



1924

# Report of the New Court House Commission of the State of Rhode Island

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REPORT

OF THE

New Court House  
Commission

OF THE

State of Rhode Island

1924



# REPORT

OF THE

## New Court House Commission

OF THE

State of Rhode Island

1924



*To the Honorable General Assembly,  
State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.*

The Commission appointed to consider the Selection of a Site and the Preparation of Preliminary Plans for a New Court House in the City of Providence, respectfully submits its report as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 51, APPROVED MAY 3, 1923  
CREATING THE COMMISSION:

*Resolved*, That a commission consisting of three qualified electors of this state to be appointed by the governor, a justice of the supreme court to be appointed by the supreme court, a justice of the superior court to be appointed by the justices of the superior court, the chairman of the finance committee of the senate, the chairman of the finance committee of the house of representatives, a member of the Rhode Island Bar Association to be appointed by the president of said association, a member of the common council of the city of Providence to be appointed by the president of the council, and a member of the board of aldermen of said city to be appointed by the mayor, is hereby created for the purpose of taking into consideration the selection of a suitable site in the city of Providence for a new court house, the preparation of preliminary plans and a general program providing for accommodations for the supreme and superior courts, law library, sheriff of Providence county, the attorney general and such other facilities as said commission may recommend.

The person first appointed by the governor shall be chairman of said commission, the members thereof shall serve without compensation.

For the purpose of carrying this resolution into effect, for the preparation of plans, for competitive prizes and for the payment of necessary expenses incurred by said com-

mission, the sum of fifteen thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated; and the state auditor is hereby authorized and directed to draw his orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of such sums as may be from time to time required upon receipt by him of vouchers approved by the chairman of said commission.

Said commission shall make a final report to the general assembly on or before January 31, 1924, and thereupon their term of office shall terminate.

RESOLUTION EXTENDING TIME OF THE  
COMMISSION TO MAKE ITS REPORT (H 608),  
PASSED AT THE JANUARY SESSION, A. D. 1924.

*Resolved*, That the commission created by virtue of resolution 51 of the general assembly passed at the January session, A. D. 1923, for the purpose of taking into consideration the selection of a suitable site in the city of Providence for a new court house, the preparation of preliminary plans and a general program providing for accommodations for the supreme and superior courts, law library, sheriff of Providence county, the attorney general and such other facilities as said commission may recommend, is hereby continued with all the authority conferred upon said commission by said resolution, and is directed to report to the general assembly not later than March 10, 1924, and thereupon their term of office shall terminate.

The unexpended balance of the sum heretofore appropriated to be expended by said commission is hereby reappropriated, to be and remain available for expenditure during the period ending on March 20, 1924; and the state auditor is hereby authorized and directed to draw his orders upon the general treasurer in payment of such sums as may from time to time be required upon receipt by him of vouchers approved by the chairman of said commission.

## MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION.

The members of the commission, appointed in accordance with the resolution under which the commission was created, were as follows:

*Commission to Consider the Selection of a Site and the Preparation of Preliminary Plans for a New Court House in the City of Providence.*

(Created in accordance with the provisions of Resolution No. 51, approved May 31, 1923.)

(Appointed by the Governor.)

Jesse H. Metcalf, of Providence.  
James H. Higgins, of Pawtucket.  
John E. Canning, of Providence.

(Appointed by the Supreme Court.)

Charles F. Stearns, of Providence. Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

(Appointed by the Superior Court.)

J. Jerome Hahn, of Providence, Associate Justice of the Superior Court.

Harry A. Sanderson, of Johnston, Chairman of Senate Finance Committee, *ex officio*.

Frederick S. Peck, of Barrington, Chairman of House Finance Committee, *ex officio*.

(Appointed by the President of the Rhode Island Bar Association.)

Rush Sturges, of Providence.

(Appointed by the Mayor of the City of Providence.)

John F. Conaty, of Providence. (Member of the Board of Aldermen.)

(Appointed by the President of the Common Council of the City of Providence.)

Percy A. Harden, of Providence. (Member of the Common Council.)

The commission organized with Jesse H. Metcalf as chairman and appointed John Hutchins Cady, of Providence, as Secretary, and Henry H. Kendall, of Boston, Mass., as consulting architect.

### SCOPE OF COMMISSION'S WORK.

The work of the commission was two-fold, as follows: (1) the consideration of a site for the proposed court house and (2) the preparation of preliminary plans for the building by means of a competition.

### SELECTION OF A SITE.

The original intention of the commission was to select as a location for the new court house the site of the present superior court house at the corner of College and Benefit Streets and the land immediately adjoining it, either on College Street as far as South Main Street, or on Benefit Street as far as Hopkins Street, or both.

The commission was unanimous that the present superior court house is unsuitable to be maintained as a court house any longer than is absolutely necessary; but it was determined that the new building be so designed that the portions of the site which are not at present covered by the court house be built upon and completed first in order that the use of the present building may be continued until new quarters are ready.

The consulting architect, after studying the requirements of the building, demonstrated that if the building were to accommodate all of the courts and other facilities as required by the resolution, it would be necessary to acquire the whole block bounded by College, Benefit, Hopkins and South Main streets as a site for the proposed building.

The commission, although being of the opinion that this site was the most suitable for the court house, was reluctant to advise that the entire block be taken, owing largely to the property of historic interest located thereon. It decided therefore to adopt this site only after all other suitable sites had been considered and discarded.

The commission thereupon proceeded to the consideration of other sites. And in considering these sites the following conditions were adopted as mandatory for a building of so great importance and magnitude: (1) It must be located in a very conspicuous place, convenient to the public; (2) It must have ample room around it and not be cramped or restrained by other buildings; and (3) it must be as free as possible, in part at least from street noises, and particularly from those noises caused by street cars rounding corners.

