Alfred Boder Fine Arts-Painting File

QUEENS UNIVERSITY AREANS LOCATOR 5169

FILE 12











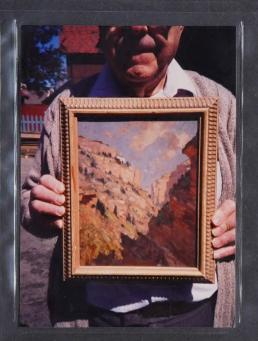






































































SARAH BECKLEY will show off her N. 4th St. home, which has distinctive paintings created in the 1920s by artist E. Biberstein.

Tour highlights positives of central city life MJ 5-34-93



at positives Tour/Looking in central city

From page

dents in the central city. and economic development to resibe donated to the Lovell Johnson grams in education, employment Atkinson Ave., which offers pro-Quality of Life Center at 1641 W All proceeds from the event wall

borhoods, including the Harambee, Brewers Hill and Sherman Park participants through several neigh-Jordan said the tour would take

of the Johnsons on a mural. Tate has immortalized the images W. North Avc., where artist Amaar well as the Patchwork Mural, 430 center Court in Schlitz Park, as erCenter Atrium, at 1555 River-It will include stops at the Kiv-

students from the Milwaukee High School of the Arts at West will be Entertainment and artwork by

"There are wonderful citizens, wonderful

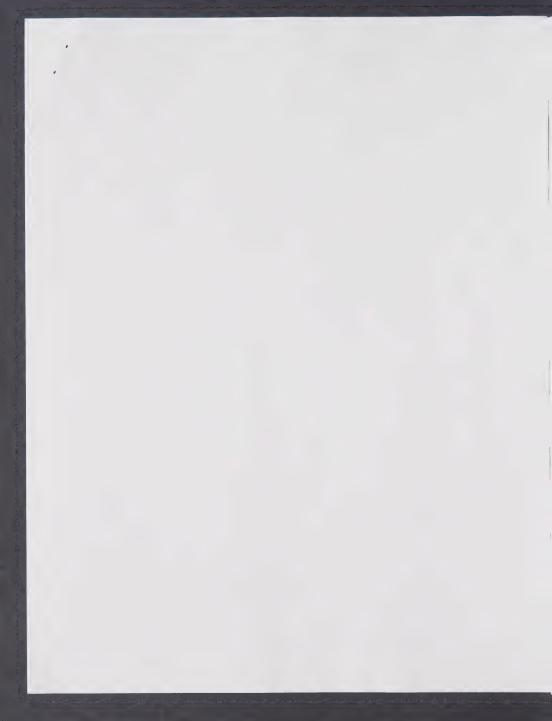
wonderful structures in the central city." residents and

um, Jordan said on display at the RiverCenter Alri-

Fran Ashley-Jordan

MORE THAN HISTORIC

Architecture, 1744 N. Palmer St., is whose firm McWilliams Burgener one of the stops on the tour, think Dennis Burgener and Lisa Eller,





SARAH BEGNLEY will show off her N. 4th St. home, which has distinctive paintings created in the 1920s by artist F. Biberstein.

Tour highlights positives of central city life MJ 5-24-42

By LEONARD SYKES JR.

gts who should there." the late Rev. Lovell ohnson was fond of saying "It's not where you live that's important

tral City Tour of Homes, sponsors of the guiding force behind Saturday's fourth Cen-Johnson's creed of central city life, is the That philosophy, a central thought behind

founded the Central City Tour of Homes in ANIE Church, and his wife, Marguerite, 1989 to highlight the positive side of central Johnson, the former pastor of St. Mark's

sons came up with the tour idea as "a vehicle about the central city was negative, the Johnto the memory of the Johnsons, who were to accentuate the positive," said a tour orgaalled last July in a plane crash, it's also the Because so much of what was reported And while this year's tour is dedicated

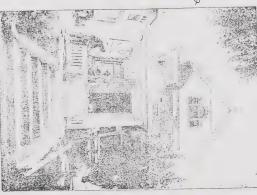
kind of affair that would make any big-city

The tour essentially will highlight the positive side of life in the city as opposed to the suburbs, said Fran Ashley-Jordan of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, the

things in the city — about people flocking to the suburbs," said Jordan. "Not that peo that. And that's how the tour was founded." and wonderful structures in the central city are wonderful citizens, wonderful residents ple can't live where they choose. But there So the Johnsons wanted people to realize There are 11 homes on Saturday's tour, "You hear so many negative stories abou

strongest attributes - its historic housing others long recognized as one of Milwaukee's able to sample what Johnson, his wife and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., participants will be St. Mark's and several other groups. For \$5, which is sponsored by the City of Milwaukee, stock, Jordan said.

portation instead of riding a four ous. will have to find their own means of trans-Unlike past years, however, participants



this year's Central City Tour of Homes THE BECKLEY HOME has been painted and cleaned for

dents in the central city. and economic developing

Brewers Hill and Sherman Park borhoods, including the Harambee participants through several neigh-Jordan said the tour would take

Tate has immortalized the images W. North Ave., where artist Amaar well as the Patchwork Mural, 430 center Court in Schlitz Park, as erCenter Atrium, at 1555 River-It will include stops at the Riv-

School of the Arts at West will be students from the Milwaukee High Entertainment and aitwork by

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citizens, wonderful There are wonderful residents and

in the central city." Fran Ashley-Jordan

wonderful structures

Journal photos by Gary Porter

um, Jordan said. on display at the RiverCenter Atri-

MORE THAN HISTORIC

Dennis Burgener and Lisa Eller,

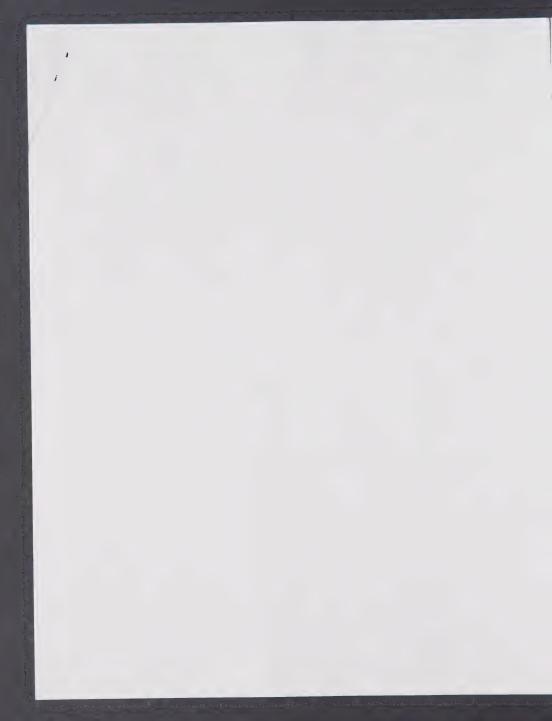
old homes. historic and aesthetic value of the one of the stops on the tour, think Architecture, 1744 N. Palmer St., whose firm McWilliams Burgener that the event transcends both the "The most important thing,

would take much less care and housing stock in Milwaukee that it which was built in 1859. think, is the fact that this is a building we saved," said Burgener Greek revival-styled structure who also lives in the remodeled "There is so much excellent

Ave., and at the RiverCenter Atri AME Church, 1616 W. Atkinson 12 locations, including St. Mark's Lickets are available Saturday at to find stuff like this. you don't have to go to the suburbs better," he said. "What it's saying is back to a level equal to this or put into this home to bring them money and time than what we ve

It's right

um. Mark's at 562-8030 For more information, call St



AN EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS

BY MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY OF MILWAUKEE ARTISTS 1900-1913

By Gay Donahue

Organized on October 22, 1900, the Society of Milwaukee Artists represents a turning point in the distory of art in this city. With the frontier aspects of the nineteenth century behind them, a small coterie of approximately 10 to 15 artists set out to establish a greater appreciation for the fine arts and to establish a secure position for the fine artist in Milwaukee. By 1900 there was in Milwaukee a first generation of native born artists who had already returned from an academic European milieu which both culturally and economically, gave support to the enterprising turn of the century artist. These younger, spirited men were joined by saveral older artists who had emigrated to Milwaukee as early as 1885, already having received their academic training in Germany before arriving here.

