

E. Codd.

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1904



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Thesis Design

A Conservatory or School of  
Music and of Elocution

Elyia Codd.

Brunswick, 1904.

This Conservatory is designed for a large city. It is placed in a square surrounded by streets, its two main facades fronting on streets of greater importance than the others. Since there were no restrictions as to areas to be covered, there was opportunity to make an open plan, with large courts and broad circulation. My plan presents two large open courts, wide circulation in the main axis, leading to the theatre, and narrower corridors leading to other parts of the building.

The plan naturally consists of two parts, the school portion and the theatre portion. A school of this kind always needs a small theatre or performance space for the use of the students. I have

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gives my theatre a semi-public character by making it independent of the school from which it is separated by a broad foyer and giving it a separate entrance.

The school entrance, as being the first in importance should be described first. Through a narrow vestibule, one enters the first of a series of halls. This one is large and bright, having at either end doors leading to the offices of administration which are connected with each other and which occupy the front of the building. Beyond this first hall is a narrow lateral corridor and then a second hall, at each end of which are entrances to lecture halls. Passing through this, one enters a large, lofty gallery or exhibition room, in which are placed statues of musicians & authors, musical instruments, old scores and

manuscripts and other objects of interest  
 to students. Columns along the  
 sides support a narrow gallery which  
 serves as a connecting passage way  
 in the second story. Large windows  
 on both sides open into the main  
 courts. The farther end of this  
 room connects with a hall between  
 two lecture rooms similar to the  
 ones first mentioned, and this opens  
 into a wide lateral foyer which  
 serves to separate the school portion  
 from the student portion of the building.  
 At the ends of this foyer are  
 staircases leading, the one to the  
 basement, the other to the second  
 floor. From either end, one may  
 enter a corridor leading to the  
 front of the building. On one side  
 of the corridor are rooms for teaching,  
 each having an entrance between  
 it and the next, - thus preventing

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the possibility of one class being disturbed by sounds from others. There are four study rooms, each  $\times$  on each side of the building. On the opposite side of the corridor are first, an entrance to the ante-room of a large lecture hall, then a stretch of windows opening into the court, and then the entrance to another lecture hall similar to the first. These halls, of which there are four, flank the courts and are  $24' \times 38'$ , each having seating capacity for 100. The front corners of the building are occupied by large copy-rooms, which may be used as offices or reception rooms for the President of the school or for the Board of Directors. Along the front of the building are the administrative offices before mentioned, which are entered from a lateral corridor.

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The theatre portion of the building may be entered either from the front, through the back and exhibition room already described or through from the rear, through its own entrance. By this latter way, one enters, through an arched opening under a columned portico, a broad foyer, parallel to the facade. Two other foyers connect the ends of this with the main foyer between the theatre and the school, these four being forming a square within which is placed the theatre. The auditorium is horseshoe in shape. A wide space between the walls and the circle of boxes, gives free circulation. At the corners are circular stairs leading to the balconies. There are seats for 300 on the floor while the boxes, of which



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There are 14, are designed to hold 4 persons, each. The first balcony contains 14 more boxes while the second balcony contains chairs for 150, - the total capacity of the theatre being about 575. The stage is wide and deep. Two stairways lead to the loft above and to the basement, in which are the dressing rooms and service for the actors and the stage machinery.

The second story covers all of the first story except the entrance hall, the exhibition hall and the two large women rooms. It contains a library, two lecture rooms, and a small hall for students in eloquence which are directly above the four lecture halls of the first story. There are also teaching rooms, professors' offices, rooms for

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orchestral work, harp, etc.

The basement contains heating and ventilating apparatus, janitor's rooms, store rooms, etc., and also rooms specially fitted for organ practice. Under the theatre, as I have already said, are dressing rooms and service.

The elevation is in the French style of adapting classic motifs. The Corinthian order is used as being less severe and cold than the Doric or Ionic and more fitted to the character of the building. The general appearance is long and low. The main features are the center and two sides, which are treated in the same spirit. The motif of the center is a triple arcade with detached columns between the arches, supporting the cornice. In the side

features, the side is still kept  
the motif, though in a modified  
form. The wall between these  
main features is simple in feeling  
with engaged Corinthian columns  
carrying the feeling of the  
central motif to the ends.

The central portion is surmounted  
by an attic, whose beams is  
lightened by tablets and statues.  
Above this rises the dome and  
pediment of the theatre, thus  
emphasizing the importance  
which has been given to the  
main axis throughout the plan.

Drawings:—

Plan  $\frac{1}{6}'' = 1'$

Elevation  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'$

Detail  $\frac{1}{2}'' = 1'$ . — This drawing shows  
two of the central arches and a  
portion of the side wall with sections radi-