

The City Hall, Cleveland, Ohio

MR. J. MILTON DYER, *Architect*

THE development of the Cleveland civic center is one of first importance among similar undertakings going forward in this country. It involves not only a rearrangement of considerable magnitude, which when finally completed will have solved the problem of the central points from which the city's future growth will radiate, but it will also present in its architectural development one of the most important and dignified undertakings by any American city.

The group of buildings at present contemplated for the new Mall comprises the Post Office, the County Court House and the City Hall, all now completed, the Public Library and Public Auditorium, now in progress, and a proposed Union Station, the site for which has been established. The first building in this civic center to be erected was the Post Office, which in its architectural design determined to a great extent the character of the architecture and the selection of material for the succeeding buildings. For this Post Office a Corinthian order was selected; for the Court House, a composite order—both with fluted columns—while a simple Doric order with no flutings was used on the City Hall, the subject of the present illustration.

The exterior material of the City Hall is granite, the whole, as may be seen by reference to our illustrations, executed with the utmost simplicity and with but little ornamentation. A complete scheme of sculptured groups is contemplated for the three entrances and for the attic space of the main pavilion.

The tendency in municipal administration towards a plan similar to that proved by experience to be best adaptable to the conditions ruling in large executive or commercial buildings is shown in the planning of this City Hall. As will be seen, the interior departments were, for the most part, designed as those of a first-class office building. Wherever practicable, entire departments were planned as one unit with few if any partitions extending to the ceiling. The advantages of this arrangement are apparent. The result is better lighting and ventilation, a free and



GRAND HALL

wide expanse of ceiling, and the facility for the adaptation to such future changes as inevitably occur in buildings of this type.

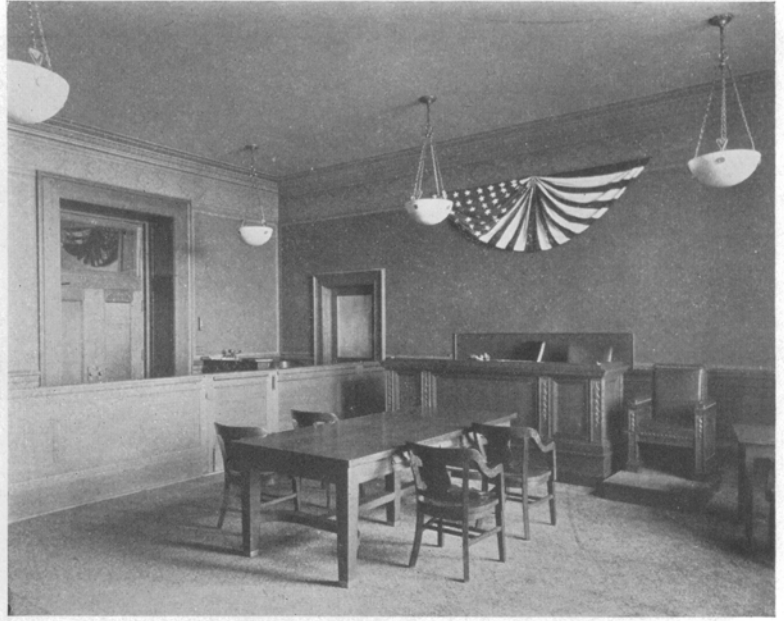
The main entrance vestibule is of gray marble, hone finish. In the grand lobby a Doric order was used, executed in Boticino marble, also hone finished. This lobby extends through three stories, and has

a barrel vaulted ceiling, admitting light. The lunettes at each end are 35 feet in diameter and offer the best opportunity for the future introduction of mural paintings.

The corridors on the first floor and also the floors themselves are executed in marble.

