

20-34 BRAMHALL STREET

*egs to file with  
of 11/18/44*

Stephen S. Brown, M. D.  
Director

MAINE GENERAL HOSPITAL

22 ARSENAL STREET  
PORTLAND, MAINE

November 17, 1944

*In Your Reply  
Refer to File No.*

Mr. Warren McDonald,  
Inspector of Buildings,  
City of Portland, Maine.

Dear Mr. McDonald:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of recent date with reference to building permit to cover two-story brick addition for our incinerator room at the Maine General Hospital. We will see that all requirements you have mentioned in your letter are met, and will furnish you with more detailed plans of the building before operation begins.

Very truly yours,

MAINE GENERAL HOSPITAL

*Stephen S. Brown*

Stephen S. Brown, M. D.  
Director

SSB:mb

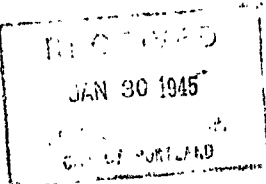
MAINE GENERAL HOSPITAL

22 ARSENAL STREET  
PORTLAND 4, MAINE

January 29, 1945

Stephen S. Brown, M. D.  
Director

In Your Reply  
Refer to File No.



Mr. Warren McDonald,  
Inspector of Buildings,  
City of Portland, Maine.

Dear Mr. McDonald:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of recent date with reference to fire protection around the boiler room at the Maine General Hospital. I have taken this up with the Brown Construction Co. and have authorized them to make the repairs and alterations to the fire door opening into the boiler room. We have also taken up, with our maintenance engineer, the matter of checking all the hardware on the other fire doors to see if the closing devices are in good operating condition.

Very truly yours,

MAINE GENERAL HOSPITAL

*Stephen S. Brown*  
Stephen S. Brown, M. D.  
Director

SSB:mb

BP 44/1187-I

ATH  
HRF  
RMT  
PH  
AJS  
BS

January 22, 1945

Maine General Hospital  
Attn: Dr. Stephen Brown, Director  
22 Arsenal Street  
Portland 4, Maine

Subject: Conditions with relation to fire protection around the boiler room at the Maine General Hospital

Gentlemen:

With reference to paragraph numbered 2 of my letter of January 14, 1945 concerning the new incinerator, our Inspector reports that the boiler room is cut off from the rest of the building by fire doors, but also reports that there are conditions which ought to be corrected at once for protection of the hospital.

The automatic closing device on the fire door at the upper level of the boiler room leading into the laundry is out of commission so that it would not operate to close the door in case of fire.

Over this doorway someone has made an opening from 12 to 15 inches high through the brick wall and extending the full width of the doorway and cert in pipes have been run through this opening and the opening has never been closed, thus even if fire door was fully automatic the wall above it is open to allow passage of fire or smoke.

Your maintenance man ought to check all of the hardware on the other fire doors to see if the closing devices are in good operating condition, and such inspection should be made at frequent intervals.

Very truly yours,

Inspector of Buildings

Wich/S

CC: Brown Construction Co.  
582 Congress Street

14/161- Amdt. 1st-I

ATH  
HRP  
RMT  
PH  
JJS  
BS

January 10, 1945

Brown Construction Co.  
Maine General Hospital  
Gentlehurst

Subject: Approved amendment to building permit to  
cover installation of incinerator at Maine General  
Hospital, 52 Arsenal Street

With relation to approved amendment as above, issued to the contractor, please note the following:

1. In reference to paragraph 2 of my letter of November 15, 1944 that the details of the incinerator and its operation are known, I find that neither the extension of boiler room sprinkler system to the incinerator room nor the fire doors between incinerator room and boiler room are actually required by the Building Code if every opening from the boiler room to other parts of the building including the laundry area is now or will be before the incinerator is put in operation protected by Class B or Class C automatic or self-closing fire doors. If such fire doors do not now exist or not to be provided in all openings from the boiler room to other parts of the building, then standard Class B (labeled as approved for use in vertical shafts) is required in the opening between an incinerator room and boiler room. However, whether required or not, the extension of the sprinkler system to the incinerator room is recommended in the Fire Underwriters regulations, especially if, on occasion, burnable material might be accumulated in the incinerator room for charging the incinerator through the doors which should be provided from the incinerator room.

2. I presume that the covers over the charging chutes will extend beyond the edges of the openings at least two inches on all sides and will be lined with at least three inches thickness of refractory material in observance of Underwriters recommendation.

3. I find no indication of a device either in the breeching or elsewhere, as required by Section 307-d-3 of the Building Code, to arrest sparks and unburned material and prevent them from going out the top of the stack. No doubt such a device and the practical means of cleaning it out ought to be designated by the designers of the incinerator, but that one is certainly needed is not only indicated by the stipulations of the law but by experience we have had elsewhere in the city. Only apparent means of cleaning out the long run of horizontal flue from incinerator to boiler breeching is by removing the fire clay and asbestos cover of the flue. It seems to me that the work involved in getting at the flue (if that is the only way of inspecting the conditions on the inside of it and of removing the accumulations there, is too cumbersome to insure very frequent inspections or cleaning out. If this is the only means of inspection and cleaning out, I recommend a sizeable, properly protected cleanout door, at least one of them on the incinerator end of the horizontal run; perhaps at least one more in the side of the long run would be of benefit and be installed such as cleanout now then later if clean out means are found to be inadequate. Results of allowing this flue to become obstructed in a major way seem obvious. If an arresting device for catching unburned particles and so on is to be installed in the incinerator or in this flue, the need of ready access and means of cleaning are all the more obvious.

4. I presume Brown Construction Company is not to install the oil burner for firing the incinerator. Whoever is to install that device should apply for a separate permit with the application and would give the usual information required as to type of burner, storage of fuel etc. with application for an oil burner permit.

CC: W. O. Hutchins  
193 Middle Street

Very truly yours,

Inspector of Buildings



Original Permit No. 44/1161

Amendment No. #1

JAN 10 1945

### AMENDMENT TO APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

Portland, Maine, January 4, 1945

To the INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS, PORTLAND, ME

The undersigned hereby applies for an amendment to Permit No. 44/1161 pertaining to the building or structure comprised in the original application in accordance with the Laws of the State of Maine, the Building Code of the City of Portland, plans and specifications, if any, submitted herewith, and the following specifications:

Location 22 Arsenal Street Within Fire Limits? NAS Dist. No. 3  
 Owner's or-Trustee's name and address Maine General Hospital  
 Contractor's name and address Brown Construction Co., 562 Congress St.  
 Plans filed as part of this Amendment yes No. of Sheets 2  
 Is any plumbing work involved in this work? \_\_\_\_\_ Is any electrical work involved in this work? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Increased cost of work \_\_\_\_\_ Additional fee 25  
 Framing Lumber: Kind? \_\_\_\_\_ Dressed or Full Size? \_\_\_\_\_

#### Description of Proposed Work

To install incinerator and charging chutes as per plan

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief of Fire Department.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner of Public Works.

ORIGINAL

Maine General Hospital  
Brown Construction Co.

Signature of Owner By: Douglas S. Egan

Approved: 1/10/45 - [Signature]  
Inspector of Buildings.

Rept. 6472D-I

November 15, 1944

Brown Construction Company,  
Maine General Hospital

Subject: Building permit to cover 2-story brick  
addition for incinerator room at the Maine  
General Hospital, 22 Arsenal Street

Gentlemen:

Above building <sup>permit</sup> has been issued subject to the following:

1. A separate permit from this department is required to cover the installation of the actual incinerator and the charging chutes. Application for the permit is to be made by and permit is issuable only to the actual installer. With the application should be furnished full details of the incinerator and charging chutes construction.

2. It appears that the new incinerator room is to adjoin the boiler room having access to the boiler room through an existing doorway which now leads out of doors and apparently has only ordinary doors in it. On this basis the Building Code requires that the sprinkler system now covering the boiler room be extended to cover this room, and separate permit to cover the extension of the sprinkler system should be secured by the installer, filing with the application plans of the extended system bearing the approval of the Insurance Rating Bureau on the plans.

3. I presume competent engineering authority has been consulted to make sure that the plan of connecting the incinerator flue to the breeching of the hospital boilers and no doubt thence to the existing hospital stack will not interfere with the effective or safe operation of the boilers and will take care of the incinerator without difficulty. It is obvious that some means must be established both for cleaning out the vertical part of the incinerator chimney and for cleaning out the run of incinerator flue, practically horizontal to its connection with the breeching of the boilers. Perhaps some device to prevent not fully consumed particles from passing from the incinerator up the stack is to be incorporated in the incinerator. If not some arrangement will have to be made at the top of the stack or in the breeching or some where so that cinders and the like will not be spread all over the area causing a good deal of trouble and perhaps fire hazard, depending upon the operation of the plant.