These older artists came from the academies of **eimar*, Dusaetdorf*, Leipzig and Munich. Milwaukee, known ac "Little Munich", attracted these artists in 1885 with the promise of work in studios which were producing a then popular form if art called the panorama. A though the panorama, which drew large crowds paying to see a huge canvas painted with exciting landscape and historical scenes roll across the stage, proved a popular phenomenon in 1886, by 1890 its popularity was not the wane. Fortunately most of the German artists elected to stay in Milwaukee supporting themselves as instructors and selling their works as instructors, they found employment in the Wisconsin Art Institute supported largely by Captain Frederick Pabs., and later in the Milwaukee Art Students League, founded in 1894 by the first generation of their students.

European study was encouraged for every Milwaukee student who came under the tutelage of these older panorama artists. After receiving several years abroad, the younger man joined with their trackers in the studio of 31 year old liquid Mayor to establish a new organization devoted to building a unitural and economic milieu which would impance the future of the fine arts in Milwaukee. The purpose for the immeption of the group, stated at its first meeting was:

"The Society of Milwaukee Artists having been organized to promote the interest of art in general and for the purpose of material aid and encouragement depinds on the seppert of the public and in particular on these citizens who believe in the ennobling and educational influences of s.t".



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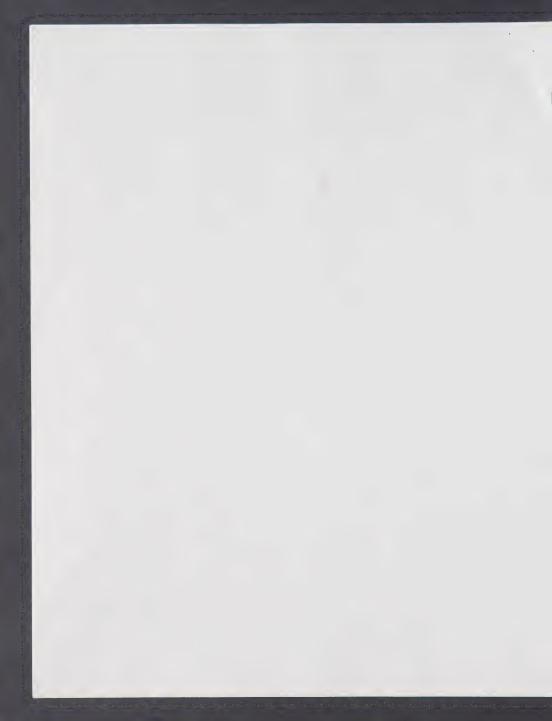
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BERNARD SCHNEIDER (1843-1907)

Trained as a landscape painter at the Dusseldorf Academy by Andrews Achenbach, Schneider emigrated to Milwaukee in 1885 to work on the great panoramas. Cedarburg became Schneider's home as carly as 1890 where he remained the rest of his life. He did continue to exhibit with the society, however; and remained an active member until his death.

BERNARD SCHNEIDER
Milwaukee River at Cedarburg, 1899
Oil on canves
23 13/16 X 30
Milwaukee Art Museum Collection,
Gift of the Milwaukee Journal

EEPNAND SCHNEIDER Landscape at Cedarburg, n.d. Oil on denves 10% X 14% Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brue

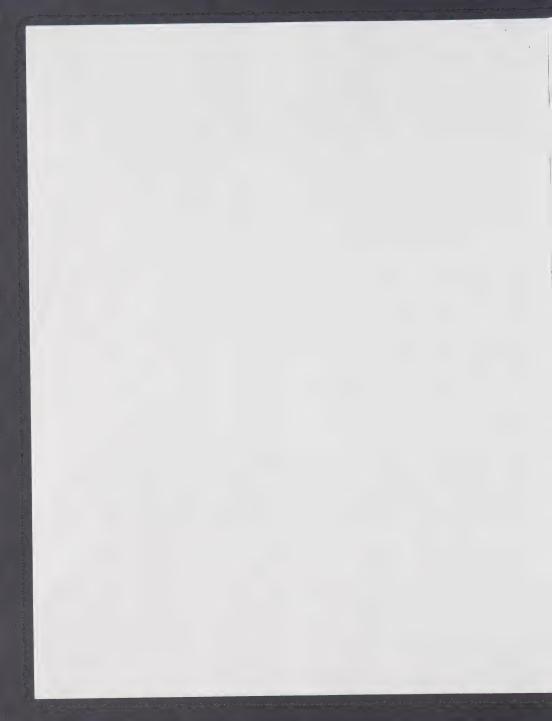
BERNARD SCHNEIDER Landscape in Winter, 1887 Oil on canvas 27 3/4 X 41 Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Palmer G. Erreger

FREDERICK WILHELM HEINE (1845-1921)

Norm to Leipzig, Germany, Mr. Meine's atuales began as a copper and ateal ungraver's apprentice in 18-9. We took advanced training at both the Leipzig and Weimar Academia. Reine worked an a painter in breaden until 1885 when he left Germany to join the panorana paintees in Wilsaukes. Shorely before the panorana group dissolted in 1809, Heins opened a watercolor and standar olds studie in the Iron Bloom. Building, holding classes and offering costs and soulds.

FORTHOL GRINE Flux Creak, 1908 Waternolor 91 X 134 Lent by Wr. and Mrs. Robert Brue

Sailor Smoking Pipe, 1882
Watercolor
9 5/16 X 7 1/16
Leat by Milwaukee Aut Museum Collect



Lorenz studied at the Weimar Art Academy for approximately ten years before leveley for Milwaukee in 1885 to join the panors a group as a sentialist in equastrian painting. His curiosity about America peaked netialist in equastrian painting. His curiosity about America peaked took his first trip West in 1887, spending the year living among ranchers in Team. He returned to Milwaukee in 1889 but continued to take occur took! Tips west, one in 1899 when he eccompanted Finder. Remington to the Sioux Congress in Omaha. He was elected the corters find to represented to particiapting actively with the Gordaty during the Lyperson of the society of Western Artists in Culeago and exhibited with them throughout the Mid Seat. He has slee hearn represented in several nationwide exhibits as well as an exhibition in Ministering in Survey of the Society of Western Artists in Culeago and archibited with them throughout the Mid Seat. He has slee hearn represented in several nationwide exhibits as well as an exhibition in Ministering in Survey of the Society of Seat and Cooker Students Historian Artisticute and the subconduct instruction through both the Wisconsin art Institute and the subconduct Historian Artist Louis Mayer, Edward Steilner, George Assb and George Michaelen,