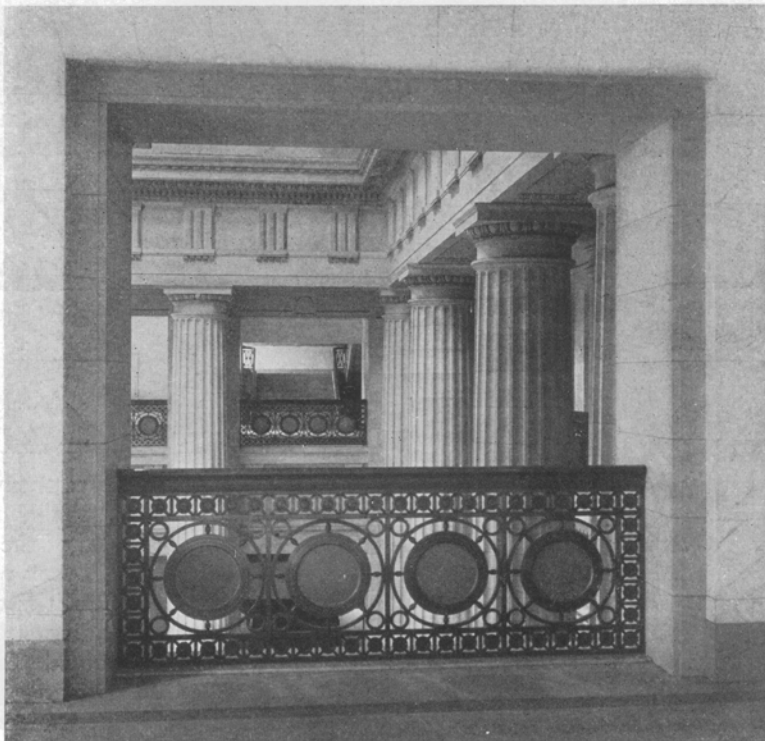
From the grand lobby open the three lobbies for the division of finance, the water works department and the treasurer, executed in marble, with bronze screens enclosing cages, as in a modern banking arrangement.

Some attempt at a more imposing architectural treatment was made in the council chamber, mayor's suite and law library. The council chamber, extending through three stories, is executed in oak, of the Elizabethan period. It has galleries at each end, and seats 750, in addition to the desks. Behind the rostrum a space 10 by 71 feet is designed to receive a mural painting. The preliminary sketch for this space was executed by Jules Guerin. The building has approximately 8,000,000 cubic feet, and cost complete, less



COURT ROOM NO. 1

than \$3,000,000, or 37 cents per cubic foot. We are indebted to Mr. Charles Fuller Dowd for permission to publish the series of drawings by Albert Seaford, illustrated in the plate section of this issue.