4. It seems to be that the door shown on Section BB at the charging floor level is shown as a window on the charging floor plan. At any rate it appears that there will be only one doorway leading to the charging floor and thence from the coal pocket roof. Presumably the refuse material is to be trucked in over this roof, and I presume investigation has been made to make sure that the roof is strong enough.

Very truly yours,

WHD/H  
CC: W. J. Hutchins  
105 Middle Street

Inspector of Buildings



APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

Class of Building or Type of Structure First and Second Class

Portland, Maine, November 13, 1944

To the INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS, PORTLAND, ME.

The undersigned hereby applies for a permit to erect alter install the following building structure equipment in accordance with the Laws of the State of Maine, the Building Code of the City of Portland, plans and specifications, if any, submitted herewith and the following specifications:

Location 22 Arsenal Street Within Fire Limits? Yes Dist. No. 2  
Owner's or Lessee's name and address Maine General Hospital Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor's name and address Brown Construction Co., 562 Congress St. Telephone 2-3873  
Architect W. O. Hutchins Plans filed yes No. of sheets 1  
Proposed use of building Hospital No. families \_\_\_\_\_  
Other buildings on same lot \_\_\_\_\_  
Estimated cost \$ 7000. Fee \$ 6.00

Description of Present Building to be Altered

Material brick No. stories \_\_\_\_\_ Heat \_\_\_\_\_ Style of roof \_\_\_\_\_ Roofing \_\_\_\_\_  
Last use Hospital No. families \_\_\_\_\_

General Description of New Work

To construct two story brick addition on rear of boiler room to provide incinerator all as per plan  
To demolish small wooden building near boiler room

INSPECTION NOT COMPLETE

It is understood that this permit does not include installation of heating apparatus which is to be taken out separately by and in the name of the heating contractor.

Details of New Work

CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY REQUIREMENT IS WAIVED

Is any plumbing work involved in this work? \_\_\_\_\_  
Is any electrical work involved in this work? \_\_\_\_\_ Height average grade to top of plate \_\_\_\_\_  
Size, front \_\_\_\_\_ depth \_\_\_\_\_ No. stories \_\_\_\_\_ Height average grade to highest point of roof \_\_\_\_\_  
To be erected on solid or filled land? \_\_\_\_\_ earth or rock? \_\_\_\_\_  
Material of foundation \_\_\_\_\_ Thickness, top \_\_\_\_\_ bottom \_\_\_\_\_ cellar \_\_\_\_\_  
Material of underpinning \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_ Thickness \_\_\_\_\_  
Kind of roof \_\_\_\_\_ Rise per foot \_\_\_\_\_ Roof covering \_\_\_\_\_  
No. of chimneys \_\_\_\_\_ Material of chimneys \_\_\_\_\_ of lining \_\_\_\_\_  
Kind of heat \_\_\_\_\_ Type of fuel \_\_\_\_\_ Is gas fitting involved? \_\_\_\_\_  
Framing lumber—Kind \_\_\_\_\_ Dressed or full size? \_\_\_\_\_  
Corner posts \_\_\_\_\_ Sills \_\_\_\_\_ Girt or ledger board? \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_  
Material columns under girders \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_ Max on centers \_\_\_\_\_  
Studs (outside walls and carrying partitions) 2x4-16" O. C. Girders 6x Bridging in every floor and flat roof span over 8 feet. Sills and corner posts all one piece in cross section.  
Joists and rafters: 1st floor \_\_\_\_\_, 2nd \_\_\_\_\_, 3rd \_\_\_\_\_, roof \_\_\_\_\_  
On centers: 1st floor \_\_\_\_\_, 2nd \_\_\_\_\_, 3rd \_\_\_\_\_, roof \_\_\_\_\_  
Maximum span: 1st floor \_\_\_\_\_, 2nd \_\_\_\_\_, 3rd \_\_\_\_\_, roof \_\_\_\_\_  
If one story building with masonry walls, thickness of walls? \_\_\_\_\_ height? \_\_\_\_\_

If a Garage

No. cars now accommodated on same lot \_\_\_\_\_ to be accommodated \_\_\_\_\_  
Total number commercial cars to be accommodated \_\_\_\_\_  
Will automobile repairing be done other than minor repairs to cars habitually stored in the proposed building? \_\_\_\_\_

Miscellaneous

Will above work require removal or disturbing of any shade tree on a public street? no  
Will there be in charge of the above work a person competent to see that the State and City requirements pertaining \_\_\_\_\_

yes  
Maine General Hospital  
Brown Construction Co.  
*[Signature]*





CLASS OF SERVICE  
This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION (48)

SYMBOLS  
DL - Day Letter  
NT - Over night Telegram  
LC - Deferred Cable  
NLT - Cable Night Letter  
Ship Radiogram

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CALTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

BA485 18/16 3 EXTRA=BOSTON MASS 2 234P

WARREN MACDONALD=  
INSPECTION OF BLDGS PTLD=

CAN ACCEPT A10. PRIORITY BUT SUGGEST A1A OR BETTER, IF PROMPT SERVICE DESIRED=

GRINNELL CO 131 STATE ST.

*File original & me gen. office for your information 11/7/42*

RECEIVED  
NOV 2 1942  
DEPT. OF J.C. B.P.  
CITY OF PORTLAND

A10 A1A 131.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

AUTOMATIC  
SPRINKLER SYSTEMS  
UNIT HEATERS AND  
SPECIALTIES  
AIR CONDITIONING  
EQUIPMENT

GRINNELL  COMPANY  
INC.

Pipe, Fittings and  
Valves  
Plumbing and Heating  
Material  
Prefabricated Piping  
and Supplies

EXECUTIVE OFFICES PROVIDENCE, R.I.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

September 2 1942

IN REPLY REFER TO -  
P. R. Robinson

INSPECTION NOT COMPLETED

Inspector of Buildings  
Portland, Maine.

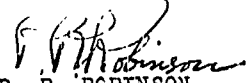
Dear Sir:

We are enclosing application for permit to install  
sprinkler system in Extension to Laundry and Kitchen at Maine  
General Hospital, together with One Dollar (bill), covering the  
fee.

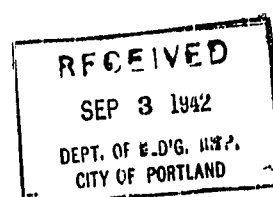
We have been informed that the plans we have furnished  
are not complete as they do not cover all the contemplated work.

The plans which we furnished you cover all the  
work in our contract. We understand that additional work  
is contemplated and that the General Contractor on the building  
will shortly issue an order to us covering same but until such  
order is received, all that we can file plans for is the work  
covered by our contract. If necessary we will have to make  
an additional application and file additional plans when and  
if we receive an order to do more work.

Very truly yours  
GRINNELL COMPANY, INC.

  
P. R. ROBINSON  
EASTERN DISTRICT SUPT.

PRR:M



EXCLUSIVE SALES COMPANY FOR THE GENERAL FIRE EXTINGUISHER COMPANY.

August 26, 1942

Subject: Alterations and additions  
to Maine General Hospital

Conlidge, Stepley, Palfinch & Abbott  
122 Ames Building,  
Boston, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

With relation to the above job on August 1st, we received from the Grinnell Company plans of proposed extension of the sprinkler system.

Upon examination of the plans we find that they apparently cover only the one story addition to the kitchen and the addition to the laundry. Note it appears for the addition to the dining room and internes' quarters above, or new addition to the main office, and any of the additional work indicated in your letter of June 26th.

I have advised the Grinnell Company of the necessity of making application for and securing a separate permit to cover the sprinkler work, and I presume it would be desirable to include all of the sprinkler work at one time in the same permit. It is satisfactory to cover the work in two or more permits if they and you desire, but I wish to make sure that the provisions of the sprinkler extension other than those shown on the Grinnell plans are not overlooked.

Very truly yours,


WCH/H

Inspector of buildings

CC: Grinnell Co.  
Providence, R. I.

William H. Porter Co., c/o Maine General Hospital  
Dr. Stephen Brown, Director "  
Mr. Deviney, Clerk of the Works, c/o "  
Grinnell Co., Providence, R. I.

