







PACKER HOTEL

STEPHEN SKIDMORE, A CITIZEN OF PORT
LAND WHO DIED JANUARY XVIII, A.D.
MCCCLXXXIII, GAVE THIS FOUNTAIN TO
BEAUTIFY AND BLESS HIS ADOPTED HOME

OFFICIAL
CITY OF PORTLAND, ORE.
PHOTOGRAPH

DATE ^{NOV} 15 1967

8301-03

FOUNTAIN - SKIDMORE

PC-29
6-67 250

BUREAU OF PROPERTY CONTROL
CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON

JOURNAL VOUCHER
FOUNTAINS, STATUES, & MEMORIALS

DATE June 30, 1967

JOURNAL VOUCHER NO. _____

Skidmore Fountain

RECORD NO.

NAME

S. W. First Avenue and Ankeny Street

ADDRESS

Fountain

CLASSIFICATION

CODE

Donation

9-22-1888

4695

HOW ACQUIRED

WHEN ACQUIRED

ORDINANCE NO.

Stephen G. Skidmore bequest supplemented by private donations

FROM WHOM ACQUIRED

REAL PROPERTY CROSS REFERENCE:

In vacated street area

LOCATION NO.

LOCATION NAME

DESCRIPTION: The fountain consists of an octagonal granite reservoir approximately 18' in diameter which rests on a base composed of three stone steps. The overall diameter of the fountain and base is approximately 23'. In the center of the reservoir is a column consisting of two female forms standing back to back with a block of polished granite between them. This column supports a bronze basin approximately 8' in diameter. At the north, east, south and west sides of the reservoir are drinking troughs each fed by water flowing from the mouths of two animal heads.

The following inscriptions are cut into the faces of the reservoirs:

North: "Committee for the City of Portland
John Gates, Mayor; Thomas L. Eliot,
Henry Failing, William Wadhams, C.E.S.
Wood, Charles Sitton, Olin L. Warner,
Sculptor; J.M. Wells, Architect.
Erected A. D. MDCCCLXXXIII"

West: "Good citizens are the riches of a city."

South: "Stephen G. Skidmore, a citizen of Portland
who died January XVIII A. D. - MDCCCLXXXIII
gave this fountain to beautify and bless his
adopted home."

East: MDCCCLXXXVIII

HISTORICAL DATA It all began when Stephen G. Skidmore bequeathed \$5,000 to the City of Portland for the "erection of a drinking fountain to be placed in such public place as the City authorities may direct". Although Mr. Skidmore died in 1883, it was not until 1885 that the bequest was received by the City of Portland. A committee composed of Mayor John Gates, T.L. Eliot, Henry Failing, C.E. Sitton, and William Wadhams was appointed by Ordinance No. 4695 of October 21, 1885 to ... "locate and cause to be constructed a suitable fountain to the memory of the late Stephen G. Skidmore". On October 2, 1886 Henry Failing addressed a letter to Mayor John Gates advising him of the fact that Mr. C.E.S. Wood would be a valuable addition to the Skidmore Committee, since it was through his efforts the sculptor, Olin M. Warner, was obtained. His name was officially added to the committee by Council action on November 3, 1886. This fact is verified in Council Proceedings Book 8, 1886, Page 14. Ordinance No. 4695 of February 8, 1886 vacated the 20' required circular area at the intersection of S. W. First and Vine Streets. The following year February 16, 1887, Ordinance No. 5033 vacated an additional three feet of the street area increasing the diameter of the circle to 23'.

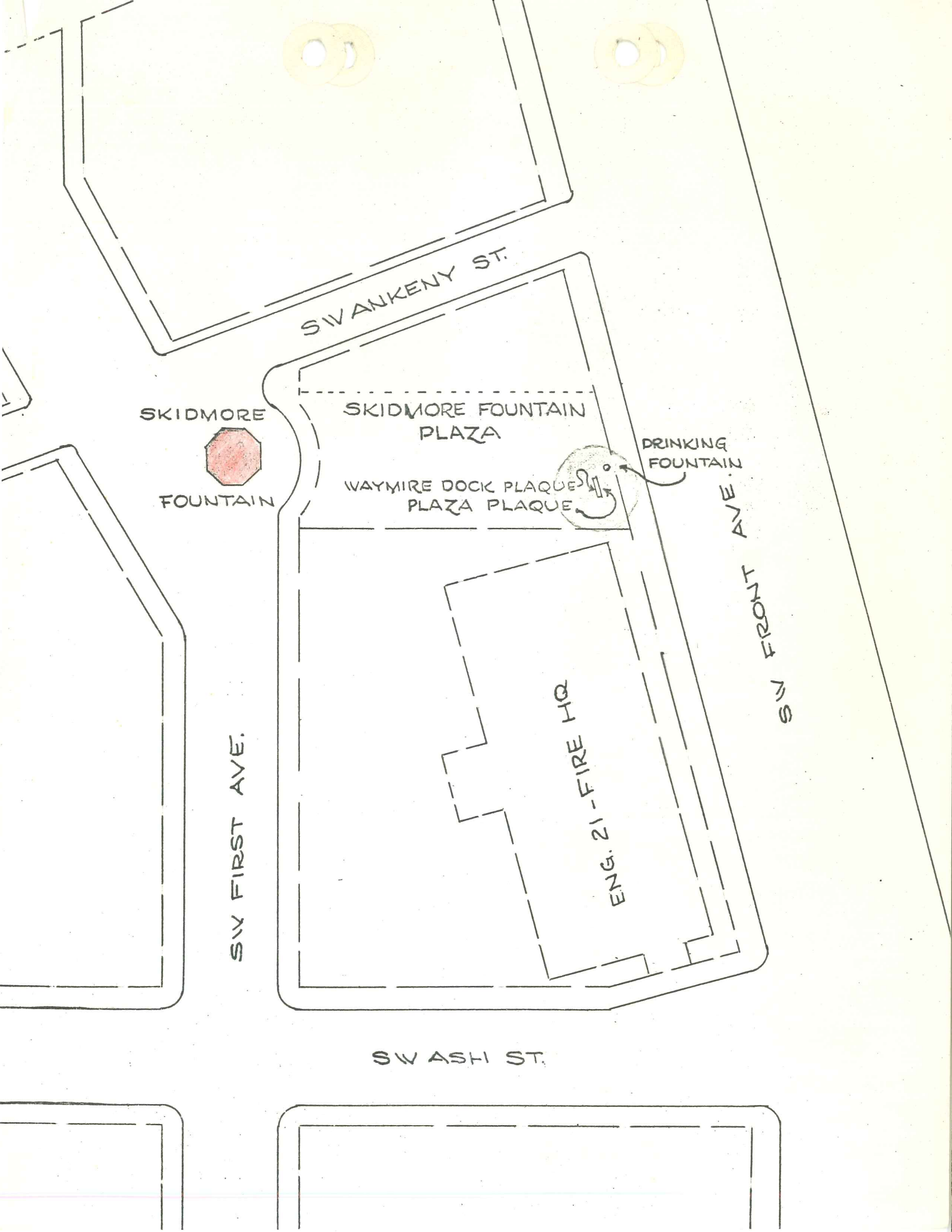
The \$5,000 bequest of Stephen G. Skidmore was far short of the amount of money necessary to construct the fountain selected by the fountain committee. However, the generous contributions of Henry Failing, Charles E. Sitton, and other citizens made up the difference between the bequest and the \$18,000 cost of the fountain. The cost to the City was \$1,761.75 which covered the water supply and foundation cost. The offer of Henry Weinhard, the brewer, to supply the fountain with beer from one of his largest "lager" tanks was quietly declined thus avoiding what might have been one of Portland's liveliest dedications. The official dedication took place at 3:00 p.m. sharp September 22, 1888 with Mr. C.E.S. Wood delivering the dedicatory address according to an article in the Oregonian of September 23, 1888. A copy of the dedication report has been added to this file, and is well worth reading.

Within a short time, repairs were necessary to the fountain base and Ordinance No. 7074 was passed appropriating \$250 for laying concrete and bituminous rock around the fountain. However, it was not until 1956 that any extensive restoration work was undertaken and this was brought about by an abortive attempt of City employes to clean the bronze Grecian maidens with muriatic acid. Full repairs were made to the base; the basin leveled and again the statue appeared in all its original splendor. Mr. James Hansen of Vancouver, Washington, a sculptor and bronze technician, was responsible for the 1956 restoration.

In 1959 the Junior Chamber of Commerce initiated a plan to establish a "Skidmore Fountain Plaza". The City vacated S. W. Vine Street by Ordinance No. 112358 and the project began falling far short of the many target dates set for its completion. As a precaution against damage during the plaza construction, a barricade was erected around the fountain in March of 1961, which was not removed until the following December in time to enhance the grand opening of a nearby restaurant. The plaza was finally dedicated May 28, 1962.

R E M A R K S 1. Ordinance No. 4695 (October 22, 1885) An ordinance making and authorizing an committee in the matter of the Skidmore Fountain. 2. Ordinance No. 4789 (February 8, 1886) An ordinance to vacate portions of Vine and First Streets in the City of Portland - an area of 20' in diameter. 3. Ordinance No. 5033 (February 18, 1887) Vacates three additional feet making the area vacated 23' in diameter. 4. Ordinance No. 5452 (April 23, 1888) An ordinance making an appropriation out of the General Fund for the construction of a foundation for the Skidmore Fountain. 5. Ordinance No. 7074 (October 23, 1891) An ordinance authorizing the Committee on Streets to make certain repairs to the Skidmore Fountain. 6. Ordinance No. 112358 (August 11, 1960) An ordinance vacating S. W. Vine Street and a portion of S. W. Ankeny, lying between the west line of S. W. Front Avenue and the east line of S. W. First Avenue, initiated by the City Council, subject to certain conditions.

Research Sources: Minutes of the Common Council, Council Documents for the years 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888; Ordinance Files, newspaper clippings, microfilm data from the Multnomah County Central Library.



SIVANKENY ST.

SKIDMORE



FOUNTAIN

SKIDMORE FOUNTAIN
PLAZA

WAYMIRE DOCK PLAQUE
PLAZA PLAQUE

DRINKING
FOUNTAIN

SW FRONT AVE.

SW FIRST AVE.

ENG. 21-FIRE HQ

SWASHI ST.

Portland, Ore., Oct. 14th, 1891.

To the Common Council,

City of Portland.

Gentlemen;

I desire to call your attention to the condition of the Fountain known as the Skidmore Fountain, which was presented to the City a few years since. The large basin of the fountain is leaking at different joints - the waste pipes of the troughs seem to be insufficient to carry off the waste water. The street surrounding the fountain is in a deplorable condition - the Belgian blocks having sunken down in several places and the passing of vehicles over the paving has a tendency to make the paving worse each day.

I would suggest to your honorable body that the attention of the Street Committee be called to the same with power to act. I would first suggest that from eight to ten feet surrounding said fountain be paved with concrete and bituminous rock, which would insure for years to come as substantial pavement and, with the necessary repairs to the fountain, would give the city a work of art adapted to the uses for which it was erected.

Very respectfully,

H. S. Mason
Mayer

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Very respectfully,

H. S. Mason
Mayer

Hon W. A. Mayer

Oct 14 - 91

Ref. Case No 15

Supp of Sts ordered
to make Drup

Oct 14' 1891.

W. T. Branch

S. Grubel

To the Honorable,

The Common Council of the City of Portland.

Gentlemen:

The undersigned, a sub-committee of the Skidmore Fountain Committee (constituted by Ordinance 4695 Oct. 1885) having been appointed for the purpose, at a meeting March 6, 1888, hereby inform your Honorable Body, that the said Fountain, having been contracted for, is now nearing completion, and will soon be shipped for Portland, to be erected under the personal supervision of the artist, Mr. Olin Warner, of New York City. We are desired further to state that the Committee has ascertained it to be the universal custom both in Europe and America, when a Monumental Decoration^{ve} Gift is accepted by a City, that the corporation, besides setting apart the ground, does by proper ordinance also appropriate such sums as may be required for preparing the foundation on which the statue or decoration Monument shall rest.

Therefore the said Skidmore Fountain Committee at this time prays your Honorable Body to appropriate the sum of two thousand dollars, the same in full, or so much as shall be required to be expended for the purpose of preparing the ground which has been heretofore dedicated at the intersection of Vine and First Streets, with suitable foundation work and adjuncts for water service, drainage etc as provided for by plans submitted to and now in the hands of the Committee from the artist and supervising architect.

Respectfully submitted.

Dated March 7th 1888.

T. L. Eliot
Charles E. Fittou

Portland, Or. Me. 20 1885

To the Hon. Mayor and Common Council
of the City of Portland.

Gentlemen:

Your Committee

on Streets and Public Property — to whom was

referred the annexed Communication of A. L. Eliot
and Charles E. Sutton

beg respectfully to report that they have given the subject matter thereof
due consideration and respectfully recommend to your Hon. Body that
the prayer of said petition be granted
it appearing that a large amount
of money is to be expended for
a public improvement by pri-
vate individuals and it appear-
ing that it is necessary that
the City should lay the founda-
tion requested in such com-
munication in order to secure
the completion of such improve-
ment in a manner creditable
to the City.

Respectfully submitted,

C. M. Forbes

A. H. Adams

City Attorney James P. Gallagher
Committee on Streets & Public Property

Law Offices of
Williams and Wood

Portland, Oreg. _____ 188

Jan. 17, 1889.

The Hon. The Mayor and Common Council
of the City of Portland,

Gentlemen:

Your committee acting under authority granted by ordinance No. _____ approved Oct. 22nd, 1885, entitled "An Ordinance making and authorizing a Committee in the matter of the 'Skidmore Fountain', would most respectfully beg leave to report that they have received from the Auditor and Clerk the full sum of \$5000. bequeathed by the late Stephen G. Skidmore, and have expended the same in the erection of a drinking Fountain for both man and beast, at the intersection of 1st and Vine sts as per an agreement entered into April 23rd, 1887 by and between your Committee and Olin L. Warner, Sculptor of the City of New York.

Your Committee takes this opportunity to record its indebtedness as well as that of the People of Portland, and of all lovers of Art, to Mr. Warner for the patient care and ability which have bestowed upon us an enduring monument of great dignity and beauty.

Of the funds appropriated by your honorable body (\$2000.) for foundation, plumbing and other adjuncts, your Committee has expended the sum of \$1761.75, vouchers for all of which are now on file with the Auditor and Clerk of the City. The balance remain-

ing will not be required by your Committee.

At the final meeting of your Committee, held on January 12th, a resolution of thanks was voted to the Northern Pacific Railroad Company for their liberality in refunding to your Committee their entire charges for transporting the Fountain (two car loads of material) over their lines from StPaul, being in all \$377.49.

