

British Architectural Books from the  
Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries

1664-1799

A Collection of Seventy Titles  
Offered for Sale *en bloc*

Charles Wood, Bookseller  
2015-2016



1. *The BUILDER'S DICTIONARY: or, gentleman and architect's companion.* London: A. Bettesworth & C. Hitch, 1734

First edition. The only illustrated 18th century builder's dictionary; it was largely based on Neve's earlier *Dictionary*; Chambers's *Cyclopaedia*, and other sources. According to Harris the preface is the most interesting and original piece in the *Dictionary*. The work also contains the only English translation of Gautier's *Traité des Ponts*. Each volume bears the approbation of Nicholas Hawksmoor, John James, and James Gibbs. The frontispiece is a charming engraving of a gentleman and an architect conversing with a quotation from Pope (and illustrated in Harris, p. 129). Park List 4. UCBA, I, p. 418. Harris, *BABW*, 65. Thomas Jefferson owned a copy of this edition (O'Neal 15).

2 vols, 8vo, orig. calf, hinges of both volumes mended with flexible cement, new lettering pieces. Unpaginated. Engraved frontisp. and 34 engr. plates: Vol I, 1-15; vol II, 16-27, [\*], 28-33. Vol II is partially split. Bindings are not very attractive but internally a nice clean absolutely complete copy.

### **RARE PUBLICATION ON ARTIFICIAL SLATE FOR ROOFING**

2. [COOK, HENRY]. *Patent artificial slate manufactory, Woodford Bridge, Essex, for covering roofs, fronts of houses, and ricks, also water pipes and gutters.* London, [ca. 1786]

Fine copy of a rare and interesting pamphlet/trade catalogue; the ESTC locates a single copy in the British Isles, at the British Library (lacking the title page and amendment leaf). The artificial slate appears to have been first made in the West Indies, prior to its manufacture in Woodford by Henry Cook (identified on page 27). The West Indies connection is interesting; the only copy located in America is in the John Carter Brown Library, which is not surprising - they must have the best collection on the West Indies in the USA. The latest date of the testimonials given at the end is 1786. This title is not in Eileen Harris, *BABW*, though she does mention Henry Cook and states that according to Bennet Woodcroft's *Subject Matter Index of Patents for Inventions* (1857) Cook patented "a composition to be used as a substitute for lead, slates or tiles in covering churches, houses and all other buildings" in 1778. She further states that "the increased number of newly invented roofing materials in the last quarter of the eighteenth century may be attributed in great measure to the fire regulations contained in the Building Act of

1774." (*BABW*, p. 412). The present copy is in fine condition, with a few contemporary ms corrections. NUC locates two copies (Baker Lib., Harvard; & Columbia).

8vo, full early 20th cent. blue calf, marbled endpapers, with the leather bookplate of W. A. Foyle, Beeleigh Abbey. (iv)+iv+16+(ii)+17-28 pp. with 4 text illus.

3. [DUBREUIL, JEAN]. *The practice of perspective: or, an easy method of representing natural objects according to the rules of art...written in French by a Jesuit of Paris; since translated into German by Ch. Rembold and into English by Rob. Pricke. And now, a second time, into the same language by E. Chambers. The third edition.* London: Tho. Bowles, 1749

Originally published Paris, 1642. This copy has extensive marginal annotations and contemporary diagrams drawn in pen & ink on the verso of the first plate. They are taken from T. Bardwell, *The Practice of Painting and Perspective*, (1756). A long popular book, there were two English translations, the first by Robert Pricke (1672; 1698), the second by the encyclopedist Ephriam Chambers in 1726. "Quite probably the most influential book on perspective ever published expressly for the use of a lay audience sketchily raffed together with greater cunning than scruple from a number of acknowledged sources, this book aroused the kind of public squabbles that insure wide publicity and instant success. Chief victims were Aleaume (never named) whose original plates were plundered before ever this book saw the light and Desargues. All the same, the book obviously filled a shrewdly-judged gap. As an easily understandable manual for non-professionals, it enjoyed considerably more than a *succès de scandale*." - P. Breman in Wiebenson III-B-19. There was a copy of the Chambers translation in the American colonies before the Revolution (Park 13). Fowler 110 (edition of ca. 1780). Vagnetti EIIIb32. RIBA, *Early printed books*, no. 923 (Chambers edition of 1726).