SPRINKLER SYSTEMS  
HEATERS AND  
SPECIALIZED  
AIR CONDITIONING  
EQUIPMENT

GRINNELL  COMPANY

EXECUTIVE OFFICES PROVIDENCE, R. I.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.  
August 10 1942

PIPE FITTINGS AND  
VALVES  
PLUMBING AND HEATING  
MATERIAL  
PREFABRICATED PIPING  
AND SUPPLIES

IN REPLY REFER TO -  
A. E. BROWN

Warren McDonald, Inspector of Bldgs.  
Portland, Maine.

Gentlemen:

We are enclosing herewith one print showing the  
sprinkler work which we are to install in the new 1940  
Addition to the kitchen at the Maine General Hospital,  
Portland, Maine.

These prints bear the stamp of approval of the  
New England Fire Insurance Rating Organization.

We also ask that this letter be taken as an  
application for permit. If there are any charges for  
securing this permit please advise us and we will reimburse  
you for same.

Very truly yours  
GRINNELL COMPANY, INC.

*A. E. Brown*  
A. E. BROWN  
DEPARTMENT ENGINEER.

AEB:M  
Enc.

*@ J.S.  
I have dictated letter  
to send me application  
Will you look the plans  
over & see if they are correct  
all the facts we agreed upon?*

*W.M.  
8/15/42*

EXCLUSIVE SALES COMPANY FOR THE GENERAL FIRE EXTINGUISHER COMPANY.

P: 42/697-I

August 17, 1942

Grinnell Company,  
Providence, R. I.

Gentlemen:

Attention: A. S. Brown, Department Engineer

Replying to your letter of August 10th relating to application for building permit to cover alterations and extension of sprinkler system in connection with Maine General Hospital additions in this city, it is necessary for us to have application for the permit on our own forms and I am enclosing an original, applicant's copy and inspection copy of the application which you will please fill out, filling in amount of fee (\$1.00), return the signed original and inspection copy to us with a check payable to the City of Portland for one dollar and retain the applicant's copy for your file.

We have not been able to examine the plans yet, but trust they are all in order.

As soon as the application is received it is necessary to secure the approval of the Chief of the Fire Department. After that is done, if the plans are found in order the permit will be mailed to you or sent up to the job whichever you direct.

Very truly yours,

WJCD/H

Inspector of Buildings

Memorandum from Department of Building Inspection, Portland, Maine  
22 Arsenal St.---Permit for sprinkler system additions at Maine General Hospital by  
Grinnell Co., Inc. ----- 9/5/42

P. R. Robinson, Eastern Dist. Supt.,  
Grinnell Co., Inc.,  
Providence, R. I.

Dear Sir:

When your applications for the sprinkler permit as above were received with the fee, your foreman, E. N. Sweetsir had already filed another application and paid the fee. So, your dollar is returned herewith and the permit is being sent to the job.

(Signed) Warren McDonald  
Inspector of Buildings



APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

PERMIT ISSUED

Permit No. 1018

SEP 5 1912

Class of Building or Type of Structure Second Class

Portland, Maine, Sept. 2, 1912

To the INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS, PORTLAND, ME.

The undersigned hereby applies for a permit to erect alter install the following building structure equipment in accordance with the Laws of the State of Maine, the Building Code of the City of Portland, plans and specifications, if any, submitted herewith and the following specifications:

Location 22 Arsenal Street Within Fire Limits? YES Dist. No. 3
Owner's or Lessee's name and address Maine General Hospital 275 West Exchange St. Portland, Me. Telephone 5861
Contractor's name and address Grinnell, Inc. Telephone 5861
Architect Plans filed YES No. of sheets 2
Proposed use of building Hospital No. families
Other buildings on same lot Nurses Home
Estimated cost \$ Fee \$ 1.00

Description of Present Building to be Altered

Material No. stories Heat Style of roof Roofing
Last use No. families

General Description of New Work

To install wet pipe sprinkler system in portions of building as shown on plans submitted

INSPECTION NOT COMPLETED

It is understood that this permit does not include installation of heating apparatus which is to be taken out separately by and in the name of the heating contractor.

Details of New Work

Is any plumbing work involved in this work?
Is any electrical work involved in this work? Height average grade to top of plate
Size, front depth No. stories Height average grade to highest point of roof
To be erected on solid or filled land? earth or rock?
Material of foundation Thickness, top bottom cellar
Material of underpinning Height Thickness
Kind of roof Rise per foot Roof covering
No. of chimneys Material of chimneys of lining
Kind of heat Type of fuel Is gas fitting involved?
Framing lumber-Kind Dressed or full size?
Corner posts Sills Girt or ledger board? Size
Material columns under girders Size Max. on center
Studs (outside walls and carrying partitions) 2x4-10" O. C. Girders 6x8 or larger. Bridging in every floor and flat roof span over 8 feet. Sills and corner posts all one piece in cross section.
Joists and rafters: 1st floor, 2nd, 3rd, roof
On centers: 1st floor, 2nd, 3rd, roof
Maximum span: 1st floor, 2nd, 3rd, roof

If one story building with masonry walls, thickness of walls? height?

If a Garage

No. cars now accommodated on same lot to be accommodated
Total number commercial cars to be accommodated
Will automobile repairing be done other than minor repairs to cars habitually stored in the proposed building?

Miscellaneous

Will above work require removal or disturbing of any shade tree on a public street?

Who will be in charge of the above work a person competent to see that the State and City requirements pertaining thereto are complied with?

yes By Grinnell, Inc. Maine General Hospital

Signature of owner



*Put with  
orig. Mr. G. J. I.  
to get the  
with F.W.A. about  
11/24/42*

Stephen S. Brown, M. D.  
Director

MAINE GENERAL HOSPITAL  
22 ARSENAL STREET  
PORTLAND, MAINE

November 23, 1942

*In Your Reply  
Refer to File No.*

RECEIVED  
NOV 24 1942  
DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS  
CITY OF PORTLAND

Mr. Warren McDonald,  
Inspector of Buildings,  
City of Portland, Me.

Dear Mr. McDonald:

I wish to thank you for the effort you have made with F. W. A. in trying to get sprinkler coverage for the additions to the hospital. However, considering the present situation, and the rules and regulations governing F. W. A., I think it would be impossible to get any coverage at this time. Any further efforts on your part would probably bring things to a standstill here at the hospital.

Sincerely yours,  
MAINE GENERAL HOSPITAL  
*Stephen S. Brown*  
Stephen S. Brown, M. D.  
Director

SSB:mb

FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

~~FEDERAL WORKS ADMINISTRATION~~  
~~DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS~~

REGIONAL DIRECTOR

REGION I

October 16, 1942

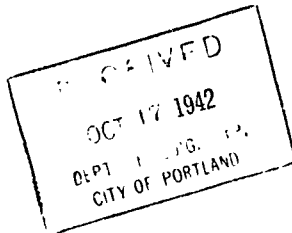
Sub-Regional Office  
New England States

99 Charney Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO

Project No. Me. 17-131  
Hospital  
Portland, Maine  
ARE:JFC:mmc

Mr. Warren McDonald  
Inspector of Buildings  
Department of Building Inspection  
Portland, Maine



Dear Mr. McDonald:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated October 14, which outlines the reasons why you feel it is essential that the existing sprinkler system in the Maine General Hospital be extended to include the portions of the building now under construction and the existing nurses' dining-room.

The Federal Works Agency has an agreement with the War Production Board which prohibits the use of sprinkler systems in connection with construction of war public works projects. In view of this agreement and the fact that the Federal Works Agency is constructing many wood frame hospitals which do not include sprinkler systems, we would not feel justified in recommending that an exception be taken to our Memorandum of Agreement to provide additional sprinkler protection in the Maine General Hospital.

You have suggested that you would contact the individual authority who could grant a priority rating for additional sprinklers upon receipt of advice from this office as to the individual whom you should contact. I am unable to furnish you with the name of the Director of Industry Operations of the War Production Board, whom you should contact; but a letter to Donald M. Nelson, Chairman of the War Production Board, will obtain the information you desire.



cc: N.Y.

Very truly yours,

*J. A. McGinnell*  
J. A. McGinnell  
Assistant Regional Director  
Region No. 1

697

TELEGRAM

Nov. 2, 1942.

Robinson, Eastern District Superintendent  
Snell Co., Inc.,  
Providence, R. I.

Am told about 66 more heads needed to fully cover extension  
Maine General. Do you have these heads, pipe and fittings? What priority  
needed for them. Answer collect.

Warren McDonald, Inspector of Buildings.