The sites considered were as follows:

1. The land bounded by Benefit street, College street, South Water street and the line on the southern boundary of the present superior court house, said line being extended to South Water street. Two plans were considered for the use of this site, as follows: (1) by permanently closing South Main street, and (2) by bridging South Main street. Both plans were abandoned on the ground that the resulting structure on such an awkward site could not present the dignity in appearance commensurate to the importance of the building.

2. The westerly side of Benefit street from College street as far south as necessary to provide for the required accommodations, and permanently closing Hopkins street. The resulting structure would be too long and narrow to be convenient of arrangement and the entrance to the building would not be sufficiently accessible from down town.

3. The lot bounded by College, Benefit, Hopkins and South Main streets, eliminating the property at the southwest corner of the same. This would result in an L-shaped building of extreme height which would be inconvenient in arrangement and undignified in appearance.

4. The land bounded by North Main street, Waterman street, Canal street and Market Square. A court house placed on this site and flanking the Hospital Trust Building would have an imposing setting. But the site has two disadvantages: (1) it is bounded on all four sides by car

tracks with curves at all four corners, and the resulting noise would be a very disturbing element when courts are in session; and (2) the cost of this site and the foundations of a building would be excessive.

5. The land bounded by South Water, College, South Main and Crawford streets. This flat site also has many advantages, and the noise from street cars would not be so troublesome as in the case of the North Main street site. But a building on this site would be narrow for its length and the cost of the land and foundations would be considerable.

6. The land now occupied by Butler Exchange and the next block to the east. Facing the center of Exchange Place, the court house would be one more link in the chain of public buildings facing the civic center. But here again the very considerable cost of the property and the noise from the thoroughfares were serious objections.

7. The site occupied by Infantry Hall, continued on South Main and Benefit streets to Planet street. This is too far from the business centre to be given serious consideration.

8. The Smith property opposite the state house on Smith street. This site is not at all easily accessible from the business centre; furthermore this neighborhood had been recommended by a former commission and had met with the almost unanimous disapproval of the Bar Association because of its inaccessibility.

9. The land bounded by North Main street, Bowen street, Benefit street and North Court street. This site is also too remote from the business center.

10. The land bounded by South Main street, Hopkins street, Benefit street and the Northern boundary of the Shepley Library property on Benefit street and this line continued westerly to South Main Street. The use of this property involves the removal of two important buildings; the old Providence Bank and the Providence Institution for Savings. By widening Crawford street as an approach to the building, an imposing and convenient access to the

court house would be provided and the building would be comparatively quiet, except on the South Main street side. The commission thought sufficiently well of this site to adopt it provisionally on November 19, 1923, for the purpose of holding a competition for the design of the court house, this action being taken because the members of the commission were not in unanimous accord on a site at that time, and a longer delay was impossible if a competition was to be held and an award made in time for a report to be presented to the general assembly at its January, 1924, session.

Eventually, however, this site was also eliminated and the commission, having exhausted to its satisfaction the consideration of other suitable sites, now is unanimous in recommending as a site for the new Providence County Court House the land bounded by College, Benefit, Hopkins and South Main streets in the City of Providence.

#### PRELIMINARY PLANS FOR A COURT HOUSE.

The commission determined to secure preliminary plans for a court house by means of a competition, which would be conducted in accordance with the competition code of the American Institute of Architects, and Mr. Henry H. Kendall, of Boston, a past president of the American Institute of Architects, was retained as consulting architect to prepare a program for the competition and to advise the commission in the conduct of the same.

It was the decision of the commission that the court house should accommodate the supreme court, superior court of Providence county, sixth district court, state law library, the attorney general's department and the sheriff of Providence county. Accordingly all of these departments were visited in their present quarters by the consulting architect and the secretary and information was acquired as to their future requirements.

A summary of the requirements of the court house, as provided for in the competition program, which is made a part of this report, is as follows:

Quarters for the sheriff with waiting room, private office, offices for deputies, bookkeepers' department, a small vault, and toilet rooms.

Cells for superior and sixth district courts, a detention room for juveniles and a consultation room.

Attorney general's department with ante-room, private office, offices for assistants, office for clerical staff, storage vault, library, consulting room, grand jury room, witness rooms and toilet rooms.

District Court: 5 Court rooms, each with Judge's chamber and witness rooms, a room for confining delinquents, rooms for probation officers, warrant officers and police officers, and offices for the clerk.

Superior Court: 14 Court rooms with Judge's rooms, jury rooms for both sexes, witness rooms, consulting rooms, and toilet rooms; clerk's department with main office, private offices, lawyers' room, recorder's office, offices for naturalization clerk, storage vault and toilet room.

Supreme Court: With dignified court room, robing room and justice's chambers; consultation room, room for hearings and room for counsel; quarters for clerk, vault for records and toilet rooms.

Court stenographers' rooms.

Law Library with provision for at least fourteen thousand volumes, reading room, librarian's office, consultation room and toilet room.

In addition to these specified requirements, elevators, stairways and public corridors were provided for. The design of the exterior treatment was left to the individual architect, with a suggestion that a Colonial type of architecture would be appropriate. The building was required to be fireproof throughout.

Upon recommendation of the consulting architect participation in the competition was limited to eight invited architects, each of whom was to receive the sum of \$500. An invitation was extended to all architects in the state of Rhode Island who desired to participate in the competition to submit evidence of their qualifications to design and

supervise the construction of a building of the magnitude and importance of the court house. Letters were received from eleven individuals or firms, expressing a desire to compete and from this number the following were chosen as best fitted to enter the competition.

CLARKE & HOWE,  
 ALBERT HARKNESS, associated with H. V. B. Magonigle of  
 New York,  
 GEORGE F. HALL,  
 ELEAZER B. HOMER and GORHAM HENSHAW, Associated  
 JACKSON, ROBERTSON and ADAMS.