4to, cont. full sheep, orig. dark red lettering piece. (xviii)+16+150 pp. with (2)+150 engr plates. First 2 plates folding. Very good copy.

### **A RARE PARK LIST TITLE**

4. FLETCHER, A[BRAHAM]. *The Universal Measurer, in three parts. A work equally useful to the Gentleman, Tradesman and Mechanic. Second edition.* London: Printed for G. Robinson & J. Roberts, 1766

First published in Whitehaven in 1752-53. This work went through at least three editions, the latest in 1784. It is listed in the addenda to the Park List (no. 103); a copy was offered by a Philadelphia bookseller in 1773. Park gives only one modern location, the Library Company of Philadelphia. Wallis, *British mathematics*, no. 752FLE stating that the author was a mathematician, tobacco-pipe-maker, herbalist, astrologer, and schoolmaster of Little Boughton. Not in Harris *BABW* (which is surprising as she devotes chapter 4 to measuring and price books and includes many of them in her bibliography). Part III of the present work includes a "description, construction, and use of Coggeshall's sliding rule." Also, directions for measuring artificer's works (bricklaying, chimneys, tiling and slating, plastering, joinery, glazing, masonry, etc). OCLC locates six copies of this edition.

8vo, recent full calf spine, antique, by Green Dragon Bindery. viii+240;259+(i) pp with 11 fdg engr. plates. Upper third of the title page has been restored (the word 'Universal' is present in facsimile done expertly by the Green Dragon Bindery on paper of the period).

### **NOT ON THE PARK LIST - AND IT SHOULD BE THE SOURCE FOR THE FRANKLIN FIREPLACE**

5. GAUGER, [NICOLAS]. *Fires improved: or a new method of building chimneys, so as to prevent their smoaking...made English...by J. T. Desaguliers*. London: J. Senex & E. Curl, 1715

Originally published Paris 1713; this the first English edition. Eileen Harris calls this "the earliest treatise on domestic heating and the basis of all eighteenth century books on the subject in English...In the summer of 1715 the well-known experimental philosopher J. T. Desaguliers published a translation of Gauger's book, omitting what he thought superfluous and adding his own improvements to suit the burning of coal in England." - *BABW*, no. 244. This work was Benjamin Franklin's self acknowledged source for his ideas on the Pennsylvania fire place. James Logan of Philadelphia had a copy of the Amsterdam edition of 1714 (Wolf. *The library of James Logan*, 794). But see also RIBA, *Early printed books*, 1130 which states that "he [Franklin] had almost certainly read in the English translation of 1715..." This title is not on the Park List (*A list of architectural books available in America before the revolution*) and it should be. Schimmelman 28. NUC locates 7 copies.

16mo, early 20th century half polished calf. (vi)+[1-6]-7-161[162-172]+1 ff with 9 engr fdg plates. Some light marginal old water staining on the last few plates.

### **PEPYS DID NOT LIKE THIS BOOK**

6. GERBIER, SIR BALTHAZAR. *The first and second part of counsel and advice to all builders for the choice of their surveyors, clerks of their works, bricklayers, masons, carpenters, and other workmen therein concerned. As also in respect of their works, materials and rates thereof*. London: by Tho. Mabb, for Tho. Heath, 1664

Originally published 1663. The text of this edition consists of Gerbier's two essays, a third issue of *A brief discourse concerning the three chief principles of magnificent building, viz. solidity, conveniency and ornament*, with a separate title with imprint "London: by A. M. for Thomas Heath, 1665", 44 pp., first published 1662 and a reissue of *Counsel and advice to all builders*, 110 pp., but with the title and dedication to the king cancelled and replaced with an earlier variant of the *Brief discourse* title with imprint "London: by Tho. Mabb for Tho. Heath, 1664." The second part is preceded by an extraordinary group of 38 dedicatory epistles ranging from the Duke of York and Prince Rupert to William Wade, an architect/builder. Including as, Samuel Pepys put it in his *Diary* on 28 May 1663 "almost all the men of any great condition in England, so that the epistles are more than the book itself; and both it and them not worth a turd, that I am ashamed that I bought it." (But in fact Pepys apparently admired Gerbier enough to have acquired a major collection of his original drawings; - see E. Chaney, *The evolution of the grand tour*, ch. 9). The book is not, however without merit; Eileen Harris points out "his descriptions in *Counsel and advice* and building materials and their prices are among the earliest published in this country, preceded only by those in Thomas Willsford's little-known *Architectonice* (1659). Their contribution to English architectural history has been recognized since the nineteenth century." - *BABW*, p. 207. Harris 254 locating 4 copies (three of which are imperfect). Wing G554.