The same action was taken in reference to the O. R. & N. Co. for the same ~~action~~ ^{Courtesy} on their part as to their transportation from Wallula Junction to this point, amounting to \$107.27.

As it will be necessary to have some one to attend to the water supply at all times, and more especially so during the winter months, it is respectfully suggested that the entire charge of the Fountain as to the water supply and the regulations of the same, be placed with the Water Committee.

Having completed the work entrusted to our care and performed the duties assigned us, we most respectfully ask to be discharged.

Henry Failing
J. L. Eliot
Wm. Bradham
C. E. Wood
Charles E. Fittore

} Committee

1938 CIVIC REVIEW

Newspaper clipping--August 6, 1885

"The fund donated by the late S. G. Skidmore for a public fountain will be paid over soon. It now devolves upon the city council to select a location. The city park is suggested. There is no convenient location in the business part of the town, and the plaza blocks are likely to be built over."

* * *

The following is taken from the "Annual Reports of the Officers of the City of Portland", December 31, 1885, page 23.

"By an ordinance passed, number 4695, Mayor Gates, T. L. Eliot, Henry Failing, C. E. Sitton, and Wm. Wadhams have been appointed a committee to locate and cause to be constructed a suitable Fountain to the memory of the late Stephen G. Skidmore, who willed \$5000 for that purpose. In accordance with the statutes, 30 days' notice has been published for vacating a sufficient amount of city property upon which to erect the fountain, expiring on January 6th, 1886. The committee has decided to place the fountain on the East side of First and Vine streets, considering it the most suitable location both as to public interest and also in honor and to the memory of a very estimable citizen and the liberal donor, who made that part of the city his place of residence for a number of years."

* * *

Book of Ordinances, Book 8, Page 123, Ordinance 4693.

An Ordinance making and authorizing a Committee in the matter of the Skidmore Fountain.

The City of Portland does ordain as follows:

That John Gates, Mayor of the City of Portland, T. L. Eliot, Henry Failing, C. E. Sitton and Wm. Wadhams be and

Ordinance Passed No. 4695 to appoint a committee to locate and cause to be constructed a suitable fountain to the memory of the late Stephen G. Skidmore.

they are hereby appointed a committee to select, locate and cause to be constructed within the corporate limits of the City, a suitable fountain to the memory of the late Stephen G. Skidmore, who at his death bequeathed to the City of Portland the sum of \$5000 for the purpose of establishing a Public Fountain.

Said committee are hereby authorized to select, locate and cause to be constructed such a fountain to be known as the "Skidmore Fountain", the cost of which shall not exceed the sum donated, and to be so constructed as to be as near as said sum will make a fitting monument to deceased.

Passed the Common Council October 21, 1885. Approved
October 22, 1885.

John Gates, Mayor

R. B. Curry,
Auditor and Clerk

* * *

The following information is taken from the "Annual Report of the Auditor and Clerk of the City of Portland, December 31, 1888".

City of Portland's contribution to the Skidmore Fountain, \$1761.75.

* * *

SKIDMORE FOUNTAIN

Portland, Oregon

By Herbert Heywood

Marking the center of the shopping district in days gone by this masterpiece by Olin Warner has maintained its vigil for nearly fifty years amid historic surroundings at First and Ankeny.

"Good citizens are the riches of a city"

Stephen G. Skidmore, who died in 1883, gave this fountain to bless and beautify the city of his adoption --realizing a noble ambition to live in memory as the giver of a good gift. An issue of the Century Magazine in 1889 says of this statuary:

"To come upon work like this in a Western town must prove a charming surprise. Here is somebody, one might say, who has discovered in Asia Minor two beautiful draped figures and cleverly disposed of them to decorate a fountain in his home town. Portland may be proud of the fountain as nothing equals it west of Chicago."

Presentation and unveiling ceremonies were held September 22, 1888.

* * *

Inscription on Skidmore Fountain.

"Stephen Skidmore, a citizen of Portland, who died January XVIII A. D. MDCCCLXXXIII, gave this fountain to beautify and bless his adopted home."

"Good citizens are the riches of a city."

"Erected A. D. MDCCCLXXXVIII

"Committee for the City of Portland

John Gates, Mayor

Thomas L. Eliot

Henry Failing

William Wadhams

C. E. S. Wood

Charles E. Sitton

Olin L. Warner, Sculptor

H. V. Wells, Architect

* * *

Newspaper clipping.

GREAT CROWD AT DEDICATION

Ceremonies at Skidmore Fountain Memorable Event of 1888.

To the Editor: The agitation about moving the Skidmore fountain recalls to mind its dedication 45 years ago. On September 22, 1888, the unveiling ceremony was held. As a drinking fountain was something new for Portland, great interest was aroused and there was a big crowd present.

Six o'clock was the time set for the presentation, but people began to arrive early, and long before that hour the streets were packed. Joe Holladay's horse cars did a big business and were taxed to capacity transporting passengers to and from the place.

Rev. T. L. Elliott called the assemblage to order and the acceptance address was delivered by Judge William H. Adams. At the conclusion of his remarks and amid cheers of the applauding spectators the water was turned on by Tyler Woodward, president of the city council.

The donor of the funds for the erection was Stephen G. Skidmore, a pioneer druggist. First and Ankeny was picked as the site.

In those days this was the business and shopping center. Fine carriages and horses, delivery wagons and pedestrians filled the streets. The fountain was not only a thing of beauty but something of utility. Since its dedication the district has become old and outdated, property has depreciated, business has shifted and unprecedented city changes have taken place. The Bank of British Columbia, the Dundee Reid bank, New Market theater and Bill Lightner's Merchants' Exchange saloon have gone, but the fountain is where the givers wished it to be.

To move the fountain and gratify the wishes of the unfeeling would be like disinterring the remains in Lone Fir cemetery and carting them off to some other graveyard.

EMERINUS VERSTEEG.

* * *

Clipping from "The Spectator"--Saturday, March 4, 1922

THE SKIDMORE FOUNTAIN

Protest Against Removal by One Who Helped
Put It in Its Present Position

By C. E. S. Wood

A friend has sent me a clipping from the Oregonian in which is recorded that George L. Hutchin, in charge of the Elks' pageant, suggests removing the Skidmore Fountain to the triangle at Nineteenth and Washington. "He would surmount it with a bronze statue of the fire chief--and place dolphins and mermaids in the ample bowl. At night he would have concealed lights centered on the playing spray with the effect of red flames."

This shows great ingenuity, but is not locally patriotic. If we are to improve on Olin Warner's work, why not advertise the valuable products of the Columbia River, and in addition to such worn-out pagan objects as mermaids and dolphins, fill the basin with sturgeon--and Chinook salmon--chased by seals, and move into the basin the D. P. Thompson elk?

There is too much restraint in the proposed art creation. I suggest colossal figures of Dave Campbell, the Mayor and Superintendent of Streets, supported by ladders--the Chief holding a fire nozzle from which plays the fountain in red, white and blue colors. That would be art--real art--which would put Portland on the map.

There are two possible objections, not from an aesthetic point of view, but legal. "Steve" Skidmore gave a bequest for a fountain for working men and horses--and intended for the busy part of the town. His bequest was not sufficient to pay for this fountain, so Henry Failing, Charles Sitton, and others contributed the difference, with the understanding that the fountain should be placed where it now is, and for which location and area it was especially designed. I think it was Tyler Woodward who in writing made this a condition of his subscription. Also, if the citizens of Portland do not care what becomes of their well-known work of art, Mrs. Warner could restrain the attempt to make a monstrosity of one of her husband's greatest creations, ranking in the art world with his bronze doors of the Congressional Library at Washington.

Before we are all dead who took an active part in the matter of the Skidmore fountain, some record should be made that will put an end to this talk of moving it. The great works of art of old cities are not moved about as occasion demands. They are left in the "out-of-the-way" places where they were put, and are part of the city's antiquity. Works of art to beautify parks are fine, but finer still are works of art down in the daily life of the people. If the neighboring owners do not object to the fountain being moved, as the clipping seems to state, then I can only say, I am surprised.

* * *

Clipping from "The Spectator"--March 11, 1922

THE SKIDMORE FOUNTAIN

Colonel C. E. S. Wood's Views on Art Subject Him to Criticism

By George L. Hutchin

My friend, C. E. S. Wood, seems peeved at the suggestion to move the Skidmore fountain from its present burial place in the labyrinth of muck and mire, of congested trucks and haywire, to a beautiful prospect at the intersection of Nineteenth and Washington streets. Friend Wood also shivers hysterically at the mere suggestion of certain artistic embellishment, and ridicules, in well-rounded strictures, the idea of artistry in the conception.

It is possible that the donors to the fund that made sure the Skidmore fountain might form an invincible bloc to the removal of the venerable pile, but it is unthinkable that they would insist upon its remaining in the present unwelcome and isolated spot.

Friend Wood ironically and sarcastically queries why the writer omitted to suggest the removal of the D. P. Thompson Elk from its moorings in the Courthouse Plaza and with chinook salmon dump the lot into the bowl of the Skidmore fountain when replanted and surmounted by a bronze of the lamented Fire Chief David Campbell.

Can it be possible that Friend Wood has forgotten that the Elks of Portland were invited and urged to take charge and officiate at the dedication of the Elk fountain, and refused to act because the statue was thought to be a monstrosity of art--a statue, however, approved and accepted by Friend Wood as an art connoisseur, for the artistry and beauty of its lines? That elk had a neck that would be the envy of a giraffe or an ostrich.

While Friend Wood rails at my vandalism and pleads that these great works of art shall remain in out-of-the-way places, I still insist that no sweetness should be wasted upon the desert air and no beauty should be veiled in splashes of mud, compost and heartless neglect. I admire Friend Wood for his genius and his talents, but I greatly fear that his judgment of real art and the visualization of a city beautiful have gone awry.

* * *

The following article was taken from the "Oregon Historical Quarterly"

Volume XXXIV

June, 1933

Number 2

Pages 97 to 100 Inclusive

THE SKIDMORE FOUNTAIN

By Charles Erskine Scott Wood

I have been asked to give some account of how the Skidmore fountain came to be, and particularly how it came to be placed where it is now; and I am glad to place my recollections at the service of the Oregon Historical Society, but it must be understood that I am writing absolutely from memory, unrefreshed by any note or memorandum of any kind, and naturally there will be errors, and I do not pretend to know dates.

I resigned from the army and entered the practice of law at Portland, Oregon, in 1884; and eventually succeeded to the law business of Morris Fechheimer by association with his surviving partner, Henry Ach. This partnership was arranged by Fechheimer himself on his death bed, and Judge George H. Williams was invited to join us, which he did, and the firm of Williams, Ach and Wood was established in the former offices of Fechheimer and Ach in the First National Bank Building on the corner of First and Washington Streets. I am giving these facts because from them I hazard the guess that it was sometime about 1887* that one day as I was sitting in my office in the First National Bank Building I received a message from Henry Failing, in the bank below, requesting me to come to his private office, as he wished to speak to me on a matter of importance to him and to the City of Portland. When I called on him, he said to me, "I do not know that you are aware that Steve Skidmore left in his will a bequest of \$5000 for the erection of a drinking fountain, to be placed in the business part of the city, for men, horses and dogs." He then showed me the drawings of several designs of fountains from one or more marble or granite works making a business of doing this sort of thing, and he asked me what I thought of them. I looked at them, but told him without hesitation that they looked to me

* In May, 1887, Mr. Wood received from the sculptor the agreement in regard to the price, style, and date of completion of the fountain; Oregonian, May 25, 1887.

more like designs for soda fountains in drug stores, and if one of them were put up, I felt sure, or at least I hoped, that the artistic taste of later generations would tear it down. He said I had expressed his ideas exactly and that was why he wanted to talk to me, and then continued, "Now, you know many of the best artists in New York," and I said I knew Saint-Gaudens and Warner, and others, but I considered these as our best sculptors, and of course, I knew a lot of painters, such as J. Alden Weir, Ryder, Brush, and the architect Stanford White, and so on. "Well," he continued, "I wish you would take up this matter for me, and write to the ones you think are best because I think in justice to Steve Skidmore and this youthful town we ought to begin with the very best, and I will have you appointed on the committee by the mayor."

Of course I gladly accepted this trust, but I at once said to him, "Mr. Failing, it will be utterly impossible to have a civic fountain, such as I know you have in mind, for anything like \$5000." "Never mind about that," he answered, "of course Skidmore had no more idea than the rest of us about cost, but pay no attention to the amount of the bequest. Just do the best you can, regardless of the cost, for the present."

I wrote to Augustus Saint-Gaudens and to Olin L. Warner. Saint-Gaudens said he was so far behind in important commissions that he did not dare undertake another, and thus eliminated himself from consideration. Warner wrote that he would gladly undertake it, but wanted some idea of the site where the fountain was to be placed, and the surroundings. Mr. Failing told me that the city was going to furnish the site and all the expense of installation, and that the angle where First Street changes direction and where the fountain now stands had been selected*. Mr. Failing was quietly collecting a fund and Mr. Woodward, who was connected with the bank, said that if the fountain was placed at that particular site he would give a certain sum of money, considerable, but the exact amount I do not remember, and he made that condition because he was at that time the owner of a lot on First Street which was just opposite the fountain site.

* The city vacated ground 23 ft. in diameter at the intersection of First, Vine and Ankeny Streets.

Mr. Warner sent out two designs, one in a general way similar to the present fountain; but instead of two caryatids supporting the basin and standing back to back with a block of granite between, there were three caryatids and no central pillar, the three caryatids carrying the bronze basin. This, if I remember rightly, was about \$35,000, the city or the Skidmore committee to bear the expenses of transportation and installation. The design for the fountain as it now exists was \$18,000. Mr. Failing, Charles E. Sitton and a very few others quietly made up the \$13,000 necessary to be added to the Skidmore bequest, and none of them would ever have a word said about it, and even I never knew how much Mr. Failing or any of them gave. They said they wanted it to be absolutely Steve Skidmore's bequest with no thought of any other person associated with the gift. But though I do not know how much Mr. Woodward gave, I do know he gave a considerable amount because it had that condition attached to it, and Mr. Failing told me of the gift and the condition.

After Mr. Warner had been engaged to do the work he was called West as far as Colorado, and then he came to Portland for the express purpose of seeing the site and its surroundings, as he felt it important that he have the fountain in proper scale and harmony. At the time the United States Government was taking testimony to forfeit the land grant of the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountain Military Wagon Road Company, which had passed by purchase into the hands of Messrs. Lazard Freres. I, as their attorney and manager of the grant, went to the government's representatives, taking testimony at various points along the grant. This was in 1888. At Pineville, Oregon, my leg was broken, and while I was laid up there, I received from the Reverend Thomas L. Elliot a request for suggestions for the inscriptions to be cut into the faces of the lower granite basin of the fountain, and I sent down those which are now carved in the granite. An error was made by the stonecutter in some date relating to Steve Skidmore, whether it was birth or death, I do not know, but the error was filled in with concrete and recut, and the place may be seen if carefully examined.

