Blomfield, Reginald Theodore 1856 - 1942



Reginald Theodore Blomfield was born in Exeter, England, on 20 December 1856 and studied at Exeter College, Oxford. From 1880 to 1883 he was articled to his uncle, Sir Arthur William Blomfield (1829-1899) in London, during which time he also attended the Royal Academy Schools in London. After completing his articles he worked as an assistant in his uncle's practice. In 1884 he left to set up his own practice in London.

He began his career as an architect with a number of modest commissions but went on to design several significant buildings influenced by the French classical style including the Wordsworth Building, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford (1896), the Army and Navy Stores warehouse, London (1900) and Goldsmiths' College, University of London (1907-08). He also redesigned the Quadrant at Piccadilly Circus, London (1910-30). Blomfield was a talented illustrator, garden designer, and the author of several books on architecture and related matters. He was a founder member of the Art Workers' Guild in 1884 and subsequently was made its honorary secretary.

Blomfield was elected a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects (FRIBA) in 1906 and was President of the Royal Institute of British Architects (PRIBA) from 1912 to 1914. He was Professor of Architecture at the Royal Academy from 1906 to 1910 and was elected a Royal Academician (RA) in 1914. He was knighted for his services to architecture in 1919. Blomfield died in Hampstead, England, on 27 December 1942.

With the exception of 1940 and 1941, Blomfield exhibited every year at the Royal Academy in London from 1905 to [posthumously] 1943. He also exhibited at the Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool, and at the Royal Scottish Academy in Edinburgh, and participated in the 1at (1888), 2nd (1889), 3rd (1890), 4th (1893), 5th (1896), 7th (1896), 7th (1903) and 11th (1916) exhibitions of the arts & Crafts Exhibition Society in London.

A biographical file on Reginald Theodore Blomfield is available on Request at the Enquiry Desk, Royal Institute of British Architects Library, London

Worked in UK Works

Five houses on St. Catherine's estate in Broxbourne, Hertfordshire (1887); 20 Buckingham Gate, Westminster, Middlesex (1887); Vicarage, Rye, Sussex (1887); restoration of Swinford Old Manor, near Ashford, Kent (1887); Blacknoll in Dorset (1887); New covered market, public library and art school (with William H. Wilds, 1889); Alterations and renovation of Brooklands, Weybridge, Surrey (1889); Houses in Gun Garden and Watchbell Street, Rye (1890, 1910); Church, Aslockton, Nottinghamshire (1890-92); Rebuilding of St. Antonien Kapelle in Bern Switzerland (1891); Extension of All Saints church in Carshalton, Surrey (with Alfred William Blomfield, 1891-1914); Southwater, Horsham, Sussex (1891); Swiftsden, near Etchingham, Sussex (1892); Alterations to Frogmore Hall in Hertfordshire (1892); Restoration and alterations of Chequers Court, Buckinghamshire (1892-1901); Chapel, Queen Anne's School, Caversham, Oxfordshire (1893); Addition to Mystole House, near Chartham, Kent (1895); Alteration and additions to Cowley House, Middlesex (1896); Wordsworth Building, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford University 1896); Parish Institute, Fratton Road, Portsea, Hampshire (1896-99); Alterations and additions, Heathfield Park, Sussex (1896-1910); Headmaster's House; St. Edmund's School, Canterbury, Kent (1897-1910); Stanstead House, Stanstead, Sussex (1900); Warehouse for Army & Navy Stores, Greycoat Place, off Victoria Street, London (1900); Saltcote Place, Rye, Sussex (1900-02); Sherbourne (Girls') School, Bradford Road, Sherbourne, Dorset (1902-26); Elwyn's House, Felsed School, Essex (1901); Barclay's Bank, Tinal Square, Chelmsford, Essex (1905); Public Library, Lincoln (1906); United University Club, Pall Mall East London (1906-07); Moundsmere Manor, Nutley, Hampshire (1908); Carrington Building, Sherbourne (Boys') School, Dorset (1909); Westgate Water Tower, Lincoln, Lincolnshire (1910); Trinity Manor, Jersey, remodelled (1910-13); New houses in North Avenue, Whiteley Village, Surrey

(1911); Building for Barker's department store, Kensington High Street, London
(1912-13); House and gardens, Wretham Hall, Norfolk (1912-13); Kinnaird House,
Pall Mall, London (with Arthur James Driver, 1915); Brandhoek Military
Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemetery, Ypres, West Flanders,
Belgium (1915); Belgian War Memorial, Victoria Embankment, London (with Victor
Rousseau, 1917); Alterations to Penn House, Buckinghamshire (1918);
Restoration of Brodick Castle (1919); Extension to Carlton Club, Pall Mall, London
(1920); Restoration with additions, Sulgrave Manor, Northamptonshire (1921);
Derby School War Memorial (1921); Hertfordshire Regiment Memorial, Hertford
(1921); Menin Gate, Ypres, Belgium (1922); Royal Air Force Memorial, London
(1923); New Barker's department store, Kensington High Street, London (1924);
Usher Gallery, Lincoln, Lincolnshire (1926-27); Offices, 4 Carlton Gardens, London
(1932)

See also British Listed Buildings

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'Obituary. RIBA Journal vol. 50, 1943 pp. 65-67

'Obituary. Architect's Journal vol. 97, 7 January 1943 pp. 3-4

'Obituary. Architect & Building News vol. 173, 8 January 1943 p. 26

Links

National Portrait Gallery, London

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• Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reginald_Blomfield

• Dictionary of Scottish Architects 1660-1980

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• ART UK https://artuk.org/discover/artists/blomfield-reginald-18561942

• Dictionary of Art Historians https://arthistorians.info/blomfieldr

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