8vo, recent full calf. (ii)+(xii)+44+(48ff of deds)+(viii)+110 pp. Lacks the final advertisement leaf. Browned throughout.

7. GIBBS, JAMES. *Bibliotheca Radcliviana: or a short description of the Radcliffe Library at Oxford*. London: Printed for the author, 1747

First edition, a good copy complete with both portraits of Gibbs and Radcliffe (one or the other is often missing). A collection of plates, with brief descriptive letterpress, published by Gibbs as work on the Radcliffe Camera was

drawing to a conclusion. Gibbs says in his preface that the drawings for the plates were not made during the construction of the building “because there happened unforeseen accidents, which occasioned a few alterations to be made on it; so that the following representation of it is taken from the building as it now stands.” As has been pointed out by Hugh Pagan, this was the only British monograph of the eighteenth century devoted to a library building. Robin Middleton has noted that Gibbs’s decision to have an engraved portrait of himself as the frontispiece to the volume “was a gesture of brazen self-confidence, almost unprecedented in British architectural publications.” BAL, *Early printed books*, 1205. Berlin Catalogue 2334. Fowler 139. Harris 256.

Folio, recent marbled boards, dark red calf spine, highly gilt. 12 pp with 2 engr portraits and 21 engr plates. Pls engr by Peter Fourdrinier. A very good clean copy.

### ***‘THE MOST WIDELY USED ARCHITECTURAL BOOK OF THE CENTURY’***

8. GIBBS, JAMES. *A book of architecture, containing designs of buildings and ornaments. Second edition.* London: W. Innys & R. Manby, 1739

Originally published in 1728. “Because of his strong individualism and in spite of his conservatism, Gibbs’s influence proved enormous. This was exercised very largely through his books, especially *A book of architecture* published in London in 1728 and containing most of his executed works up to that date, as well as an ample treasury of designs, based on English, French and Italian sources, for small buildings and ornaments. This book was frankly intended as a pattern book for the use of country gentlemen in districts remote from architectural advice; and the designs, says Gibbs, could be ‘executed by any workman who understands lines.’ As Gibbs intended, so the book was used. Its success was immediate, and it was probably the most widely used architectural book of the century, not only throughout Britain but in the American colonies and the West Indies.” - Summerson, *Architecture in Britain*, p. 204. Eileen Harris points out that the book was also influential later in India and South Africa. It is well known that it was a source of inspiration for the White House in Washington and at least one mansion in Virginia. Harris, *BABW*, 258. Berlin Catalogue 2270. Fowler 138. Park List 17. Thomas Jefferson had a copy; O’Neal 48.

This copy belonged to Alexander McMillan Welch (1869-1943), a distinguished New York City architect. He is given a long note in Withey, which states: “There [in his office, at 15 E. 71st St.] he installed his library, one of the largest and most important collections of architectural works in New York.” It was subsequently owned by James Grote Vanderpool (1903-1979), Dean of the School of Architecture at Columbia University, a prominent preservationist and director of Avery Library. Finally, the title page margin is inscribed “Thos. Cressy 1899.” He, too, was an architect; his dates were 1842-1909 and he is given a good entry in Withey.

Folio, recent full sheep, dark red lettering piece, by Green Dragon Bindery. (iv)+xxv pp. with 150 engr. plates. Pl. I (Perspective View of St. Martin’s Church) has an old repair - mended at the fold, no loss - and the bottom margin has been reinforced. A very good copy.

9. GIBBS, JAMES. *Rules for drawing the several parts of architecture in a more exact and easy manner than has heretofore practiced, by which all fractions, in dividing the principal members and their parts, are avoided. The Second Edition.* London: Printed by W. Bowyer for the author, 1736

Originally published 1732; this second edition is unchanged from the first. This was one of the key books in the development and spread of vernacular Palladianism, providing a simple academic method of dividing the orders into parts without fractions. The orders as here presented were more clearly illustrated and more easily understood and executed by the average builder than in any previous architectural publication. The work was very popular and went through three editions in the 18th century and was reprinted in the 19th and 20th centuries. Gibbs’s attempt to protect his idea by copyright was futile; within one year after the appearance of the first edition it was stolen by Batty Langley, then by Edward Hoppus, then by William Salmon, etc. The book was widely used in the American colonies. Harris, *BABW*, 262. Park List 18. Wiebenson III-A-26 with an interesting note. Schimmelman 30. New Berlin Catalogue 2272d. RIBA, *Early printed books*, 1209 with interesting note.