I have been amused by the not infrequent references to that proverb which is on the fountain—"Good citizens are the riches of a city"—as a quotation from the Bible—a compliment, of course, to the composer, but a reflection on the speaker's or writer's knowledge of the Book of Proverbs.

-10- Historical and Statistical Data on Skidmore Fountain

I was asked by Mr. Failing and the committee to make the address at the unveiling of the fountain, and the newspapers published this fact*. Henry Weinhard, the brewer, as fine and honest an old German as you could find, and whose attorney I was, came to see me, as I supposed on legal business, and when we were alone he unbosomed himself of the proposition that he himself would bear the expense of whatever hose was necessary in addition to the fire hose of the city, to connect the largest lager tank with the fountain, and have the fountain spout free beer! Of course I gratefully thanked him--perhaps not as gratefully as I might in these days--and conveyed the proposition to Mr. Failing, who felt obliged to decline it.

At the unveiling all of Portland's great and near great were present. W. S. Ladd sat in his buckboard right in front of me as speaker, and when I paid tribute to the boy, Steve Skidmore, who in his last hour thought of the city which had received him penniless and where he made his money, and spoke of the nature that could think of the down town busy part of the city, the sweaty drivers of trucks and drays, the thirsty horses and the thirsty little dogs, I saw tears trickling down Mr. Ladd's face unchecked.

And so the Skidmore fountain came to be.

* The full text of Mr. Wood's address is printed in the Oregonian, September 28, 1888.

* * *

ORDINANCE NO. 4695

An Ordinance making and authorizing a Committee in the matter of the Skidmore Fountain.

The City of Portland does ordain as follows:

That John Gates, Mayor of the City of Portland, T. S. Eliot, Henry Failing, C. E. Sitton and Wm. Wadham be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to select, locate and cause to be constructed within the corporate limits of the City a suitable fountain to the memory of the late Stephen G. Skidmore, who at his death bequeathed to the City of Portland the sum of \$5,000 for the purpose of establishing a Public Fountain.

Said Committee are hereby authorized to select, locate and cause to be constructed such a fountain to be known as the "Skidmore Fountain". The cost of which shall not exceed the sum donated, and to be so constructed as to be as near as said sum will make a fitting monument to deceased.

Passed the Common Council, October 21st 1885

Approved October 22nd 1885

/s/ John Gates, Mayor

/s/ R. B. Curry, Auditor and Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 4789

An Ordinance to vacate portions of Vine and First Streets in the City of Portland, Oregon.

Whereas, a petition was duly filed with the Auditor and Clerk of the said City of Portland on the 2nd day of December 1885, and is now pending before the Common Council of said City asking that the following described portions of Vine and First Streets in said City be vacated to wit:

All that portion of said streets bounded by and included within the perimeter of a circle twenty (20) feet in diameter the center of which is at the point where the center line of Vine Street intersects the center line of First Street in said City of Portland as originally laid out and containing three hundred and fourteen and sixteen hundredths (314 16/100) feet.

And whereas due and legal notice of the pending of said petition has been given as required by law by the publication of notice thereof for more than thirty days next prior hereto in the Daily Standard a newspaper of general circulation printed and published in the said City of Portland and requiring all persons interested to appear at the regular meeting of the Common Council of the said City of Portland at the Council Chamber on Wednesday the 6th day of January 1886 at 7:30 o'clock p.m. of said day then and there and show cause if any they have why such vacation of said portions of said streets above described should not be made as prayed for in said petition, and whereas no objections have been made or filed to such vacation on the petition therefor and all persons owning the property immediately adjoining to said portions of said streets having duly consented to such vacation thereof as required by law and there being no good reason why such vacation should not be made now therefore,

The City of Portland does ordain as follows:

That all that portion of Vine and First Streets in the City of Portland, Multnomah County, State of Oregon bounded by and included within the perimeter of a circle twenty (20) feet in diameter, the center of which is at the point where the center line of Vine Street intersects the center line of First Street in said City as originally laid out be and the same is hereby vacated and the same is hereby designated as a site upon which to erect and maintain the drinking fountain to be erected by the said City of Portland with the five thousand (\$5,000) dollars bequeathed to said City by the late Stephen G. Skidmore for that purpose.

Passed the Common Council, February 6th 1886

Approved February 8th 1886
/s/ John Gates, Mayor

/s/ B. L. Norden, Auditor and Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 5033

An Ordinance to vacate certain portions of Vine and First Streets in the City of Portland in addition to the portions of said streets already vacated.

The City of Portland does ordain as follows:

Section 1. That whereas upon proceedings duly had and taken by the Common Council the following portions of Vine and First Streets were duly vacated for the purpose of erecting therein a fountain to be known as the Skidmore Fountain.

To wit:

All that portion of said streets bounded by and included within the perimeter of a circle twenty (20) feet in diameter, the center of which is at the point where the center line of Vine Street intersects the center line of First Street in said City of Portland as originally laid out and containing three hundred and fourteen and sixteen hundredths (314, 16-100) square feet, in the said City of Portland and whereas a petition was duly filed with the Auditor and Clerk of the said City of Portland on the 6th day of October, 1886, and now is pending before the Common Council of the said City of Portland petitioning and asking the Common Council to vacate three feet in circumference, in addition to the vacation of said portions of said streets already made so that the portion of said streets vacated will be described as follows to wit:

A tract of land bounded by and included in the perimeter of a circle twenty three (23) feet in diameter, the center of which is at a point where the center line of Vine Street intersects the center line of First Street as originally laid out and established and whereas due and legal notice of the pendency of said petition has been given as required by law, by the publication of notice thereof, for more than thirty days next prior hereto in the Portland Daily News, a daily and weekly newspaper of general circulation printed and published in the said City of Portland and requiring all persons interested to appear at the regular meeting of the Common Council of the said City of Portland at the Council Chamber on Wednesday the 5th day of January 1887 at 7:30 o'clock p.m. of said day then and there to show cause if any they have, why such vacation of said streets above described should not be made as prayed for in said petition and whereas no objections have been made or filed to such vacation or the petition thereof and all persons owning property immediately adjoining to said portions of said streets having duly consented to such vacation thereof as required by law and said portions of said streets are unnecessary to the public or to the City as a street and that it would be for the benefit and best interests of the City and all persons concerned to vacate the same as and for a site upon which to erect and maintain the drinking fountain to be erected with the five thousand (\$5000) dollars bequeathed to said City by the late Stephen G. Skidmore for that purpose and such other contributions

ORDINANCE NO. 5033

as may be made for that purpose and there being no good reason why such vacation should not be made, now therefore it is hereby ordered and declared that all that portion of Vine and First Streets in the City of Portland Oregon bounded by and included within the perimeter of a circle twenty three (23) feet in diameter, the center of which is at the point where the center line of Vine Street intersects the center line of First Streets in said City as originally laid out and dedicated be and the same arc hereby vacated and said tract of land is hereby designated as a site upon which to erect and maintain the aforesaid fountain.

Passed the Common Council, Feb'y 16, 1887

Approved Feb'y 18th 1887
/s/ John Gates
Mayor

/s/ W. H. Wood
Auditor and Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 112358

An Ordinance vacating S. W. Vine Street and a portion of S. W. Ankeny Street, lying between the west line of S. W. Front Avenue and the east line of S. W. 1st Avenue, initiated by the City Council, subject to certain conditions.

WHEREAS, the Council by Resolution No. 28341, adopted June 16, 1960, initiating action for the vacation of S. W. Vine Street and a portion of S. W. Ankeny Street lying between the west line of S. W. Front Avenue and the east line of S. W. 1st Avenue, in the corporate limits of the city of Portland as herein specified pursuant to the provisions of ORS 271.010 to and including 271.230, and thereupon the City Auditor gave notice by posting and also by publication of a notice once each week for four successive weeks that said resolution had been adopted instituting proceedings for the vacation of said street area; that the matter of said vacation, together with any objections, remonstrances and/or claims for damages which might be made in writing and filed with the City Auditor prior to the time of hearing would be heard and considered by the Council at a meeting to be held at 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, July 20, 1960, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall in said City, which notice was first published in the City's official newspaper, to-wit: The Daily Journal of Commerce, on June 17, 1960, and the City Auditor within five days from said first publication further published said matter by posting three (3) notices headed "Notice of Street Vacation" in three (3) conspicuous places in the area of said proposed vacation at the places therein described and designated as follows:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Object to which attached</u>
At the approximate intersection of the south line of S. E. Ankeny Street and the west line of S. W. Front Avenue.	On a pole
At the approximate intersection of the south line of S. W. Vine Street and the west line of S. W. Front Avenue.	On a pole
At the approximate intersection of the south line of S. W. Vine Street and the east line of S. W. 1st Avenue.	On a pole

BUREAU OF PROPERTY CONTROL

AND WHEREAS, the abutting property owners have consented to said proposed vacation and such consents have been filed with the City Auditor, and

WHEREAS, said matter came on regularly for hearing on July 20, 1960, and no objection or remonstrance, nor any claim for damage was filed or made against the same, and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that the petition for said vacation has been investigated by the City Engineer, who recommends that the vacation be granted subject to certain conditions set forth in his report dated July 15, 1960, and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that the reason for said vacation is for public purposes, and particularly to provide for the future enlarging of the Central Fire Station and the development of the Skidmore Fountain Mall, and

WHEREAS, the Commission of Public Docks on July 12, 1960, and the Port of Portland on July 12, 1960, signified their approval of said proposed vacation, and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that the vacation of the public street area herein described will not injuriously affect the market value of the property abutting or affected by such vacation, but such vacation is in the public interest, and said vacation in all respects will be for the public welfare, and it further appearing that all things have been done as provided by law for the vacation of said street area and that final action should now be taken thereon and such vacation be made a matter of record; now, therefore,

The City of Portland does ordain as follows:

Section 1. It hereby is ascertained and determined that said vacation will not injuriously affect the market value of any of the property abutting upon said street area to be vacated, but will be beneficial thereto; that the consent of the owners of all of the property adjacent or abutting the area to be vacated has been obtained in writing, duly acknowledged and filed as hereinabove stated; that the consent of the owners of more than two-thirds in area of all the owners of real property affected by said vacation has also been filed; that notice has been duly and regularly given of such vacation and hearings thereon

duly and regularly had, and the Council found and does now find that the public interest will not be prejudiced thereby, but that said vacation will enhance the public interest and welfare; that the petition for vacation should be granted with conditions as outlined in the City Engineer's Report, as hereinafter recited, all of which determinations hereby are made a matter of record.

Section 2. There hereby is vacated the following described property in the city of Portland, county of Multnomah, state of Oregon, to-wit:

S. W. Vine Street and a portion of S. W. Ankeny Street lying between the west line of S. W. Front Avenue and the east line of S. W. 1st Avenue, more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the northwesterly corner of Block 35, City of Portland; thence easterly along the northerly line of said Block 35, a distance of 124.12 feet, more or less, to the northeasterly corner thereof; thence southwesterly along the easterly line of said Block 35 and the southerly projection thereof, a distance of 115.51 feet, more or less, to the northeasterly corner of Block 34, of said City of Portland; thence northwesterly along the northerly line of said Block 34, a distance of 146.63 feet, more or less, to the northwesterly corner thereof; thence northeasterly along the easterly line of S. W. 1st Avenue, a distance of 69.75 feet, more or less, to the place of beginning, containing 12,511 square feet, more or less.

Section 3. This vacation is made contingent and dependent upon the following conditions:

(a) This vacation is made upon the condition and with the reservation that nothing herein contained shall cause or require the removal of or abandonment of any sewer, water main, gas main, conduit of any kind, wire, pole, or thing used or intended to be used for any public service, and the right hereby is reserved for the owner of any such utility or thing to maintain, continue, repair, reconstruct, renew, replace, rebuild and/or enlarge any and all such things; that no building or structure of any

kind shall be built or erected within a distance of ten feet from the center line of any such utility, except by written consent of the City Engineer and the owner of such utility first had; and that any and all contemplated building plans in said vacated area shall be submitted for approval to the City Engineer and to the Director, Bureau of Building Inspections, to the end that such construction may be so adjusted with reference to all public utilities in said area as to cause a minimum amount of danger or inconvenience to the public and to the owner of such utility and to protect and preserve the same as presently constructed or hereafter reconstructed, renewed, replaced and/or enlarged.

(b) That all reconstruction of curbs, sidewalks and pavement be done in accordance with plans approved by the City Engineer, and at the expense of the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Section 4. The Commissioner in charge of the Department of Finance shall file with the Auditor of the city of Portland an acceptance of this vacation, signed and acknowledged by said Commissioner, and approved by the City Attorney as to form, and the Auditor shall file for record with the County Clerk, who is ex-officio recorder in and for Multnomah County, state of Oregon, a certified copy of this ordinance and a certified copy of said acceptance as provided by law, and likewise file copies with the County Assessor and the County Surveyor of said county.

Passed by the Council AUG 11 1960

Henry A. Schunk
Mayor of the City of Portland.

Attest:

Raymond
Auditor of the City of Portland

Order of Council
AGB:dh
7/22/60

lay and construct such foundation, signed by such committee, the
Mayor and Auditor and Clerk are Authorized and directed to draw
warrants on the General Fund in such amounts to be paid out of
the sum hereby appropriated,

Passed the Common Council *April 18th 1888.*

W. D. Wood

Auditor and Clerk

Approved *April 23^d 1888.*

C. M. Forbes
President of the Council
Mayor.

YEAS.	NAYS.	
		CASTENDIECK
		FARRELL
		FLIEDNER
		FORBES
		GALLAGHER
		GERDES
		HACHENEY
		SCHWAB
		WOODWARD

.....ORDINANCE No. 5452.....

An Ordinance making an appropriation out of the General Fund for the construction of a foundation for the Skidmore Fountain

The City of Portland does ordain as follows;

Section 1;- That the sum of Two Thousand Dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated out of the General Fund to provide for the construction of the foundation of the Skidmore Fountain,

Section 2;- That upon the filing in the office of the Auditor and Clerk of proper certificates of the amounts due to the Contractors, or persons employed by the Skidmore fountain committee to lay and construct such foundation, signed by such committee, the Mayor and Auditor and Clerk are Authorized and directed to draw warrants on the General Fund in such amounts to be paid out of the sum hereby appropriated,

Passed the Common Council

April 18th 1888.

B. Wood

Auditor and Clerk

Approved

April 23^d 1888.

C. M. Forbes

President of the Council
Mayor.

