



Frederic G. Corser photograph album

Copyright Notice:

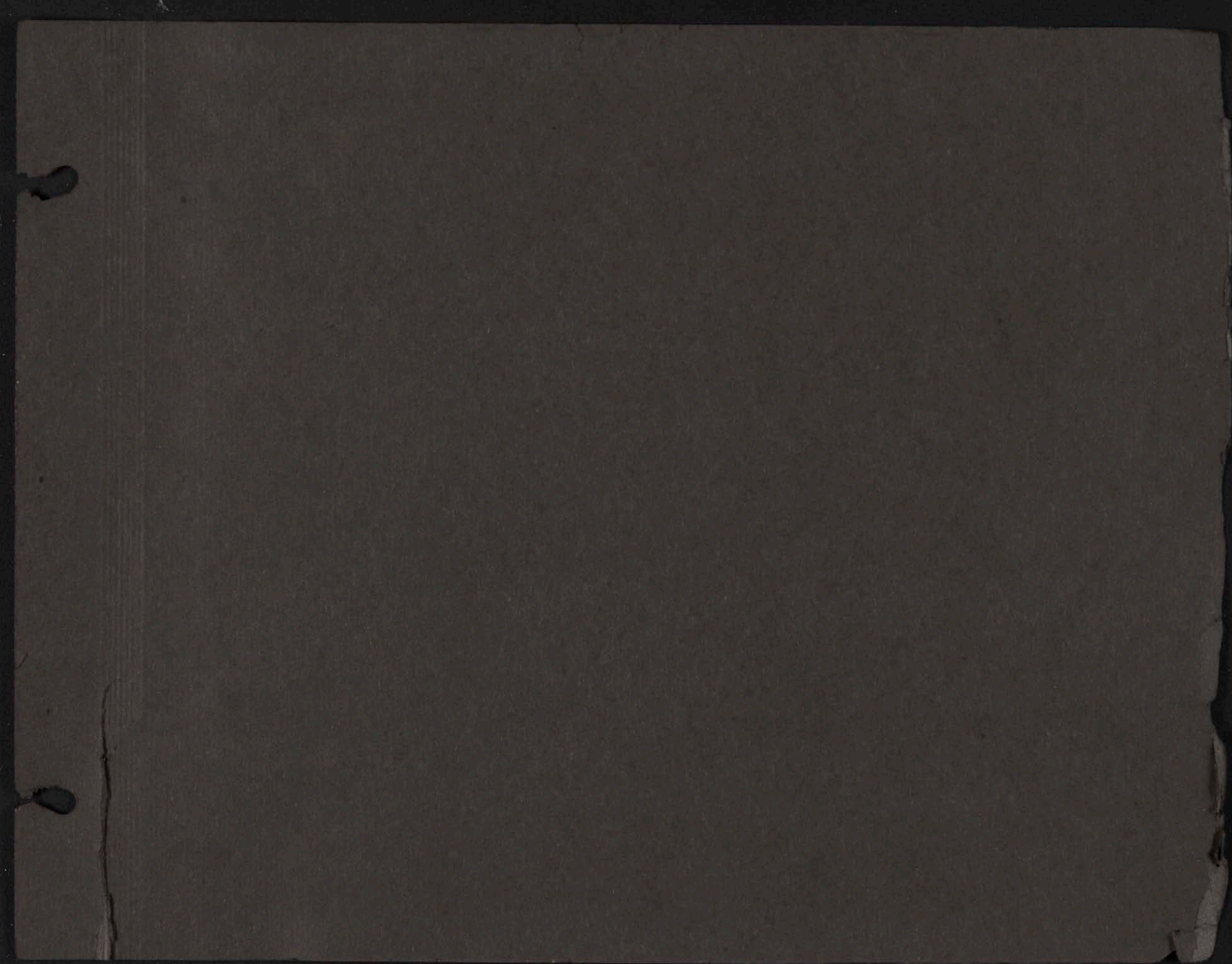
This material may be protected by copyright law (U.S. Code, Title 17). Researchers are liable for any infringement. For more information, visit

www.mnhs.org/copyright.

ALBUM
25

PHOTOGRAPHS

1919



Minneapolis, Minn.