Our bouse, Milwarkee, n.d. Oil on Salva o X 8

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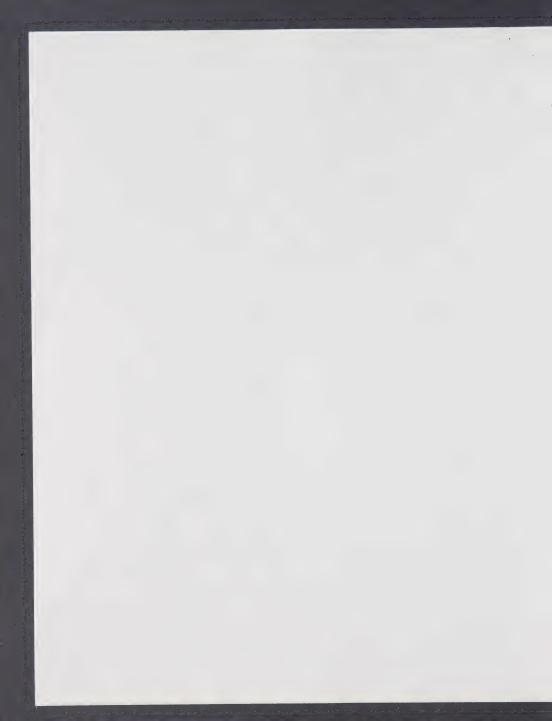
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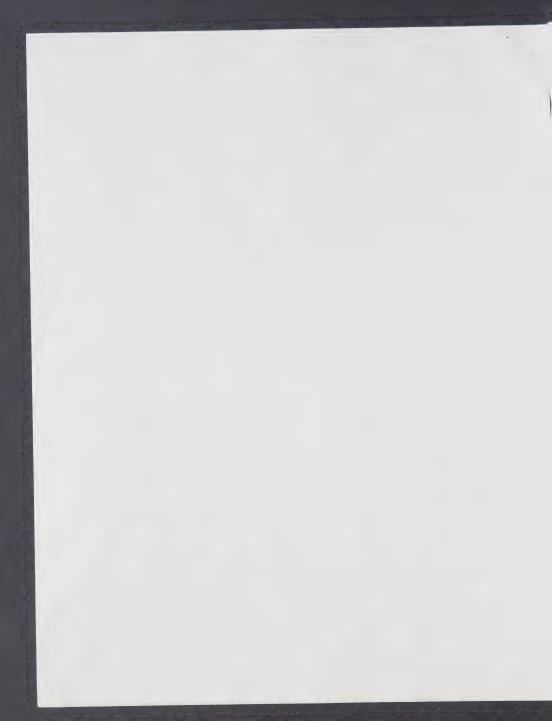
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Miles Williams



PRANT C OLIG (1860-1920)

Bern in theather. Enters studied under Henry Viandon, ar early well-norm Lindscape artist in the city. Upon Vianden's advice, he look a advanced training in Germany in the late 1870's and earl 1880's and returned to Milwaukee in 1885 to establish his pandral litude in the city. Mr. Enders was active as a faculty number for the Art Students League where he specialized in copperateling. He was a founding member of the Society of Milwaukee Artists and served as its first secretary.

PRAPA SATES .

Jones Island Finnermer, o.d.

Farercolor

SSF N ZIF

Lent by the Milwaukes Fiblic Library

YAAW EMIPS Jones Island, 1888 Eto ding 10 % 16 Lest by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bross

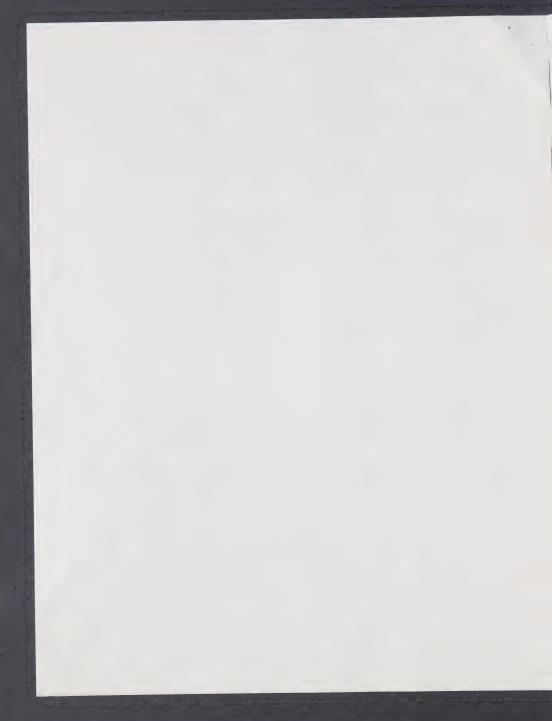
YEAR LATERS
Manician with Horn, B.A.
Sateronius
Syl X 185
Lent by the Milwaukee Public Library

FRANK ENDERS
Landscape, n.d.
Oil on canvas
18 X 14½
Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brue

GEORGE PETER (1880 -)

After studying at the Imperial Art School in his native Vienna, Peter emigrated to Milwaukee in 1880 to assist in the popular panorama studion Peter unlike the others, continued to paint panoramas in other parts of the country after the interest in them began to wane in Milwaukee. Shortly after 1200 he became the scene painter for the Fabst Theater, a position he maintained for twenty-two years. This extensive asperience led to his appointment at the Milwaukee Public Museum where asperience led to his appointment at the Milwaukee Public Museum where he painted murals and designed and created the background scenery for the exhibits.

GEORGE PETER
Isle Royal, n.d.
Oil on canvas
14½ X 23
Lent by the Milwaukee Public Library



Minister, the rounges of the native born Milwaukeense, or an use studies under Richard Lorons of the Winconsis art institut. In 1811, along with Idward Statchen and other atudents, he founded the Milwaukee Art Students League. Three years later he as a learning at the Art Institute of Chicago. Serween 1898 and 1900. Mildecker are enrolled at the Ecole den Beaux Arts in Pasis where he studied under Alphones Mucha, Tony Robert-Ticary and Julies Joseph Lerebvre. Arts saking time to the Paris Balos of 1901 he returned to Milwaukee in 1902 between 1902 and 1907 Niedecken worked in the Mid-West as a decorative designer. In 1907 he formed the Niedecken-Palbridge Company in Milwauke devoted to interior design. Michaeke took an active part in the work upon his return to Milwaukee in 1902 and was elected president of its successor group, the wisconsin Painters and Sculptors. In 1918 he member of the faculty at the Milwaukee Art Students League he his much to incorporate the study of decorative design into it's curriculum.

GRACE NIE ECHEN
St. Efflem, 1901
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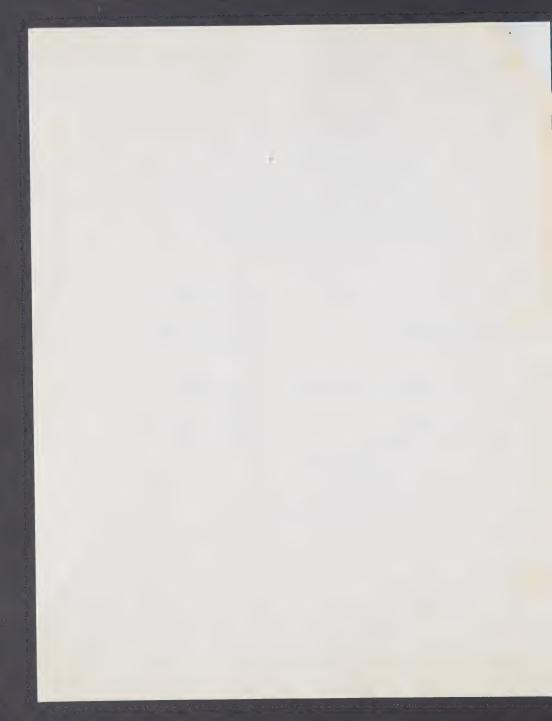
CECTUR NIELECKEN
Veuer am Scene-Gondola at Nooring Post, 1902
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Lent by Proirie Archives
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GEORGE NIEUEXCHEN

OSDPGS NIBIECKOV Venetim Scene-Wen on Gundolm, USD Gundome 19 5/8 X 12 3/4 Lint by Prairie Archives Milwakes Art Museum Sequest of Dean T. Niedeckom.