NAYS

S.

in the public press pronounced to be
the kind yet done in the United States. It is a great pleasure
to think that our own city is the fortunate possessor of this
work of art and we especially feel how grateful we should be to
our public spirited fellow citizen ~~to~~ whose thoughtfulness and
liberality has conferred this pleasure and distinction.

A statement of account with appropriate vouchers and report
showing our expenditure of the funds entrusted to our care will
be transmitted at an early date, and we request that at your con-
venience you will acquaint us when you will be pleased to meet us
at the fountain and formally receive it on behalf of the City.

If left to our suggestion we would name next Saturday, Sept. 22,

Three o'clock P.M.

Very respectfully

Your obedient Servants
"The Midmore Fountain Comm.
by Charles E. Fitterer

To the Honorable

The Mayor of the City of Portland and The
Common Council:

Gentlemen:

As the committee entrusted with the duty of erecting a fountain for the City of Portland in accordance with the bequest of the late Stephen G. Skidmore, we have the honor to report that, upon the site set apart by the City for this purpose at the intersection of Vine and First streets, we have placed a monumental fountain, the work of the eminent American Sculptor Olin L. Warner.

It is a work that impresses us as one ^{of} which any city might justly be proud and we are strengthened in our convictions by the fact that the most competent critics of the country have in the public press pronounced it the finest and noblest work of the kind yet done in the United States. It is a great pleasure to think that our own city is the fortunate possessor of this work of art and we especially feel how grateful we should be to our public spirited fellow citizen ~~so~~ whose thoughtfulness and liberality has conferred this pleasure and distinction.

A statement of account with appropriate vouchers and report showing our expenditure of the funds entrusted to our care will be transmitted at an early date, and we request that at your convenience you will acquaint us when you will be pleased to meet us and formally receive it on behalf of the City.

Portland, Oct 19

1891

To the Honorable Mayor and Common Council
of the City of Portland.

Gentlemen :

Your Committee on Streets to whom was referred the annexed

Communication of Hon W S Mason, Mayor, inviting
attention to the condition of the Skidmore Fountain, and
suggesting certain improvements thereto.

beg respectfully to report that we have given the subject matter thereof due considera-

tion and respectfully recommend to your Honorable Body that

the
Superintendent of Streets be authorized and
directed to make the improvements as
set forth in the above mentioned com-
munication

Respectfully submitted,

W H Merrick & Shelby
J Pittenger
Committee on Streets.

REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON STREETS

ON

Communication from
Hon W & Mason, Mayor,
inviting attention & con-
dition of the Skidmore
Fountain, and suggest-
ing certain improvements
thereon.

Filed

Oct 19 1891

W. T. Branch

Auditor and Clerk.

By

S. Grubel

Deputy.

Oct. 21/91

adopted

Henry Furling, Post.

H. H. Corbitt, Treas. Post.

B. E. Withington, Cashier.

H. J. Corbitt, Asst. Cashier.

No 1553.

The First National Bank

Portland, Oregon, 2nd October 1886

Wm Jno. Gates

My dear Sir; You were not present at the ^{last} meeting of the "Skedmore fountain Committee", but I understand that you saw and approved the design. I believe we have gained much in taking time, and that the public will be (and will feel) well compensated for the delay. I hope that it will prove to be a credit to the city and the Committee. I know better than any one of the Committee how much our success (if as I hope it will prove to be) is due to Mr C. E. Wood. He has done more work in the matter than any of us, and his ^{and personal acquaintance with artists -} own suggestions, ~~and~~ artistic taste, have been invaluable. I should hesitate to ~~be~~ dislike to have any of the credit, unless Mr Wood shared in it, and I believe all the members who were present shared in that feeling, and decided as I have no doubt you will, that Mr Wood should be added to the Committee. Will you not use your good offices to that end, and have the Council add his name to the Committee? Mr Sutton will explain to you that we desire the ordinance amended so as to have 2 feet instead of 30. I am about going East very busy, or I would have seen you personally about

Henry Furling
for forwarding you
this matter

Portland, Nov. 2nd 1886

To the Hon. Mayor and Common Council
of the City of Portland.

Gentlemen:

Your Committee

to whom was

on Judiciary and City Attorney
referred the annexed Petition to add the name of C. Wood to the ^{Shelton} ^{Co.}
beg respectfully to report that they have given the subject matter thereof
due consideration and respectfully recommend to your Hon. Body that
the prayer of petitioner be granted and that the City
Attorney be directed to take such legal steps as
shall secure the amendment to the present proceeding
as asked for.

Respectfully submitted,

S. Faneuil

Richard Gerdes

Wm. Hildner.

Committee on Judiciary

A. H. Tanner
City Attorney

To the Honorable,

The Mayor^{and} Common Council,
Of the City of Portland:

Your Committee, appointed and authorized by ordinance 4695, among other things to select a suitable site within the City of Portland for the location of the Skidmore Fountain and to erect the same, respectfully report: That the Committee met at the Council Chamber Oct. 21st 1885, 7.30 P.M. and organized, all being present by the election of John Gates, Mayor of the City, Chairman and Charles E. Sitton secretary and have entered upon the performance of their duties and have unanimously agreed that for the erection of a suitable Fountain it will require an area of ground twenty feet in diameter and that the most suitable and available location is near where the center line of First street intersects the center line of Vine street in said City and which is more particularly described to be the perimeter of a circle, twenty feet in diameter, the center point of which shall be where the center line of First street, as originally laid out, intersects the center line of Vine street.

And your committee asks that such

in diameter, the center point of which shall be where the center line of First street, as originally laid out, intersects the center line of Vine street.

And your committee asks that such steps, as may be requisite, be taken to vacate so much of said streets, as is above described, for the purpose aforesaid,
all of which is most respectfully

Submitted

Charles E. Fittou
Secy.

Portland Oregon
Nov 4th 1885.

To the Honorable Mayor and
Common Council of the City of Portland
Oregon

Gentlemen

The undersigned your petitioners
would respectfully represent and
show to your Honorable body that
they are citizens and tax-payers
and owners of real and person-
al property within the corporate
limits of said City of Portland; that
the Committee heretofore appointed
by your Honorable body to se-
lect a site upon which to erect
the fountain proposed to be erec-
ted with the Five Thousand Dollars
bequeath to the City of Portland by
the late Stephen G. Skidmore for that
purpose, having selected and re-
ported to your honorable body, the
point where Vine and First Streets
in said City of Portland as originally
laid out intersect each other, it
is necessary and proper to vacate
a portion of said Vine and First
streets at said point sufficient
in area to erect and maintain
a drinking fountain upon

That the portion of said Vine and
First Streets necessary to be vacated
for the purpose aforesaid is particu-
larly described as follows to-wit

A track of land bounded by and
included within the perimeter of a
circle, twenty feet in diameter
the center of which is at the point
where the center line of Vine Street
intersects the center line of First
Street as originally laid out and
containing three hundred and fourteen
 $\frac{16}{100}$ feet $(314\frac{16}{100} \text{ ft})$

That the names of the persons
owning property abutting upon and
adjoining said portions of said streets
above described and who are and
will be particularly affected by
the vacation of said portions of
said Streets as above described are
as follows to-wit,

J. G. Reed

H. B. Leonard

Heirs of M. S. Burrill

D. P. Thompson

J. A. Kelly

R. R. Thompson

J. B. Anusworth

The Bank of British Columbia

Wherefore your petitioners
pray that your Honorable body
will direct and require notice of the
pendency of this petition to be given
by publication thereof for the space
of thirty days in the newspaper
being the City printing as required
by law and that at the expiration
of said thirty days an ordinance may
be passed vacating said portions
of said streets above described for the
purposes hereinbefore set forth

And your petitioners will ever pray &c

R.R. Thompson by G.L. Hawkins att
J.B. Ainsworth by G.L. Hawkins att
Bank British Columbia by Thos. Brown att
D.P. Thompson executor of estate of M.S. Burrill dec'd
D.P. Thompson
H.C. Leonard
J. Kelly
James K. Kelly

To the Honorable the Mayor;
and Common Council
of the City of Portland,

The undersigned, executors of the
Estate of J G Skidmore deceased, beg leave to inform you
that said J G Skidmore by his last Will and Testament
made the following bequest

"13th. Out of the residue of my
Estate, I give and bequeath to the City of Portland, Oregon,
the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (or the whole of
said residue, if less than that sum remains) for the erec-
-tion of a Drinking Fountain to be placed in such public
place as the City authorities may direct"

The undersigned take pleasure
in stating that they will be able to pay to the City, the
full sum of Five Thousand Dollars; and that they
will be ready to pay the same at some time during
the month of December next; and hope that the City
will accept the donation, and name some person to
receive the same and receipt therefor.

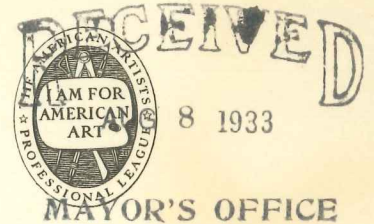
Allow us to say, that owing to the kindly relations
which existed between us and the deceased in his
life time, we naturally are very desirous that such
a Fountain may be erected as will be a credit to
the City and a Monument to the donor. May
the money be so expended as to fully, and in spirit,
carry out the intentions of the donor, Stephen
& Skidmore.

W. Van Schuyver
J. C. Wier
Charles E. Fittou

Executors of
Estate of
Stephen
& Skidmore

Portland Oregon
Aug 5th 1885

THE AMERICAN ARTISTS
PROFESSIONAL LEAGUE



STATE CHAIRMAN PORTLAND AND OREGON CHAPTERS, A.A.P.L.
MRS. HAROLD DICKSON MARSH, ~~223~~ Fairview Boulevard, Portland, Oregon
2945 S. W. Fairview Blvd.

Smiley
August 7, 1933.

Hon. Joseph K. Carson, Jr.
Mayor of Portland,
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Mayor Carson:

It is common knowledge that Portland possesses one of the nation's outstanding art treasures in The Skidmore Fountain, by the famous artist, Olin Warner. This Fountain stands not only as a monument of some art importance, but as a marker to those brave pioneers of earlier days. We believe then, that this site should be maintained in dignity. But both the dignity and the art value of this fountain and spot are being violated by traffic signs which have been attached to the rim of the fountain itself.

Our Civic Committee of the Portland Chapter of The American Artists Professional League is asking your interest in seeing that the traffic signs be removed from The Skidmore Fountain, at Front and Ankeny Streets.

Respectfully submitted,

Civic Committee, Portland Chapter
The American Artists Professional League

Mrs. Harold Dickson Marsh
Laurence King Fraley
Stuart Biles

Harold Marsh
{ Mrs. Harold Dickson Marsh }

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN : F. BALLARD WILLIAMS
152 West 57th Street, New York City

NATIONAL VICE-CHAIRMAN : ALBERT T. REID
103 Park Avenue, New York City

NATIONAL SECRETARY : WILFORD S. CONROW
154 West 57th Street, New York City

NATIONAL TREASURER : GORDON H. GRANT
137 East 66th Street, New York City

EDWARD FIELD SANFORD, JR.
GEORGE PEARSE ENNIS
LOUIS F. BERNEKER
JOHN WARD DUNSMORE

ALBERT L. GROLL
GEORG J. LOBER

FRANK HAZELL
WALTER BECK

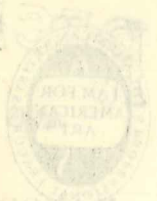
ARTHUR D. LORD
ALBERT P. LUCAS

ARTHUR R. FREEDLANDER
HARRY LEWIS RAUL
ORLANDO ROULAND
ARTHUR O. TOWNSEND

201

5013

THE AMERICAN ARTISTS
PROFESSIONAL LEAGUE



MAYOR'S OFFICE

STATE CHAIRMAN PORTLAND AND OREGON CHAPTER, A.A.P.L.
MRS. HAROLD DICKSON MARSH, 2046 S. W. PATVIEW BLVD., PORTLAND, OREGON

August 7, 1933.

Hon. Joseph K. Carson, Jr.
Mayor of Portland,
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Mayor Carson:

Communication from Civic Committee,
Portland Chapter the American
Artists Professional League requesting
traffic signs be removed from the
Skidmore Fountain.

REFERRED TO
AUG 16 1933
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

It is common knowledge that Portland possesses
an outstanding art treasure in the Skidmore
Fountain. The famous artist, Olin Warner, this fountain
sterlingly as a monument of some art importance, but as
a masterpiece of those pioneers of earlier days. We believe
that the art value of this fountain should be maintained in
both the art value of this fountain and the traffic signs
which have been placed on it.

Civic Committee of the Portland
American Artists Professional League is asking
that the traffic signs be removed from the
Skidmore Fountain at Front and Ankeny Streets.

AUG 9 1933
Auditor of the City of Portland
Chief Deputy

Respectfully submitted,

Civic Committee, Portland Chapter
The American Artists Professional League

Mrs. Harold Dickson Marsh
Lawrence King Freley
Stuart Biles

(Mrs. Harold Dickson Marsh)

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

STEWART FIELD SAMUELSON, 12 GEORGE MARSH HOUSE FLORIS T. ROYAL	ALBERT L. BOGGS GEORGE L. LOREN	WALTER TERRY MARION HAZELL	ARLIND D. LAMB JOHN C. LUTAS	NATIONAL SECRETARY: WILLIAM E. CONROW 121 West 42nd Street, New York City	NATIONAL TREASURER: DOUGLAS H. GIBBY 111 East 42nd Street, New York City	NATIONAL CHAIRMAN: RICHARD T. BEE 121 East 42nd Street, New York City	ADVISOR: A. FREEDLANDER HARRY LEWIS BELL ORLANDO BOLAND ARTHUR D. THOMPSON
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4/5'0

MAYOR'S OFFICE

PORTLAND, OREGON

JOSEPH K. CARSON, JR.
MAYOR

August 28, 1933.

100

TO THE COUNCIL:

I am returning herewith Calendar #5013 with the information that the traffic sign on Skidmore fountain has been removed.

It is recommended that the communication from the Civic Committee, Portland Chapter of the American Artists Professional League be filed and that it receive no further consideration.

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Joseph Carson

AUG 31 1933

ADOPTED

5408

Report and recommendation of Commissioner of Public Safety on communication from Civic Committee, Portland Chapter of the American Artists Professional League.