May 18th, 1933.

The Minnesota Historical Society,

Saint Paul.

Dear Sirs:

This album contains photographs of buildings which were designed by Frederic G. Corser, a resident of Minneapolis, and a practicing architect in this and other towns during a period of 47 years.

Altho Mr. Corser left no consecutive record of his work, he made each problem a thorough and enjoyable study. The photographs which he has left us tell their own story.

The printed matter on the opposite page is authentic in its information.

Knowing that Mr. Corser was very interested in the preservation of the natural beauty of the city and its environs, I am adding some photographs in illustration.

Accompanying this album is a tube containing excerpts from Mr. Corser's writings when in 1902, '03, '04, and '05, he edited the "Western Architect".

Mr. Corser's family offer this data in grateful memory, and in the hope that one or more items may find their way into the written history of our city.

Respectfully,

~ Wm. F. G. Corser

MINNEAPOLIS DAILY STAR

Death Takes Pioneer Minneapolis Architect



FREDERICK G. CORSER

Funeral arrangements are being made today for Frederick G. Corser, Minneapolis architect for 47 years and prominent designer of buildings throughout the northwest.

He died yesterday after several months' illness. Mr. Corser designed St. Stephen's Catholic church, Kenneboth Israel synagogue, the remodeling of First Unitarian church and many other well known public buildings in Minneapolis and the northwest.

For years he was architect for the city fire department. He originated plans for two university buildings, and fellow workers said today he had left an indelible impression on northwest architectural history during his half-century of work.

Born in western New York in 1849, Mr. Corser's early education was received in Rochester, N. Y., and his professional training at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was a charter member of the Minnesota chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and for years was editor of the Western Architect.

The family home for more than 40 years was at 616 James avenue north, but now is at 3925 Second avenue south. Besides Mrs. Corser, three children survive, Caleb, who recently returned with his family from residence in Alaska and now is in Minneapolis, John, also of this city, and Miss Jean, of Cleveland, O.

Services will be conducted by Rev. John H. Dietrich in the First Unitarian church, at a time to be announced.

Frederick G. Corser, F. A. I. A.

AN APPRECIATION

By ROBERT CRAIK McLEAN

THE passing of Frederick G. Corser, architect, of Minneapolis, is a loss to his community far beyond its realization. At the same time his profession loses a member who was among those that exemplify the varied qualities which combine to advance the refinements of our civilization.

For upwards of fifty years this influence of Mr. Corser added its mite to the sum total of his city's high rank among American communities. He was an individualist in that he thought for himself and acted without regard to what might be called the convention of the moment. Yet, in reviewing his life over an acquaintance of forty years, his action always seemed to be a combination of achievement and a wish to advance the progress of his fellow man as a mass; or, more frequently perhaps, a desire to aid the individual in whom he saw an encouraging intelligence.

When the call was sent out for an assembling of the profession at Chicago, in 1884, which resulted in the organization of the Western Association of Architects, Mr. Corser, with another of the pioneer architects of that young and enterprising city, Frederick Hodgson, responded. While his confere entered into the matter of organization on conventional lines and was the prime actor in the assembling of the constitution and by-laws as adopted, Mr. Corser was the objector to provisions here and there which resulted in illuminating discussion and clarified the accepted document. This was his general attitude. Always it was one of friendly criticism, seemingly reactionary, but beneficial in the highest degree as it was always intended to aid in analyzing the subject and separating the wheat from the chaff.

This attitude was not always recognized among his fellows, who, with lesser unselfishness and greater egotism, were apt to ignore the real worth as well as the talent which unconsciously added to the sum total of the city's advancement.

Thus Mr. Corser's activities were varied. Fundamentally his ideal was beauty, if such a character as his can be truly analyzed. He wrote editorials and articles for the first journal of architecture published in the city. When twenty years ago, the present writer took editorial charge of the Western Architect, he succeeded Mr. Corser, whose labors were gratuitously presented that the profession should continue to have a live exponent of its endeavors through a printed medium.