In addition to these local firms the following architects from outside of the state were selected to compete, by reason of their known ability and wide reputation :

BELLOWS and ALDRICH of Boston,  
 PARKER, THOMAS and RICE of Boston,  
 JOHN M. HOWELLS and RAYMOND M. HOOD of New York.

The competition program was sent to the competitors on December 1, 1923, with the requirement that the drawings would be delivered anonymously at the R. I. School of Design on February 2, 1924.

On February 6 and 7 the drawings were judged by a jury consisting of the following :

Mr. JESSE H. METCALF, Chairman of the Commission  
 Judge J. JEROME HAHN, Justice of the Superior Court of  
 Rhode Island,  
 Prof. WILLIAM EMERSON, head of the Architectural Department of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
 Mr. CHARLES BUTLER, Architect, of New York,  
 Mr. NORMAN M. ISHAM, Architect, of Providence.

The report of the jury is as follows :

## REPORT OF JURY.

February 8th, 1924.

Court House Commission,  
Providence, R. I.  
Gentlemen:—

The Jury of Award appointed to judge the competitive drawings for the new Providence Court House begs to report to you as follows:

Eight sets of drawings were submitted by as many competitors and these sets were numbered respectively from one to eight. Accompanying each set of drawings was a descriptive statement of the design and a computation of the cubical contents of the building, submitted by its author.

A report was received from Mr. Henry H. Kendall, Consulting Architect to the Commission, to the effect that he had examined all of the plans, and had found them complete as to the required drawings and substantially complete as to the requirements of the program. Appended to Mr. Kendall's report was a report from Mr. Archie W. Merchant, giving the approximate cost of construction of each of the buildings designed.

The jury has carefully examined the drawings and their accompanying statements, and has verified the report of the Consulting Architect. All of the designs are of unusual excellence, the draughtsmanship is extraordinarily good and the presentation extremely pleasing. The problem was a difficult one owing to the great differences in grades of the two principal streets bounding the lot. Owing to the high average of all of the plans, the jury's task in making its award was far from easy.

*Design placed First*

The design given first place by the jury is No. 4. In this plan a sincere effort has been made, with considerable success, to adapt the design to the characteristics of Colonial architecture, and especially to certain types of Colonial architecture that are peculiarly typical of Providence. The

plan is well arranged, the circulation is good and there has been absolute meeting of the mandatory requirements. The access to the building from South Main Street, the able way in which the building fits the slope of the hillside and the ingenious economies in the reduction of the cubage by successive set-backs are commendable. Worthy of note also are the placing of the entrances to Court Rooms away from the noise of the public corridors and the excellent location of Jury Rooms.

#### *Design placed Second*

Second place has been awarded to No. 8. The feature of this design is the excellent character and dignity of the exterior treatment. The plan in general is logical and compact, with ample light courts and good lighting for public circulation. The approach from South Main Street is good and the terrace treatment on the side hill is cleverly arranged. The interior is not so carefully studied as some of the other plans.

#### *Design placed Third*

Third place has been awarded to No. 2, largely on account of the excellence of its plan. The mandatory requirements are conscientiously adhered to, the rooms are well arranged, and the corridors are well lighted by two large interior courts. These courts are featured by a garden treatment. The level access to the main entrance from South Main Street is excellent. The location and arrangement of Prisoners' Quarters on the top story are worthy of mention. The elevation on Benefit Street has a distinctive Colonial charm while that on South Main Street is not quite so good.

#### *Cost of Construction*

The approximate cost of construction of the buildings awarded first, second and third places, respectively, accord-

ing to the estimate of Mr. Archie W. Merchant, is as follows:

Design placed first.....	\$3,564,500
Design placed second.....	\$3,601,000
Design placed third.....	\$5,272,500

The Jury certifies that in making the awards, its members were in ignorance of the identity of the author of any design submitted.

Respectfully yours,

JESSE H. METCALF  
 J. JEROME HAHN  
 WILLIAM EMERSON  
 CHARLES BUTLER  
 NORMAN M. ISHAM

JOHN H. CADY, Secretary.

The jury's report was accepted and its awards confirmed by the commission on February 8th, and the sealed envelopes containing the names of the competitors were thereupon opened, disclosing the following as winners:

First prize (\$2500.) Jackson, Robertson and Adams

Second prize (\$1000.) John M. Howells and Raymond M. Hood

Third prize (\$500.) Eleazer B. Homer and Gorham Henshaw

Subsequently the competitive plans were on public exhibition at the Rhode Island School of Design, which courteously allowed the commission the necessary space from February 9th to 16th.

*Adaptation of Winning Design to the Selected Site*

The design of the court house in the competition and the award of the jury were based upon the site bounded by South Main street, Hopkins street, Benefit street and the

north line of the Shepley Library property, said line continued west to South Main street.

Opinion was expressed by the commission and the consulting architect and was confirmed by the successful architects, that this design can be adapted to the site finally selected by the commission, viz. that bounded by College, Benefit, Hopkins and South Main streets.

In connection with the possibility of carrying on the work on the new court house in two stages, the successful architects further state that such an arrangement will be possible, as the southerly half of their building, together with the transverse corridor and elevator lobby can be constructed first, bringing the new construction up to the south line of the present court house. This will enable the courts to move into the building thus far completed, and the balance of the work can then be carried on from that point.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Acquisition by purchase or condemnation of property as a site for court house.

The commission recommends that the following property be acquired as a site for the Providence County court house: the block bounded by College street, Benefit street, Hopkins street and South Main street in the city of Providence.