MAYOR'S OFFICE
PORTLAND, OREGON

JOSEPH K. CARSON, JR.
MAYOR

AUGUST 28, 1933

Filed AUG 29 1933

Auditor of the City of Portland

By *[Signature]*
Chief Clerk

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY
[Signature]

Hon. Joseph K. Carson, Jr.
Mayor of Portland, and City Council,
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Mayor Carson and Council:

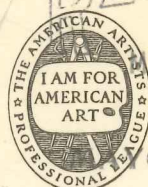
THE AMERICAN ARTISTS PROFESSIONAL LEAGUE

OREGON STATE CHAIRMAN, PORTLAND AND OREGON CHAPTERS,

MRS. HAROLD DICKSON MARSH, 2945 Fairview Boulevard, S. W., Portland, Oregon

Re: Features at the
Skidmore Fountain site; for
Rose Festival, June 6-8, 1935

Collected



MAY 20

May 17,

YOUR OFFICE
1935

Senator William F. Woodward, President of the Metropolitan Assn., in speaking before the Skidmore Fountain Artists Colony Council on "Some Objectives" of his Association whose purpose has been to lower taxes and beautify the City, related a number of his own observations in the City's growth since 1881; its occasional lapses and recessions; the struggle for the Broadway Bridge; the bringing in of the Bull Run Water; the growth of the East Side of which no one ever dreamed there would be a city there; the growth on the West Side away from the river, and failure of the property owners to realize the vital significance to their property values.

Senator Woodward said: "The movement of your organization, Skidmore Fountain Artists Colony, sponsored by the Portland Chapter, American Artists Professional League, to use its influence to retain the romantic and picturesque exterior of the old buildings now at the site of the Skidmore Fountain, and to urge that the interior of these old buildings be renovated to house artists studios, small shops, a civic theatre and community hall by the Owners for early occupancy, is a worthy one. He said that the property owners must become cognizant of the value to them, also the City Council and Chamber of Commerce the value to the City, of any movement tending to popularize again the section in which these, or their buildings stand.

Therefore, we the Skidmore Fountain Artists Colony Council, appeal to you:

His Honor The Mayor and City Council: The City Park Bureau;
The Portland Chamber of Commerce; Metropolitan Association;
The Rose Festival Association; Portland Rose Society;
The American Institute of Architects Chapter; Portland Garden Club;
The Men and Women's Clubs, and especially to,-

The Property Owners at the site of the Skidmore Fountain,- to cooperate with us in our efforts again to popularize the site around our beautiful Skidmore Fountain, requesting that we begin with the Rose Festival and Mardi Gras, June 6-8, when perhaps half or more of the population of the City will be on the downtown streets of Portland by featuring:

1. The Rose Festival Parade around the Skidmore Fountain;
2. By initiating a distinguished visitor into the Mystic Order of the Rose by the Woman's Advertising Club at the site of the Fountain;
3. By planting Roses in the D.P. Thompson Triangle Plot at the Fountain; erecting a Bandstand there and the playing of band music;
4. By having the school children's Maypole Dance repeated at the Fountain;
5. By cooperating in a Float featuring the Fountain;
6. By cooperating to secure sufficient funds to the proper lighting of this site around the Fountain on the night of the Mardi Gras for street dancing, music, and concessions.

Please notify the
Chairman, Mrs. Marsh, if
you will cooperate, securing
the approval of your Council.

Submitted by:

Skidmore Fountain Artists Colony Council,

Harold Marsh (Mrs. Harold Dickson Marsh) Chairman

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Miss Ada D. Albert, Director
and members of the Committee.

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN: F. BALLARD WILLIAMS
152 West 57th Street, New York City

NATIONAL VICE-CHAIRMAN: ALBERT T. REID
103 Park Avenue, New York City

NATIONAL SECRETARY: WILFORD S. CONROW
154 West 57th Street, New York City

NATIONAL TREASURER: GORDON H. GRANT
137 East 66th Street, New York City

JOHN WARD DUNSMORE
LOUIS F. BERNEKER
DEWITT LOCKMAN
GEORGE PEARSE ENNIS

ALBERT P. LUCAS
GEORG J. LOBER

TABER SEARS
ALBERT H. SONN
FLORENCE TOPPING GREEN

ARTHUR D. LORD
WALTER BECK

ARTHUR R. FREEDLANDER
HARRY LEWIS RAUL
ORLANDO ROULAND
ARTHUR O. TOWNSEND

ORMOND R. BEAN
CITY COMMISSIONER

FRANKLIN L. DAVIS
CHIEF OF OPERATIONS

L. G. APPERSON
CITY ENGINEER

CITY OF PORTLAND OREGON

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

July 5, 1935

TO THE COUNCIL.

In re: Popularizing property
in vicinity of and
Skidmore fountain

Gentlemen:

Your Commissioner of PUBLIC WORKS had discussed with Mrs. Marsh, Chairman, Skidmore Fountain Artists Colony Council, concerning the popularizing of the Skidmore Fountain and vicinity, and recommends that the attached communication in connection therewith be placed on file.

Respectfully submitted,



COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS

G

ORLAND R. BEAN
CITY COMMISSIONER
FRANK L. DAVIS
CHIEF OF OPERATIONS

CITY OF PORTLAND
OREGON

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

July 5, 1935

TO THE COUNCIL.

In re: Populating property
in vicinity of and
Skidmore Fountain

Report of Commissioner of PUBLIC
WORKS recommending filing of communi-
cation of Mrs. Marsh concerning the
popularizing of the Skidmore Fountain
and vicinity.

Your Commissioner of PUBLIC WORKS had dis-

with Mrs. Marsh, Chairman, Skidmore Fountain
Colonel Council, concerning the
the Skidmore Fountain and vicinity
the attached communication in connection with
be placed on file.

Respectfully submitted

Commissioner of PUBLIC WORKS

By *[Signature]*
Auditor of the City of Portland
Chief Deputy

JUL 6 1935

3618

ADOPTED

JUL 10 1935

L. S. APPERSON
CITY ENGINEER

W. H. CROWELL, PRESIDENT
WALTER E. CHURCH, VICE PRESIDENT
LESLIE D. HOWELL, SECRETARY
HERMAN BROOKMAN, TREASURER



WILLIAM G. HOLFORD, TRUSTEE
C. H. WALLWORK, TRUSTEE
HAROLD W. DOTY, TRUSTEE

OREGON CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
PORTLAND, OREGON
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
404 U. S. National Bank Bldg.

June 1, 1933.

Honorable Mayor and Council,
City Hall,
Portland, Oregon.

Gentlemen:

The Oregon Chapter, American Institute of Architects, at the last regular meeting, went on record as approving the present site of the Skidmore fountain, and as opposed to a change of site at the present time.

Yours very truly,

L. D. Howell

L. D. Howell.
Secretary.

Communication from The American
Institute of Architects approving
the present site of the
Skidmore fountain and protesting
any change of
site.

3582 PLACED ON FILE

JUN 3 - 1933

JUN 7 - 1933

3287 PLACED ON FILE

Communication from The American
Institute of Architects approv-
ing the present site of the
Skidmore Fountain and protest-
ing against any change of
location of same.



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
1735 K STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

JUN 2 - 1933

Handwritten signatures:
Eric Jones
[Illegible signature]

JOURNAL 8/17/1956 FRIDAY

City Hires Sculptor to Repair Fountain

The city council Thursday afternoon voted to hire James Hanson, a Vancouver, Wash. sculptor, to repair the acid scarred Skidmore fountain.

The bronze fountain was streaked an ugly green color recently by employees of the city water bureau who were trying to clean it with acid.

The council authorized paying Hanson \$850 for the repair work, which will involve dismantling the fountain and moving it to Hanson's studio.

ing, said Hanson plans to begin work immediately.

THE JOB will include removing the stains, treating the underlying metal with oxidizing chemicals to restore its greenish brown patina and then neutralizing the chemicals and fixing the patina.

The repairs probably will

require two months to complete. While they are under way, Bean said, the city art commission will try to decide whether the fountain should be put back in its present location at SW 1st avenue and Ankeny and Vine streets

or moved to some other location.

A majority of persons who voted in a recent poll conducted by The Journal said they thought the fountain should be left at or near its present historic site.

City OKs Clubhouse

The city council Thursday afternoon voted to call for bids on construction of a clubhouse for the 18-hole pitch and putt golf course the city will operate adjoining the new city zoo.

Harry B. Buckley, city parks superintendent, said he thinks the course will be operating by next February or March. It will have fairways between 50 and a little over 100 yards long each and will be located along the western edge of the former West Hills golf course where the zoo now is being built.

THE CLUBHOUSE will contain rest rooms, a club room for the sale of tickets and for waiting players and a bachelor apartment for the course caretaker.

The city's plan, Buckley said, is to furnish the apartment and utilities, but no salary, to a retired man who would be willing to live there and sell tickets on off hours when a regular city employee

ALSO AVAILABLE IN SALEM

Portland—open Mondays & Fridays 9:30 A. M. to 3 P. M.
Other days 9:30 A. M. to 5:30 P. M.
Spicer—open Mondays & Fridays 12:15 to 9 P. M.
Other days 9:30 A. M. to 5:30 P. M.

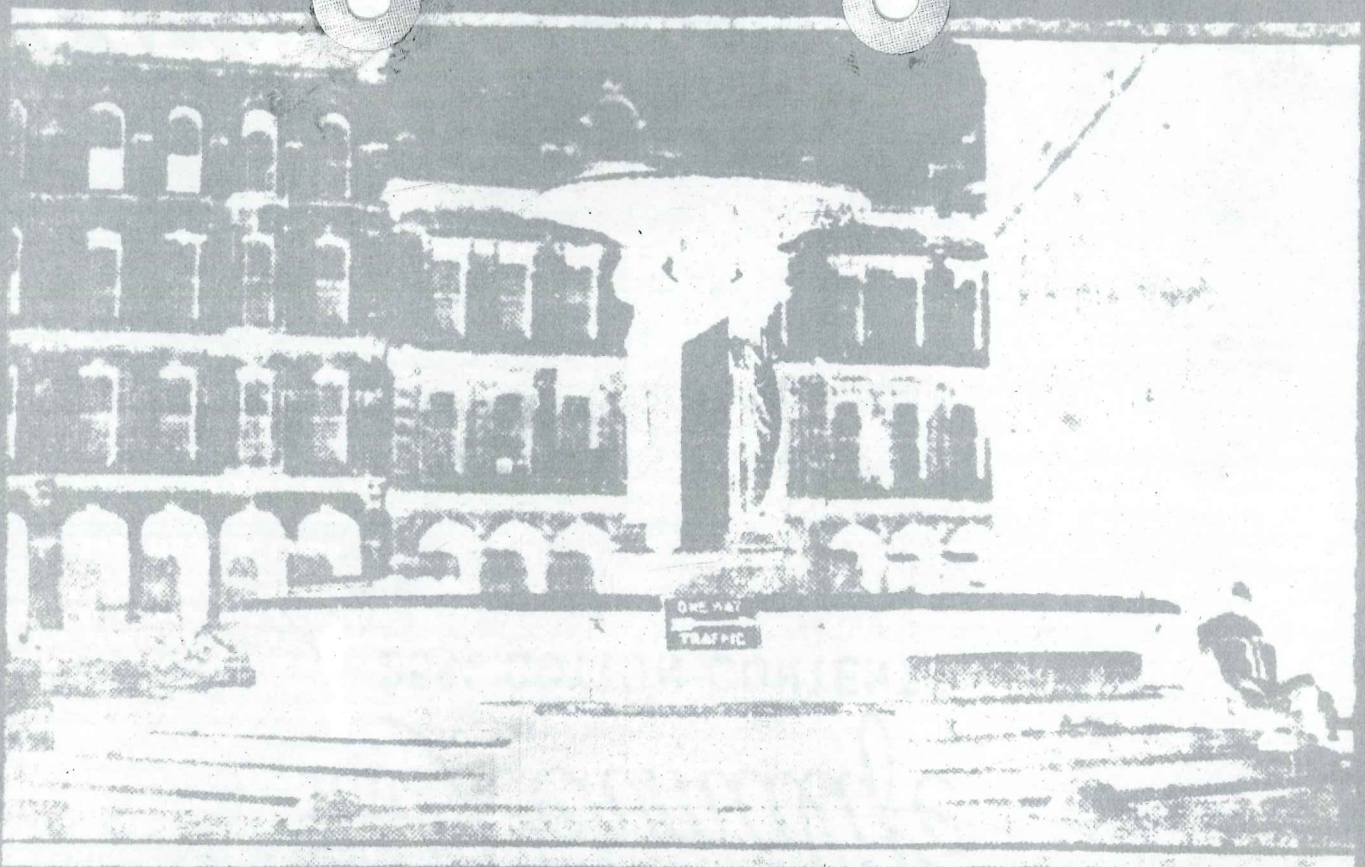
STUDENTS
Your Campus
Favorites
Are at:

Shirt Shop
HARTTEST STORE FOR MEN
ETON Wool Shirts
WARI Sport Shirts
R Sport Shirts
& KING Sweaters
aters / Shirts

Sale Phoenix Hosiery

For 8 days only . . . savings you can't afford to miss! Fabulous Phoenix nylons, famous for quality, fit, color . . . now at once-a-year low prices. All styles from sheer to service. In Custom-Fit Proportions in the new season's colors. Beauty Boxed and Beauty Marked, Small, 8 1/2-10; medium 8 1/2-11; large 9 1/2-12. American Beauty, Beige Beauty, Natural Beauty, Taupe Beauty.

reg. \$1.65
Fabulous 60 dress sheers
Fit Supreme stretch sheer
Run-Rite day sheer
Full-fashioned
now **\$1.39**
3 pairs, **\$4.15**
6 pairs, **\$8.25**



BLOT ON THE ESCUTCHEON OF THE ARCHITECTURAL MUSE

Portland's Skidmore fountain, Southwest First avenue and Ankeny street, subject of much controversy lately, showing traffic sign suspended from rim of the lower basin. Marring of a thing of beauty was charged yesterday by a local artists' group in a protest to Mayor Carson.

TRAFFIC SIGNS AROUSE

SKIDMORE FOUNTAIN MARKERS STIR OBJECTIONS.

Mayor Carson Asked to Have Offending Boards Taken Off Historic Monument.

Traffic lumbered heavily over rough cobblestones at First and Ankeny streets yesterday. Odors of the wholesale district rising from the summer's heat were wafted by the northwesterly breeze toward the waterfront.

No one paid much attention to the odors.

Waters babbled lazily in the Skidmore fountain. Their sound, refreshing, was caught faintly in the roar of a busy thoroughfare, mingling with sharp sounds from the harbor and the railroad yards.

No one paid much attention to the fountain. Two idlers rested on a step at the lower basin, their backs to the center column. The sound of water dripping from the upper to the lower basin, disturbed not the flow of their conversation.

A monster dory swerved to avoid the

been attached to the rim of the fountain itself.

JUSTICE PARKER RESIGNS

Veteran Member of Washington Supreme Court Quits.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Aug. 8.—(AP)—The resignation of Emmett W. Parker, veteran member of the state supreme court, was mailed today to Governor Martin.

Announcement of Justice Parker's resignation, effective immediately, was made by his wife, Mrs. Emma Parker, at the home of relatives in Tacoma.