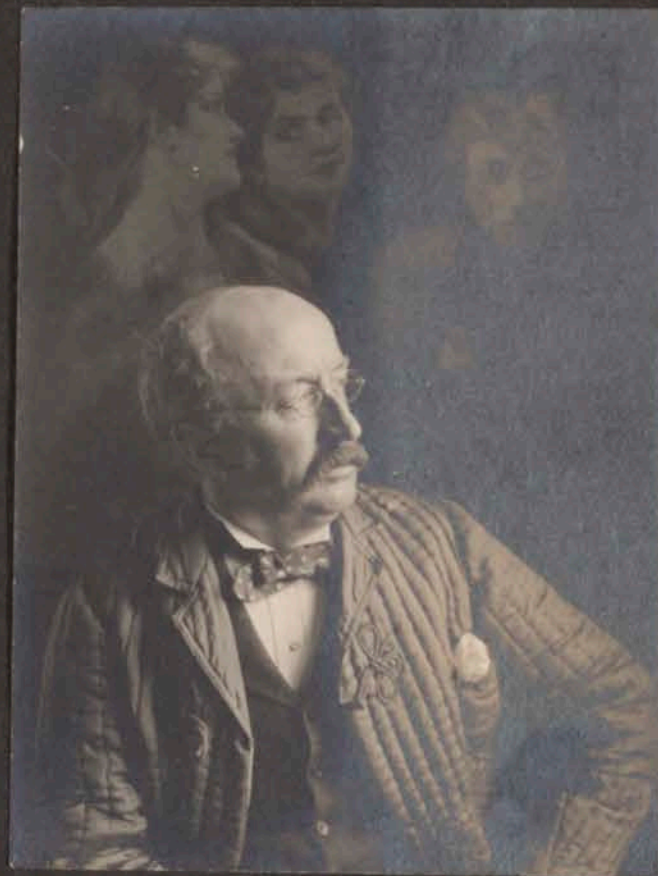
He perfected himself in photography, because, in this art, he saw a method of recording beautiful scenes. He made photographs for the journal that it might present the best examples of the