

Rickards, Edwin Alfred 1872 - 1920



Edwin Alfred Rickards [also known as E.A. Rickards] has been described as the most flamboyant of the Edwardian architects. He was born in Chelsea, London, England in June 1872 and was articled to [Richard John Lovell](#) (1858?-1931) at the age of fifteen in 1887. He also studied the Royal Academy Schools in London and attended classes at the Architectural Association in London. From 1889 he was employed as an assistant to Frederick Eedle and Sydney Herbert Meyers (1865-?) of Eedle & Meyers; to [William Dunn](#) (1859-1934) and [Robert Watson](#) (1865-1916) of [Dunn & Watson](#); to James Howard Ince; to [George Campbell Sherrin](#) (1843-1909); and to [Leonard Aloysius Scott Stokes](#) (1858-1925). In 1896 he qualified as an architect and that year went into partnership with [Henry Vaughan Lanchester](#) (1863-1953) and with [James A. Stewart](#) (1860-1904) in the London-based architectural firm [Lanchester, Stewart & Rickards](#). Following the death of Stewart in 1904, the practice was renamed [Lanchester & Rickards](#).

Rickards was elected a member of the [Art Workers Guild](#) in 1904 and a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects (FRIBA) in 1906. In addition to his work as an architect and sculptor, Rickards was a painter and illustrator. A watercolour sketch of St. John Evangelist Church in Red Lion Square, London, by him is illustrated in *Architectural Review* vol.1 no.1, November 1897 (p.8). Rickards illustrated *Paris Nights* (1913) and *From the Log of the Velsa* (1914) by Arnold Bennett. He also designed the cover of the Royal Institute of Town Planning Conference, 1910: Members' Handbook.

In 1916 he volunteered for service in World War One but was invalided out of the Army within three months. He died in Bournemouth, Dorset on 28 August 1920.

Worked in

UK

Works

Architectural projects by Lanchester, Stewart & Rickards included Cardiff City Hall and Law Courts (1897); Deptford Town Hall, south London (1903).

Architectural projects by Lanchester & Rickards included Cardiff City Hall and Law Courts, Cardiff (1897-1906); Flats, Handel Street, Bloomsbury, London (1898); Deptford Town Hall, New Cross Road, Lewisham, London (1902-04); Hull School of Art, Anlaby Road, Hull, Yorkshire (1902-04); The Wesleyan Central Convocation Hall, London (1905-11); Public fountain and Edward VII Memorial, Bristol (1907-13); Third Church of Christ Scientist, Curzon Street, London (1910-13); Knoedler's, 14 Old Bond Street, Mayfair, London; Colnaghi's Art Gallery, 144-147 New Bond Street, London (1911-13).

Rickards designed a number of public ornaments, including the Lord Roberts Monument in Calcutta (1894-98) in collaboration with Harry Bates (1850-1899). He also collaborated with the sculptor Henry Poole (1873-1928) on public monuments including the statue of Captain Albert Ball for Nottingham Castle, unveiled on 8 September 1921.

Bibliography

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Links

- Dictionary of Scottish Architects 1660-1980

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- ART UK <https://artuk.org/discover/artists/rickards-edwin-alfred-18721920>

- Glasgow Sculpture Database.

http://www.glasgowsculpture.com/pg_biography.php?sub=rickards_ea

- Artist Biographies [Subscription service]

<https://www.artbiogs.co.uk/1/artists/rickards-edwin-alfred>

- Alan Powers. Lanchester & Rickards. Oxford Grove Art online [subscription service] <https://www.oxfordartonline.com/groveart/view/10.1>

- Historic England - Third Church of Christ Scientist, Curzon Street, City of Westminster, London <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1066941>

- Historic England - College of Art, Anlaby Street, Kingston Upon Hull

<https://historicengland.org.uk/services-skills/education/educational-images/former-college-of-art-anlaby-street-8663>

- Historic England - Northern Academy of Performing Arts, Kingston upon Hull

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1197653>

- Historic England - Methodist Central Hall, Westminster, London

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1264457>

- Historic England - Colnaghi, 144-146 New Bond Street, London

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1224468>

- Historic England - Cold Overton Hall, Melton, Leicestershire

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1075147>

- Historic England - Statue of Captain Albert Ball, Nottingham Castle

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- Mapping the Practice and Profession of Sculpture in England & Ireland 1851-1951

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- RIBA Pix

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- Wikipedia [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E. A. Rickards](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E._A._Rickards)

- ART UK. Portrait of Edwin Alfred Rickards by Frank Waldo Murray (c.1884–1956)

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