
Secretary

n. y. Chapter
c/o Controller's office

Eggers, Otto, R.

NY Times 4-24-64

28 M

OTTO EGGERS, 81, ARCHITECT, DIES

Helped Design the Jefferson Memorial in Washington

Special to The New York Times

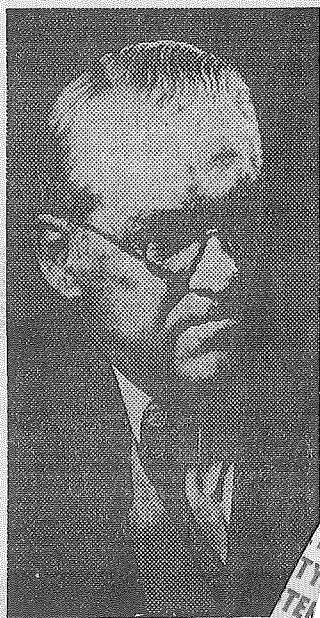
NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., April 23 — Otto R. Eggers, one of the architects of the Jefferson Memorial in Washington and a co-founder of Eggers and Higgins, architects of 100 East 42d Street in New York, died today in New Rochelle Hospital. He was 81 years old.

Mr. Eggers, who had been semi-retired in recent years, was born in New York, and received his early training at Cooper Union. He had spent more than 65 years in architecture, starting as a draftsman and designer.

In 1911, as the first winner of the LeBrun Scholarship, he spent a year in Europe sketching and studying famous monuments.

Later, classical and traditional lines were the hallmark of most of his work.

Mr. Eggers and the late Daniel Paul Higgins were associated for years with the noted



Katherine
Otto R. Eggers

architect John Russell Pope. After Mr. Pope's death in 1937, Mr. Higgins and Mr. Eggers completed work on the Jefferson Memorial and the National Art Gallery in Washington.

Mr. Eggers was known as a perfectionist in the quality of material for his work, and he personally selected each of the 35-foot columns on the National Gallery from 15 quarries in Tennessee.

Some of the other structures he helped design include the Payne Whitney Gymnasium at Yale University; Browning Library at Baylor University; the Theodore Roosevelt Wing at the Museum of Natural History and the Moorehead Planetarium at the University of North Carolina.

Mr. Eggers was also a painter, and in 1957 he held an exhibition of his water-colors and design sketches.

He also helped design the interiors of several luxury liners, including the United States and the Santa Rosa, and once spent six years building a scale model of the frigate Pioneer, a sister ship of the Constitution and Constellation.

Mr. Eggers is survived by his widow, Bessie; 2 sons, Richard and David; a daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Tichenor, and 12 grandchildren.

Star 4/24/64
**Otto R. Eggers Dies,
Classical Architect**

Otto R. Eggers, 81, one of the Nation's foremost classical architects and the designer of many Washington monuments and buildings, died yesterday at a New Rochelle (N. Y.) hospital after several years' illness.

Mr. Eggers, who founded the firm of Eggers & Higgins with Daniel Paul Higgins, helped complete the work on the Jefferson Memorial and the National Gallery of Art after the death of John Russell Pope in 1937.

To complete the work on the art gallery, Mr. Eggers personally chose the exterior marble from 15 different quarries in Tennessee. He also traveled by mule in Italy's Carrara Mountains to choose the massive marble blocks used in the building's 35-foot columns.

His firm designed the New Senate Office Building, the National Archives Building, the American Red Cross Building, and American Pharmaceutical Association Building and numerous fountains.

In 1958, he joined the fight over plans for extension of the Capitol's East Front, bucking the American Institute of Architects to support the project. "It is obvious that a building designed and built more than a hundred years ago would not be entirely adequate for present-day needs and conditions, he wrote the late House Speaker Rayburn.

A native of New York, Mr. Eggers attended Cooper Union



OTTO R. EGGERS

—Katherine Young Photo

College and studied abroad. He was married in 1907 to the former Bessie F. Pierce.