*W. J. ...*  
*10/15/42*  
MAINE GENERAL HOSPITAL

22 ARSENAL STREET  
PORTLAND, MAINE

October 14, 1942

*In Your Reply  
Refer to File No.*

Mr. Warren McDonald,  
Inspector of Buildings,  
City of Portland, Maine.

RECEIVED  
OCT 15 1942  
DEPT. OF S.D.G. BUREAU  
CITY OF PORTLAND

Dear Mr. McDonald:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of October 6th, with the suggested letter to Mr. McConnell regarding the sprinkler system. I would appreciate having you send the letter along to him.

Sincerely yours,

MAINE GENERAL HOSPITAL

*Stephen S. Brown*  
Stephen S. Brown, M. D.  
Director

SFP:mb

ME 17-131

CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE

Department of Building Inspection

October 6, 1942

RECEIVED

OCT 15 1942

DEPT. OF BLDG. INSPECTION  
CITY OF PORTLAND

J. A. McConnell,  
Asst. Regional Director,  
Region 1, Federal Works Agency,  
91 Chauncey St.,  
Boston, Mass.

Subject: Extension of Sprinkler System to Cover  
Addition to Maine General Hospital-Project:  
ME 17-131

Dear Sir:

I am told that you are unable to approve the order or expenditure under FWA grant for the extra labor and materials involved in the above extension because the material involved is largely "critical material" and because the War Production Board has ordered that you shall not approve the use of critical materials.

Maine General is the most important unit in the hospital services afforded this large defense area which, I am told, is far short of adequate hospitalization facilities on account of its swollen population due to defense workers, and the extra load of serving the navy base and land fortifications. Obviously it is of the utmost importance that these inadequate facilities shall not be further depleted by necessary evacuation due to fire or any other cause. As a subordinate representative of the citizens of Portland who understands some of the risks involved, I feel it my duty to lay before that official who has authority to change this decision as to extension of this sprinkler system, the facts and the large possibility of a "critical" situation developing, perhaps including the loss of life, if these sprinkler heads (now denied) are not ready to avert such a disaster. If you do not have such authority, will you be kind enough to advise me by wire what individual official does have such authority, that I may contact him direct without delay.

I am told that the areas of the building, coverage of which has been denied, are: addition to interne's quarters, second floor; addition to nurses' dining room, first floor (both of these in service wing); and an increase in volume at basement and first floor levels within the outline of the main hospital to be used for administration purposes and known as Part IV. The areas require about 46 additional sprinkler heads, and of course the pipe and labor for installation, cutting, etc. To make a complete coverage of this very large area of "ordinary wooden-joisted construction" it would also be necessary to provide about 20 more heads to protect the existing nurses' dining room, which apparently was not so equipped through some oversight when the entire main hospital was protected several years ago. I am not sure that you have even been asked for an extra to do this latter work.

All told about 66 additional sprinkler heads are required to provide reasonably good protection for the institution, the area which it serves and the very substantial financial assistance that FWA has already given. The entire job would hardly exceed an outlay of \$1500. It appears that the sprinkler company has the sprinkler heads on hand, but could hardly use them without better than the A-10 priority which they have, which only your agency can get for them. What can you personally do? If nothing, will you let me know as above.

Consider the Cleveland Clinic disaster of many years ago where even a single sprinkler head in the film storage vault would either have averted all trouble or at least by giving the alarm would have prevented such a terrible loss of life

Very truly yours,

Inspector of Buildings.

COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT  
ARCHITECTS  
AMES BUILDING BOSTON

RECEIVED  
JUN 20 1942  
DEPT. OF ENG. & BLDG.  
CITY OF PORTLAND

June 19, 1942

Mr. Warren McDonald  
Inspector of Building  
Portland, Maine

Dear Sir: Re - Maine General Hospital

We are enclosing print Part #5, Drawing 6-R, showing concrete foundation wall increased to 16 inch thickness, omitting reinforcing. This wall will extend from footings to underside of Basement Floor. The columns have been increased in thickness to omit reinforcing.

Basement Floor originally called for reinforced concrete beams. These have been changed to substitute structural beams encased in concrete, sizes shown on plan.

We hope this will meet with your approval. Will forward plans for other substitutions as soon as they are ready.

Yours very truly,

COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT

BY M. P. Burns

MB:D

*File with original in folder  
Mr. Warren McDonald  
June 19, 1942  
Maine General Hospital  
Basement Floor  
Concrete foundation wall  
16 inch thickness  
omit reinforcing  
columns increased in thickness  
omit reinforcing  
Basement Floor  
reinforced concrete beams  
changed to substitute  
structural beams encased  
in concrete  
We hope this will meet  
with your approval  
Will forward plans for  
other substitutions as  
soon as they are ready  
Yours very truly  
COOLIDGE SHEPLEY  
BULFINCH & ABBOTT  
BY M. P. Burns  
MB:D*

*one  
drawing  
6/24/42*

MAINE GENERAL HOSPITAL

22 ARSENAL STREET  
PORTLAND, MAINE

February 5, 1943

*In Your Reply  
Refer to File No.*

Mr. Warren McDonald,  
Inspector of Buildings,  
City of Portland,  
Maine.

RECEIVED

FEB 6 1943

DEPT. OF P. D. & S.P.  
CITY OF PORTLAND

Dear Mr. McDonald:

In reply to your letter of recent date regarding existing partitions in the first floor of the Maine General Hospital:

These partitions were of a temporary nature and have now been removed.

The partitions for the new work will be of Linabestos, four inches from the floor and one foot from the ceiling. Mr. Deveney, Clerk of the Works, has given me to understand that you have approved this work, and that these partitions are classified as furniture.

All existing tile walls and partitions will be plastered. Floors will be of asphalt tile laid directly over cement base. Ceilings will be of acoustic cellotex laid over plaster-board, identical with the ceilings of the floor above.

Sincerely yours,

MAINE GENERAL HOSPITAL

*Stephen S. Brown*

Stephen S. Brown, M. D.  
Director

SSB:mb

27  
0 16  
cjs

163751  
No. 1

January 29, 1948

Dr. Stephen S. Brown, Supt.  
Maine General Hospital,  
Portland, Maine

Subject: Existing partitions in first  
story of Maine General Hospital wing  
as related to new construction work  
intended to place the entire first floor  
of the wing into use

Dear Dr. Brown:

I have approved and issued the above amendment, but on the plans filed with the application are quite a number of partitions indicated by dotted lines and by a note which reads "present partition work so dotted to remain."

I recollect that on June 14th, 1940, I wrote to you about some wooden stud partitions which had been built in the first story of the wing which had evidently been built without securing a permit, this being established by the fact that such partitions of combustible construction are not allowed in a building required to be of first class or fireproof construction. I do not know whether or not these partitions of combustible construction have ever been removed, but it occurred to me that some or all of these partitions shown dotted might be these same partitions. If that is true, nothing in this approved amendment to a building permit is to be taken to approve them, in fact they should be removed without delay and partitions introduced to comply with the building law. This would be particularly important in connection with what appears to be shown as an existing partition (I do not know whether this is tile or wood) around stairway No. 2 on this latest plan. I am inclined to think that the original tile partition was built at least partially enclosing this stairway No. 2 in the first story when the wing, itse.f, was built.

Will you be kind enough to look into this matter and have it adjusted accordingly?

Very truly yours,

WMCD/H  
CC: William H. Porter Co.  
c/o Maine General Hospital  
  
Mr. Deviney, Clerk of Works  
c/o Maine General Hospital

Inspector of Buildings



January 28, 1945

William H. Porter Co.  
c/o Maine General Hospital  
Portland, Maine

Subject: Approved amendment covering  
finishing off walls and ceilings of  
1st story of Maine General Hospital  
wing at 22 Arsenal Street

Gentlemen:

A note on the plan reads: "all unfinished ceiling areas shall have hung plaster ceilings on Rock Lath." Wherever hangers are necessary I presume they are to be of incombustible material as well as the furring.

I presume the asphalt floor and tile is to be cemented directly to the concrete floor without any combustible material or concealed spaces with combustible material in them. The latter is not allowable in corridors, toilet rooms and other service rooms.

Are there to be any chair rails, base boards, wainscoting or the like on the existing walls to be plastered. If so they may only be of combustible material if backed solidly with incombustible material without concealed spaces.

Now that this floor is to be occupied the locksets on all doors where patients might be, especially the existing exit doors ought to be checked to make sure that they can under no circumstances be locked against persons from the inside opening them in the direction of egress.