executed works of his fellow architects.



Frederic G. Corser
Taken at 50.



Taken at 44; By the
fireplace in the Study.



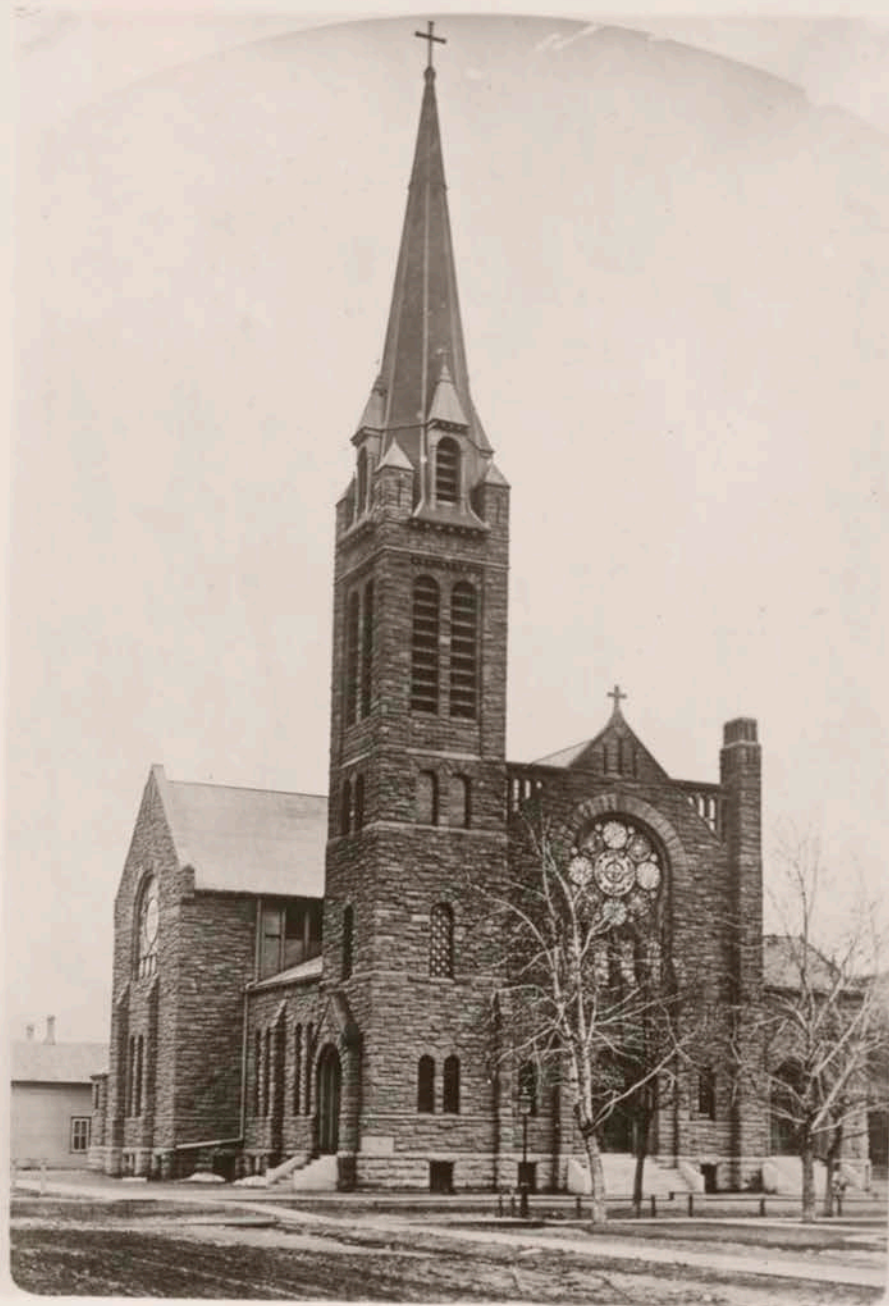
Taken at 47. An experiment
in Spirit Photography
by Harlow Gale.