CHORGE NIEDECKEN
Portrait-Female, 1907
Charcoal on paper
18 X 15 3/4
Tant by Preirie Arthives
Milwaukee Art Museum
Bequest of Dean T. Niedeckun



A native of Sheboygen Wiscomete, Resh livet studied under Richard Lorent at the Wiscomete Art Institute in 1890. Under the encouragement of foreign he traveled to Weizer where he studied for soveral years. In 1896 he traveled to Paris, which by that time had superceded Munich as the training ground for smooticus young American artists. Upon his return from Europe at the end of the century he was instrumental in the forestion of the society and also joined the faculty of the left Students League. Head took over the durator—ship of the Leyon Art Callery in 1902, a position he held until 1992. He then served as Education Director for the Springfield Art Association (Illinois), then is Art Director at the Art Institute in Decatur, Illianis, and as Froissor of Art at Milithea University in Decatur, Illianis.

CELNCE RAMB Leodesgre, n.d. Dil on canves 12 A 15 Milenness Art. Museum collection Lift of Second O. Breater

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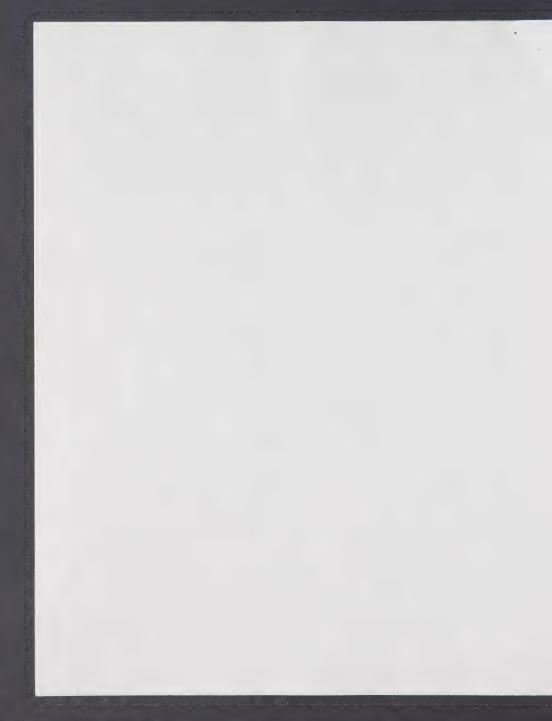
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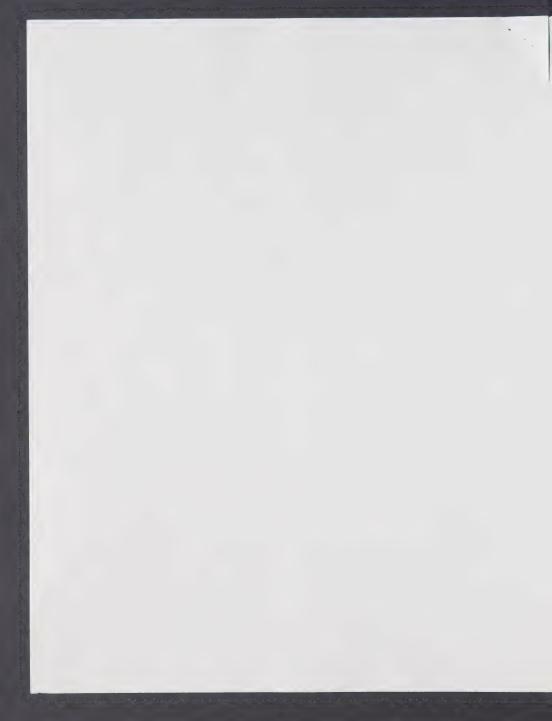
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ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

May 23, 1994

ESTABLISHED 1961

BILL OF SALE

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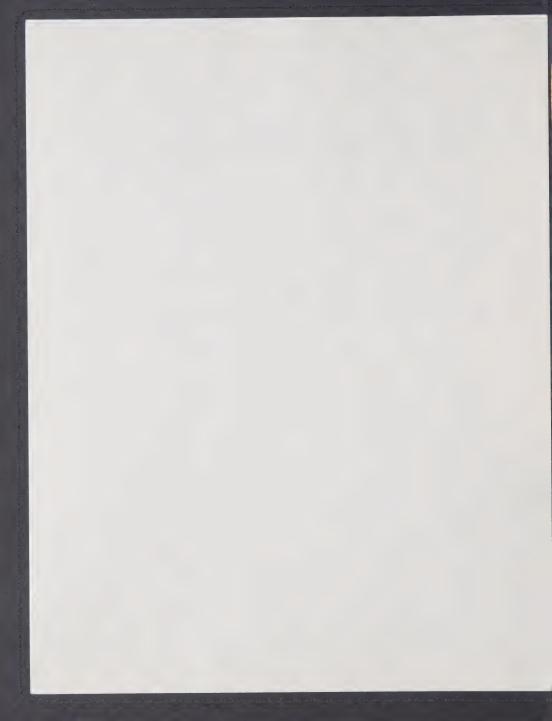
Oil sketch on panel by Franz Biberstein, probably a scene in California

Mailed to the above address

U.S.\$250.00

I purchased a collection of Biberstein sketches from his estate, and this sketch was part of that collection.

By Appointment Only
ASTOR HOTEL SUITE 622
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Painter Dies

Franz Bieberstein, the Milwau kee artist who loved to paint penoramic views of the grandeur of mountains and valleys, was found dead in bed Saturday at his home, 919 Second st. He had lived her since 1886. Mr. Bieberstein was a native of Switzerland. His death is believed to have been caused by the heat.

Lover of Mountains

The Swiss painter was the son of a marble worker who made monuments and marble floors for churches. Born in 1850 near the Jura mountains the state of large above the things. He preferred mountain sketching all his life to other types of paint ling.

The craze for panoramic fainting came about 1878. After marky of the large early panoramas had been exhibited in Europe for several years interest in them was carried to the United States. Mr. Bieberstein came to America to paint them in 1886 and settled, as he said, in Milwaukee because "it was as German as Munich."

"The craze only lasted here a few years," he once recalled. "After the Spanish war certain business men tried to revive it, and I went to San Francisco to execute the battle of Manila bay."

Painted Canadian Rockies

Mr. Bieberstein's greatest experience in America came when he was a guest of Sir Thomas Shaughnessy for two summers in the Canadian Rockies. Once more in the northwest he could paint mountains from the natural. "But," he said, "the mountains of America did not have the grandeur of the Alps. The peaks of the Alps are 2.000 feet higher than those of America."

One of Mr. Bioberstein's pictures was exhibited in 1925 in The Journal's Gallery of Wisconsin Art. An other, which hangs in the reference room of the public library, the gift of the late Frederick Layton, is a view of Mount Sir Donald in the Seikirks of British Columbia. Many of the Swiss artist's latest paintings are owned by his friend, Mr. Moderer.

Place New Numbers Soon

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1]

asking for complete lists of street changes and new addresses.

changes and new addresses.

"The Boston store, Schuster's, Gimbel Brothers, the Milwaukee Gas Light Co, the Electric Co. and others have requested such a list," Mr. Petersik said Saturday. "If the demand warrants it we will run off mimeographed copies at cost for Milwaukee concerns."