VIEW ON MEZZANINE FLOOR

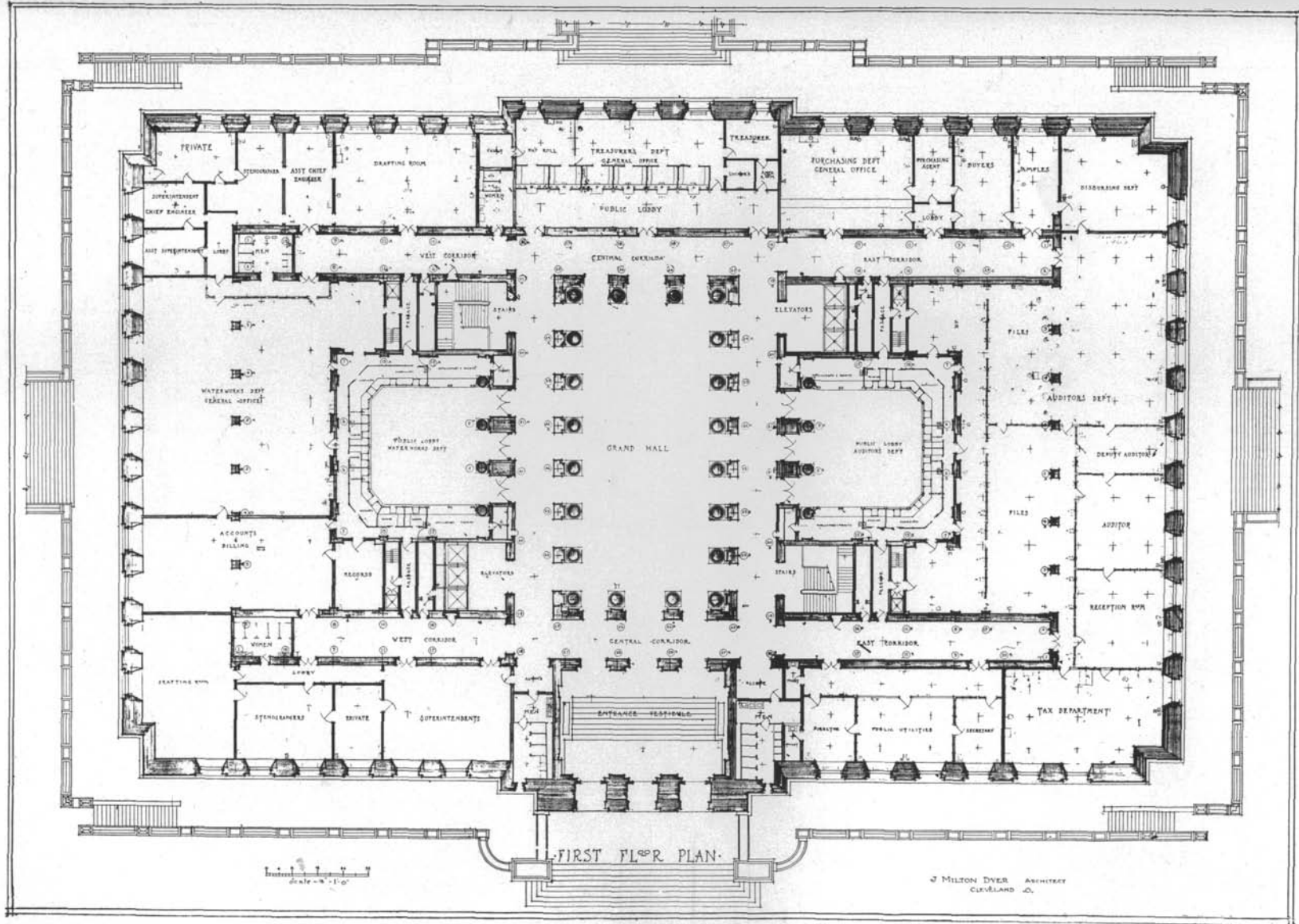
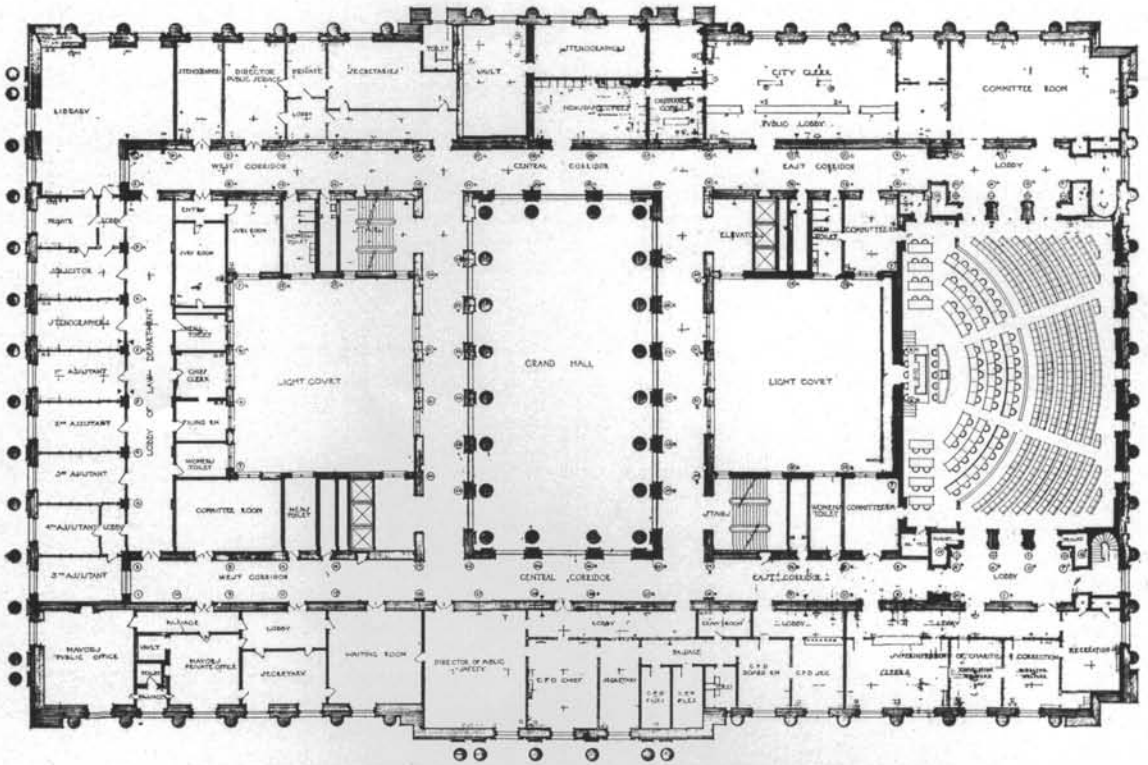


