B.S. Thesis.
The Building of a Home of an Important Scientific University.
Frederic Becker Schmidt.
B. S. Thesis.

The Building Of Honor for an Important Scientific University.

May 23, 1908.

Signature redacted.
The Building of Honor for an Important Scientific University.

It became my privilege and pleasure to take as a thesis, the problem given to those members of the Architectural Department who were eligible to the 1908 Travelling Fellowship competition.

In consequence of this fact, this thesis has been worked up under the same conditions as those imposed upon the regular competitors and quite similar to those of the Ecole de Beaux Arts. They are as follows: Each competitor had a small space curtained off, known as a "loge" in which he worked independently during the whole competition.

The first day's work consisted of a twelve-hour "exquisite reprise" of its problem in loge. The program was given out with some explanation and the new student, this decided upon the scheme...
they should adopt and at its end of the day handed in the preliminary sketches which must be followed in the final design.

The time allowance of this problem was five weeks during which time many studies at small scale were made and with the exception of two or three criticisms by the Patron the work was entirely original.

The program given out at 9 A.M. Saturday April 18, 1908 was as follows:

1908 Traveling Fellowship Competition.
The Building of Honor for an Important Scientific University.

This Building of Honor, often called "Administrative Building," may be suggested as a part of some large Institute - for example, the Institute of Technology.

While simple in general composition, it should be conceived with freedom and
singly. It will have a single large story with a sort of basement. Some part of this building may be in two stories.

It will comprise:

1. A large assembly hall to accommodate about 1,800 persons.

2. Another of smaller dimensions for about 600.

3. A part, if about the same general area as the second auditorium, for the office of the president, the faculty room, room for the Corporation, and a library of moderate size for the faculty and the Corporation. This third part may be arranged in two stories if necessary.

4. About half a dozen offices 0f various dimensions forsecretary, bursar, register, clerks, etc. These offices may be arranged in two stories if necessary.

The basement will contain the store rooms, heating apparatus, rooms for the
janitor and watchman, a few laboratories, a few offices of small importance. Coat rooms, toilet rooms, service rooms in every necessary part.

The ground is supposed to be level, or almost level. It will be surrounded by appropriate approaches which may show roads or means of access to some of the other buildings of the university.

It goes without saying that the interior circulation must be large and sufficiently easy to permit a large number of students and people.

Students are at liberty to choose the form of the large archtormin. Should they intend to provide galleries or other similar arrangement, attention is directed to its necessity if furnishing easy stairway or staircases.

The area of the building comprising every possible projection will not exceed 40,000 sq. ft. It will not be less than 30,000 sq. ft.
Requirements for the sketch.

Plan at $\frac{3}{64}'' = 1''$

Main facades at $\frac{3}{32}'' = 1''$

Sections at $\frac{3}{32}'' = 1''$

The sketch should be clearly indicated.

The surroundings (entourage) may or may not be shown on the sketch.

The original sketch will be left in the log.

Fourteen hours for the sketch from 9 to 11.
April 18, 1908.

N. B. It is to be added that this building of honor should be so disposed as to permit the meeting of grand scientific international congresses.

The disposition of this program was treated in the following manner.

As one approached the building of the main boulevard and ascended the monumental flight of steps he came to the large...
Portico to the main corridor with rows of columns and vaulted ceiling. This lead directly to the large auditorium which is circular in form and roofed by a spherical dome thru which light is admitted by means of a huge eye similar to that in the Pantheon at Rome. Exit, thru which lead to various parts of the campus, service rooms, stairways and a broad corridor surrounding the seating area and above these are the galleries.

Returning to the main corridor and turning in either direction one entered smaller corridors leading to the small Assembly hall and the offices of various sizes for the secretary, business, record, clubs etc. In the opposite direction and if similar area was found the offices of the president, corporation and faculty.

Stairs leading to the basement and second floor are also found in the main corridor.
The façade was treated with a high basement story, pilasters, entablature and balustrade above. Small windows over larger ones express the two stories of the part containing the offices. The treatment of the wings was similar, with the exception of engaged columns and large arched windows and arches.

The building was finished in marble and presents a classic and monumental appearance with breadth, dignity and good proportions.

The interior was finished in colored marble and mosaics, delicately colored and decorated with paintings and sculptures.

The final scale of the finished design was:

| Plan at | $\frac{3}{64}'' = 1'$ |
| Main façade at | $\frac{9}{64}'' = 1'$ |
| Section at | $\frac{9}{128}'' = 1'$ |