Justice Parker, 74 years old, was forced to leave the bench more than two months ago because of illness.

The retiring justice is ending a distinguished career as a lawyer and jurist. He has served continuously on the state's highest tribunal since 1909.

FAIR FAN DANCER CURBED

Sally Must Wear Clothes or Forfeit Bond, Court Says.

Oregonian-Chicago Tribune Leased Wire.
CHICAGO, Aug. 8.—Because she aroused a policeman's interest, Sally Rand, fan dancer at a world's fair concession and a downtown movie theater, was fined \$25 today and directed to wear clothes beneath her fan here.

would ask all state and city branches of his organization to aid in supervising operation of the agreements and to report apparent violations.

The modified agreement for the barber and beauty shop industry provides a 48-hour week for all operators and 40 hours for clerical help. No minimum wage was fixed, this being left for determination at hearings on the permanent code. Shop operation would not be reduced below 52 hours.

A 40-hour week was provided in the agreement for retail coal merchants' employees, other than labor, minimum with the weekly wage provided in the president's blanket agreement ranging from \$15 in cities above 500,000 population down to \$12 below towns of 2500.

For common labor a scale ranging from 30 cents an hour in the south to 40 cents in the east was provided pending the hearings.

In the lithographic industry the maximum week will be five eight-hour days, with restrictions on overtime.

For the mechanical forces a minimum wage of 40 cents an hour for men and 30 cents for women was provided, with the scale for clerical help the same as fixed in the president's agreement.

The agreements for the saw and steel products and the copper and brass mill industries were similar.

Power Plan to Be Framed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 8.—(AP)—The public works administration today allotted \$400,000 for the

OREGONIAN 8/9/1933

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WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 8.-(AP)-The public works administration today allotted \$400,000 for the power commission to devise a national plan for development of water power, transmission of electricity and to study costs of power transmission from generation stations to consumers. The investigation was ordered by the senate at its last session in approving a resolution introduced by Senator Costigan of Colorado.

Leg Hurt in Crash.

Harvey Lindsay, 22, of 3725 Northeast Seventy-third avenue, suffered a possible fractured leg yesterday when a tree fell on him while he was working for the Sunset Logging company. He was taken to St. Vincent's hospital. Mrs. Alexander McMillan, 48, of 3039 Northeast Union avenue, was admitted to Emanuel hospital for treatment of a fractured right shoulder suffered in a fall at her home last Friday.

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A monster dray swerved to avoid the obstacle, the fountain.

It went off in the direction pointed by the yellow and black traffic sign. "One-way Traffic," read the sign.

More one-way traffic sped by. The metallic traffic signs shivered a little. They were attached to the upper basin of this, one of the city's artistic treasures, a fountain.

Of this defilement of artistic beauty a protesting voice was raised in the city yesterday. The civic committee of the Portland chapter of the American Artists' Professional league asked Mayor Carson to remove the signs.

"This fountain stands not only as a monument of some art importance, but as a marker to those brave pioneers of early days," said the protest signed by Mrs. Harold Dickson Marsh, 2945 Southwest Fairview boulevard. "Both the dignity and the art value of this fountain and spot are being violated by traffic signs which have

been attached to the rim of the fountain itself."

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The decision was given by Municipal Judge Hasten in women's court, where the dancer, her brother, her manager and her maid were arraigned on charges of giving obscene performances.

Creameries Ask Relief.

Legislation for relief of the dairy industry, under provisions of the agricultural adjustment act is urged in a letter sent yesterday to Representative Walter M. Pierce of the 1st congressional district for Oregon, by the Interstate Associated Creameries. Declining butterfat prices and sales and increasing competition from oleomargarine were advanced as reasons for relief by legislation similar to that given other agricultural products by the federal government.

OREGONIAN 8/9/1933

DRIVE

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ORDINANCE NO. 7074.

An Ordinance authorizing the Committee on Streets to make certain repairs to the Skidmore Fountain.

THE CITY OF PORTLAND DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1;- That the Committee on Streets be and are hereby authorized and directed to expend a sum not to exceed Two Hundred and Fifty (\$250.) Dollars in repairing the Skidmore Fountain and laying concrete and bituminous rock around the same.

Passed the Common Council October 21st 1891.

W. J. Branch

Auditor and Clerk.

Approved, October 23^d 1891.

W. S. Mason

Mayor.

Oregonian

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1961

32 PAGES

Dusty Skidmore Fountain Maidens Emerge But Much Renovation Work Still Remains



EXPOSED FOR the first time since last March are the bronze maidens of Skidmore Fountain, boxed up by the city to keep vandals from hurling Belgian paving stones that were once piled to await resetting. Portland Junior

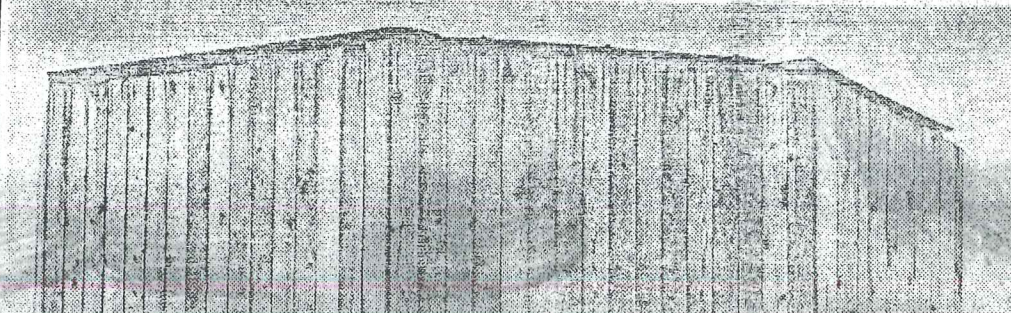
Chambermen think end of long project may at last be in sight, point to trees, rhododendrons, pavement and benches seen at left, as evidence. More landscaping, paving and installation of a sprinkler system remain to be done.

By **HAROLD HUGHES**
Staff Writer, The Oregonian

The Skidmore Fountain and its two Grecian maidens were exposed Tuesday after having been boxed up for their own protection since last March.

Except for a heavy coat of dust, the two ageless women greeted the world with their usual unblinking and serene countenances.

But all was not so serene or unblinking down at the city



greeted the world with their usual unblinking and serene countenances.

But all was not so serene or unblinking down at the city hall. Commissioner Ormond R. Bean had ordered the barricade of heavy timbers left around the fountain until the Skidmore Plaza renovation project was completed.

The city had appointed Irv Thorsten, landscape engineer for the Park Bureau, as "coordinator" of the project a year ago when it began to bog down in a series of fits and starts.

Thorsten Bypassed

Somehow, Bean said, Thorsten has been bypassed and the leaders of the Junior Chamber got permission from the public works department under Commissioner William A. Bowes to let the fountain out of its box.

The idea, the city learned too late to halt the unboxing, was to have the ladies exposed in time for the opening of a restaurant in the neighborhood at SW First and Ankeny St. later this week.

Heavy 2 by 12s were erected around the fountain after neighborhood children began heaving Belgian paving blocks into the fountain. The Belgian blocks had been dug up from the old street by the Marines, and last winter were still in piles awaiting resetting.

The Portland Junior Chamber of Commerce was allowed

BARRICADE of heavy timbers guarded Skidmore Fountain's maidens, one of many unfortunate fates that girls have met since

fountain was erected in 1888 in what was a fashionable theater district of Gay 90's. Effort is being made to restore district.

to undertake the project of rhododendrons need to be planted, along with a sprinkler system, the donation of which appears to have been turned off and on several times. There is also some paving and regrading of a street to be done. One city official hinted that when the city gets the job back in its hands that

some of the work may have to be done over.

Even though it may be a long time again before the city permits volunteers to undertake such a job, even the most impatient observer would have to agree that the two ladies are better company than they were two years ago.

JUNE 27, 1960

Skidmore Fountain Memories Go Back Years To Portland Druggist Who Succumbed In 1883

\$5,000 Left For Project So That Men, Horses, And Dogs Could Drink

By PENNY TERMAAT
Staff Writer, The Oregonian

For a couple of months now, the Portland Junior Chamber of Commerce has been campaigning to revive the status and beauty of what used to be the center of cultural and business activity in the old town.

Well, for someone from the East, who almost got used to the mad dash of things, taking time out to renew a memory is a most refreshing thing.

At any rate, the memories that surround Skidmore Fountain, in the triangular plot bounded by SW Vine, Ankeny and Front Streets, seem to have become more profound as we started digging them up.

And we were inspired not only by the enthusiasm of the Junior Chamber of Commerce but also by the interest shown in the project by Lester Finch, president of the Packer-Scott Paper Co. who has agreed to paint his building to get the ball rolling.

Mayor Terry Shrink commends the project, the architect has drawn up the plans for the new Skidmore Plaza, the Portland Garden Club has endorsed it, the Marine Corps reserve engineers have volunteered to do any demolition

work, the Northwest Natural Gas Co. will install six gas lights, and Commissioner Ormond Bean has endorsed the plan.

Who, What, Why?

What's behind all this? Who is Skidmore? What does the former center of culture stand for?

Well there's an oldtimer in town named Pop Young who's been driving a cab since the horse and buggy days. He happened to be the cabdriver who took us to the fountain the other day and suddenly he said, "Yep, I used to water my horses there."

"Remember when I used to take one of those logging barows and his girl friend for rides."

Young reminisced further and confessed that reviving the fountain would certainly bring back fond memories for him. In comparison, Young says, "Yep, like these cabs better. Remember how I used to hate to see the horses sweat so much."

The Skidmore fountain was named after its donor, Stephen G. Skidmore, who came to Portland in 1850 with his family at 13 years of age from Illinois.

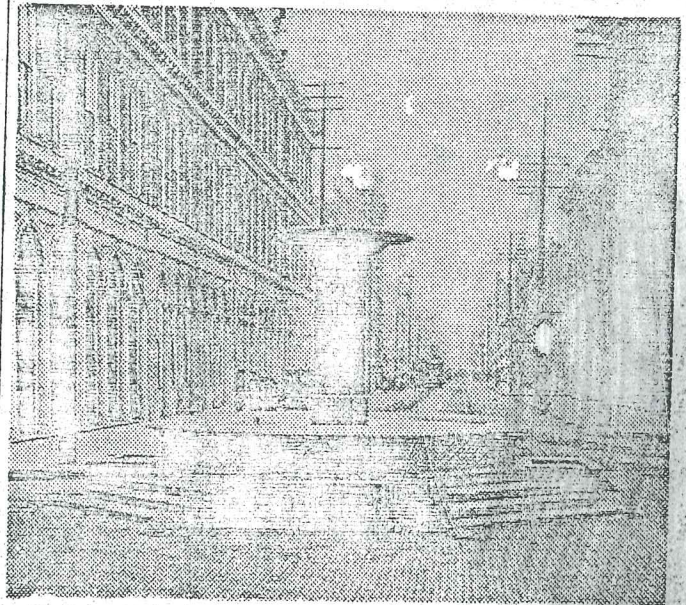
He lived a simple life, worked hard and finally owned his own drug store in partnership with a fellow named Charles Sitton for 20 years. He never married, was active in civic affairs and died in California in 1883.

Valuable Estate

His estate, valued at \$162,000, included \$5,000 for a "drinking fountain to be placed in the business part of the city, for men, horses and dogs."

According to recollections by Charles Erskine Scott Wood, now filed with the Oregon Historical Society, members of the "fountain committee" chipped in to supplement \$13,000 to pay the \$18,000 for the design sent in by Olin L. Warner, sculptor.

Warner is also the artist who did the doors of the Congressional Library in Wash-



Here's Skidmore fountain when horse and buggy days made it the business center of Portland.

ington D.C. He completed the fountain in his New York studio after a trip to Portland to investigate the site of the piece, and it was cast by Burrell Bros., Pa. The stone is dressed granite from the Franklin quarries in Maine.

Strangely enough, the 300 lb. fountain was constructed in 1887 during the last days of the New Market Theater in "The Shadows of a Great City," one of its last plays, and unveiled in time to herald the gay '90s when handlebar mustaches and bicycles built for two were the vogue.

According to Oct., 1883 issue of the West Shore magazine published by L. Samuel, the 3 p.m. dedication ceremonies were "simple, but impressive."

We wonder how "simple" the ceremonies would have been if the committee had taken Henry Weinhard, a brewer, seriously enough to follow through with his plan to install a pipe which would connect his largest lager tank with the fountain and have the fountain spout free beer?

'Gals' Rough It

Since the old days, the Grecian gals that hold up the Bronze basin have been through a lot. They were sev-

erly burned by an acid bath in a cleaning attempt in 1956 which required an \$850 beauty treatment and new pipes had to be installed in the reconstructed base.

Well dogs are kept on leashes now, we don't imagine Skidmore contemplated horseless Buggies, and seems not many folks use it for a drinking fountain anymore.

Maybe the least we can do is preserve the fountain in the spirit in which it was intended by Skidmore, "who gave this fountain to bless and beautify his adopted home."



One of Grecian "Gals"



Stephen G. Skidmore

OREGONIAN
6/27/1960

UNVEILING THE FOUNTAIN.

Stephen G. Skidmore's Enduring Gift
Formally Presented to the City.

Invoking Public Ceremonies—Eloquent and Appropriate Address by Mr. C. E. S. Wood—
Response by Judge W. H. Adams.

Yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock the beautiful and enduring gift bequeathed by the late Stephen G. Skidmore was formally and publicly presented by the committee to the city of Portland with fitting ceremonies and accepted. The following is the programme on the interesting occasion:

Invocation by Rev. Geo. H. Atkinson
Presentation address by Mr. C. E. S. Wood, representing the Skidmore fountain committee.
Unveiling the fountain by Mr. Charles E. Sifton.
Address on the part of the city by Judge W. H. Adams.
Turning on the water by Mr. Tyler Woodward.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION.

The Skidmore fountain is the gift to the city of Portland of Stephen G. Skidmore, who was a resident of the city from 1850 and who, dying in San Rafael, Cal., in 1883, left a bequest of \$5000 for the purpose. A fountain committee delegated by the city to have charge of the work began its labors in 1885, immediately after the money had been paid over. The plans and execution of the structure were in the hands of Mr. Olin L. Warner, who also superintended its erection.

The bronze work is entirely the result of Mr. Warner's labors, being modeled by him in his studio in New York and cast by Bunn Bros. of Philadelphia.

The work is almost purely Greek in style and is said by the sculptor to be the finest in the United States in proportion to the cost.

The granite of which the bulk of the fountain is made and which composes the entire lower basin was taken from the Franklin quarries of Maine.