Suburbs in Line

The suburbs have fallen into line with Milwaukee. Shorewood and Whitefish Bay probably will place numbers simultaneously with the city. Home owners in the two suburbs already have received assignments and know what their new addresses are. Heavily populated sections of towns around Milwaukee also have revised their street name and house number systems to conform with Milwaukee's.

Six crews of five men each will start on the south side Monday, working in quarter sections south and west from the base line at Clinton st. and the Milwauker irver. The Bay View section will be the second to receive numbers, then the east side and finally the northwest and west sides. It is expected that the work will be completed next spring.

City to Keep Title

Under the ordinance adopted by the council the city will retain title to the numbers but property owners must place them in visible places designated by attaches of the engineer's department. Once the numbers are

he world, hat to mention leeling the abs of the tattoo needle. Ships in dull sail, castles, alluring ladies and deadly looking animals flash on the arms of dozens of bathers.

A large and growing circle formed suddenly at one end of the beach.

"Herbert. Her-r-r-bert," called a jolly, plump women who had made herself comfortable on a blanket. Her son, about 12 or so and also plump, emerged, protesting, from the water.

"Run down and see what that crowd's about," she said coaxingly.



L IEVV

NEW HOTEL

Apple P Pineapple Tea

AND FOURTH S

Once Famous Artist Is Dead

Bieberstein. Franz Panorama Painter, Is Heat Victim

Almost penniless, almost forgotten in recent years, Milwaukee's painter of the grandeur of mountains, valleys and hills, Franz Bieberstein, 80, died Saturday from a heart attack be lieved to have been caused by the heat. He was found dead in his bed at 919 Second st. by his landlord, Lud wig Kopp, with whom he had lived for the last 10 years. Years ago Franz Bieberstein as a

rears ago Franz Bieberstein as a boy studied painting in the Munich Academy of Art. He had gone there from his birthplace in Solothurn

Since 1886 the Swiss artist lived in Milwaukee and before 1900 he trav-eled often about the United States them of the battlefield of Gettysburg another of the world fair at Chicago in 1893, a third of the battle of Ma-nila bay. He painted in cities from Milwaukee to New Orleans and from

Lost His Savings

Mr. Bieberstein loved his native wanted to return there. But a long time ago his savings were swept away he was reduced to a meager income He tried ginseng raising in the city he experimented with color photog raphy; and for 18 years he did part time painting for A. J. Moderer, president of the International Statuary Co., 160 North av.

By these methods the artist made enough to live, but he was always poor. He leaves no relatives in America. A brother, August, and two sis

ters survive him in Switzerland county morgue, to be held there until funeral arrangements can be made by Mr. Moderer. His employer has

In his room, which was filled with his treasures – sketches of valleys, glaciers and mountain peaks – and which Mr. Bieberstein called his "Hibrary," police found a note Satur day. It asked them to notify the Solothurn, in case anything

Single Station Urged by Schwada as Better Than Other Plans

Construction of a centrally located high pressure pumping station for the fire department instead of two others, one each on the north and south side, is recommended in a report sent Saturday to Fire Chief Peter Steinkeliner by City Engineer Joseph Schwada. The city has been in need of pumping stations for several years to protect high buildings in commercial and industrial sections.

The Schwada report considers the merits of several alternatives. With adequate appropriations in the 1931 budget, it emphasizes, the single station, equipped first with three pumps and containing room for twice that number, would in the long run prove more economical than any other warmers.

proposal.

Total Cost \$331,000

To meet the cost, Mr. Schwada recommends that the board of estimates set aside \$250,000 next year which, with the \$280,000 now available, would cover the construction of the station, housing for an engine crew, and the laying of mains to the south side. This request will be considered by the board Monday.

The pressure station alone, he estimates, will cost \$133,000. the main to Bay View \$194,000, distribution system in Bay View \$148,000 and the fire department's share of a tunnel under the Kinnickinnic river \$50,000. Joint usage of the tunnel by the water and fire departments, Mr. Schwada adds, would eliminate the necessity of constructing separate tunnels for both departments and save approximately \$100,000. The total estimated cost would be \$531,000 \$1,000 above the money that would be available. Since estimates on city lower generally are figured liberally, it undoubtedly would be sufficient to cover all details.

Site on E. Water Street

The central station is suggested on a site at the southern approach of the E. Water st. bridge. For a south side station the council is now considering purchases of land at Clinton av, and the Kinnickinnic river. If the two-station plan is adopted the north side station probably would be in the vicinity of State st. and the Milwaukee river.

Milwaukee river.

Before the problem is settled city engineers will confer with fire department officials and representatives of the national board of fire underwrit-

With the Wisconsin Editors

The Listening Post

Famous Dog Breeds



In The Journal Gallery of Wisconsin Art

George Peter



Franz Biberstein



Ax in City Hall Starts to Fall

Public Land Commis on Curbs Payroll

Layton CONOCE Art

FREE DENTAL WORK

You Pay Practically for Material Only

Milwaukee Institute of Dentistry

New Fall Styles For Young Men

Young MEN will find in or showing for early Fall wear scores of part styles—a number of which are shown this season for the first time.

New 35th Footform Hose Will DOUGLAS 232 West Water Street Open Setupday Sold will and west will

The Last Word in Filling Station Service





improvements and innovations-

The opening of this new Bartles "Arrow B" Filling Station at Prospect Avelae and Kenilworth Place marks an important step forward in service to mobilists. There is nothing like it in the state—no station so completely equipple, so conveniently arranged to give efficient service to the motoring public.

Quick Oil Change Service ee specially arranged oil drai pits insure patrons of prompt o aging service even during rus sign only Bartles Bonded 100 Pennsylvania Oil will beserve



The Bartles-Maguire Oil Co.



Gasoline, Oils and Greases

COME EARLY FOR THESE

MIRACLE WOOL DRESS Guarantee Bond

Skirts

72 INCH Rayon Scarfs

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MIGHTY MIRACLE BASEMENT

THOUSANDS OF NEW FALL SILK, BALBRIGGAN & CLOTH



ON OUR SECOND FLOOR

Once Famous Artist Is Dead

Franz Bieberstein. Panorama Painter, Is Heat Victim

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Switzerland.

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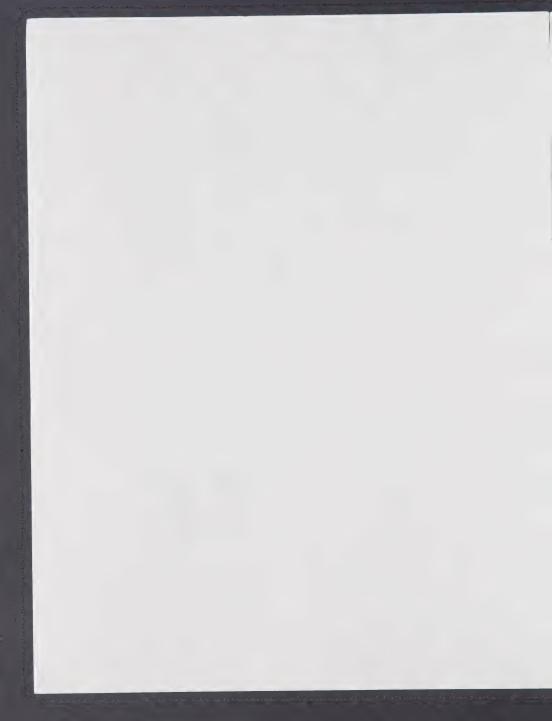
Lost His Savings

Mr. Bieberstein loved his native Switzerland and for many years he wanted to return there. But a long time ago his savings were swept away by the failure of a trust company and by the failure of a trust company and he was reduced to a meager income He tried ginseng raising in the city; he experimented with color photog raphy; and for 18 years he did part time painting for A. J. Moderer, pres-ident of the International Statuary Co., 169 North av.

