Allison Owen, Sr. Drawings

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Proposal for Confederate Memorial Hall, New Orleans, LA. Undated.
Allison Owen, architect. Pencil and watercolor on heavy paper.

SCOPE and CONTENTS

Drawings
Ca. 1880s – 1890s
One box
Original drawings by New Orleans architect Allison Owen, Sr. (1869-1951). Most are charcoal sketches made by Owen while a student at Tulane University in the late 1880s. Sketches are mostly of plaster casts of classical statuary and architectural fragments. There are also two watercolor drawings of designs for the Confederate Memorial Hall, Camp Street, New Orleans. Owen was a partner in the firm of Diboll and Owen (Collins Cere Diboll, Sr., 1869-1936), which was one of the leading architectural firms in New Orleans during the early 20th century.

Allison Owen was an architect, soldier, and civic and religious leader. Born in New Orleans, he was the son of General William Miller Owen and Caroline Amanda Zacharie. He attended Tulane University (1885-1888), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1892-1894), and the United States War College in Washington, D.C., in 1924. He partnered with C.C. Diboll in their architectural practice, which was active during the 1920s and 1930s. Some of the important examples of Owen's work include the New Orleans Public Library, Criminal Court, Milne Home, St. Francis of Assisi, Canal-Louisiana Bank and Office Building, Municipal Office Building, Metropolitan Bank and Office Building, Prytania Street Presbyterian Church, Notre Dame Seminary at New Orleans, Westminster Congregational Church at Kansas City; St. Joseph's Church at Mobile, and many other church and school structures in New Orleans and other cities of the South. Allison Owen joined the Washington Artillery, rising to the rank of captain and adjutant, then to major and served with the rank of major from July, 1916, to February, 1917, when the regiment was on the Mexican border. In July, 1917, he became lieutenant colonel, and when the Washington Artillery was mustered into the national army, becoming the 141st Artillery, he became colonel.

PROVENANCE

Charcoal sketches were given by Samuel Wilson, Jr. to Tulane in 1973. Watercolor drawings were given by Leonard V. Huber to Tulane in 1980.

ACCESS

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INVENTORY

Box 1 of 1. Folio case, Range 22.

Confederate Memorial Hall, Camp Street, New Orleans, LA. Undated. Watercolor on heavy paper. 2 views.

Transverse section of gymnasium and drill halls. Unidentified client and location. Undated. Ink and watercolor on paper. 1 sheet.


33 additional drawings. Pencil and charcoal on paper. 1880s or undated.