His home built in 1885.



The street front of house with oaks; yellow rose hedge,
hollyhocks and plum tree.



St. Stephen's Catholic Church - '89-91
Corner 22nd St. & Clifton Ave.



Home of Little Sisters of the Poor
Cor. Broadway and 2nd St. N.E.
Built in 1895



North Branch Library
Built in 1893





Fireplace in enlargement of
North Branch Library- 1914



Histology Building of the University.



View of University Campus in early days.
First University Bldg. at extreme right.



Home of Judson Lane Wicks
1911 Pillsbury Ave.
Built in 1900



Hall fireplace in Wick's home.



Fire Dept. Building
4th No., near Hennepin
Built in 1902



A. E. BOYD'S RESIDENCE, ABERDEEN, S. D.

Residence of A. E. Boyd
Aberdeen, So. Dak. - 1905



Residence of Dr. Thos. E. Lee
On East River Rd, near University
Built in 1912



Church St. front of Lee Home



Remodeled & Refinished Interior
of First Unitarian Church - 1912



Fireplace & Seats designed by F.G.C.



Keneseth-Israel Synagogue - Unfinished -
On Lyndale Ave. No., near 5th Ave. - 1912



Mausoleum for Anthony Kelly family
Built in 1912



Residence of Sherlock M. Merrill
4454 W. River Road-Built in 1915

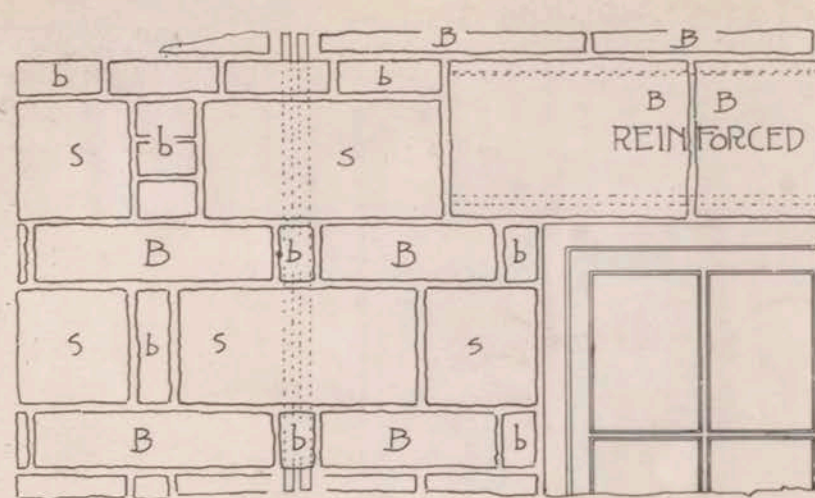




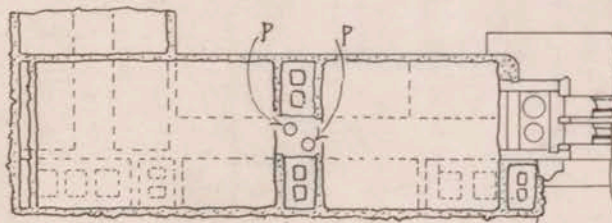
Sunroom fireplace in Merrill home.



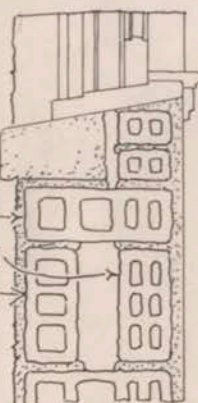
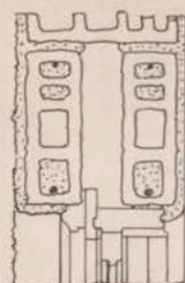
Livingroom fireplace in Merrill home.



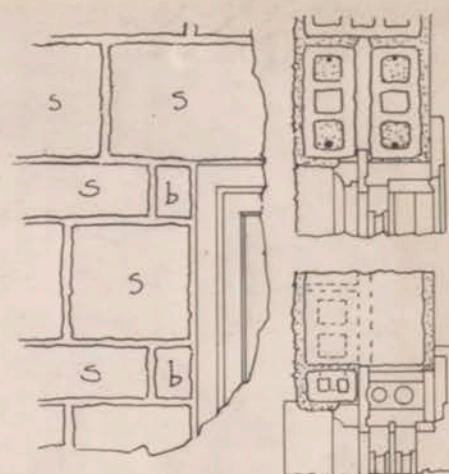
0 3 6 9 12" ELEVATION BEFORE PLASTERING



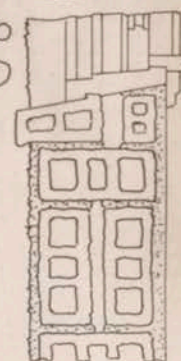
PLAN AT @VRSE B-B
@VRSE S-HS DOTTED
CONDUITS OR GAS AT PP
HOLLOW BRICK AT bb



DETAILS
12-INCH
WALL OF POREVS
TERRA-C-BLOCKS
PLASTERED



DETAILS 9" WALL OF
TILE-S-IN TWO
LENGTHS AND
HOLLOW BRICK



Hollow Tile Construction Method
Worked out about 1905, 1911.
See information file

The above date is not correct.

It was in the year 1911 that Mr. Corser worked out a method of hollow tile construction for residences, such material being fire-proof, also more durable and sanitary than timber. He was assisted by Mr. C. J. Swanson, an able builder, and manufacturer of tile and brick, who tried out for him certain units of the plan in the mortar.

Aug. 30, 1934.

Mrs. F. G. Corser.