By these methods the artist made enough to live, but he was always poor. He leaves no relatives in Amer. ica. A brother, August, and two sisters survive him in Switzerland.

The artist's body was taken to the county morgue, to be held there until funeral arrangements can be made by Mr. Moderer. His employer has agreed to provide a lot in Holy Cross cemetery.

. In his room, which was filled with In his room, which was filled with his treasures sketches of valleys, glaciers and mountain peaks—end which Mr. Bieberstein called his 'dibrary,' police found a note Satuday. It asked them to notify the mayor and relatives in his home with the control of the co lage, Solothurn, in case anything should happen.



Once Famous Artist Is Dead

Franz Bieberstein, Panorama Painter, Is Heat Victim

Almost penniless, almost forgotten in recent years, Milwaukee's painter of the grandeur of mountains, valleys and hills, Franz Bieberstein, 80, died Saturday from a heart attack be lieved to have been caused by the heat. He was found dead in his bed at 919 Second st. by his landlord, Ludwig Kopp, with whom he had lived for the last 10 years.

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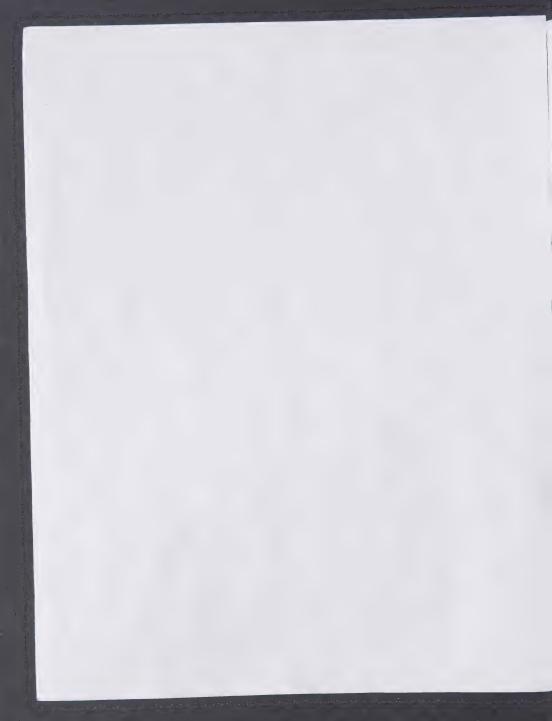
n The Journal Gallery of Wisconsin Art

George Peter

Franz Biberstein







AIKEN, CHRISTENSEN & HEATH BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS AND NOTARIES PUBLIC GRAVENHURST, ONTARIO GORDON H. AIKEN, Q.C. P. O. BOX 70 POC 1GO JOHN A. CHRISTENSEN, Q.C., LL.B. 705-687-2281 PETER C. HEATH, B.A., LL.B. January 22, 1982. PERSONAL Dr. Alfred Bader, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Sigma-Aldrich, P.O. Box 355, MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin, U.S.A. Dear Dr. Bader:

I have had your letter of March 25th, 1981 on my side desk for these many months and have grown steadily more embarrassed that I have not offered you the courtesy of a reply or acknowledgment. Needless to say, I was delighted with your letter and very much am interested in the material you enclosed with it, with respect to Mr. Biberstein. Many thanks for your interest.

I was also very impressed with the generosity of your offer to sell some of the Bibersteins in your collection should I come your way and wish to buy them. I cannot imagine a more generous offer than yours to sell at your cost. I only wish that I was close enough to take you up on it. Perhaps some day I will, then I might have the pleasure of meeting you.

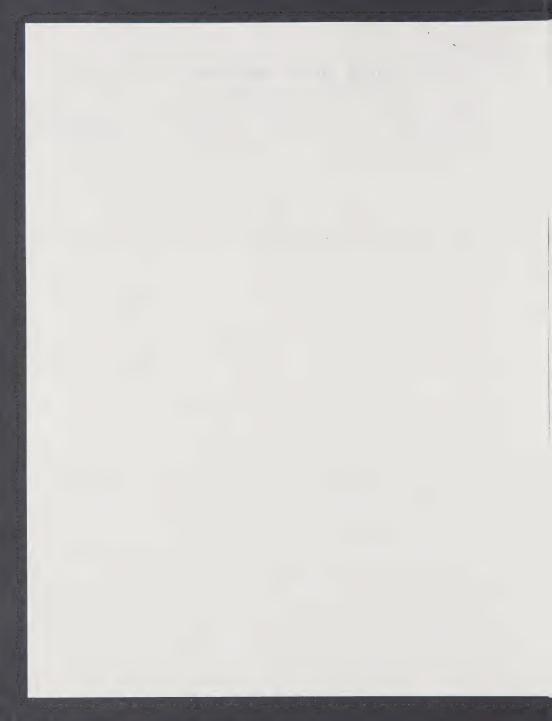
I came across a slide that I had taken some years ago of my particular painting and you will note it is far removed from the mountains of the west, but the subject, of course, has great significance with respect to the pine forests of Northern Wisconsin in the early lumbering days. The subject is of log booming on the Wisconsin River at Rhinelander, with the saw mills and the planing mill in the distance. This is the subject of one of the murals in the Court House.

I look forward to a visit to Wisconsin, especially since I still feel somewhat a native of the place, and if I am in your vicinity, I will certainly pay you a visit.

Yours very truly,

John A. Christensen

JAC/G Encl.



John Andreas Christensen

P.O. Box 70, Gravenhurst, Ontario. Canada

January 27, 1981.

Milwaukee Redevelopment Authority, c/o City Hall, MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

Dear Sirs:

Re: Franz Biberstein

An article in Tuesday,
January 27, 1981 issue of the Toronto Globe & Mail
with respect to the activities of your organization
in an attempt to restore a mosaic in one of your
city's mansions caught my eye. I am interested in
a citizen of Milwaukee, Wisconsin who died there in
1930. Franz Biberstein was born in Switzerland in
1850 and came to Milwaukee in about 1884 when it
was known as the Munich of America. Mr. Biberstein
originally came to Milwaukee to join a group who
were engaged in painting panoramas and when this
activity came to an end, he travelled out west spending
two summers with Baron Shaughnessy travelling and
painting in the Selkirks and Rocky Mountains.

In about 1919, Biberstein was engaged by the decorating committee of the Oneida County Courthouse at Rhinelander, Wisconsin, to paint murals in the Court House and two of his murals remain to-day depicting the logging scene on the Wisconsin River.

It is said that Mr. Biberstein was in love with the mountains and painted many mountain scenes. I have tried to track down any

John Andreas Christensen

mountain scenes that he would have painted while in Canada, but have been unsuccessful. I am now curious to know whether some place in or about Milwaukee there is a cache of Biberstein paintings of his favourite mountains. I believe that at one time, Biberstein's paintings formed part of a collection at the Milwaukee General Gallery and I am also advised that at one time a painting of his hung in the reference room of the Public Library in Milwaukee. Although I have written to the Milwaukee Journal to confirm this and obtain particulars, I have not had a reply. I would, therefore, be very pleased to receive any information which you might have in your archives and historical references which reflects this interest in the Milwaukee artist and his work.