Among his works are the Theodore Roosevelt memorial wing of the Museum of Natural History, the Morehead Planetarium at the University of North Carolina, buildings at Yale, Cornell and Baylor Universities; the Triboro Tuberculosis Hospital at Queens, the Bainbridge Naval Training Station in Maryland and the interiors for four Grace Line ships.

He was a fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of the Architectural League and the National Academy of Design.

Architect Eggers— Left His Mark Here

Otto R. Eggers, 81, architect who aided in completion of the National Gallery of Art and the Jefferson Memorial, died Thursday at a hospital in New Rochelle, N.Y., after a long illness.

John Russell Pope, architect of the National Gallery, died in 1937 before the building was completed. Mr. Eggers executed Pope's plans and ideas.

Mr. Eggers traveled by mule into the Carrara Mountains of Italy to select the perfect marble for the 24 columns in the Gallery rotunda.

Selected Columns

When the marble was being turned and polished in Procter, Vt., Mr. Eggers stood on the high footbridge of a traveling crane to obtain the best possible matching.

Mr. Eggers also chose the exterior marble from 15 Tennessee quarries and had it set to show off the pink color to best advantage. His firm also designed the New Senate Office Building and several other structures in Washington.

The architect was born in New York City and obtained his early training at Cooper Union and the Hornbostel Atelier. He was the first winner of the LeBrun Scholarship for study in Europe.

For several years Mr. Eggers and the late Daniel Paul Higgins were associated with Pope. When Pope died the two men formed their own firm, Eggers & Higgins, which oversaw the completion of the National Gallery and Jefferson Memorial and designed numerous other buildings.

Some Of His Work

Among these structures are the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial wing of the New York Museum of Natural History, the auditorium at Indiana University, Morehead Planetarium at the University of North Carolina and Browning Library at Baylor University.

Mr. Eggers was a fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of the Society of American Etchers, Society of Graphic Artists, American Federation of Art, American Sculpture Society and the British Royal Society of Arts.

He is survived by his wife, Bessie, of Mamaroneck, N.Y., a daughter, Dorothy Tichenor, and two sons, Richard and David.



Katherine Young Photo

OTTO R. EGGERS

4/25/64
POST

FILE COPY - PLEASE RETURN

*D. member
Eggers, Otto R*

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



The Octagon • 1735 New York Avenue, N.W. • Washington, D. C. 20006 • EXecutive 3-7050

May 1, 1964

1882-1964

**Mrs. Marget A. Henkel, Exec.-Secty.
New York Chapter, AIA
115 East 40th St.
New York, New York**

J

Dear Mrs. Henkel:

We were sorry to learn of the death of **Otto R. Eggers, FAIA**
on **April 23, 1964** a corporate member of The
Institute since **1918**.

We would appreciate it very much if you would have two
copies of the enclosed Baldwin Memorial Archive Forms
filled in and returned to The Institute for its files.
The third copy should be retained in the Chapter files.

Sincerely yours,

William H. Scheick, A.I.A.
Executive Director

enclosures

WHS/pwg

Eggers, Otto R.

BALDWIN MEMORIAL ARCHIVE
of American Architects

NO. _____

Name: Otto R. Eggers, F. A. I. A. of (address) 4 Fairway Dr., Mamaroneck, N. Y.
Born: Aug. 4, 1882 at N.Y., N.Y. Died: April 23, 1964 at New Rochelle, N.Y. Hospital
Parents: Laura Petersen and John William Eggers
Married: Bessie Fowler Pierce of N.Y., N.Y. on Nov. 6, 1907
Children: Dorothy Eggers Tichenor
Richard F. Eggers and David L. Eggers (twins)
Education: N.Y. Public Schools, The Cooper Union, Hornbostel Atelier, European Travel

Training; and practice as Principal: (Firm Names, Places, Dates, Specialization)

Office of Elliot Lynch, N. Y. C. 1899-1904
Various architects 1905-1909
John Russell Pope, Office of 1909-1923
Pope, Otto R. Eggers, Daniel P. Higgins 1923-1937
Eggers and Higgins, Architects 1937-1964

Professional Memberships and Service: (Institute and Chapter Activities; Teaching)

National Academy of Design (Academician); Architectural League of N. Y.;
National Sculpture Society; Municipal Art Commission, N. Y. C.;
British Royal Society of Arts; American Institute of Architects, Fellow;
Society of Graphic Artists; Member - Golden Legion, Class '02 (Cooper Union);
American Federation of Arts; National Institute of Architectural Education.