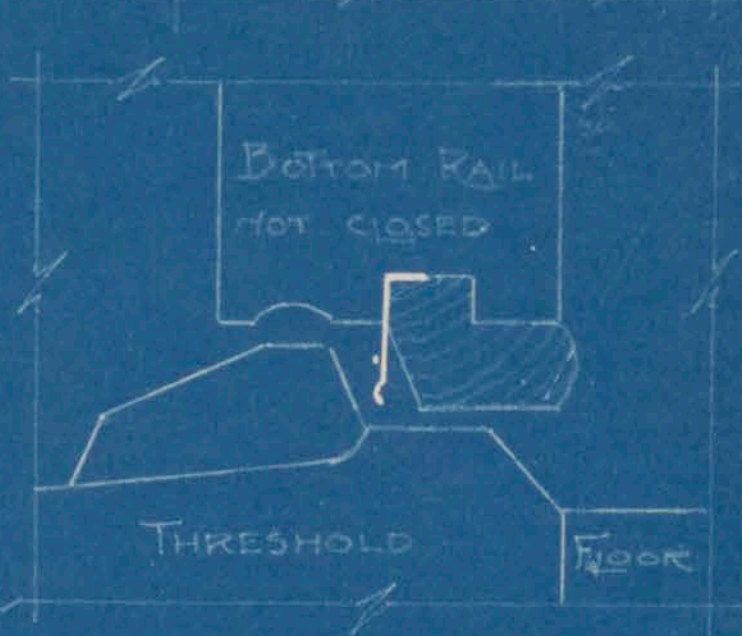
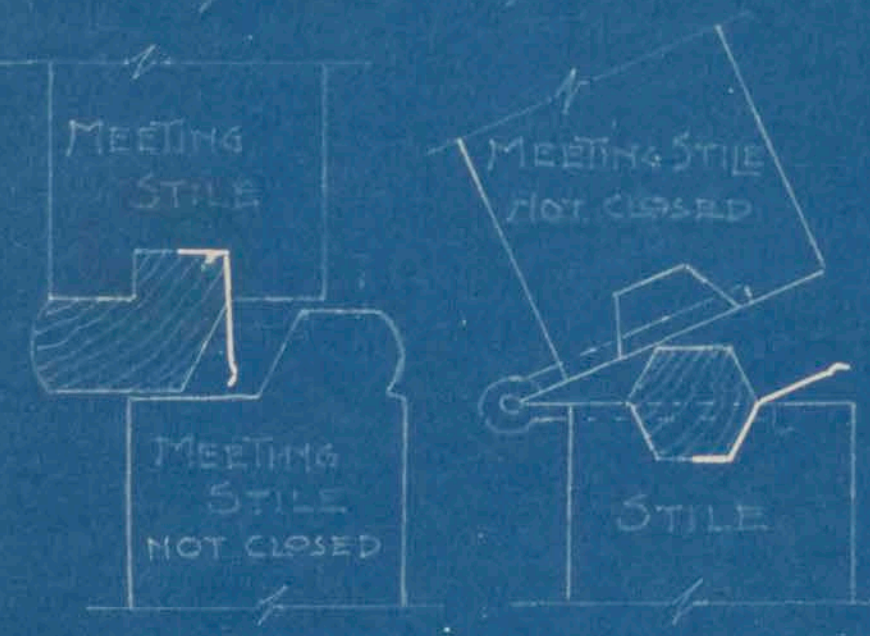
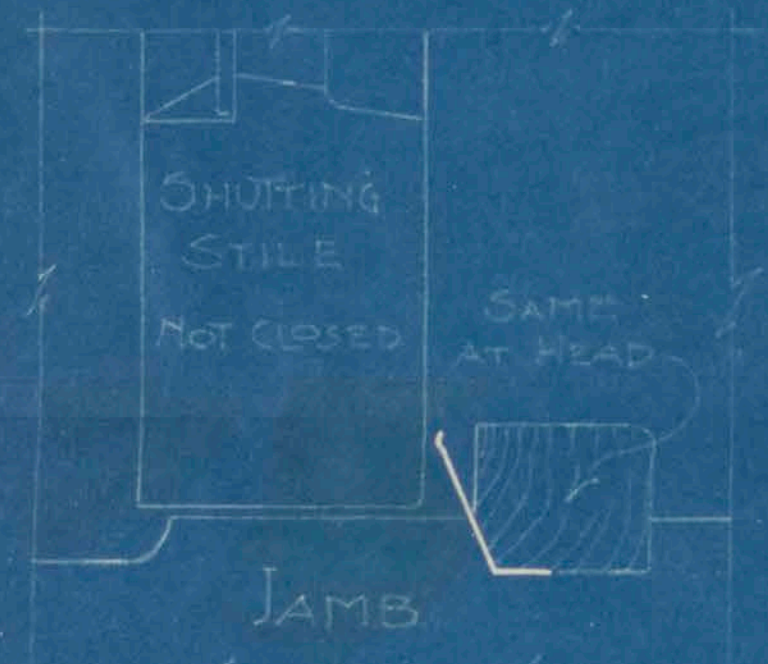
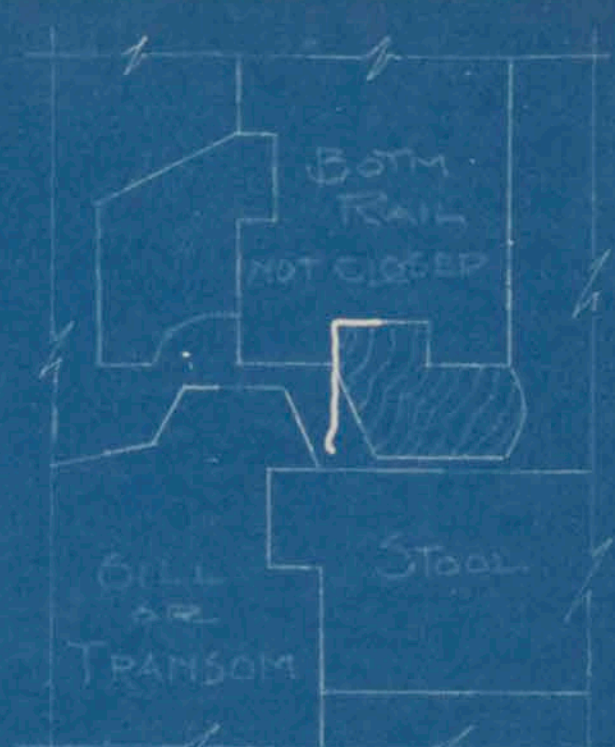