Yours very truly,

John A. Christensen



FRANZ BIBERSTEIN Landscape Painter Born in Solothurn, Switzerland February 12, 1850

He studied at the Munich Academy of Fine Arts under Professors Pilotti and Dietz Since 1886 he lived in Milwaukee, and died July 26, 1930. He was a recognized master of color, and was engaged to paint many panoramas in the United States.





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School District operation policies. ing an effect on Rhinelander K-12

the original 418 were graduated. earn diplomas. Only 291 students of through their senior year, but did not original Class of 1979 who failed to focused on the 127 members of the ly, the 85 of them who made it graduate this spring—and specifical-The series, published in mid-June,

Donald Schuelke told members of Rhinelander High School Principal

> graduate this spring parents of students who will not sonal letters" could be sent to the riculum Committee of the board are working on a proposal whereby per

about sending letters, too lot of information. We are talking always provided, and they contain a pensive item that this district has Scheulke. "Report cards are an exearned on their report cards," said one year how many credits they have "We tell people four times in any

of "The Other Class of '79." cards since publication of the story interest generated in student report "Those cards contain a wealth of

parents are beginning to realize information, he said, "and now

Bartz told the board that he has another concern regarding the issues School Board President Melvin

have everyone understand who is a raised in the series. "I do think this fall that we should

graduate in the spring of 1980, he should not be listed as a senior when

who was listed as a senior last fall who "indeed had only 11 credits the school year begins. Bartz said he knows of one student

Seniors should be called seniors

when they have enough credits, and juniors or sophomores if they do

spring, 48 did not have senior status through their fourth year at RHS last Of the 85 students who did make it

Murals Decorate Courthouse

related offices. courtroom or one of the courtbecause they are looking for the broad stairway-probably painted in oil on either side of the pause to admire the two murals Courthouse every week, but few third floor of the Oneida County Hundreds of persons visit the

look at the murals comment Those who do take the time to

favorably on the excellence of the Kemember



logs with a pike pole the one of a lumberjack moving artist's portrayal of northern Wisconsin scenes, particularly

in a lower Biberstein" and the date "1919" closely they find the signature "F And if they examine the murals

A. Christensen of Gravenhurst revived this summer when John Interest in the murals was

> Ontario, wrote to County Clerk Dorothy Neal to inquire whether in place, but are in very good conhim the murals not only are still the art works still exist. She told

he has the original oil painting of casual interest in the murals, for model used by the artist in the logging scene in his home preparing the mural. That painting apparently was the Christensen has more than a

moved to the West Coast. His from 1925 to 1934, when the family at the Rhinelander Paper Co who was sulphite superintendent still lives in Canada. Andreas mother, the former Roxie Miller father was Andreas Christensen, Rhinelander on July 25, 1929. His "Hodag," for he was born in dozen years ago. Christensen died there about a Christensen considers himself a

Board named a special committee shows that the Oneida County murals painted as part of the congot board approval to have the for the work, and in March of 1919 Conrad Schmitt Co. of Milwaukee 1919. The committee hired the tire interior of the courthouse in to hire a firm to decorate the en-A search of courthouse records hired by the Schmitt firm to do

On Sept. 4, 1919, the committee



Biberstein mural in Courthouse

contract price for the two murals board approval to add \$125 to the its \$5,000 fee. The committee got Schmitt firm had "well earned satisfaction, completed to its: "utmost reported that the work had been " and that the

means he painted the local Biberstein's career as a painter Milwaukee Journal in 1925 told of courthouse murals when he was He was then 75 years old, which the artwork. A feature story in the

during his boyhood. His father had Jura Mountains on the horizon Solothurn, Switzerland, with the Biberstein was born

> ments and marble floors for a marble works, where monuhome at 18 to attend the Munich churches were cut. Biberstein left Art Academy

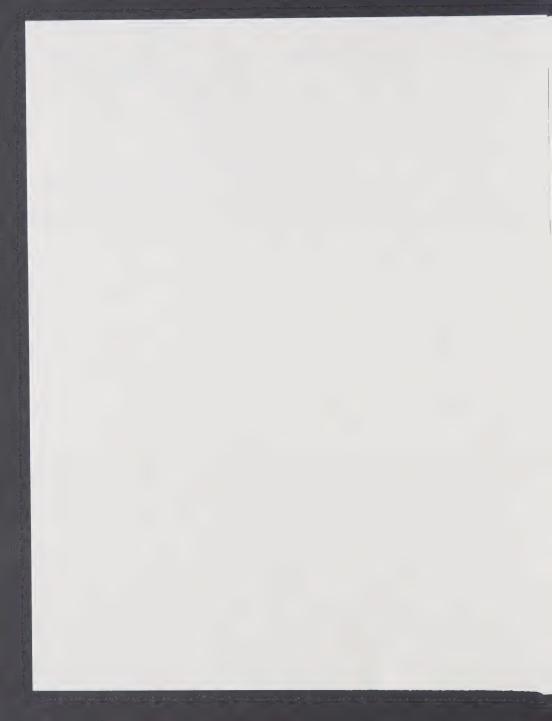
to the United States in 1886, and was exhibited in Germany and brought to the New Orleans exlandscapes, on which he worked craze for panoramas. One of the Biberstein got involved in the never returned to Switzerland position of 1884. Biberstein came The Journal article told how

the name of the artist mentioned

But nowhere in the records is

Franz Biberstein probably was

courthouse shows the Rhinelander was on Boom Lake, looking west foreground. The scene obviously lumberjack moving logs in the near background. background and a sawmill in the The favorite mural in the mill in the distant with the



AIKEN, CHRISTENSEN & HEATH

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS AND NOTARIES PUBLIC

GRAVENHURST, ONTARIO

GORDON H. AIKEN, Q.C.
JOHN A. CHRISTENSEN, Q.C., LL.B.
PETER C. HEATH, B.A., LL.B.

POC 1GO

P.O.BOX 70 705-687-2281

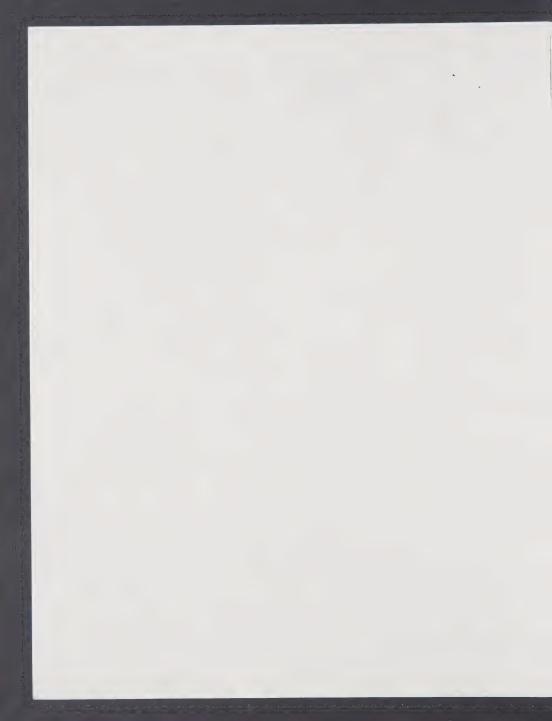
March 18, 1981.

Dr. Alfred Bader, 2961 North Shepard Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin U.S.A. 53211

Dear Dr. Bader: Re: Franz Biberstein

I received your name and address from Janice Pergoli who works for the Department of City Development in the City of Milwaukee. She has written to advise me that you would not object to entering into a brief correspondence concerning Franz Biberstein. I am told that you are an art collector and that you have about 40 Biberstein paintings. I only have one, but to me a most interesting one.