Folio, marbled boards, calf spine & corners; dark red lettering piece (mid-20th century binding?). [privilege leaf]+vi+42 pp with 64 engr. plates. Spine is rubbed; wear to head and tail. 2 old spots on title page (about the diameter of a pencil) else an excellent clean copy. Early inscription on the verso of the first leaf: J. H. Borehan, South Hackney.

## ***A RARE SCOTTISH MEASURING BOOK***

10. GOOD, WILLIAM. *The measurer's and tradesman's assistant: containing the ordinary method of taking dimensions relative to building, in and about the city of Edinburgh; with several tables ready cast up for their assistance. To which is added an appendix, shewing the ordinary prices of Masons, Wrights, Glasiers, Slaters, and Painters work.* Edinburgh: Printed for William Creech, 1788

First edition; a very rare book. "In the introduction to his *Measurer and tradesman's assistant* (1775), Good relates how early in life, when he was a wright or carpenter, he qualified himself to be ordained an Edinburgh measurer by observing the practices of the measurers he employed for his works and by studying treatises upon mensuration. Finding that the best books about the building trades, notably those by Hoppus and Salmon, were of no use in Scotland, he was induced to publish his own treatise. To render this complete and useful he 'consulted with the most eminent architects, contractors for buildings and others versant in the building art...researched into Edinburgh measuring practice...recovered the books of some of the oldest and most approved measurers.' It seems likely that the publication of his *Assistant* in 1775 was also stimulated by Edinburgh Town Council's approval in 1773 of a mode for measuring." - Harris, *BABW*, 272. Harris locates but two copies (British Library; Columbia Univ). OCLC adds two more: UCLA, Harvard.

8vo, orig. full sheep, (front hinge cracked), dark red lettering piece. (ii)+233+1 pp. Rather heavy old water stain in first few pages.

11. HALFPENNY, WILLIAM. *The art of sound building demonstrated in geometrical problems. The second edition.* London: Printed for Sam. Birt...and B. Motte, 1725

First issue of the first edition complete with the unnumbered plate at the end of Halfpenny's design for a church in Leeds. There was a second edition published later in the same year. It is the first book in English on the geometry of arches. "This handbook intended for the craftsman, illustrates Halfpenny's understanding for geometry. The first section concentrates on a method of drawing arches by the intersection of straight lines, an invention attributed to Halfpenny." - Wiebenson, III-C-15. But in fact Halfpenny did

not invent this method; he adapted it from Abraham Bosse, as explained by Eileen Harris, page 218. Harris, *BABW*, 281. Colvin, p. 379. Park List 19. New Berlin Catalogue 2265Z. BAL, *Early printed books*, 1435.

Small folio, cont. full polished panelled calf, neatly rebacked. (vi)+2 ff (enr list of subscribers) +56+(1) pp. with engr frontisp., 19 numbered + 1 unnumb fdg plates. Plate 6 has an old repair with no loss. 19th cent. engr bookplate of Buddle Atkinson. Very good copy.

12. HALFPENNY, WILLIAM. *A new and compleat system of architecture, delineated in a variety of plans and elevations for convenient and decorated houses.* London: John Brindley, 1749

First edition, rare. An analysis of the designs, which are peculiar and "certainly not Palladian," to quote Eileen Harris, is given in Kaufmann, *Architecture in the age of reason*, pp. 28-29. "This is one of several house publications undertaken by Halfpenny, including estimates, plans and elevations perhaps inspired by the success of Garret's book of 1747. The pedestrian nature of Halfpenny's designs and their execution bely his preface on the nature of beauty: "...simplicity is the basis of beauty, as decoration is of magnificence...harmony is the result of the first, and proportion elegantly composed is the certain effect of the latter..." - Wiebenson III-D-25. Harris, *BABW*, 296. Colvin, p. 261. Park List 23. RIBA, *Early printed books*, 1440 (imperfect copy).

Oblong 8vo, orig. marbled sides, calf spine (with gilt stamps) and corners, upper and lower front joints starting. (iv)+25 pp with 46 engr plates. Scattered foxing.