Very truly yours,

Mac/H

Inspector of Buildings

CC: M. Deviney, Clerk of the Works  
c/o Maine General Hospital

Dr. Stephen Brown, Supt.  
Maine General Hospital



Original Permit No. 100-57  
 Permit Issued  
 Amendment No. 1

## AMENDMENT TO APPLICATION FOR PERMIT 1913

Portland, Maine, January 26, 1913

To the INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS, PORTLAND, ME.

The undersigned hereby applies for an amendment to Permit No. 100-57 pertaining to the building or structure comprised in the original application in accordance with the Laws of the State of Maine, the Building Code of the City of Portland, plans and specifications, if any, submitted herewith, and the following specifications:

Location 22 Arsenal Street Within Fire Limits? yes Dist. 1-3

Owner's or Lessee's name and address Maine General Hospital

Contractor's name and address William H. Porter Co., 56 Arsenal St., Portland, Meas.

Plans filed as part of this Amendment yes No. of Sheets 1

Is any plumbing work involved in this work? \_\_\_\_\_ Is any electrical work involved in this work? \_\_\_\_\_

Increased cost of work 3,600 Additional fee 2.00

Framing Lumber: Kind? \_\_\_\_\_ Dressed or Full Size? \_\_\_\_\_

### Description of Proposed Work

To finish off walls and ceiling of pavilion on first floor with metal lurring and hard plaster as per plan

ON SAME FLOOR

To partition off new toilet in basement with cinder block walls 4" as per plan

INSPECTION NOT COMPLETED

INSPECTION NOT COMPLETE.

Approved:

Chief of Fire Department.

Commissioner of Public Works.

INSPECTION COPY

Maine General Hospital  
 By Wm. H. Porter Co., Inc.  
 Signature of Owner

*W. H. Porter*

Approved: 1/27/13 *Wm. H. Porter*  
 Inspector of Buildings

Pr 42/107-1

November 15, 1942

Dr. Stephen S. Brown, Supt.  
Maine General Hospital  
22 Arsenal Street,  
Portland, Maine

Dear Dr. Brown:

Perhaps it has not occurred to you, but now that the masonry piers under the addition to the laundry have been rearranged from the original plan, good opportunity is afforded to drive vehicles into this otherwise vacant space beneath the laundry, and the addition of three pair of large doors between the masonry piers at the end would make a convenient and large storage space either for motor vehicles or general materials.

In event such a plan should be developed, it is well to note the application of the Building Code in such a situation. In event this space were to be used for the storage of one or more motor vehicles incidental to the hospital use, the space would have to be separated from the balance of the institution, including the boiler room by absolute separation rated as having four-hour fire resistance. The term "absolute" means that these separations could not have any openings in them whatever. A solid 8-inch thick brick wall or equivalent rated as having four-hour fire resistance. Such a use would require removing the doors and windows between this space and the boiler room and closing them up with masonry at least eight inches in thickness.

In event this space were to be used for non-hazardous storage the doors between it and the boiler room would have to be made standard Class C fire doors either automatic or self-closing and the window openings either bricked up or else made standard fire-resistive windows.

Realizing, of course, the difficulty of obtaining sprinklers now, this space, if used, would eventually have to be equipped with an extension of the automatic sprinkler system.

Any plan to close the large opening between the masonry piers in order to make a space enclosed from the weather ought to be covered in advance by application for amendment to the original permit accompanied by plans of the change and an indication as to precisely what the space would be used for.

Very truly yours,

WMB/H

Inspector of Buildings

CC: William H. Porter Co., 22 Arsenal Street  
Mr. Deviney, Clerk of the Works, 22 Arsenal St.

11-42/637-1

November 7, 1948

Dr. Stephen Brown, Director  
Maine General Hospital  
Portland, Maine

Subject: Extension of sprinkler system to  
cover addition to Maine General Hospital FWA  
Project No. Maine 17-181

Dear Dr. Brown:

Relating to the above subject I am enclosing a copy of a letter from J. A. McConnell, Assistant Regional Director Region No. 1 FWA. His letter seems to make clear that as far as FWA is concerned the question is closed. His reference to new wood frame hospitals being built without sprinkler systems hardly seems to enter very much into the discussion as to whether or not your critical and long established institution, being perhaps being 95% protected, ought not to be fully protected when the heads and other material are ready for use and at the expense of about \$1500.

I have not given up yet, and I have some encouragement from other sources to see if the proper FFB officials will not see the need and be willing to lift the agreement a little from their end, arrange to give the sprinkler company an AIA priority or better and allow FWA to deviate from the agreement to the extent of furnishing the money.

I realize that I am cutting across ethical lines somewhat ruthlessly, but I am hoping for and desire to justify it. However, I would like to have my data rather correct before I lay the proposition before the FFB. I am giving your architects a copy of this letter, and am hoping that you will authorize them to determine as quickly as possible through the sprinkler company or otherwise just how many sprinkler heads and how much piping, valves, etc., will be needed to complete the job and what the cost will be including the cost of cutting, patching, etc., by the general contractor.

It is my understanding that a part of the addition underway (presumably the extension to the kitchen) was covered by sprinklers in the original plan. It is also my understanding that for some reason or other a part of the service wing which existed before the present changes was never sprinklered (I am told it is the existing nurses' dining room). If this information be true it appears that the parts which the extension required now would cover would be the addition to internes' quarters on the second floor of the service wing; addition to nurses' dining room, first floor; the increase in volume at the basement and first floor levels of the original hospital for administrative purposes, including the drug room; and the original nurses' dining room and any other parts of the service wing which were not covered when the old main hospital was completely sprinklered years ago. No doubt your architects have the complete data as to what parts now require sprinkler coverage to make a complete 100 per cent coverage of the old main hospital and the service wing, including the additions now being made. My thought is, that if we should be successful in getting this complete coverage paid for by FWA, we shall not under any circumstances find that some room or other space has been overlooked and that we could still not have complete coverage.

I am told that you have some money left over from the original appropriation and are hoping to use part or all of it for some needed facilities in the fire-proof wing. I hope you may see the value of completing this sprinkler system.

Stephen Brown-----2

November 7, 1942

sufficiently so that we may not find ourselves with the approval for the extension of the sprinkler system, but without funds under the appropriation to pay for the work. That would mean another trip to FSA which agency does not appear particularly sympathetic with regard to the sprinkler system.

If you prefer that I discontinue my efforts in this connection, I will do so if you will so notify me. Perhaps you will realize that I have a more worthy objective than that of mere compliance with some precise text of the Building Code.

Very truly yours,

WHD/H

Inspector of Buildings

CC: Coolidge, Shepley, Bulfinch & Abbott  
Ames Building, Boston, Mass.

William H. Porter Co., 22 Arsenal St.

Mr. Daviney, 22 Arsenal Street

42/697-1

W. J. McDonnell, Asst. Regional Director  
Region 1, Federal Works Agency  
Boston, Mass.

October 14, 1942

Subject: Extension of sprinkler system  
to cover addition to Maine General Hospital -  
Project BS 17-131

Dear Sir:

I am told that you are unable to approve the order of expenditure under FWA grant for the extra labor and materials involved in the above extension because the material involved is largely "critical material" and because the War Production Board has ordered that you shall not approve the use of critical materials.

Maine General is the most important unit in the hospital services afforded this large defense area which, I am told, is far short of adequate hospitalization facilities on account of its swollen population due to defense workers, and the extra load of serving the navy base and land fortifications. Obviously it is of the utmost importance that these inadequate facilities shall not be further depleted by necessary evacuation due to fire or any other cause. As a subordinate representative of the citizens of Portland who understands some of the risks involved, I feel it my duty to lay before that official who has authority to change this decision as to extension of this sprinkler system, the facts and the large possibility of a "critical" situation developing, perhaps including the loss of life, if these sprinkler heads (not denied) are not ready to avert such a disaster. If you do not have such authority, will you be kind enough to advise me by wire what individual official does have such authority, that I may contact him direct without delay.

I am told that the areas of the building, coverage of which has been denied, are: addition to internets quarters, second floor; addition to nurses' dining room, first floor (both of these in service wing); and an increase in volume at basement and first floor levels within the outline of the main hospital to be used for administration purposes and known as Part IV. The areas require about 48 additional sprinkler heads, and of course the pipe and labor for installation, cutting, etc. To make a complete coverage of this very large area of "ordinary wooden-jointed construction" it would also be necessary to provide about 27 more heads to protect the existing nurses' dining room, which apparently was not so equipped through some oversight when the entire main hospital was protected several years ago. I am not sure that you have even been asked for an extra to do this latter work.