Other Affiliations: (Religious, Fraternal, Political, Social)

Episcopal Church
New York Athletic Club
Everglades Club (Palm Beach, Fla.)

Public Service: (Civil and Military; Community, State, National)

Municipal Art Commission
N. C. A. R. B.
Registered: Ariz., Ind., Conn., Md., Mass., N. J., N. Y., N. C., Pa., R. I.,
Tex., Virginia; Washington, D. C., Fla.

Published Material: (Articles and Addresses; Executed Work; Biographical Data)

Articles:

The Genesis of a Rendering, p. 11, Nov. 1922, Pencil Points
Many individual renderings published in Pencil Points 1921-1941
Early American Architecture, 1922 (American Architect)
Public and Private Architects (AIA Journal, 1944)
Planning for Tomorrow (Homiletic & Pastoral Review - 1947)
Planning Post War School Constr. (Catholic School Journal, 1944)

Work:

National Gallery of Art (Pope, Eggers and Higgins) 1941
Jefferson Memorial " " 1943
National Fire Insurance Co., Hartford, Conn. 1948
Stepinac High School, White Plains, N. Y. 1948
Meadowbrook Hospital, East Meadow, N. Y. 1953
Amer. Red Cross, Dist. of Columbia Chapter Hse. 1954
Indiana University Auditorium, Stud. Union Add. 1956
Anabel Taylor Hall, Cornell University 1951

(OVER)

General Background: (Personal Characteristics and Accomplishments; Interests, Digressions, Travels, Friendships, Side-lights, Honors, and Awards.)

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS ARCHIVES For information or study purposes only. Not to be recycled, quoted, or published without written permission from the AIA Archives, 1735 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006

Principal Commissions: (Classified, with locations and Reference Data) (Above)

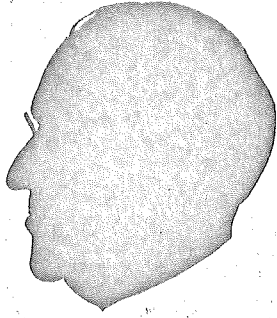
Compiled by:

Date:

Acknowledgements:

General Background: (Personal Characteristics and Accomplishments; Interests, Digressions, Travels, Friendships, Side-lights, Honor

See Attached



SILHOUETTE

There have been many articles written and published about Otto R. Eggers, architect, and these articles have all pointed out the gifts and talents of this outstanding artist. But none of them have dwelt on the personal side of a very human man. This silhouette will attempt to capture some of the facets of a life which has been an inspiration to many, a despair to some, and an example of integrity and honesty to all.

For those not familiar with Mr. Eggers' background, here is a short resume of his life: He was born in New York City eighty years ago and obtained his formal education in the public schools of the city. However, his urge to draw and to create led him to leave school and to obtain employment in the architectural office of Elliot Lynch in 1899. His salary at that time, if the records are correct, was two dollars a week. After serving in various offices, studying at night at an Atelier sponsored by the noted architect, Henry Hornbostel, and doing much free-lance rendering and sketching, he was employed in 1909 by John Russell Pope as a designer.

In 1912 Mr. Eggers was the first winner of the Le Brun Traveling Fellowship for travel and study abroad. On the grand sum of \$2,000 he, his wife and first son (deceased) were able to live for six parapetetic months. Many of his sketches, done at that time, have been used as Christmas cards by our office.