2. Selection of Architects.

The commission recommends that the preliminary plans (copies of which have been filed with the secretary of state) submitted by Jackson, Robertson and Adams of Providence be accepted and that that firm be employed as architects on the following conditions.

A. DESIGN: The architects are to design the entire building and its immediate surroundings and are to design or direct the design of its constructive, engineering and decorative work and its fixed equipment.

B. DRAWINGS AND SPECIFICATIONS: The architects are to make such revision of their preliminary plans as may be necessary and are to provide drawings and

specifications necessary for the conduct of the work. All such instruments of service are to remain the property of the architects.

C. The architects are to prepare or advise as to all forms connected with the making of proposals and contracts, to issue all certificates of payment, to keep proper accounts and generally to discharge the necessary administrative duties connected with the work.

D. SUPERVISION: The architects are to supervise the execution of all the work committed to their control.

### DUTIES OF THE STATE

E. PAYMENTS: The state is to pay the architects for their services the customary six per cent commission on the first million of the cost of the work, and five per cent on the balance. The prize award of \$2500 is to be deducted from the architects' fee.

F. REIMBURSEMENTS: The state is to reimburse the architects from time to time, the amount of expenses necessarily incurred by them or their deputies while traveling in the discharge of duties connected with the work.

G. SERVICE OF ENGINEERS: The state is to reimburse the architects the cost of the services of engineers for heating and ventilating system and electrical power plant. The selection of such engineers and their compensation shall be subject to the approval of the state.

H. INFORMATION, CLERK OF THE WORKS, ETC.—The state is to give all information as to its requirements; to pay for all necessary surveys, borings and tests, and for the continuous services of a clerk of the works whose competence is approved by the architects.

3. Creation of a commission to erect the Court House.

The commission recommends the creation of a Court House Commission to acquire a site for the court house and to contract for the construction, furnishing and equipment of the building.

4. Provisions for a Bond Issue.

The commission recommends that in addition to the \$2,000,000 bond issue already authorized, an additional \$2,800,000 bond issue be provided for.

Respectfully submitted,

JESSE H. METCALF  
JAMES H. HIGGINS  
JOHN E. CANNING  
CHARLES F. STEARNS  
J. JEROME HAIN  
HARRY A. SANDERSON  
FREDERICK S. PECK  
RUSH STURGES  
JOHN F. CONATY  
PERCY A. HARDEN

APPENDIX  
To the Report of the Court House  
Commission  
1924

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PROGRAM  
OF  
Competition for  
A New Court House  
IN THE  
City of Providence  
State of  
Rhode Island.

APPROVED NOVEMBER 26, 1923

BY THE

COMMITTEE ON COMPETITION A. I. A. FOR THE DISTRICT OF  
RHODE ISLAND

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
NEW COURT HOUSE COMMISSION

JESSE H. METCALF, Chairman  
412 Hospital Trust Bldg.  
PROVIDENCE

JUSTICE CHARLES F. STEARNS  
JUSTICE J. JEROME HAHN  
HON. JAMES H. HIGGINS

JOHN E. CANNING  
HARRY A. SANDERSON  
FREDERICK S. PECK

RUSH STURGES  
PERCY A. HARDEN  
JOHN F. CONATY

HENRY H. KENDALL, Consulting Architect  
142 Berkeley Street  
Boston, Mass.

JOHN HUTCHINS CADY, Secretary  
621 Grosvenor Building  
Providence, R. I.

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PROGRAM OF COMPETITION  
FOR  
PRELIMINARY PLANS FOR A NEW COURT HOUSE  
IN THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE, STATE OF RHODE  
ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS.

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PART ONE.

The State of Rhode Island by an act of its Legislature,  
approved May 31, 1923, has created a Commission and em-

powered it to secure preliminary plans for a new Court House in the City of Providence.

The Commission has authority to secure preliminary plans, but must submit its report to the Legislature with which rests authority for construction of the building and the employment of an Architect.

The Commission will recommend to the Legislature the employment of the Architect, whose design receives the award in the competition, but has no authority to contract for his services.

The authority of the Commission is limited and defined in the following act.

#### H 616 (Substitute B)

#### State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

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JANUARY SESSION, A. D. 1923

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**RESOLUTION** Creating a Commission to Consider the Selection of a Site and the Preparation of Preliminary Plans for a New Court House in the City of Providence.

**RESOLVED**, That a commission consisting of three qualified electors of this state to be appointed by the governor, a justice of the supreme court to be appointed by the supreme court, a justice of the superior court to be appointed by the justices of the superior court, the chairman of the finance committee of the senate, the chairman of the finance committee of the house of representatives, a member of the Rhode Island Bar Association to be appointed by the President of said association, a member of the common council of the city of Providence to be appointed by

the president of the council, and a member of the board of aldermen of said city to be appointed by the mayor, is hereby created for the purpose of taking into consideration the selection of a suitable site in the city of Providence for a new court house, the preparation of preliminary plans and a general program providing for accommodations for the supreme and superior courts, law library, sheriff of Providence county, the attorney general and such other facilities as said commission may recommend.

The person first appointed by the governor shall be chairman of said commission, the members thereof shall serve without compensation.

For the purpose of carrying this resolution into effect, for the preparation of plans, for competitive prizes and for the payment of necessary expenses incurred by said commission, the sum of fifteen thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated; and the state auditor is hereby authorized and directed to draw his orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of such sums as may be from time to time required upon receipt by him of vouchers approved by the chairman of said commission.

Said commission shall make a final report to the general assembly on or before January 31, 1924, and thereupon their term of office shall terminate.

A true copy,

No 51

Attest:

Approved May 31, 1923

J. FRED PARKER

Secretary of State.

The Commission has organized with Jesse H. Metcalf, of Providence, as Chairman, and has appointed John Hutchins Cady, 621 Grosvenor Building, Providence, as Secretary.