## ***ENGRAVED THROUGHOUT***

13. HALFPENNY, WILLIAM. *Practical architecture, or a sure guide to the ... five orders, with their several doors and windows.* London: Tho. Bowles, 1724

First edition. Halfpenny was the first architectural writer to translate the modular proportions of the orders according to Palladio into feet and inches; this immensely important innovation, as set forth here, made Palladianism a national idiom not only in England but in the American colonies as well. His method was inspired by Abraham Bosse's *Traité des manieres de dessiner les ordres*, 1664. But his presentation was in a much more convenient format

than Bosse's folio; his book was a mere six inches high so that it may be 'carried in the Pocket and always be ready for use.' In the colonies Peter Harrison, Samuel Rhoads, and Thomas Jefferson are known to have owned this work; there were doubtless hundreds of copies in use in America in the mid and later 18th century. Harris, *BABW*, 309. Park List 26. Sowerby 4186. O'Neal 53a. Colvin, p. 378.

12mo, orig. sheep, very neatly rebacked. 48 ff; engraved throughout: t.p., ded. leaf, preface and 24 engr. plates each with engr. table on facing leaf. Very nice copy of an appealing little book.

### **EARLY PATTERN BOOK OF FARM HOUSE DESIGNS**

14. HALFPENNY, WILLIAM. *Twelve beautiful designs for farm-houses. The second edition.* London: Robert Sayer, 1759

Originally published 1750. This was one of several similar books of designs by Halfpenny which exploited Daniel Garrett's earlier (1747) *Designs and estimates of farm houses*. In the present work, each design includes not only the farm house itself, but all of the outbuildings and dependencies - a practice peculiarly English. Harris, *BABW*, 319. Park List 28, incorrectly giving date of the first edition as 1749. Schimmelman 41. Archer 138.4. Both editions are rare; of the 1750 first edition OCLC locates 6 copies; of the present edition they locates 7 copies in American libraries.

4to, orig. marbled sides, neatly respined in calf with black lettering piece. (iv)+28 pp. with 12 engr. plates. Very good copy.

### **A RARITY BY WILLIAM HALFPENNY**

15. HALFPENNY, WILLIAM. [*Twenty new designs of Chinese lattice and other works, for stair-cases, gates, palings, hatches, &c. on six folio copper-plates, with full instructions annex'd to the several divisions, scantlings, &c. thereby making the whole easy to workmen of every capacity*]. *Published according to Act of Parliament, December 16, 1750.* London: Printed for R. Sayer opposite Fetter Lane, Fleet Street & J. Brindley in New Bond Street, 1750

First and only edition. A very rare work, issued in six oblong folio sheets. Harris & Savage 321: "This suite of six plates inscribed 'W. Halfpenny Invt. Parr Sculp' seems to have been published without a title page. The title given above is from a Brindley and Sayer advertisement in *Andrea Palladio's First Book of Architecture* (1751) by Halfpenny. The BL copy is bound with *Chinese and Gothic Architecture Properly Ornamented* (1752)." The Harris collation states six plates; the present copy has nine plates and they were issued all of a piece (i.e. the last three were not added later). Harris locates only two copies: British Library and Avery Library. Not in OCLC.

Oblong folio (9 1/2 x 14 3/4"), nine engr. sheets. These nine sheets had formerly been bound into rear of another volume. They have been removed and been placed in appropriate marbled paper wrappers by Green Dragon bindery.

### **A HALFPENNY RARITY**

16. HALFPENNY, WILLIAM and JOHN. *The country gentleman's pocket companion and builder's assistant, for rural decorative architecture.* London: Robert Sayer, 1753

First edition. A nice copy of a Halfpenny rarity. "Containing thirty-two new designs, plans and elevations of alcoves, floats, temples, summer-houses, lodges, huts, grottos, &c. in the Augustine, gothic and chinese taste..." A very rare book; I have had only one other copy in the past 48 years. BAL, *Early printed books*, 1438: "The text only describes plates 1-21, possibly because the remaining plates are for Chinese floats rather than buildings. The term 'Augustine...Taste' on the title page is perhaps Halfpenny's own corruption of 'Augustan', since it seems to refer to refer to the 'Modern' classical buildings illustrated in some plates." The designs here are for garden temples and follies; they are in a rustic style of thatch, flint, moss, bark, and other rough materials. The Halfpennys were the first to popularize this style. See Harris, *BABW*, 287, p. 221 and illus on p. 221. Archer 131.1. Park List 21.