In 1922, Mr. Eggers and the late Mr. Daniel Paul Higgins, who was Mr. Pope's business manager, became associate partners and after Mr. Pope's death in 1937 formed the firm of Eggers and Higgins, Architects. One of the first large commissions executed under the new firm name was the design of a new home office building for

the National Fire Insurance Company in Hartford. The company had purchased a block in a residential section in the western part of the city. It was a fine block studded with beautiful specimens of many kinds of trees. On viewing the site for the first time, Mr. Eggers remarked in his dry way "when the building design is accepted, I will have my easiest perspective to make because one can't see the building for the trees."

Almost simultaneously with National Fire, the firm received the commission to design Cardinal Hayes High School. Whether it is apocryphal or not, the story is told that a tour of possible sites in the Bronx was made by Mr. Eggers, Mr. Higgins and Archbishop Spellman, and at the end of the tour they came to a site that the Cardinal said could be purchased very reasonably. No wonder! It was a pie-shaped piece of property on Grand Concourse that was level only in front and sloped precipitously to the New York Central tracks to the south and to the east, not a very promising site for a large school. Back in the office, Mr. Eggers tackled the problem, devised a plan which took full advantage of what at first appeared to be great handicaps. He then made a quick freehand perspective which was presented to the Cardinal, who approved it. As a consequence, the site was purchased and the handsome school stands today looking almost exactly like the original sketch, a monument to Mr. Eggers' ability to find the right solution to a very difficult problem.

Let us look at the statement that Mr. Eggers has been an inspiration to many. In his most active years, he was a benevolent tyrant in the office. He was impatient with mediocrity and many of us too often had our lapses into the mediocre. He would walk the aisles between the drafting boards like a slave driver walking the deck of a galley, stopping at each board to see what the men were doing. And, if they weren't doing right, they soon found it out in no uncertain terms. A perfectionist, Mr. Eggers would stand for no compromise with perfection. And yet this "tyrant" would retire to his office and in a few minutes would return to the drafting room and talk to those whom he had just bawled out as if nothing had ever happened. He would not stand for any whistling in the drafting room. Being a nervous man, any unusual noise annoyed him but whistling was his pet hate. He would charge out of his office and say in a loud voice to the nearest man to him, "Who's making that noise?" The

whistling stopped! Some nervous people relieve tension by chewing gum; Mr. Eggers, not liking gum, had the rather amusing habit of chewing little wads of tracing paper.

There is no meanness or rancor in the man and his employees respect him. A number of past employees have established their own offices and undoubtedly have carried many of Mr. Eggers' precepts into their own practice.

Why was he the despair of some? Because of his real sincerity and honesty. Can you imagine a meeting with clients where one or more of his partners are making a "sales pitch" and in their enthusiasm are carried away to a point of exaggeration? Mr. Eggers would be just as apt to say in front of the clients, "Well, that isn't quite true; we can't always do everything we promise" or words to that effect. This was sometimes rather startling to the partners, to say the least.

While Mr. Eggers is essentially a diffident person, and always has been, this trait is more noticeable in his dealings with outsiders than with the office personnel. He likes company. Witness the formation of what was facetiously called "The Eggers and Higgins Fish and Chowder Marching Club", a group of anywhere from four to eight or more men who ate daily at Stouffer's restaurant. Mr. Eggers was the most faithful member. He also liked to take various groups of men out with him on his boat when he lived in Stamford. In summer, this was almost a weekly event and everyone always had a good time.

Mr. Eggers now spends his time between Mamaroneck and Palm Beach as he no longer likes the rigor of our northern winters. For several years, he worked as hard in Palm Beach as he did in New York. Sons, Dave and Dick would fly down with a bundle of work to keep him happy, and he was always crying for more. He is now retired from active practice, but still keeps a keen interest in the work being done by the office and, when up north, visits many of our projects.

No silhouette would be complete without mention of the gracious lady, Mrs. Eggers, who can be imagined peeking out from behind it. It is certain that Mr. Eggers, his sons and his daughter, Dorothy, would agree that here is the "catalyst" that binds together the happy family of a successful but modest man.

Richard Pott