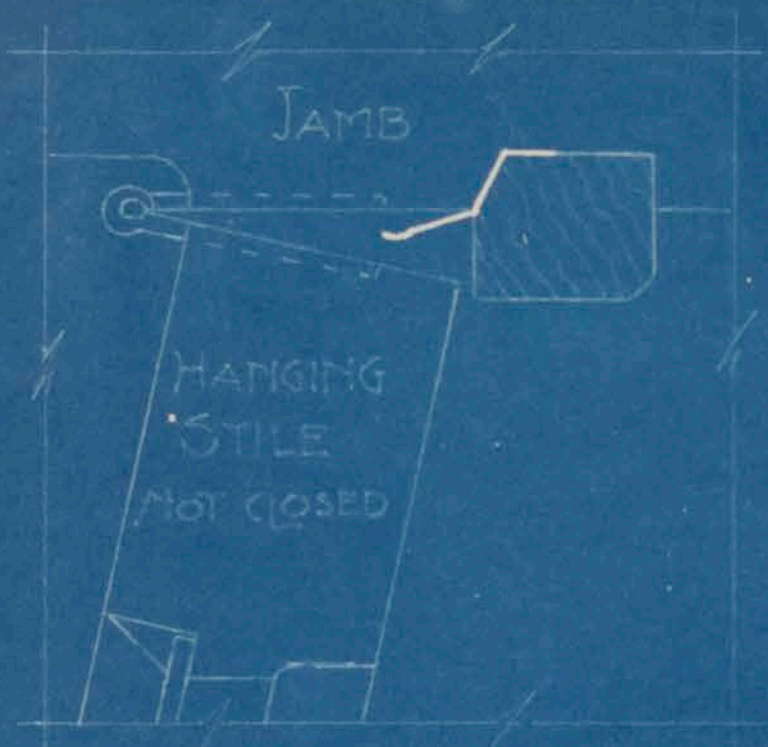
P.S. The first specimen of this type of building was the residence of Dr. Thomas E. Lee of the University of Minnesota.