My grand-father, Samuel Stevens Miller, was a lawyer and District Attorney in Northern Wisconsin. He and his father were early Rhinelander pioneers, at a time when the white pine and other timber was being moved by many lumber companies from the area. As the town of Rhinelander developed, it became important to construct a Court House and eventually a most impressive building was constructed and completed in about 1919. My grandfather was on the decorating committee and as part of the decorations of the Court House, two good sized murals were completed by Franz Biberstein at the most modest sum of \$125.00. These murals exist to-day and are very well preserved. Apparently, my grand-mother made an arrangement with Mr. Biberstein to acquire the oil sketch of the one mural showing a logger on Boom Lake which is a widening of the Wisconsin River. The painting was presented by my grand-mother to my grand-father in 1919 and has been in our family ever since. The painting has come to me and over the years several artist friends have admired it and commented on its excellence.



Eventually my curiosity was aroused about the background of the picture and the history of Mr. Biberstein. I was curious to know how my grandfather might have come into contact with this person, not knowing whether he was a local resident of the Northern Wisconsin area, or an itinerant artist, or someone brought in from Southern Wisconsin to do the job. I have been able to unearth a great deal about Mr. Biberstein and know from various articles reproduced from the Milwaukee Journal that he died in a rather tragic fashion in Milwaukee in 1930, without having received a great deal of financial benefit from his life's work. I was most intrigued by one comment in an article to the effect that he had travelled with Baron Shaughnessy for two summers in the western part of Canada, painting the Selkirk and Rocky Mountains. When I heard this, I felt that there should be a number of his paintings in Canada, either with the National Gallery in Ottawa, or in a private collection owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway, which was the railway which Baron Shaughnessy was the President. There are no paintings in either place. Do you know of any of Biberstein's paintings completed in Canada of Canadian subjects?

Is there any market for Biberstein paintings? If I wanted to purchase one, are there any dealers in and around Milwaukee who would be able to show one? What price would I likely have to pay for such a painting?

As you can see, I have a curiosity about Biberstein and his work. I am enclosing a copy taken from the Rhinelander Daily News dated August 21, 1979 which describes my interest in this matter. I would appreciate it if you have the time, to provide me with any iformation you have about Mr. Biberstein and would be very interested to hear from you at your convenience.

Yours very truly,

John A Christensen

JAC/G Encl.





Department of City Development

Housing Authority Redevelopment Authority City Plan Commission

February 26, 1981

William Ryan Drew

John Bechler

Ervin J. Golembiewski Deputy Commissioner

Vance Coleman
Deputy Commissioner

File Reference: DCD:JP:mjc

Dr. Alfred Bader 2961 North Shepard Avenue Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

Dear Dr. Bader:

Thank you very much for agreeing to give your address to Mr. John Christensen who is inquiring about the location of FranzBiberstein's paintings. I'm sure he will be elated to discover the existence of your collection of Biberstein paintings.

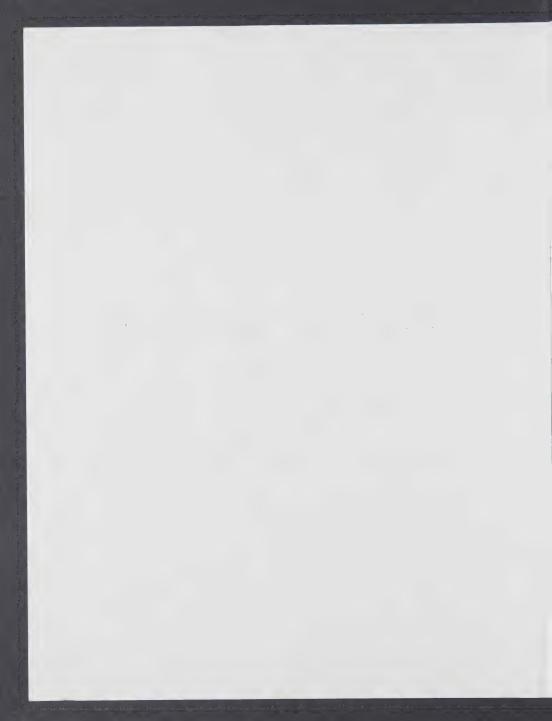
Because of my interest and involvement in this project from its beginning, if I may, I would like to keep in touch with you to see how this progresses (I love a happy ending).

Thank you again for your kindness. I'm sure ${\tt Mr.}$ Christensen will contact you as soon as he receives my letter.

Sincerely,

JANICE E. PERGOLI Management Assistant

Janice & Lergoli



March 25, 1981



Mr. John A. Christensen Aiken, Christensen & Heath P.O. Box 70 Gravenhurst, Ontario Canada POC 160

Dear Mr. Christensen:

Thank you for your interesting letter of March 18 regarding Franz Biberstein.

Biberstein is quite well known, has a good listing in Benezit (photostat enclosed) and his works are offered quite often for sale here in Milwaukee.

I have found his small sketches much more attractive than his large paintings. He made hundreds of these sketches as he traveled around the world and I have some 40 of these, of Swiss, Wisconsin, California and Canadian Rocky Mountain subjects. The small sketches bring anywhere between \$100 and \$500, and if you ever come to Milwaukee I would be happy to offer you your choice of my Canadian sketches at my cost which for the small sketches has never exceeded \$200.

Franz Biberstein died in Milwaukee in 1930 which was not a good year for lonely artists; I understand that his death may have been due to starvation.

I collect mainly old masters paintings and many of my paintings have gone to my alma mater, Queen's University where I am on the Board of Trustees. Generally I do not collect modern paintings but I have found Biberstein's works so charming and unappreciated that I have just been accumulating them with pleasure, and now have the joy of knowing that someone else appreciates them. I enclose copies of clippings from our local papers, describing his life.

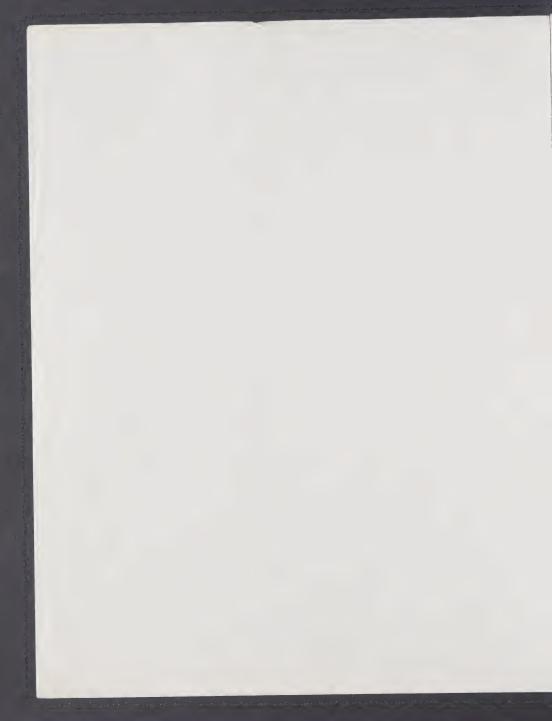
I do hope that you will find a chance to visit me in Milwaukee.

Best personal regards,

Alfred Bader

AB:cvb

SIGMA-ALDRICH



John Andreas Christensen

P.O. Box 70, Gravenhurst, Ontario. Canada

January 27, 1981.

Milwaukee Redevelopment Authority, q/o City Hall, MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

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January 27, 1981 issue of the Toronto Globe & Mail
with respect to the activities of your organization
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John Andreas Christensen

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John A. Christensen