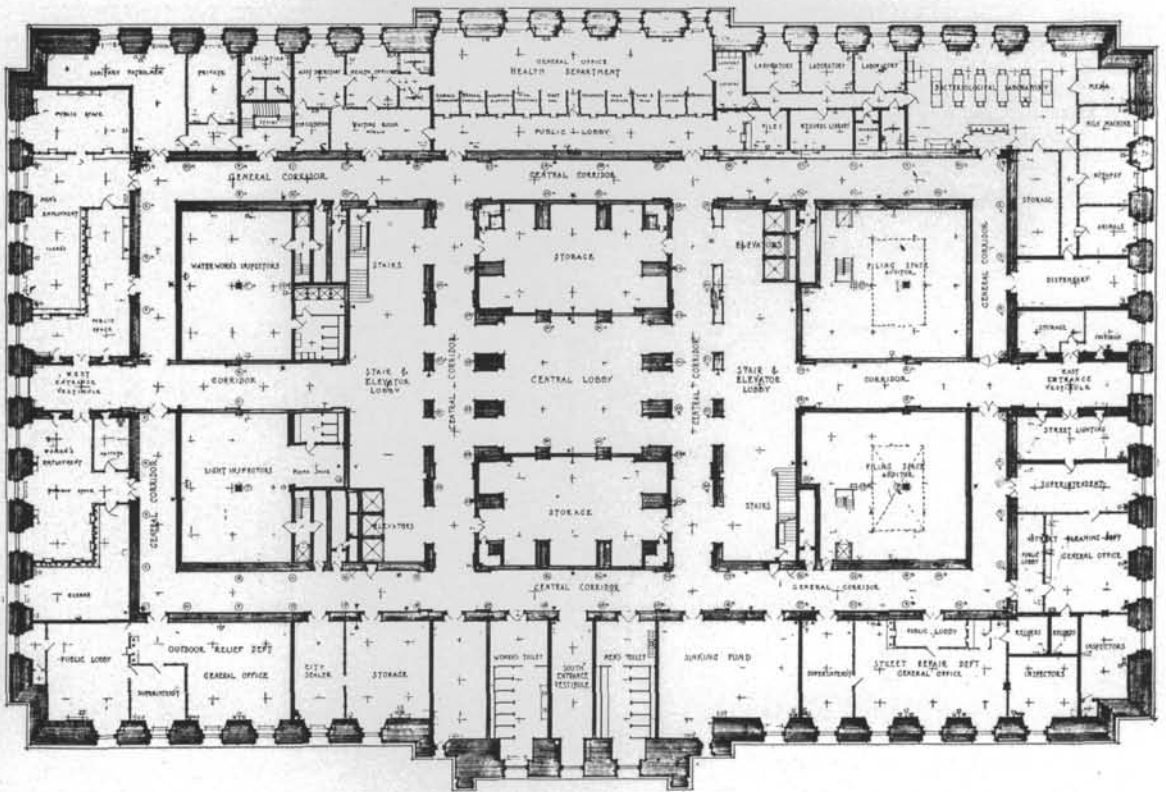
PLATE 44

CITY HALL, CLEVELAND, OHIO

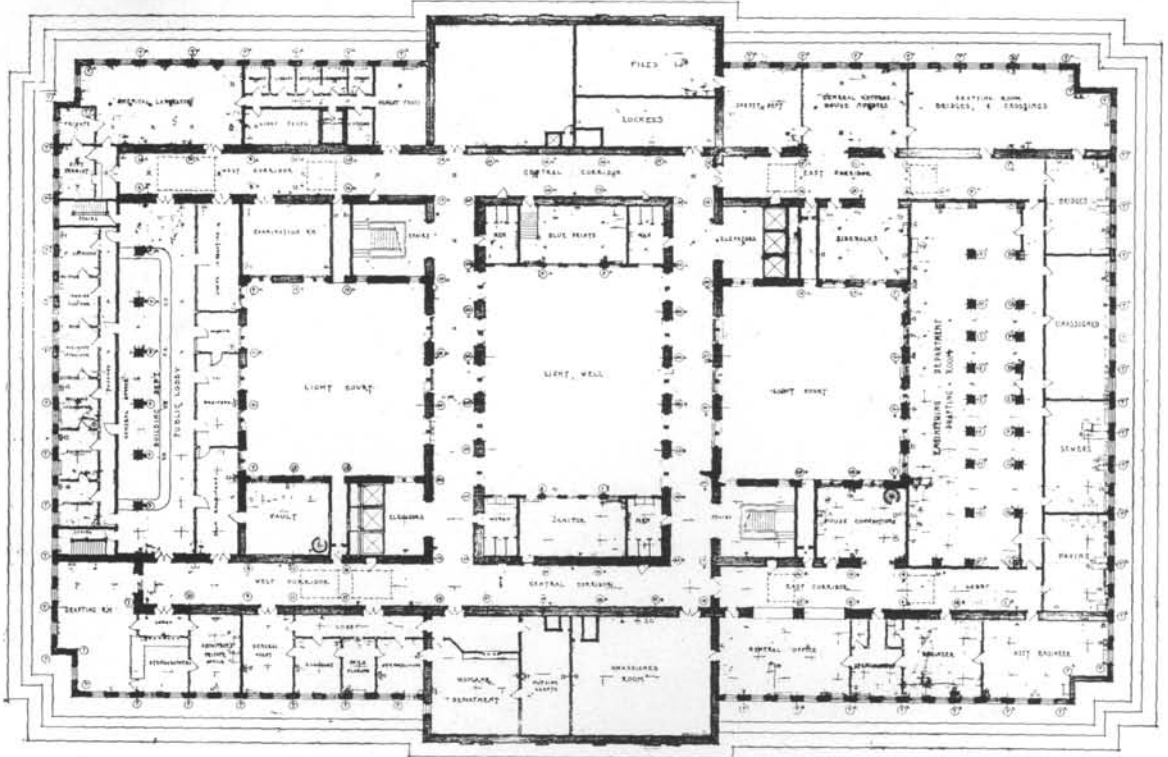
MR. J. MILTON DYER, ARCHITECT



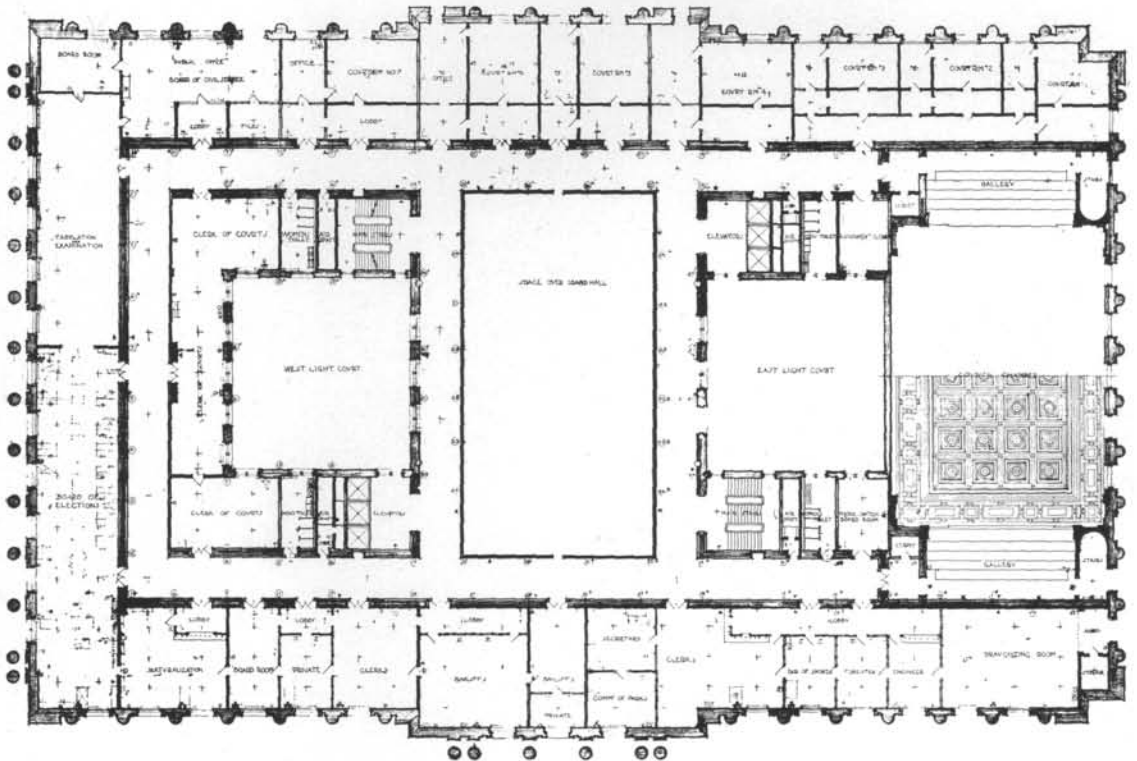
SECOND FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



FOURTH FLOOR PLAN



THIRD FLOOR PLAN

CITY HALL, CLEVELAND, OHIO

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