The Commission is hereinafter designated for the purpose of this program as the Owner.

The Commission has appointed as its Professional Adviser—Henry H. Kendall, F. A. I. A. of 142 Berkeley Street, Boston, Mass., to prepare this program and act as its Adviser in the conduct of this competition.

#### COMPETITORS:—

Participation in this competition is limited to the following Architects:

Homer & Henshaw.....	Providence, R. I.
Clark & Howe.....	Providence, R. I.
Jackson, Robertson & Adams....	Providence, R. I.
Albert Harkness & H. V. B. Magonigle, Associated	Providence, R. I.
George F. Hall.....	Providence, R. I.
Parker, Thomas & Rice.....	Boston, Mass.
Bellows & Aldrich.....	Boston, Mass.
John M. Howells & Raymond M. Hood, Associated..	New York, N. Y.

The Owner agrees that no one will be admitted to the competition whom it would not be willing to recommend for appointment as Architect of the Building.

#### JURY OF AWARD:—

The Owner agrees that it will appoint a Jury of Award which will consist of the following members—

- 3 Architects of high standing
- The Chairman of the Commission
- A member of the court

The Owner agrees that the Jury selected as above provided, will select the design which appears to it to be the most meritorious and make a written report to the Owner, designating it by number. The Owner will then consider

this design and the report of the Jury and will thereupon, without learning the identity of the Competitors, select as the winner of the Competition the author of the design selected by the Jury, unless in its judgment there be cause to depart from such selection, in which case he will, still without learning the identity of the Competitors, select one of the other designs submitted in competition.

#### EXAMINATION OF DESIGN AND AWARD :

The Professional Adviser will examine the designs to ascertain whether they comply with the MANDATORY requirements of the Program, and will report to the Jury any instance of failure to comply with these. Any design failing to meet the MANDATORY requirements of the program will not be entitled to the compensation mentioned below.

The Jury will satisfy itself of the accuracy of the report of the Professional Adviser and will make no award to a design which does not comply with these MANDATORY requirements.

The Jury will carefully study the program and any modifications thereof, which may have been made through communications, and will then consider the remaining designs, holding at least two sessions on separate days and considering at each session all the drawings in competition, and will make the award and the classification of prize winners, by secret ballot, and by majority vote, before the envelopes containing the names of the competitors are opened.

The Jury will make no effort to learn the identity of the competitors and will certify that it makes its award in ignorance of such identity.

The Jury will report its findings to the Owner who will act upon its report before opening the envelopes containing the names of the competitors.

#### REPORT OF THE JURY :

The Jury will make a full report which will state its reasons for the selection of the winning design and its

reason for the classification of the designs placed next in order of merit, and a copy of this report, accompanied by the names of prize winners, will be sent by the Professional Adviser to each Competitor.

Immediately upon the opening of the envelopes, the Professional Adviser will notify all Competitors, of the result of the competition.

#### COMPENSATION TO COMPETITORS.

The Owner agrees to pay each competitor participating in this competition a fee of \$500. and in addition thereto will pay to the successful competitor a prize of \$2500.00, and to the designs placed second and third by the Jury, prizes respectively of \$1000.00 and \$500.00.

These sums to be in full compensation for all obligations incurred on this account by the Commission.

In case the successful competitor is later appointed Architect for the building, the prize above mentioned is to be credited on account of the total commission to be received by him as Architect.

#### EXHIBITION OF DRAWINGS.

It is agreed that no drawings shall be exhibited or made public until after the award of the Jury.

It shall be competent for the Owner to arrange a public exhibition of all drawings if it deems it expedient, and all drawings except those of the successful competitor shall be returned to their authors at the close thereof.

#### USE OF FEATURES OF UNSUCCESSFUL DESIGNS.

Nothing original in the unsuccessful designs shall be used without consent of, or compensation to, the author of the design in which it appears.

In case the Owner desires to make use of any individual feature of an unsuccessful design, the same may be obtained by adequate compensation to the designer, the amount of such compensation to be determined in consultation with the author and the Professional Adviser.

**COMMUNICATIONS. (MANDATORY)**

If any competitor desires information of any kind whatever in regard to the competition, or the program, he shall ask for this information by anonymous letter addressed to the Professional Adviser, and in no other way, and a copy of this letter and the answer thereto will be sent simultaneously to each competitor, but no request received after December 22, 1923, will be answered.

**ANONYMITY OF DRAWINGS: (MANDATORY)**

The drawings to be submitted shall bear no name or mark which could serve as a means of identification, nor shall any such name or mark appear upon the wrapper of the drawings, nor shall any Competitor directly or indirectly reveal the identity of his designs, or hold communication regarding the competition with the Owner or with any member of the Commission or of the Jury, or with the Professional Adviser, except as provided for under "COMMUNICATIONS".

It is understood that in submitting a design, each Competitor thereby affirms that he has complied with the foregoing provisions in regard to anonymity and agrees that any violation of them renders null and void this agreement and any agreement arising from it. With each set of drawings must be enclosed a plain, opaque, sealed envelope without any superscription or mark of any kind, same containing the name and address of the Competitor. These envelopes shall be opened by the Professional Adviser after the final selection has been made.

**DELIVERY OF DRAWINGS: (MANDATORY)** The drawings submitted in this competition shall be securely wrapped, in a plain inside wrapper—sealed and enclosed in an outer wrapper addressed to the Professional Adviser at Rhode Island School of Design, at Providence, R. I.; in plain lettering and with no other lettering thereon, and delivered at this address not later than 12:00 o'clock noon, February 2, 1924.

In case drawings are sent by express, they may be delivered to an express company at the above date and hour, in which case the express company's receipt, bearing date and hour, shall be mailed immediately to the Professional Adviser as evidence of delivery.

