

WOODS BAGOT COLLECTION
Architecture Museum, Adelaide University

WOODS BAGOT

SERIES 187

HISTORY

Edward John Woods was born in London in 1839. Woods decided to emigrate to South Australia and arrived in Port Adelaide in 1860. His South Australian architectural career began as a draughtsman for Edmund Wright soon becoming a partner in the practice of Wright and Woods. This partnership lasted about four years. In 1869 the partnership was dissolved and Woods worked as a sole practitioner. Woods then formed a partnership with William McMinn. In about 1873 Woods joined the public service as an architect to the Council of Education, simultaneously maintaining his private practice. He was subsequently appointed Architect-in-Chief of South Australia in 1877. He left the government in 1884 and in 1905 began a partnership with Walter Bagot, who had been a former pupil with the practice being named Woods & Bagot. Walter Hervey Bagot was born on 17 March 1880 at North Adelaide. He was articled to Adelaide architect Edward John Woods in 1899 for his architectural training. In 1902 he left for the United Kingdom where he had studied architecture at the Kings College, University of London.

In 1906 Bagot had helped Louis Laybourne Smith to found the School of Architecture at the South Australian School of Mines and Industries (now University of South Australia) and subsequently lectured there in architectural history until 1911. Both men have been remembered as having ‘towered above their contemporaries’ (Irwin 1980, p.21).

The partnership between Woods and Bagot lasted from 1905 until 1913. Edward Woods died on 5 January 1916, following a decline in his health. Two years later in 1915, Herbert Harold Jory became a partner and the practice was known as Woods, Bagot & Jory until 1917 when Louis Laybourne Smith was offered a partnership and accepted. The partnership of Woods, Bagot, Jory & Laybourne Smith continued until 1930 when Jory left to practise on his own. In 1932 James Campbell Irwin was admitted as a partner and the practice was then reconstituted as Woods, Bagot, Laybourne Smith & Irwin. Bagot stopped being an active partner ‘some five or six years before he officially retired’ (Irwin 1980, p.34). Bagot died on 27 July 1963 at North Adelaide aged 83.

The practice continues today as one of Australia’s largest architectural firms and is called Woods Bagot continuing the names of its two founding partners.

SOURCES

Julie Collins (2008) ‘Walter H. Bagot’ Architects of South Australia online at http://www.architectsdatabase.unisa.edu.au/arch_full.asp?Arch_ID=7

Julie Collins (2008) ‘James C. Irwin Architects of South Australia online at http://www.architectsdatabase.unisa.edu.au/arch_full.asp?Arch_ID=67

Christine Sullivan (2008) ‘Louis Laybourne Smith’ Architects of South Australia online at http://www.architectsdatabase.unisa.edu.au/arch_full.asp?Arch_ID=27

Julie Collins (2008) ‘Edward J. Woods’ Architects of South Australia online at http://www.architectsdatabase.unisa.edu.au/arch_full.asp?Arch_ID=69

Page, M (1986) *Sculptors in Space: South Australian Architects 1836-1986*, RAI A (SA), Adelaide.

Note: The State Library of South Australia holds records of Woods Bagot Architects 1882-

Page 1

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1975 in BRG 18, including letter books, account books, partnership records, photographs, brochures, plans and drawings, and a list of works executed.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Woods Bagot collection is comprised of architectural drawings and copies of architectural drawings of works in South Australia by the architectural practice of Woods Bagot, for the years 1912-1961.

Series	Description
S187/1/1	St Patrick's Church floor plan, April 1912, Photocopy of pen and wash drawing on cartridge, Woods and Bagot
S187/1/2	St Patrick's Church South elevation, April 1912, Photocopy of pen and wash drawing on cartridge, Woods & Bagot
S187/1/3	St Patrick's Church East elevation, April 1912, Photocopy of pen and wash drawing on cartridge, Woods & Bagot
S187/2/1	Balfour Wauchope, proposed alterations to premises, 72 Rundle Street, Adelaide, SA, Ground floor plan, Section A-A, June 1961, Dylne print, drawing no. 1686/19, Woods, Bagot, Laybourne-Smith and Irwin
S187/2/2	Balfour Bricknell, proposed alterations to premises, 72 Rundle Street, Adelaide, SA, Plans, Section, Originally Oct 1923, Dylne print, drawing no. 1686/39, 42, Woods, Bagot, Jory & Laybourne Smith
S187/2/3	Balfour Bricknell, proposed alterations to premises, 72 Rundle Street, Adelaide, SA, Plans, elevations, sections, Originally Oct 1923, Dylne print, drawing no. 1686/40, 41, Woods, Bagot, Jory & Laybourne Smith
S187/3/1	St Patrick's Church, Grote Street, Adelaide, Plans, Sections, details, July 1913, Dylne Print, Woods & Bagot
S187/4/1	Proposed Newland Memorial Church, Victor Harbour, SA, Plan, elevations, July 1926, Dylne print, Woods Bagot Jory
S187/4/2	Proposed Newland Memorial Church, Victor Harbour, SA, Plans, sections, July 1926, Dylne print, drawing 2, Woods, Bagot, Jory & Laybourne Smith
S187/5/1	Proposed additions to house at Millswood for L.Laybourne Smith Esq., Plans, elevations, sections, August 1928, Dylne print, Woods, Bagot, Jory and Laybourne Smith
S187/5/2	Residence, Mr L. Laybourne Smith FSASM, Northgate St, Unley Park, SA, Plans, elevations, sections, no date, dylne print, signed Laybourne Smith
S187/6/1	Proposed offices for Elder Smith and Co. Ltd., Currie St, Adelaide, SA, Plan, March 1937, Dylne print, Drawing no. 555/4, Woods, Bagot, Laybourne Smith and Irwin
S187/6/2	Proposed offices for Elder Smith and Co. Ltd., Currie St, Adelaide, SA, Elevation, section, details, March 1937, Dylne print, Drawing no. 555/14, Woods, Bagot, Laybourne Smith and Irwin