All told about 66 additional sprinkler heads are required to provide reasonably good protection for the institution, the area which it serves and the very substantial financial assistance that FWA has already given. The entire job would hardly exceed an outlay of \$2500. It appears that the sprinkler company has the sprinkler heads on hand, but could hardly use them without better than the 4-10 priority which they have, which only your agency can get for them. What can you, personally, do? If nothing, will you let me know as above.

Consider the Cleveland Clinic disaster of many years ago where even a single sprinkler head in the film storage vault would either have averted all trouble or at least by giving the alarm would have prevented such a terrible loss of life.

Very truly yours,

W. J. McDonnell, Shepley, Bulfinch,  
& Abbot Ames Bldg., Boston  
Inspector of Buildings

COOLIDGE SHEPLEY  
BULFINCH & ABBOTT

COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT  
ARCHITECTS  
AMES BUILDING BOSTON

RECEIVED  
OCT 6 1942  
DEPT. OF S.D.G. H&P.  
CITY OF PORTLAND

BP. 42697

Project: ME 17-131  
Hospital Addition  
Portland, Maine

October 5, 1942

Mr. Warren McDonald  
Inspector of Buildings  
Portland, Maine

Dear Sir: Re - Maine General Hospital

Referring to the matter of additional sprinklers  
required in Parts 4 and 5.

We understand from Mr. Devensy that you wish a  
letter from us confirming the fact that the F.W.A. state  
that sprinkler heads are a critical material and any  
additional sprinklers will not be approved by them. This  
in spite of the fact that the Grinnell Company have them  
on hand.

They will not, however, use them unless a much  
better than A-#10 priority is obtained and this cannot <sup>only</sup> be  
obtained with F.W.A. assistance.

Yours very truly,  
COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT  
BY W. Shepley Bulfinch

WSH:D

42/697-1

Laundry covered before. Nothing originally in nurses' dining room-1st floor-needs 20 heads. 12 heads planned in addition to nurses' dining room and turned down. Intern's quarters second floor originally sprinkled 14 heads planned and turned down. Basement 9 heads; 1st floor 11 heads planned and turned down. \$700. would cover turned down for sprinklers (does not include unsprinkled part of nurses dining room - \$300. about more for general construction in this connection.

October 6, 1942

Dr. Stephen Brown, Director,  
Maine General Hospital,  
22 Arsenal St.

Dear Dr. Brown:

The news that the Federal Works Agency has denied approval of an extra to cover extension of the sprinkler system in the main hospital to fully cover the entire service wing and the added volume in the main building, because the sprinkler heads are "critical material", disturbs me greatly. It is a mere technicality that these extensions are required by the building code. From the standpoint of reasonable safety and prospect of continuance of our badly over-worked hospital, it seems absolutely essential that every nook and corner of the main building and the service wing be protected by sprinkler heads. The drug room is a particularly vulnerable spot with the possibility of an incipient fire releasing gases or smoke which would be far more damaging than the fire itself.

It has occurred to me that, as more of an outsider than you and the architects are, and having some responsibility toward the situation, I might be able to bring the matter forcibly enough to the mind of the person who really has authority to make or unmake this decision, so that the extensions might be forthcoming. If Mr. McConnell can do nothing, I hope to keep on to the party who can.

However, I wish to do nothing, which, while well intentioned, might possibly harm the hospital instead of helping. Therefore, I have prepared the enclosed letter to Mr. McConnell, but shall not send it until I hear from you as to whether or not you think it is a good thing to do.

Very truly yours,

*W. J. McConnell*  
Inspector of Buildings.



September 26, 1942

Hogular & Jones Co.,  
88 Pearl St.,  
Portland, Maine

Gentlemen:

Your plan of work in fire escapes in connection with the extension of the Maine General Hospital service buildings appears to be in compliance with the Building Code.

I am assuming that railings are to be provided on both sides of at least each run of steps; also that intermediate standards will be provided to support the one-half inch cable guides if found necessary on account of the length of span.

It is my recollection that the short run of steps at the change in elevation of the two roofs when in use as a means of egress would always be travelled upwards. On this basis perhaps there is no need of any other railing than the one-half inch cable guide above on one side.

Very truly yours,

Inspector of Buildings

Hed/W.

Copy to Dr. S. S. Brown, 22 Arsenal St.  
Copy to Coolidge, Shepley Bulfinch & Abbott  
Ames Building, Boston, Mass.  
Copy to William H. Porter Co., 22 Arsenal St.

# Megquier & Jones Company

STRUCTURAL STEEL

33 PEARL STREET

PORTLAND, MAINE

Sept. 9, 1942

*ag. S.  
Will you  
see how they  
look? I would  
want to see  
was they permit  
in my*

*9/11/42*  
Mr. Warren McDonald,  
Inspector of Buildings,  
Portland, Maine.

ALL ORDERS ARE SUBJECT TO DELAY CAUSED BY ACCIDENTS, STRIKES, FIRES, CARRIERS, OR OTHER CAUSES BEYOND OUR CONTROL.

Dear Sir:

We are mailing herewith our engineer's design of proposed fire escapes for the Maine General Hospital for your approval.

Yours truly,

Megquier & Jones Co.

AHJ:LEB

RECEIVED

HENRY R. SHEPLEY  
FRANCIS V. BULFINCH  
LEWIS D. ABBOTT

COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT  
ARCHITECTS  
AMES BUILDING BOSTON

August 27, 1942

298.  
1/5 mto ✓  
J. M. Barnes  
8/29/42 ✓

Mr. Warren McDonald  
Inspector of Buildings  
Portland, Maine

Dear Sir: Re - Maine General Hospital

Received your letter of August 26, 1942,  
regarding sprinklers in addition to the dining  
room and internes' quarters above, also addition  
to the main office.

The prints you received from Grinnell  
Company show sprinklers included in original  
contract.

The ones you question will be taken care  
of later in a change order.

Very truly yours,

COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT

BY M. E. Barnes

MBB:ER



COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT  
ARCHITECTS  
AMES BUILDING BOSTON

June 25, 1942

Mr. Warren McDonald  
Inspector of Buildings  
Portland, Maine

RECEIVED

JUN 26 1942  
DEPT. OF BLD'G. INF.  
CITY OF PORTLAND

Dear Sir: Re - Maine General Hospital

Replying to your letter of June 24, 1942.

Part IV-1.- The basement portion will be sprinklered with seven (7) heads in large area, two (2) heads in drug room, fire doors between basement corridors and large area, large area and drug room. We believe the present doors between drug room and old building corridor are kalamsin doors and frames at present; if not, we will have new fire doors installed.

The first floor area will be sprinklered with one (1) head in each of the following -

Lobby, Carrier's Office, Coat Closet and Telephone Exchange. Two (2) heads in Office No. 1, four (4) heads in Office No. 2.

Part V-5.- Kitchen addition is sprinklered under original contract. Nurses' Dining Room on first floor will have nine (9) heads. Recreation Room on second floor will have eight (8) heads; corridor connecting same will have one (1) head, new Bad Rooms will have two (2) heads each with head in closet of each room.

Yours very truly,

COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT

BY W. C. Barne

US:D

June 24, 1942

W.C. 11-22-41  
Cobridge, Shapley, Fulfinch & Abbott,  
222 Ames Building  
Boston, Massachusetts

Subject: Alterations and  
additions to Maine General Hospital

Gentlemen:

May two letters in connection with the above job now seem to be in question. With reference to paragraph numbers as in my letter of June 13th and yours of June 16th:

Part IV-1 - After a little further study of the Building Code and of the proposition, I feel that I have authority to say that if you will completely sprinkler both levels of this addition in two original airstays and will provide automatic or self-closing self-main fire doors in all openings from the drug room to any other part of the building windows and doors as shown on your original plans may be left or provided as indicated.

Part V-5 - The information available here seems to indicate that the basement, corridors and attic of the original main hospital building are sprinklered and that all parts of the so-called service building are sprinklered except the detached carpenter shop. At any rate the area of the enlarged kitchen and laundry building would be such that the Building Code requires that all parts of a building of Second Class Construction be sprinklered.

That I may be in a position to issue the permit for general construction, will you not in the name of the owning institution advise me in writing specifically on these points?