The other wrappers will be removed by a clerk having no connection with the competition and the contents unmarked and sealed will be delivered to the Professional Adviser who will open and give a distinguishing mark to each set and to the sealed envelope containing the name of the author.

## PART II.

### SITE.

The site of the building is as follows:

A portion of the square bounded by South Main Street, Benefit, Planet and Hopkins Streets, in the city of Providence, about 300 feet frontage on South Main Street and about 330 feet on Benefit Street as shown by heavy line on the Surveyor's plan furnished herewith.

Benefit Street is from 40 to 47 feet higher than South Main Street and as the grade on South Main Street is only 13 feet above high water, the portion of the building fronting on that street will house what is usually placed in the basement of a building.

The main approach from the city will be from the territory west of South Main Street and one of the main entrances to the building should be placed here. An easy approach to elevators and stairs should be here provided.

The grades will probably permit of an entrance from Hopkins Street at a floor level and another main entrance from Benefit Street. It is presumed that an entrance for police purposes can be provided from South Main Street to a court or yard, either open or roofed over, for handling prisoners with security.

The size of the lot is judged to be sufficient to permit of ample areas around the building, thus affording an oppor-

tunity to minimize the difficulties of the steep gradients on Hopkins Street. Competitors will take these areas into consideration and suggest a treatment for these spaces.

### COST.

The object of this competition is not merely to select a plan and an Architect, but to determine within approximate limits the cost of a suitable building. It is desired that this cost shall be kept as low as is compatible with proper accommodations. The size and cubic contents of the designs submitted will therefore be a factor of importance in the considerations of the Jury.

### CUBAGE. (MANDATORY)

Competitors are asked to submit a computation of the cubic contents of their designs, exclusive of approaches and exterior treatment of the grounds, estimated from the basement floor to and including the roof, with exterior features such as steps, porches, etc., if any.

The owner will check these figures and price all on a uniform basis, with suitable expert advice.

### DRAWINGS.

The Owner will furnish to each competitor a surveyor's plan showing the areas of the lot, its boundaries and the grades, with such other information as may be available.

The following drawings will be required.

1. Block plan of the site showing area of building, location, approaches, and indicating any treatment of spaces not covered by the building.
2. Plans of each story, indicating the sizes of rooms, location, and arrangement of space.
3. Plans of each mezzanine, if any, showing the accommodation provided therein.
4. Elevations of the four fronts.
5. Longitudinal and cross sections of the building.

All to be drawn to a scale of 1/16" to one foot, in pencil, walls and partitions to be filled in solid, either in pencil or India ink wash, sizes plainly marked, and the purpose of each room designated. All lettering to be plain, or block lettering.

No perspective or rendered drawings permitted.

Elevations to be in outline with openings blocked in with an India ink wash.

No colored drawings or water color treatment permitted, and no cast shadows.

All drawings shall be made on white tracing paper and mounted solid on cardboard of a uniform size, 20"x24".

Competitors may submit a descriptive statement, not exceeding 1500 words, with reasons for the adoption of any features of the design which seem to them to need emphasis not afforded by the drawings.

#### DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION.

The city of Providence has many interesting buildings of a Colonial or Georgian style and in them the exterior material is largely brick with stone trimmings.

The Owner suggests that this style be considered in the treatment of this building and that such a treatment would be entitled to careful consideration in the choice of a design.

#### CONSTRUCTION. (MANDATORY)

Must be fireproof throughout and steel construction with curtain walls will probably be found the most economical under the conditions imposed by local building laws.

### PART III.

#### AGREEMENT BETWEEN OWNER AND COMPETITORS.

The Owner, the aforesaid Commission, will recommend that the Architect selected in this competition be employed upon the "usual terms and conditions" as Architect of the

building, in case that an appropriation is made and the erection authorized by the "General Assembly", but such recommendation is all that the Committee is authorized to do under the act creating it—and it is definitely stated that such recommendation neither creates nor implies any legal obligation to such employment.

#### DEFINITION:—

The "usual conditions" referred to above are understood to mean Duties of the Architect.

1. **DESIGN.** The Architect is to design the entire building and its immediate surroundings and is to design or direct the design of its constructive, engineering and decorative work and its fixed equipment and, if further retained, its movable furniture and the treatment of the remainder of its grounds.

2. **DRAWINGS AND SPECIFICATIONS:** The Architect is to make such revision of his competitive scheme as may be necessary to complete the preliminary studies; and he is to provide drawings and specifications necessary for the conduct of the work. All such instruments of service are and remain the property of the Architect.

3. The Architect is to prepare or advise as to all forms connected with the making of proposals and contracts, to issue all certificates of payment, to keep proper accounts and generally to discharge the necessary administrative duties connected with the work.

4. **SUPERVISION:** The Architect is to supervise the execution of all the work committed to his control.

#### DUTIES OF THE OWNER.

5. **PAYMENTS:** The Owner is to pay the Architect for his services a sum equal to six per cent upon the first million of the cost of the work, and five per cent on the balance.

6. **REIMBURSEMENTS:** The owner is to reimburse the Architect, from time to time, the amount of expenses necessarily incurred by him or his deputies while travelling in the discharge of duties connected with the work.

7. **SERVICE OF ENGINEERS:** The Owner is to reimburse the Architect the cost of the services of engineers for Heating & Ventilating system and Electrical Power plant. The selection of such engineers and their compensation shall be subject to the approval of the Owner.

8. **INFORMATION, CLERK OF THE WORKS, ETC.—**The Owner is to give all information as to his requirements; to pay for all necessary surveys, borings and tests, and for the continuous services of a clerk of the works whose competence is approved by the Architect.