Correction made in album OSC

strip for
doors.



Invention of Metal Weatherstrip for
Casement windows and doors.



SCENIC PHOTOGRAPHY by F. G. Corser.



View from New York Life Bldg. looking east.
Taken about '97.



Loring Park



White Birches and Pond in Gleenwood Park



White Birches in Glenwood Park - 1915



Glenwood Park. 1915 & 1916





Wild Cucumber Vine
Glenwood Park-1916





ALONG THE MINNEHAHA







Hiawatha and Minnehaha.



Ruins of the Old Mill Dam.
'06 or '07



The Falls in March '96

THE RIVER



Stone Arch Bridge



Three Bridges - 10th Ave.
Great Northern & Hennepin



The Falls and the Rapids



Power Dam washed out 1897.



Washington Ave. Bridge



View under Stone Arch Bridge to east side.



Bridge at the Fort



Looking up the River from the Fort Bridge.

FORT SNELLING
Taken in the 90's



The Round Tower



Hexagonal Tower



Fort Snelling from the Minnesota Bottoms.



The Fort Bridge and Milwaukee R.R.



The Minnesota Bottoms
below Fort Snelling.

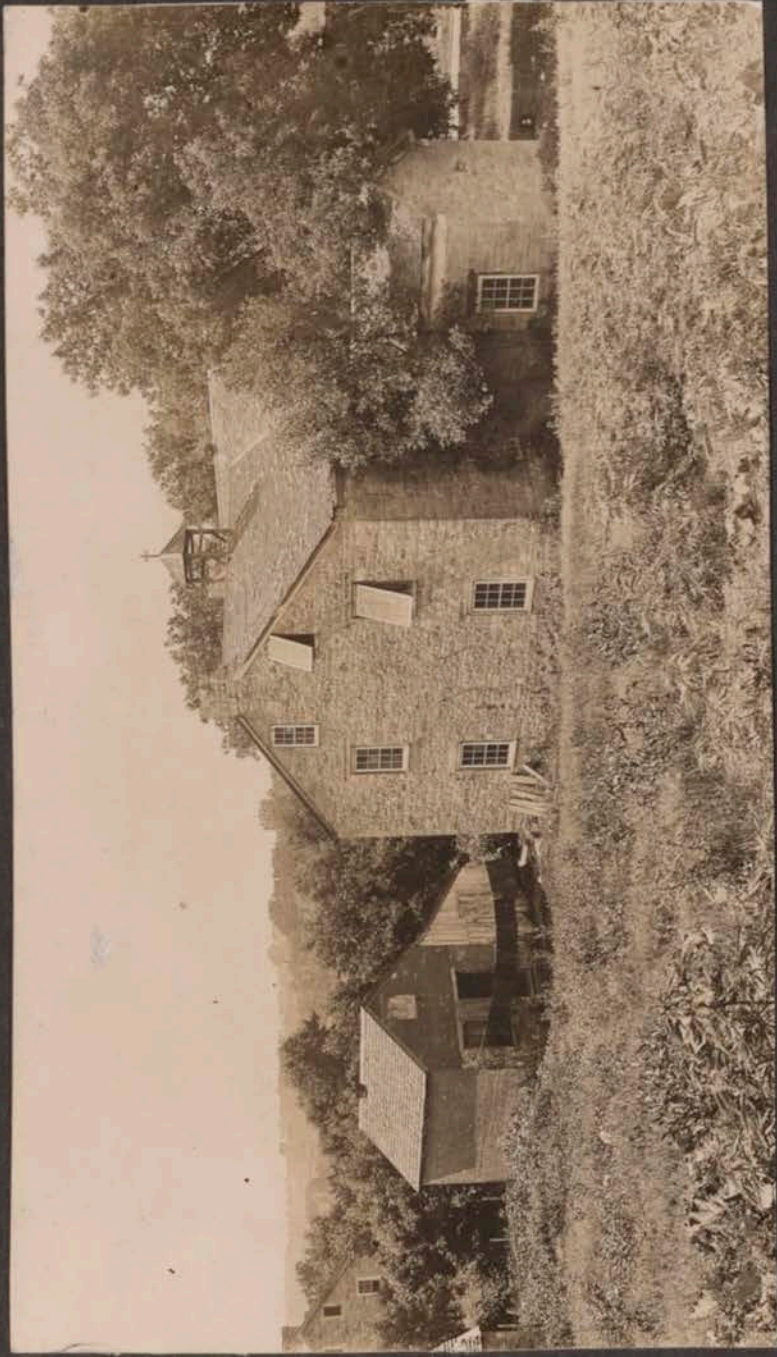


The Minnesota Bottoms
below Fort Snelling.

46
M E N D O T A
All Photographed '08



General Sibley Home



*A small house
Early Territorial Home*
(Mason City)



Indian Camp





REV. GIDEON H. POND.

1

1/2 century of
rpls. P. 26

HE

in
polis
G. Corser
Minnesota
1933