Very truly yours,

WCD/R

Inspector of Buildings

CC: William H. Porter Co.  
c/o Maine General Hospital

Dr. Stephen Brown, Director  
Maine General Hospital

Mr. Diviney, Clerk of the Works  
c/o Maine General Hospital

COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT  
ARCHITECTS  
5AMES BUILDING BOSTON

RECEIVED

JUN 17 1942

DEPT. OF BLD'G. Insp.  
CITY OF PORTLAND

June 16, 1942

Mr. Warren McDonald  
Inspector of Building  
Portland, Maine

Dear Sir: Re - Maine General Hospital

Referring to your letters of June 12 and 13, 1942, regarding certain non compliance with present building code, we will try to clear up most of these by letter. Additional drawings are being prepared and will follow very soon.

Referring to yours of June 13, 1942, we are answering your paragraphs in detail as follows -

Part No. 1 - Your understanding of Part #1 is correct.

- " " 2-1 - The floor where dumbwaiter is removed will be floored over with concrete.
- " " 2-2 - Exit signs are called for over doors to stairways at each end of building. There are no exit signs shown between old and new building; these will be added.
- " " 2-3 - At the present time we are assuming that the interior cinder block walls will be plastered both sides. The exterior walls are furred with 2-inch terra cotta, which we are leaving, applying plaster direct to same. Ceilings will be supported on metal hangers and runners. To this will be attached rock lath clipped to metal runners with flat section oval shaped clips. To the rock lath will be cemented 3/4" thick acoustic celotex slow burning type.
- " " 3-1 - The large wards of Old Building will be separated into cubicles, by low partitions, these partitions acting as divisions only between beds. For cleanliness these partitions are kept up 12" from floor. The partition itself is 6'-6" high or 7'-6" from floor. All as shown on drawing Part #3, Drawing #1.
- " " 4-1 - In the addition that is now an open areaway between Old Building and corridor connecting present Old Building with Old Laboratory Building. This area

COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT  
ARCHITECTS  
AMES BUILDING BOSTON

-2-

Part No. 4-1-has been filled in with Basement and First Floor  
(Cont'd) portion. As this addition functions entirely  
with the Old Building and present windows are  
wood frames and sash, we left them in so as to  
gain a cross ventilation from corridor of Old  
Building through new addition to corridor connec-  
ting Old Building with corridor from Old Building  
to Laboratory Building. These new offices will  
be used by female clerks. We changed the glass in  
windows to Doctors' Coat Room from clear to transu-  
lent so a certain amount of borrowed light would be  
obtainable in Doctors' Coat Room. The windows be-  
tween new offices and Doctors' Coat Room and  
corridor at the North could be blocked up, depending  
entirely on ventilation from overhead skylights.  
This area can be sprinkled and if blocking up the  
windows and sprinkling the entire area, adding fire  
doors where the present walls are punctured, meets  
with the requirements of the Building Code we will  
do the above.

- " " 4-2-The Sprinkler System in Existing Building will be  
extended to fully cover the addition and later will  
be submitted on plans to your office.
- " " 5-1-There will be installed over all exits the required  
exit signs as approved by the Portland Building Code.  
The hardware on exit doors will be anti-panic to  
agree with Building Code.
- " " 5-2-The fire escape will be designed and built in ac-  
cordance with the Code for fire escapes. A suitable  
guard rail will be installed on roof of one-story  
addition to meet requirements of Code.
- " " 5-3-The fire doors and frames in elevator opening will  
be as desired by you in this paragraph.
- " " 5-4-The new gas tanges are located under present hood;  
that is, built of galv. iron with galv. iron vent  
running to masonry chimney between Kitchen and  
Laundry Building. The electric range in Diet Kitchen  
will have galv. iron hood over with duct and fan  
connected through wall to outside air. This duct is  
hung from ceiling and entirely exposed. It is re-

HENRY R. SHEPLEY  
FRANCIS V. BULFINCH  
LEWIS R. ABBOTT

COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT  
ARCHITECTS  
AMES BUILDING BOSTON

-2-

quired by Spec. that all various trades will obtain from your various departments all necessary permits for their work.

Part No. 5-5 - Our intension was to sprinkle the Basement Addition only. This follows the method of protection in present building. Question of permit is answered above in 5-4.

" " 5-6 - The wall referred to in this paragraph will be increased in thickness from 13" to 16". The footings will be increased 3" in width giving 3" more bearing on footing. In increasing the thickness of this wall the reinforcement will be omitted. A plan showing this change will be forwarded to you.

" " 5-7 - All bearing partitions will go down to girders where practicable; bearing plates will be 4 x 4 as shown on plans instead of 3 x 4 specified.

" " 5-8 - Floor and ceiling joists enclosing masonry walls will have five cuts and metal anchors as shown on plans or required by Building Code.

" " 5-9 - I believe this statement to be correct.

" " 5-10 - The beams referred to will be supported by posts carried down to bearing wall below.

" " 5-11 - There will be installed necessary fire doors at entrance to Kitchen Building near present Dumb-waiters, and in all openings required by this paragraph; also, all openings will be blocked up as required.

" " 6-1 - Under Part 6, Page 13 of Specifications the Pent-House is specified to be of metal inside and out with insulation between.

" " 6-2 - Requirements for sprinklers are indicated on the plans and called for in specifications, Part 6, Page 10. Question of permit is answered in a. ove.



HERBY R. SHEPLEY  
FRANCIS V. BULFINCH  
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COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT  
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-4-

We regret not having given this information to you before, but have been waiting for approval of Federal Works Agency. To date we have not obtained such approval but expect to obtain it most any time.

Yours very truly,

COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT

BY Francis V. Bulfinch

MB:D

Notes in red refer to notices received from  
architects letter of 6/16/42

OK  
all

Rept. 1E62D-1

June 15, 1942

Coolidge, Shepley, Bulfinch & Abbott,  
122 Ames Building,  
Boston, Mass.

Subject: Alterations and Additions  
to Maine General Hospital

Gentlemen:

The following details of the above job are either in non-compliance with the Building Code, are not understood so that we can tell whether the details will comply with the Building Code, or are brought to your attention in an effort to be helpful about some details of the Code of which you and the contractor may not be aware:

Part 1

1-1. It is understood that none of Part 1 is included in the present building permit. *OK*

Part 2

2-1. With what material is the wall of the removed dumb waiter to be floored over? This building being a building of First Class Construction, the material must naturally be incombustible except perhaps for the wearing surface of the floor. *Concrete*

2-2. If not already provided exit signs are required over the stair enclosure doors and the doors connecting with the original hospital building, letters in the word exit, to be at least four and one-half inches high showing red or green with an opaque background. *To be provided*

2-3. A written addendum to the specifications should be filed indicating the treatment of the new clinker block partitions, the existing exterior walls, the support furring for the ceiling, the material of the ceiling and how it is to be supported upon the furring. *Concrete*

Part 3

3-1. I understand that there are to be open spaces at both top and bottom of these dividing partitions between certain parts of the existing large wards, thus making them more screens than partitions. If this is not the case this work should be made to comply with the requirements of the Building Code for framing non-bearing partitions. *These are assumed to be non-bearing*

Part 4

4-1. This addition really constitutes an increase of ground area occupancy and of volume within and exposed to the hospital building of Second Class Construction which is not allowable as such under the Building Code of that type of construction. It appears that this new volume is required to be cut off from the existing volume of the hospital building with fire resistance. Apparently it is the intention to leave some of the windows now opening to the open air in place.

June 13, 1942

thus providing a sort of opening between rooms. If these window openings are not needed, they must be bricked up with at least eight inch thickness. If they are needed the openings should be protected at least those that open from the added volume into the present building by automatic fire doors or shutters of a type equivalent to labelled Class C fire doors. All of the doors opening from this addition in volume to the existing building both in the basement and the first story are required to be automatic or self-closing labelled Class C fire doors, the term "labelled" meaning bearing the label of the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. identifying them as approved for use in Room and Corridor Openings. These changes should either be indicated on revised plans or supplementary specifications issued.

4-2. The sprinkler system in the existing building is required to be extended to fully cover the addition, and should be shown on the sprinkler plans for other parts.

## Part 5

5-1. Exit lights are required on the inside and white lights on the outside of the emergency exit door from the recreation room to the fire escape and from the nurses' dining room to the roof, white light and exit light in each case to be controlled by the same switch. Letters in the word exit to be no less than four and one-half inches high, showing red or green on an opaque background. Approved anti-panic hardware is required on this emergency door leading from the nurses' dining room and such a type of lockset on the door leading from the recreation room that any person may leave the room at any time without a key and without any special knowledge, merely by turning the usual knob or pressing the usual thumb latch.