The ground plan of the fountain is octagonal. It is placed at the intersection of First, A and Vine streets and occupies a space about twenty-three feet in diameter. The height is about fourteen feet. The lower basin is of granite, and this is approached on four sides by steps. On four sides are horse troughs, supplied with water issuing from lions' heads, four of which have cups attached. The upper part of the structure consists of a bronze basin about eight feet in diameter, resting upon a central granite shaft, and upon bronze caryatides on either side. The upper basin, which is essentially Grecian in form, is fluted underneath, and the lip is lightly ornamented.

The caryatides, which are female figures of a purely classic type, stand with the heads inclined forward and the arms bent at an acute angle, supporting the upper basin. The drapery consists of a thin tunic clasped on the shoulders and falling in light folds.

On each of the four sides of the large stone basin is an inscription, cut in the granite in capital letters.

On the south side, which is the most prominent as facing up First street, is the following:

"Stephen G. Skidmore, a citizen of Portland, who died January XVIII, A. D.

and the earth swings cold within a rayless sky, will the time come when no man can be found to bless the unknown hand that labored for the unborn millions.

"Man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn." Ay, 'tis true, alas! but by the blessed law of life, man's inhumanities die with him. His charities are divine, and live forever. And what will this tongue of stone say of man's duty? I am communist enough to believe we do not really own all the law allows us.

That there is a higher law, the law of nature, which makes the fortunate the trustee for the unfortunate, the strong the protector of the weak. But you say of yourself, "I am a self-made man. It is not luck, it is myself I have to thank." True, and yet how untrue. Who is the self-made man? Is there one can say, "I fought the whole fight unaided; neither to mother nor father, wife nor friend, owe I any debt." I deny it; there is not one. And if we owe a debt to the past, we must pay it to the future, and therein lies our duty. What were Robinson Crusoe's acres and goods to him beyond a resting place and sustenance? Man cannot get wealthy alone and out of his lucrae he owes a debt to the poorer laborers in the human anthill, and therein lies his duty.

This law cannot be formulated. It is not on the statute books, but it is all the stronger because its only judge is conscience. Its only advocate is in our own breasts.

What will our dumb preacher here in our streets say of art, that great mystery? When the thin veil shall be withdrawn that now enwraps these calm and silent figures, you will see that they are looking over us and beyond us, and seem to see the dim procession of the children of men coming onward, out of the mists of ages, passing on into the mist of eternity. What can these serene lips say either or better than has been said so long, long ago, "Life is short, but art is long." Long, yes, it is eternal. The statue remains when the religion that bore and the temple that cherished it are both forgotten. Strange destiny of man. The beautiful always outlives the useful.

Such is the sermon this fountain will murmur in ceaseless splashing under the stars and under the sun forever, while from its broad stones as from an altar will go up the contented sighs of millions of beings saying ever of the giver, yet, "Stephen Skidmore, we know you not, you died before we were born. In the name of charity, duty and beauty, blessed be thy name."

And what of the man whose hand has wrought and whose brain has conceived this creation? His modesty is so shrinking that I fear to praise him lest I offend him. But to me it would be unseemly to rejoice in his work and to forget the man. It is not the time to respect his personal feelings for standing in the presence of his work, we feel that he has wrought, knowing though his hand would fall and his brain turn to dust, yet his work will live, while the race of man exists. He is blessed beyond common men, for a spark of deity has fallen upon him, and in an ecstasy he can lift his hands to heaven and cry out: "I, too, am divine, for I am a creator."

In the beginning of its labors your committee received many designs from various sources, and it is with regret that they were one and all mere articles of commerce, little cathedrals in many colored marbles, with perhaps some zinc dolphins, or fat boys in iron. We felt we must get that which our descendants would approve, and as by a lucky chance we came to Mr. Warner, who positively refused to be limited to time. He did not say so, but it is plain that one who is creating, not manufacturing, cannot control his own inspirations. So we have waited a long time, perhaps, yet it is but a moment in the years the fountain will endure. Let us hope we have your approval. The press of New York calls it the finest fountain and one of the best works of art in the country. New York also says it is too good to be leaving New York to go to a Western town. Now what's the matter with New York? It has its aqueduct, its surface railway, Jay Gould and Berry Wall, and wants our fountain. New York will please remember we water stock out here ourselves. [Laughter and applause.] Well, we've got the finest climate the prettiest women, and the grandest fountain in the country. [Laughter.] We ought to be charitable to these Eastern towns. We are sorry for New York.

The clay was dug from American soil, the bronze was cast by American founders, and the artist whose hand wrought and whose genius thought it an American from the cold Portland

better to be appreciated by its benefits.

Neither will we forget the fully bestowed labors of the of Hon. Henry Failing, R. S. Wood, C. E. Sifton and whom, the lamented late, has been said, has recently into your hands, gentlemen representatives of our fair responsibility of select erecting the fountain and until now. How well we trust we have partly heard from one of your own regular demonstration of which you have discharge the unveiled marble before.

Nor would it be just to time a most important part has been performed by a Mr. Skidmore, which, by of the donors, has been knowledge.

The warm touch of the our being with pleasurable to popular understand the soul long after death eternal sleep, and if he is able connected with this back into this world and fact that one or two of his associates in life had no source swelled his bounty double its original amount might be the more apparent say that this eternally prove far more gratifying men which time to come, cut hour, can bring.

Worthy of special mention untiring exertions of one of our executors and members contributed time, labor and for consummation of this E. Sifton, the former business of Mr. Skidmore, who has only devoted himself to the device, as be alone.

It is also fitting at this time to the labor entrusted to faithful and painstaking further by his presence we rates a love of his work, more praise worthy than, gainst even praise of his feels thankful to him for her a triumph in art which envy and admiration of pretensions.

Allow me, gentlemen, in behalf of the city of Portland this elegant fountain of record for it as part of municipality.

THE PLAY OF

The water was then in Woodward, president of the absence of May from the central jet of the air, falling into the trickling over the basin below, while from the streams gushed into. Many lingered about the novelty of the scene, cups which hang about and praising to each the benefactor and the.

Thus was fittingly three years; thus was memorated the charity more, and another a Portland's material a merit.

YELLOW FEVER

PORTLAND, Sept. 23, 1888. TO THE EDITOR OF THE OREGONIAN.

On the south side, which is the most prominent as facing up First street, is the following:

"Stephen G. Skidmore, a citizen of Portland, who died January XVIII, A. D. MDCCCLXXXIII, gave this fountain to me and beautify his adopted home."

On the west side is inscribed the following: "Good citizens are the riches of a city."

On the north side is inscribed: "Erected A. D. MDCCCLXXXVIII. Committee for the city of Portland: John Gates, mayor; Thomas L. Eliot, Henry Felling, William M. Wadham, C. E. S. Wood, Charles E. Sitton. Olin R. Warner, sculptor; J. M. Wells, architect."

On the east side is simply the year of erection, "MDCCCLXX—VIII," in large letters.

THE EXERCISES YESTERDAY.

Long before the hour advertised for the unveiling ceremonies citizens of all classes, ages, nationalities and walks of life could be seen making their way to the scene of the exercises. Many noticed with interest the excellent likeness of the distinguished donor shown in the crayon drawing displayed in the store window of J. K. Gill & Co..

Previous to the ceremonies workmen were busy correcting the position of some of the large Belgian blocks about the fountain, and washing thoroughly the troughs and steps.

By this time an expectant audience of several hundred had assembled, completely blocking the streets and sidewalks, crowding into stairways and leaning from adjacent balconies and windows.

Precisely at 3 o'clock Rev. T. L. Elliot, pastor of the Unitarian church, called the assembly to order, and introduced Rev. Geo. H. Atkinson, who offered the invocation. The minister recognized the gift as from the hand of God, and prayed that the lessons of the fountain, and its bequest might not be lost upon the objects of their benefactors, but extend their ministries likewise.

On behalf of the Skidmore fountain committee, Mr. C. E. S. Wood then delivered the following

PRESENTATION ADDRESS:

Mr. President, Gentlemen of the Council, Ladies and Gentlemen: Stephen G. Skidmore died in 1853 leaving to the city of Portland the money wherewith to erect a fountain. Soon after his death, a committee was appointed to act for the city; but we have lost by death one of our most honored members—Mr. John Gates, the then mayor, after nearly three years of labor we have finished our work, and it stands before you. We have now come to formally place this bequest in your hands.

In so doing we have met together after the most honorable custom of all men to publicly celebrate a gift to the people and to commemorate the name of the giver.

It is a good custom, for it brings us together in the equality of citizenship and reminds us, too, somewhat of that equality as men which sooner or later levels us beneath the bosom of our mother earth. Out of these feelings of equality comes that noblest feeling of our civilization—the brotherhood of man—and it is to that feeling we owe all the charities and gifts which man makes to man. It is upon occasions like this that the thought is born in other minds to follow a high example.

Stephen Skidmore has set an example it would honor any man to follow. The poor lad who came to our beautiful wilderness in 1830, who carried bricks, carried washing, swept offices, and turned his hand to every honest labor that would help support his mother; the ignorant boy, without opportunities or advantages, by his integrity, manliness and industry achieved success; and from the natural instinct of a noble nature has done an act of the most refined taste, the most moral generosity. I say again, the lad Stephen Skidmore has set an example to the best of us. We, who have known him may keep his memory for yet a little while. I, who did not know him, have been going about the streets of our city asking what manner of man he was. I find he has many friends, many enemies none. One said, "When I first knew Steve Skidmore in 1850, he was

[laughter.] We ought to be charitable to these Eastern towns. We are sorry for New York.

The clay was dug from American soil, the bronze was cast by American founders, and the artist whose hand wrought and whose genius thought is an American from the cold Puritanic stock of New England, yet burning with the sacred fire of Grecian art. This to me is most remarkable that from a people stern, high and pure in morality, yet who frowned upon the beautiful as a mark of the devil, we have born a child whose life and thought is all of art and the beautiful, who lives for that alone. It is as if the soul of some old Greek had strayed away and been born among us. It is like the lily blooming on the snowdrift.

He grew up in New York, and one day suddenly, in true Yankee fashion, found that it was such pleasure to whittle heads out of chalk with his penknife that he never stopped, but has kept on carving them out of marble and bronze. To this day he has the habit. So ignorant of method that he did not know clay and plastic substances were used to model in, yet so good in spirit that from a huge block of plaster of paris he carved out a bust of his old father, which is to-day worthy of preservation.

Then struggling as a telegraph operator, saving to go abroad, then achieving his desire and studying in Paris, joining the French army, during the siege of Paris, with that fine American feeling that will not shrink a danger, and that fine American lack of common sense which ought to have told him it was none of his business.

Then, when feeling that the schools could teach him no more and he must push onward for himself, he, though he knew the money reward was surer in the foreign lands, yet returned to his native land, saying: "An American I am, to my country I owe all that I can give her, unassured by adversity." He is now unmoved by prosperity. Ready always to leave his mistress—art—if so be must; he has never been ready to dishonor her.

If there be any who think that genius is a stranger to labor, or who at any time were disposed to think this fountain was long in coming, let me tell them the drapery upon those caryatids, so easy, so flowing, so natural, represents just one year of hard labor; not a line but has been altered many times; not an altered line that did not necessitate the alteration of many more; whole slices of drapery removed to be replaced with some slight alteration; till, at last, the highest achievement of art was reached, a studied elaborate effect, seemingly so simple and natural, that we fail to see any effort in it. Note the structural effect and strength of the perpendicular lines of the drapery, yet how simply they fall! See how the figure is disclosed, not hidden by the dress, and the perfect suggestion of suppleness, strength and repose. These are women, grand, immortal ones, 'tis true, yet of flesh and blood and bones like ourselves.

And the graceful arms and hands reach up to all their appointed duty and support the basin, not as a burden, not oppressed and straining under it, nor yet empty-handed, as if they felt only the air; but they lift the weight as gently as a mother her sleeping babe and their calm heads bow in eternal thought.

Why should they strain or feel oppressed? Are they not the immortal spirits of genius and of art, that can never tire? They have ever and will ever lift up the fountain of life, while its myriad individuals, ever changing, yet ever the same, drop from the upper to the lower pool, and are swept into oblivion. Forever or for a day, it does not matter. Oblivion we shrink from, and it is sweet to think, as the shadows of that dread night fall about us, that we will not quite be forgotten; that some hearts will warm towards us, and that we will lengthen out our brief allowance of life by living in the memories of men.

There is no surer and no sweeter way than to give to the public good; no nobler ambition than to live in memory as the giver of a good gift. This path is open to all, and, alas, it is never crowded.

So, gentlemen of the council, we present to you for the city of Portland the Skidmore fountain, and may our beloved city be more enduring than its granite and bronze, our good deeds sweeter than its waters! [Applause.]

CONGRATULATORY COMPLIMENTS.

Mr. Wood's address was closely followed by the audience, his many beautiful periods were generously applauded, and at its close he was the recipient of many congratulations on the part of his friends.

THE FOUNTAIN UNVEILED.

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YELLOW FEVER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE

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That there is a higher law, the law of nature, which makes the fortunate the trustee for the unfortunate, the strong the protector of the weak. But you say of yourself: "I am a self-made man; it is not luck, it is myself I have to thank." True, and yet how untrue. Who is the self-made man? Is there one can say, "I fought the whole fight unaided: neither to mother nor father, wife nor friend, owe I any debt." I deny it; there is not one. And if we owe a debt to the past, we must pay it to the future, and therein lies our duty. What were Robinson Crusoe's acres and goods to him beyond a resting-place and sustenance? Man cannot get wealthy alone and out of his increase he owes a debt to the poorer laborers in the human anthill, and therein lies his duty.

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Such is the sermon this fountain will murmur in ceaseless splashing under the stars and under the sun forever, while from its broad stones as from an altar will go up the contented sighs of millions of beings saying ever of the giver, yet, "Stephen Skidmore, we know you not, you died before we were born. In the name of charity, duty and beauty, blessed be thy name."

And what of the man whose hand has wrought and whose brain has conceived this creation? His modesty is so shrinking that I fear to praise him lest I offend him. But to me it would be unseemly to rejoice in his work and to forget the man. It is not the time to respect his personal feelings for standing in the presence of his work, we feel that he has wrought, knowing though his hand would fall and his brain turn to dust, yet his work will live, while the race of man exists. He is blessed beyond common men, for a spark of deity has fallen upon him, and in an ecstasy he can lift his hands to heaven and cry out: "I, too, am divine, for I am a creator."