#### PART IV.

#### REQUIREMENTS. (MANDATORY)

The Building is to accommodate the Supreme and Superior Courts, the Sixth District Court, the Law Library, the Sheriff of Providence County, the Attorney General, and such other facilities as the Commission may recommend.

A statement of the desired accommodation follows and the provision therefor is **MANDATORY**.

Space for heating and ventilating apparatus, fuel storage, and all service connected therewith.

#### QUARTERS FOR THE SHERIFF.

- a. Office for Secretary, opening from main corridor.
- b. Reception or public waiting room opening from main corridor and connecting with office.
- c. Private office for Sheriff, opening from Secretary's room, with private toilet and coat room.
- d. Bookkeeper's department, to accommodate three or four desks.

- e. A small vault for storage of records, say 6x8, to open from Secretary's office.
- f. Two private offices for Deputy Sheriffs.
- g. Desk room for twenty additional deputies.
- h. Locker room for Deputy Sheriffs.
- i. Toilets for clerks, two sexes.
- j. Cells—6 cells about 12' 6" x 15' 5" with toilets.  
     27 cells about 6' 6" x 9' 3" with toilets.  
     10 single cells for women, separate from the above.

For Sixth District Court.

- 10 cells for men, double without toilets—a men's toilet separate.  
     6 single cells for women, with toilet facilities.
- k. A detention room for juvenile cases, not connected with the other cells, this should accommodate temporarily 60 to 70 persons.
- l. A consultation room in connection with this department, where lawyers may consult clients under proper safeguards.  
     This department should have a separate entrance where a van can be driven in from the street and the prisoners discharged within a court or enclosed space.
- m. Suitable rooms and toilet in connection with this department for the keepers in charge.
- n. Store rooms for goods and supplies.
- o. Provision for feeding prisoners while under detention—Cooking not included.
- p. ELEVATOR—A separate elevator suitably guarded should connect the detention and cell departments with the District, Criminal and Juvenile Court Rooms or lobbies adjacent to them, so that prisoners may be taken from the cells to the court rooms without passing through the public corridors.
- q. STAIRS—In addition to the elevator a private stair should connect these departments and court rooms.

## PUBLIC STAIRS AND ELEVATORS.

The principal Entrances will be from South Main Street and Benefit Street. There should be ample and dignified lobbies—and an elevator service at each main entrance.

The greater use will probably be at the South Main Street side, and an elevator service to meet the demands should be provided there. Auxiliary stairs should connect the Mezzanine stories with the principal floors and suitable provisions for egress must be everywhere provided.

## SUPERINTENDENT.

- a. An office consisting of 2 rooms for the Superintendent and assistant.
- b. A janitor's closet on each floor for brooms, and mops, with a slop sink.
- c. Telephone:—On each floor provide a room for public telephone service, space for booths, etc.
- d. A coat and checking room—near entrance and public toilets. This for public and general use—should be large enough to care for 150 at least.

## ATTORNEY GENERAL.

- a. A large ante room to be used by the public as a reception or waiting room and the transaction of all business not requiring personal interviews.
- b. A small room connecting for the Deputy Sheriff.
- c. A commodious office for the Attorney General, with private toilet and Coat Room.
- d. A similar accommodation for the first Assistant Attorney General, with Toilet.
- e. Five smaller rooms for Assistants and one Coat Room for the five, with basin and toilet.

These rooms should be on a private Corridor communicating with the private office (3) and the ante room.

- f. Room for the clerical staff—at least 4 typists and filing cabinets for official papers.

- g. Toilet for female employes.
- h. Storage vault for important records, 15x15
- i. Private Library, large and well lighted, about 30x20
- j. A Grand Jury Room—a dignified room about 1200 sq. feet in area—Lavatory, coat rooms and toilets for two sexes, and a retiring room.
- k. At least two witness rooms, averaging 20x30, with two toilet rooms.
- l. A Consulting room where private conferences can be held—examination of witness, etc.
- m. A store room for supplies—may be in a separate part of the building.

#### DISTRICT COURT.

This Department requires five court rooms, as follows:

1 large one for criminal cases, say 35x50

1 medium one for civil cases, say 35x40

3 small ones, say 30x35

- a. For each court room there should be provided a chamber for Judge with coat and toilet room and two witness rooms each with toilet accommodations.
- b. The Judges' chamber adjoining Civil Court should be large enough to serve as Juvenile Court, say 25x30
- c. There is provided under the "Sheriff" a detention room for juvenile cases, but adjacent or convenient to Judge's chamber serving as Juvenile Court there should be provided a room where delinquents may be confined pending hearings in Court, with toilet accommodations, for the two sexes.
- d. Provide a room for four probation officers and a private room adjoining for conferences.
- e. Provide a room for warrant officer and a room for police officers.

## CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT.

- a. For the Clerk's Department, provide an outer office 600 square feet with counter, with a vault adjoining not less than 600 square feet in area.
- b. Provide a private office for the Clerk, a private office for assistant clerk and an office with space for six desks.
- c. Provide a retiring room and toilet room for women and a toilet room for men.
- d. Provide a consultation room for attorneys, located if possible between Criminal Court and Civil Court.

## THE SUPERIOR COURT

General Statement (see below for details)

This department will require in all—

- A. Two large Court Rooms for Criminal Cases with Jury
- B. Two Court Rooms for Equity Cases—minimum size
- C. Ten Court Rooms for Civil cases with Jury

One or two of the latter should be of the larger size, say 35x50

The others medium—approximately 35x42

They should all have good light and ventilation—and be conveniently reached from Judges' Chambers, Jury and witness Rooms.

The accommodations required—

## A. CRIMINAL CASES.

- a. 2 Court Rooms of large size.
- b. 2 Judges' Rooms with Ante room, Coat Room and Lavatory—approximating 400 square feet.
- c. 2 Jury Rooms—say 300 feet each—with Coat Room and toilet.
- d. 2 Witness Rooms approximately 300 feet each, with toilet.
- e. 2 Counsel or Consulting Rooms—each divided in two parts.