5-2. Fire escapes are to be designed and built in accordance with Section 302-g of the Building Code, bearing especially in mind that brackets supporting them are required to be three piece and to have at least bolt no less than three-quarters of an inch in diameter through the wall at the top of each bracket. They are to be designed for a live load of 100 pounds per square foot. A substantial guard rail is required on the roof of the addition from the foot of the upper run to the top of the lower run and from the exit door of the nurses' dining room to the top of the lower run or some equivalent arrangement so that persons can easily find the landing of the lower run of fire escape and not be exposed to the danger of falling off the roof. Hand rails are required on both sides of the metal fire escapes.

5-3. The fire door and frame in the elevator opening (specifications Page 5-10) is required to be a standard fire door, self-closing, labelled by the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. as approved for openings in rooms and corridors (Class C).

5-4. Alteration of service elevator, installation or relocation of ranges (including electric), bake ovens, and other fire-actuated appliances; also new installation or alteration of mechanical refrigeration (except for portable units)- these operations require separate permits from this department, to be applied for by and issued only to the actual installing contractor. With each application is to be filed full information. Hoops of incombustible material, vented to the outside.

June 13, 1914.

resistance from the main hospital building where patients are cared for. I have been over this situation carefully on the ground with Mr. Porter and the following provisions are the minimum which will satisfy the Code: In the basement provide automatic or self-closing standard fire door in existing doorway near the dumb waiters in the passageway from the corridor of the main hospital basement to the kitchen. There has been a fire door in this opening some time before, this door to bear the label of the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. as being approved for use in Vertical Shafts (Class B). Make masonry partition between corridor of main building and present canned goods storeroom (to be dish washing room No. 2) uniformly at least eight inches thick and provide Class B fire door (as above), self-closing or automatic in the opening between the main corridor and this future dish washing room. Brick-up present window opening between elevator machinery room (now opening out of doors) and the narrow passageway of the new addition, eight inches thick. Make the new door from narrow passageway in new addition back of the elevator machine room and leading to the tray room a standard self-closing automatic fire door (Class B) instead of the Kalamain door indicated on the plan. On ground floor: provide standard self-closing or automatic fire door (Class E as above) in the existing opening near dumb waiters in passageway between the office of superintendent of nurses and the housekeeper's room. Brick-up (eight inches in thickness) former door opening in the rear wall of the office of superintendent of nurses, this opening now being closed with wallboard or sheathing.

O.K.

Part 6

6-1. I have not discovered the material or type of construction of the penthouse shown on the roof of the laundry building. I presume this is to be of frame construction which is allowable provided the walls are covered on the outside and the inside with incombustible material and provided the eaves or cornices are similarly covered.

6-2. The information about the sprinkler system as indicated above under Part 5 applies to this addition also. I have not found definite information that the sprinkler system is to be extended to cover this part, but it is required by the Building Code.

General

Mr. Barnes made some reference to the possibility of changing some of the reinforced concrete beams & girders to structural steel. Perhaps there will be other necessary changes to be made. Will you be kind enough to bear in mind that permits from this department when issued cover in all essential particulars only the type of work and material included in the plans, application and specifications. When any substantial change whatever is made in any of these essential features, it is required that revised information be filed here with application for an amendment to the original permit. I hope you and the contractor will cooperate with us in carrying out this policy.

Very truly yours,

WED/11

Inspector of Buildings

16820-1

June 12, 1942

Collidge, Shepley, Bulfinch & Abbott,  
122 Ames Building,  
Boston, Mass.

Subject: Alterations and additions  
to Maine General Hospital

Gentlemen:

There may be some good reason that I am not aware of for your unwillingness to file in this office definite information either by way of specifications or by way of revised plans to explain fully how the above job is to be built. If there is such a good reason I shall appreciate having you tell me what it is. If there is not I hope you will be immediately cooperative to the extent of giving us either in a written specification definitely what you propose to do or revised plans showing clearly not only the details which have previously been brought to your attention as in non-compliance with the Building Code, and also the matters brought to your attention in the attached letter.

It is my sworn duty to have on file here enough information to show reasonable compliance of every job with the Building Code before the building permit is issued; and it is equally my sworn duty to have on file in this office a record of the way buildings are actually built or altered including essential details.

I have been unable to issue the permit for general construction on the Maine General Hospital job, and not able to issue it now because this information which I am required to have has not been supplied. Presumably you are the ones to supply it.

With some misgivings, but to help in a difficult situation, I issued a closely limited preliminary permit on the job, expecting that you would proceed at once to give me a record capable of filing of the details in question.

Since I issued the preliminary permit nothing whatever has come from you relating to the job which I could make a part of the records. A few days ago Mr. Diney phoned me that you had decided to apply plaster directly on the cinder block partitions and upon the tile-furred exterior walls of the new wing; that you were to supply metal supports and metal furring for the ceiling, the ceiling to be "transite" asbestos board clipped to the furring and combustible acoustical material to be cemented or clipped to the transite. This seems to satisfy the Building Code, but it does not seem unreasonable to ask you to make this a matter of record in this office in writing so that it may be filed. He also said that he believed that you were to make the new brick walls in question as to thickness in the kitchen addition of concrete 16 inches thick up to the floor level. Is it unreasonable to expect you to revise your plan to show this change so that there may be no misunderstanding on anyone's part.

The attached letter brings to your attention quite a number of details that are either not understood or appear to be in non-compliance with the Building Code. Will you not inform by a supplementary specification in writing or by

18620-I

cc  
JH  
JH

May 22, 1942

Collidge, Shepley, Bulfinch & Abbott,  
Mass Building,  
Boston, Mass.

Subject: Alterations and additions to Maine General Hospital

Gentlemen:

Accepting your letter of May 21st as an amendment to your specifications for the above job to the effect that, with reference to Part II, construction in the second floor of the fireproof wing, wall and partition coverings will be of incombustible material; that the ceiling of this second floor will be constructed on incombustible furring and incombustible hangers and that the ceiling material will either be of incombustible material or will be fastened to a solid ceiling of incombustible material above it; and that a fire resistant separation, rated as having at least two hour fire resistance will be introduced between the main hospital building which is of Second Class Construction and the two additions to the service building which are also to be of Second Class Construction; I have issued a preliminary building permit to the contractor covering all excavations and the construction of partitions in the second story of the wing (Part II).

Very truly yours,

Inspector of Buildings

- WMCN/H
- CC: Mr. Deveney, Clerk of Works  
c/o Maine General Hospital
- Dr. Stephen Brown, Director  
Maine General Hospital
- William Porter Co., Inc.  
c/o Maine General Hospital

M

COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT  
ARCHITECTS  
AMES BUILDING BOSTON

May 21, 1942

Mr. Warren McDonald  
Inspector of Buildings  
Portland, Maine

Dear Sir: Re - Maine General Hospital

In reply to your letter of May 18th and confirming the conference at Dr. Brown's office at the Maine General Hospital on May 20th, at which you were present, together with Dr. Brown, Administrator of the Hospital, Mr. Deveney, Clerk of Works for the proposed work at the Hospital, Mr. Porter, General Contractor, Mr. Barnes of this office, and Mr. Gray, representing the Federal Works Administration, we wish to say that the proposed new construction will be in conformity with the Building Code of the City of Portland, and subject to your approval.

As regards the method of erecting the acoustical ceiling, we are now looking into several possibilities which will meet your requirements, and will let you know definitely later what system will be employed, but we can assure you that it will be a system that will meet with your approval.

Yours very truly,

COOLIDGE SHEPLEY BULFINCH & ABBOTT

BY *Francis B. Bulfinch*

FVB/JHM



Memorandum Concerning Some Details of the Plans for Alterations and Additions at  
the Maine General Hospital Which Do Not Show Compliance With the Building Code of  
the City of Portland

May 19, 1942

Because of the complexities of this job and many other jobs in these days of emergency, it seems necessary from the standpoint of the Building Inspection Department to have a plain statement in writing as to what will be done to make good these discrepancies before any permits whatever are issued.

The following in the way of a supplementary specification filed as a part of the application for the building permit will be satisfactory:

In the fireproof wing government approval will be secured to apply and thereafter plaster will be applied direct to cinder block partitions and masonry walls; or all partition and wall covering will be entirely omitted. Government approval will be secured to change ceilings and hangers and strapping for ceilings to incombustible material; or ceilings will be omitted.

As to additions to service building section, a fire-resistive wall rated as having two-hour fire resistance by the Building Code will be introduced somewhere between the two proposed additions and all parts of the building to be used for patient's care or treatment.

Warren McDonald

Inspector of Buildings