In the beginning of its labors your committee received many designs from various sources and it is with regret I say they were one and all mere articles of commerce: little cathedrals in many colored marbles, with perhaps some alms dolphins, or fat boys in iron. We felt we must get that which our descendants would approve, and so by a lucky chance we came to Mr. Warner, who positively refused to be limited to time. He did not say so, but it is plain that one who is creating, not manufacturing, cannot control his own inspirations. So we have waited—a long time, perhaps, yet it is but a moment in the years the fountain will endure. Let us hope we have your approval. The press of New York calls it the finest fountain and one of the best works of art in the country. New York also says it is too bad it is leaving New York to go to a Western town. Now what's the matter with New York? It has its aqueduct, its surface railway, Jay Gould and Berry Wall, and wants our fountain. New York will please remember we water stock out here ourselves. [Laughter and applause.] Well, we've got the finest climate, the prettiest women, and the grandest fountain in the country. [Laughter.] We ought to be charitable to these Eastern towns. We are sorry for New York.

The clay was dug from American soil, the bronze was cast by American foundry, and the artist whose hand wrought and whose genius thought, is an American from the cold Puritanic

PORTLAND, OREGON. SU

better to be appreciated by practical realization of its benefits.

Neither will we forget the gratuitous and cheerfully bestowed labors of the committee consisting of Hon. Henry Failing, Rev. T. L. Elliot, Col. C. E. S. Wood, C. E. Sifton and Wm. Wadhams, one of whom, the lamented late mayor, John Gates, as has been said, has recently gone to his long rest. Into your hands, gentlemen, as well known, at representatives of our fair city, was entrusted the responsibility of selecting a suitable site, erecting the fountain and caring for the same until now. How well you have performed the trust we have partly heard in most eloquent terms from one of your own number and we have an ocular demonstration of the faithfulness with which you have discharged the trust in a view of the unveiled marble before us.

Nor would it be just to pass unnoticed at this time a most important part in this work which has been performed by a few intimate friends of Mr. Skidmore, which, by reason of the modesty of the donors, has been kept largely from public knowledge.

The warm touch of the human heart thrills all our being with pleasurable emotions, and according to popular understanding continues to gratify the soul long after death has closed the eye in eternal sleep, and if he whose name is inseparably connected with this monument could look back into this world and become cognizant of the fact that one or two of his immediate friends and associates in life had quietly from their own resources swelled his bequest to a sum more than double its original amount in order that his name might be the more appropriately honored. Who can say that this circumstance alone would not prove far more gratifying than all the praise of men which time to come, coupled with the present hour, can bring?

Worthy of special mention in this regard are the untiring exertions of one who in the dual capacity of executor and member of the committee has contributed time, labor and means to the successful consummation of this work. I refer to Mr. C. E. Sifton, the former business associate and friend of Mr. Skidmore, who has persistently and assiduously devoted himself to carrying out the plans of the devise, as he alone was fully qualified to do.

It is also fitting at this hour to give to the architect and designer of this graceful and admirable art production his meed of praise. His devotion to the labor entrusted to him, evidenced by his faithful and painstaking exhibition of skill, and further by his presence with us at this time, indicates a love of his work born of something far more praiseworthy than a desire for pecuniary gain or even praise of his fellow men. Portland feels thankful to him for having accomplished for her a triumph in art which may well provoke the envy and admiration of other cities of far greater pretensions.

Allow me, gentlemen, again to thank you, and in behalf of the city of Portland accept with gratitude this elegant fountain, together with the trust of caring for it as part of the property of the municipality.

THE PLAY OF THE WATER.

The water was then turned on by Mr. Tyler Woodward, president of the city council, in the absence of Mayor DeLashmutt, and from the central jet it rose several feet into the air, falling into the upper basin, thence trickling over the brim into the larger one below, while from the lions' heads the target streams gushed into the troughs below. Many lingered about for some time, enjoying the novelty of the scene, drinking from the cups which hang about the fountain's sides, and praising to each other the bounty of the benefactor and the skill of the sculptor.

Thus was fittingly crowned the labors of three years; thus was appropriately commemorated the charity of Stephen G. Skidmore, and another substantial feature of Portland's material and artistic advancement.

YELLOW FEVER AT MEMPHIS.

PORTLAND, Sept. 21, 1888.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE OREGONIAN:

One might infer from an editorial para-

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There was once a lucky plantation where among the other neighboring plantations, and his "Ole Marlog" "meetin'" house stream, called Rose, the place. The meadow, placed near a one of those pools "riffles" in such stream—this was because the immersionist f used to say that the the swimin' hole do take his converts down, before they had was pretended to be some of the same old man was much search for the "lost" when the water was winter when it was of his immersing his individuals alluded to temperature of the with the "Pason's".

The old man had was not in the bible, and so for his purpose if it had been the that he couldn't read however, the old man this text. He would brass-rimmed spectacles look knowingly upon them proceed to give as if he were reading "Hvar betwix" de book, twix de fus Generations an' de la er Revolutions, you read in dis wise: De dar be de bug perv scratch dar befo to elucidate any de chose to discuss, fro

That text is as good from on the position ple nowadays are not takes about social things, only a few of upon during this oc More than 1800 years exploded that no g Nabereth when that of a carpenter who and the Savior of plenty of hogs left a gate to themselves a this mundane sphere such ever since the came possessed of a steep place into the Almost any man about it and who w

the fountain, and its bequest might not be lost upon the objects of their benefactors, but extend their ministries likewise.

On behalf of the Skidmore fountain committee, Mr. C. E. S. Wood then delivered the following

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Mr. President, Gentlemen of the Council, Ladies and Gentlemen: Stephen G. Skidmore died in 1833 leaving to the city of Portland the money wherewith to erect a fountain. Soon after his death, a committee was appointed to act for the city; but we have lost by death one of our most honored members—Mr. John Gates, the then mayor. After nearly three years of labor we have finished our work, and it stands before you. We have now come to formally place this bequest in your hands. In so doing we have met together after the most honorable custom of all men to publicly celebrate a gift to the people and to commemorate the name of the giver.

It is a good custom, for it brings us together in the equality of citizenship and reminds us, too, somewhat of that equality as men which sooner or later levels us beneath the bosom of our mother earth. Out of these feelings of equality comes that noblest feeling of our civilization—the brotherhood of man—and it is to that feeling we owe all the charities and gifts which man makes to man. It is upon occasions like this that the thought is born in other minds to follow a high example.

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And when the time came the clerk not only thought it, but did it. We honor him for the thought, and for the act. Some said his meditations were free to the poor; some that he was very public spirited even beyond his means; some that his tastes were naturally refined. He loved music and so I heard of his merits, his faults, and his success. But all told me one thing: He was tender as a lover to his mother, loyal to his friends, honest as the day. God grant that of us such an epitaph can be written. Prince or peasant can have no higher praise. Tender to his mother, true to his friends, honorable in all things—well done, Stephen Skidmore.

His tongue is silent forever; but the hand of genius has placed in our streets a preacher that will speak of his example long after you and I are dust, and will preach for ages yet to come a sermon, the more eloquent because silent, upon the grand themes of charity, duty and art.

And what will the ever-living waters whisper of charity? Night and day they will say to the heart of man: "A good deed is not forgotten, but is like a dew drop on the rose leaf, like a well in the desert."

They say it is a custom in Persia for each traveler to plant carefully by the wayside the seeds of the fig tree, so that now, by every hot and dusty path, the wayfarer may cool himself in the shade of the peach, the date or the fig tree and thank himself with the fruit, while he blesses the unknown hand that planted for him. So that, though the name of a benefactor be unknown, and the very language that spoke it be forgotten, yet the memory of one who has placed a token of love for man or brute beside the path of life, will not perish while man himself shall live.

For till the mountains are leveled into the seas

achievement of art was reached, a studied elaborate effect, seemingly so simple and natural, that we fail to see any effort in it. Note the structural effect and strength of the perpendicular lines of the drapery, yet how simply they fall! See how the figure is disclosed, not hidden by the dress, and the perfect suggestion of suppleness, strength and repose. These are women, grand, immortal ones, 'tis true, yet of flesh and blood and bones like ourselves.

And the graceful arms and hands reach up to fill their appointed duty and support the basin, not as a burden, not oppressed and straining under it, nor yet empty-handed, as if they felt only the air; but they lift the weight as gently as a mother her sleeping babe and their calm heads bow in eternal thought.

Why should they strain or feel oppressed? Are they not the immortal spirits of genius and of art, that can never tire? They have ever and will ever lift up the fountain of life, while its myriad individuals, ever changing, yet ever the same, drop from the upper to the lower pool, and are swept into oblivion. Forever or for a day, it does not matter. Oblivion we shrink from, and it is sweet to think, as the shadows of that dread night fall about us, that we will not quite be forgotten; that some hearts will warm towards us, and that we will lengthen out our brief allowance of life by living in the memories of men.

There is no surer and no sweeter way than to give to the public good; no nobler ambition than to live in memory as the giver of a good gift. This path is open to all, and, alas, it is never crowded.

So, gentlemen of the council, we present to you for the city of Portland the Skidmore fountain, and may our beloved city be more enduring than its granite and bronze, our good deeds sweeter than its waters! [Applause.]

CONGRATULATORY COMPLIMENTS.

Mr. Wood's address was closely followed by the audience, his many beautiful periods were generously applauded, and at its close he was the recipient of many congratulations on the part of his friends.

THE FOUNTAIN UNVEILED.

Mr. C. E. Sitton then deftly removed the veiling from the statue before the eyes of the expectant multitude, and for a moment all were absorbed in silent contemplation of the beauty of the structure; then applause rang out heartily and continued for several minutes.

Mr. Wm. H. Adams followed with the following address, accepting the gift and expressing thanks

ON BEHALF OF THE CITY:

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Committee:—Owing to the unavoidable absence of his honor, Mayor Van B. De Laishmutt, by request it devolves on me, in behalf of the mayor and common council of the city of Portland, formally to accept from the committee this monumental work of art, so fitly combining the beautiful and useful, as aptly expressed in the eloquent words to which we have just listened.

Public appreciation of the thoughtfulness and liberality of our late fellow-citizen has been already so often expressed in the council chamber, through the public press and by the citizens of our municipality, that it seems unnecessary to say more by way of an expression of gratitude for the superb gift which we see before us. Suffice it to say, in acknowledgment of his generosity in this regard, that among the many of influence and wealth who have lived, prospered and passed away from the busy stage of life's action in our favored city, it was left to Stephen G. Skidmore to bequeath a largess whereby an urgent want, long felt and now grown almost to a necessity in our rapidly growing city, has been supplied. The gratitude of Portland's inhabitants must quicken, too, with time, while the eye dwells upon this sculptured pile and its utility comes the

until just three I never returned to the nearly two months. I was compelled to give in, having as my doctor called the most critical period vomit, which I succeeded in receiving the glad news was assured if very relapse. Convalescence weeks later I was at employment.

At this time (Sept. 1888) was 150 per day and ure all through the. The daily papers p and it was no uncommon list to be closely names of relatives a fast was touched. asked and paid for sick room. Ice rations of \$60 per ton. from Maine and ne come than that. Th factories there the compelled to susce the scarcity of help cleared at an end also though there were deaths as late as Christmas there were all told deaths. One peculiar compared with forms was no respecter of the oldest Creole community from it than kees entirely unacquainted the Creoles were first were exempt. Half months prior to the, ful scourge at the time was cautioned by two in their opinion to deaths. They had lived two weeks later I attended the fact that the fever in New Orleans Butler putting it in addition, a good joke. No fever appeared on its absence to "Great Caesar, how fever and Butler, too

It is Extraordinary
Salt Lake

Is it not extraordinary "state paper" that to usually in duties the expense of \$1,000,000,000 is desired to be deducted "tariff" is somewhere

Made the

From "Where did young papa?" "From his uncle, inherited everything except the final 't'."

Sau

Th "Do you know man?" "Yes, I know Brod doesn't fit. He talks dries up."

Park Bureau Gains Statues

Fountain Restored In Studio Advised

See Story on Page 1, Also

Mayor Fred L. Peterson Tuesday ordered the Skidmore fountain and all other public out-of-park art pieces into the care of the park bureau.

Fountains outside the city parks have been considered the responsibility of the bureau of water works, though the lines of authority have not been clear.

The mayor's order was an outgrowth of the staining of the bronze sculpture of the Skidmore fountain recently by workmen of the bureau of water works who were trying to clean the metal with muriatic acid.

Meanwhile, Commissioner Nathan A. Boody, whose department of public utilities includes the bureau of water works, has received from a study committee headed by William L. Brewster, chairman of the Portland fine arts commission, a recommendation the commissioner asked for on how to undo the damage to the fountain.

Studio Cleaning Needed

The committee recommended that the fountain be dismantled and its two stained bronze figures with the shallow eight-foot bowl they have been holding over their heads for 68 years taken to a sculptor's studio for careful cleaning and refinishing.

Serving with Brewster on the study committee were Dr. Francis J. Newton, curator of the Portland art museum, and Daniel McGoodwin, architect. James Hansen, Vancouver sculptor and bronze technician, joined the committee at its request for an inspection of the fountain. The committee recommended that the city ask Hansen for a bid on restoring the metal portions of the fountain in his studio.

"While the fountain is dismantled," the committee reported, "we recommend that the granite base be cleaned with care not to mar the finish with abrasive. Below the granite is a base made of common brick stuccoed with mortar. The loose brick should be reset and the stucco finish replaced and waterproofed.

"For some years the bowl on the top of the fountain has tilted so that the water spills out of one side. When the fountain is dismantled, it should be determined whether the bowl can be shimmed up to level or whether the base should be

Base Needs Paint

"The base of the fountain which forms the lower bowl should be repainted to prevent damage from freezing and the invasion of weeds.

"For some years there has been discussion as to whether or not the Skidmore fountain should be relocated. This committee has not considered the question of relocation, but if a decision is made to re-erect the fountain in another spot, we suggest that the bronze work be removed now and refinished while a decision is being made as to a new location. The work on the granite base and fountain should be postponed if the fountain is to be moved."

Detailed Advice Given

The committee's detailed recommendation for refinishing the bronze after removal of the acid stains follows:

"The surface of the bronze should be treated with patinizing chemicals to form an oxide on the metal surface which, when neutralized and fixed, will provide a foundation for the final permanent finish.

"This work can be done in a relatively short time and will provide a permanent finish and color which, if maintained annually, will keep the metal in first class condition. This method seems preferable to cleaning the metal to a bright finish and allowing the weather to gradually discolor it over a period of two or three years. This latter method will require more maintenance and will not provide a permanent color."

straighten to provide a level surface.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 1956

Studio Repair Of Fount Plan

The Skidmore fountain, stained with acid in a recent cleaning attempt, should be dismantled and the two bronze Grecian maidens with the bowl over their heads taken to a sculptor's studio for cleaning and refinishing, a study committee has recommended to City Commissioner Nathan A. Boody.

It was workmen from Boody's bureau of water works who stained the bronze in an attempt to clean it with muriatic acid. Boody requested a committee of artists recommend procedure for rehabilitation of the fountain.

The committee also recommended that the granite base be cleaned and that something be done to level the bowl on top the fountain.

More on page 10.