- f. A general waiting room.
- g. A room for representatives of the press.

NOTE.—All toilets for jurors, witnesses, etc., shall be properly arranged for two sexes and shall not enter directly from the common room.

## SUPERIOR COURT.

### B. EQUITY CASES—

- a. Two Court Rooms of minimum size.
- b. Suite for presiding Justice with ante room, room for hearings—and toilet and robing room.
- c. Stenographer's Room.
- d. 1 Judge's room with ante room, toilet, and clothes press.
- e. Three Jury Rooms as above.
- f. 2 Witness Rooms as above.
- g. A common room divided into two for Counsel and Consulting Room.
- h. Two rooms for the Secretary—approximately 150 square feet each—with toilet and lavatory. If practicable, near the chambers of the Presiding Justice.

### C. CIVIL CASES—

- 3 Court Rooms large size—say 35x50
- a. 7 Court Rooms—medium size—say 35x45
- b. 10 Judges Rooms—as above
- c. 10 Jury Rooms—as above
- d. 10 Witness Rooms as above
- e. 4 Counsel or Consulting Rooms for common use as may be needed, divided into suites as indicated above.
- f. On each floor devoted to Court Rooms, provide a common waiting room with toilet facilities for both sexes where litigants and Counsel may wait pending call to court attendance.
- g. Provide for the fourteen Superior Court rooms in addition to what is specified above—3 or 4 spare Jury rooms which may be assigned to either court as

needed, at least two to be on a private corridor and opening en suite.

- c. Provide additional rooms which can be assigned for witnesses consultation, minor hearings etc.—not to exceed 6.
- d. On each court room floor provide a dining room where jurors can be fed, with conveniences for storage of dishes etc. and cleaning same after use. No cooking—
- e. A dumb waiter from a service room on the lower corridor would be of great advantage.

#### CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

- a. A main or public office—approximately 1400 sq. feet.
- b. A Lawyer's room opening from *a*—size approximately 20x30
- c. Clerk's fire proof vault—approximate size 800 sq. feet and 12 feet high.
- d. Private office for Clerk—with toilet.
- e. Office for Stenographer.
- f. Two small private offices
- g. Recorder's office—subdivided in two parts, approx. 8x6 each.
- h. Desk space—  
12 assistants—allow for each desk approximately 6x7½ feet.
- i. Office for Naturalization Clerk—240 sq. feet.
- j. Toilets—two—one for each sex.
- k. Supply room—approximately 180 sq. feet.
- l. Storage for records, files and documents—may be in a separate part of building—might be under main vault and accessible from same by private stairway. Should not be less than main vault and might be larger if space can be found.

NOTE. The Clerk's Office is the main business office of the Courts and should be easily accessible to the public as well as the Courts. Near stairs and elevators.

## COURT STENOGRAPHERS—

Provision must be made for offices for Court Stenographers. The exacting nature of their work requires quiet, privacy, and comfortable conditions.

Wherever possible provide a small room for a stenographer near or adjoining each Court room.

Provide a general office—perhaps 20x20—and a suite of single offices on a private corridor—each room approximately 7x12 feet, with a wash bowl in each.

There should be provision for at least 15 stenographers.

Provide also a large store room in this suite with suitable fire-proof shelving for stenographic records—possibly 300 sq. feet.

Toilet facilities in common may be provided for the suite. Two sexes must be provided for.

## THE SUPREME COURT.

## a. The Court Room.

A large and ample room capable of a treatment in consonance with the dignity and importance of the Court of last resort.

## b. A Robing room for the justices, with lockers and toilet facilities.

## c. A Consultation Room—

Should be of ample size and convenient to the Court Room.

The Justices of the Supreme Court.

a. Chambers for five Justices, each consisting of—  
1 chamber with toilet and wardrobe.

## b. An ample Consultation Room.

## c. A room for hearings.

## d. A room for counsel—with coat room and toilet.

All these rooms should be near the Court Room, and shut off from the remainder of the building.

## THE CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT.

An important office open every day and needs ample space and a quiet location.

The clerk needs—

- a. A public office approximately 600 sq. feet.
- b. A private office approximately 300 sq. feet.
- c. A conference room approximately 300 sq. feet.
- d. Storage for supplies etc., 200 sq. feet.
- e. A fireproof vault for records 700 sq. feet.

Additional storage space in a room with metal files cases—of say—200 sq. feet.

Additional space for storage of exhibits and articles deposited with the Court. (indefinite).

## SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

- a. Near the Consultation Room a suite of two offices at least 20x12 with toilet and wardrobe.

## OTHER ROOMS.

Additional rooms will be very desirable for this court and two or three rooms should be held in reserve for future needs.

Rooms should be provided for Court Officers when on and off duty.

## THE LIBRARY

- a. A reading room with a capacity of fifty persons at individual desks—each desk and chair occupies approximately 42"x44" aisles between desks 32".  
Room contains catalogue desk and desks for 2-3 clerks in charge—also cabinets and cases.
- b. Librarian's office and private toilet.
- c. Smoking room.
- d. Coat room and lavatory.
- e. Periodical room.
- f. Consultation room.

- g. Librarian's work room.
- h. A freight elevator should be available—for books etc., sent to courts, Judges and consultation rooms.
- i. A room for filing briefs etc., with space for two or more reading tables.

There will be no stack room, but galleries may be counted upon and an alcove system seems to be desirable.

All books except in the Brief Room are accessible to readers.

The Library now uses 7000 to 7500 lineal feet of shelving and it is estimated that it will need to provide for 5000 to 7000 for additional growth.