PROFILE OF AN ARCHITECT

W. Miles Brittelle, Sr.

When the State of New Mexico adopted the Architects’ Registration Law in 1931, Governor Arthur Seligman appointed W. Miles Brittelle, Sr., to the first Board of Architectural Examiners. He served as Chairman of the Board through 1937.

Born in Imperial, Nebraska, on April 13, 1894, Brittelle’s Architectural career began just after World War I, when he was rehabilitated through the Veterans’ Administration as an Architectural draftsman. His training was completed in Colorado, under Harry James Manning at Denver and W. W. Stickney at Pueblo, in 1925.

In 1926, Brittelle came to Albuquerque to enter the offices of George Williamson as Architect and Chief Draftsman. Six years later, in 1931, Brittelle entered private practice under his own name as Architect and Engineer. Now he is Senior in the firm of Brittelle, Ginner and Dekker, Associated Architects and Engineers, one of the larger Architectural practices in New Mexico.

Some of the earlier works with which Brittelle is identified are St. Joseph’s Hospital, Kimo Theater Development and the restoration of the Occidental Building after the fire in 1935, all in Albuquerque; Seth Hall Dormitory and High School at St. Michael’s College, development of the Lensic Theatre, all in Santa Fe; the Yucca Hotel in Raton; the Grant County Court House in Silver City; and up until World War II, the entire campus of the School of Mines at Socorro and the Blind Institute at Alamogordo.

Some of the later works as identified by his firm are The First Presbyterian Church, Central Methodist Church, State Theatre, Insurance Building, Valley High School Gymnasium, Albuquerque High School Vocational Shops Building, Leonard-Mack Truck Sales and Service Building, Holiday Bowl (bowling alley), and the Coliseum at the State Fair Grounds, all in Albuquerque; the Uptown Plaza Shopping Center and the municipal Recreational facilities, including the swimming pool and bath house, all in Gallup; and the complete rebuilding of the Boys’ School at Springer.

In addition, Brittelle’s firm designs all shopping centers where Barber’s Super Markets are located in Albuquerque, Farmington and Grants. Projects now under construction include the First Presbyterian Church, the Cibola General Hospital and the Thunderbird Lanes (bowling alley), all at Grants; and the Bernalillo County Health Center in Albuquerque.

Throughout his 31-year-long Architectural career Brittelle has given freely of himself to his community and profession. He is a member of the American Legion; Kiwanis International; BPO Elks Lodge; All Masonic bodies, including the Shrine; past National Committee of the Y.M.C.A.; currently serving on the National Council of the Y.M.C.A.; Building and Furnishing Services Committee; National Society of Architectural Examiners; Church Architectural Guild of America; and currently is president of the New (Continued on Page 14)
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PROFILE . . .
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Mexico Chapter, American Institute of Architects.

Brittelle's family life is full and rich. In May, 1927, he married Mildred Zirkut, who gave him two sons: W. Miles Jr., 27, and Martin Richard, 25. Miles, Jr., has a B.S. Degree in Architectural Engineering and is now taking additional work in Architecture at the University of New Mexico, leading to a degree in Architecture.

Martin Richard (Dick) has a B.A. Degree in Animal Husbandry from Oklahoma State, and is now working on his Master's Degree in Agriculture Economics at the same school.

Both Brittelle boys are married and have children.

To his chosen profession he has given much in the form of ethical practice, works of beauty and function, and an immeasurable amount of time and effort to bring respect and recognition to the profession of Architecture.

In turn, his profession has given him success and the reputation of being a good, reliable Architect.

W. Miles Brittelle, Sr., is truly an "Architect's Architect".

(Editors note: PROFILE OF AN ARCHITECT will be a regular feature in each edition until all chapter members have been introduced. Subjects for profile will be chosen at random, and not according to alphabetical position or longevity of membership. The basic purpose of PROFILE is to introduce a member to the membership; to present his background, accomplishments, aims etc., when such information is pertinent.)

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