8vo, recent blue and white pastepaper boards, recent calf spine, dark red lettering piece. 14 pp with 25 engr. plates.

**A RARE PUBLICATION ON LONDON BRIDGE AND  
ONE OF ONLY TWO PUBLICATIONS BY  
HAWKSMOOR**

17. HAWKSMOOR, NICHOLAS. *A short historical account of London-Bridge, with a proposition for a new stone-bridge at Westminster*. London: J. Wilcox, 1736

First and only edition. A rare book but an ex-library copy with an old library perforation in the bottom blank margin of the title page. This is the last work of the aged and ill Hawksmoor (he died on March 25th, 1736), one of only two publications by this great Baroque genius. Like many architects of the period, Hawksmoor was aroused by the prospects put forth around 1734 for a new bridge over the Thames at Westminster, one of the major projects of the century being the first stone bridge over the river since the 12th century. To the great annoyance of several English architects who hoped for the commission, the plum was given to a foreigner, the Swiss engineer Charles Labeledy. Hawksmoor not only prepared designs for the new bridge which he appended to this history but he also executed a 'modell in stone.' Harris, *BABW*, 326 and p. 232 which gives a good account of the book. BAL, *Early Printed Books*, 1480.

4to, orig. marbled sides, neatly rebacked in calf with dark red spine label. 47+1 pp with 5 fdg. engr. plates.

18. HAWNEY, WILLIAM. *The compleat measurer; or the whole art of measuring. The second edition; to which is added, an appendix 1. of gauging; 2. of land measuring. Very useful for all tradesmen, especially carpenters, bricklayers, plaisterers, painters, joiners, glasiars, masons, etc.* London: Printed by E. Bell a.o., 1721

Originally published in 1717, this long popular manual went through sixteen editions before 1789; it was also reprinted in America. Measuring, or quantity surveying, upon which contracts and valuations were made, was an important part of the 18th century building industry; on the functions of the surveyor see chapter three in Jenkins, *Architect and patron* (Oxford, 1961). See also chapter 4 in Harris, "Measuring and price books." Harris states that the remarkable success of the present book was due as much as anything to energetic marketing by the booksellers. Harris, *BABW*, 328. Park List 106

citing an edition as late as 1809.

12mo, nicely rebound in marbled sides, calf spine, dark red lettering piece. (xvi)+346+(ii) pp with numerous text illus. Old very light water stain in the first dozen or so leaves.

**THE PREVENTION OF FIRES IN BUILDINGS**

19. [HOLLAND, HENRY]. *Resolutions of the Associated Architects; with the report of a committee by them appointed to consider the causes of the frequent fires, and the best means of preventing like in future*. [London, 1793]

An interesting and important pamphlet on two counts: as a document in the early history of professional organisation of architects and as a source for the student of the history of fireproof building. The members of the Association are stated at the outset; they include most of the leading architects of the late 18th century in London. The text gives detailed instructions for fireproof building, and is of much interest to the building historian. The identification of Henry Holland as the author is given in Colvin, p. 424. B. Kaye, *The development of the archit profession in Britain*, bibliog. no. 194. (p. 185).

8vo, orig. blue paper wraps, stitched, uncut, fine copy. (ii)+iv+31 pp. Unopened copy.

**IN PRINT FOR OVER 230 YEARS**

20. HOPPUS, E[DWARD]. *Practical measuring made easy to the meanest capacity... Ninth edition*. London: Printed, by assignment from the trustees of E. Wicksteed, 1771

Originally published 1736, this remained in print until metrification in 1973. "As surveyor to the London Assurance Corporation from 1729 until his death in 1739, Hoppus would have been familiar with all the various branches of the building industry and thereby eminently qualified to compile a comprehensive and authoratative ready-reckoner of the measurements of building materials for use in assessing costs and making valuations." - Harris, p. 238. Harris, *BABW*, 366. It was used in the American colonies; William Buckland of Annapolis had a copy in his library. Park List 32. There were copies advertised for sale by Boston booksellers in 1765. Often overlooked is the material on nails, prices of joiner's tools, bolts, latches, locks, and other builder's hardware at the end of the book. Kress 6798.

Tall narrow 8vo, (shaped for the pocket), orig. sheep, somewhat crudely but serviceably rebounded. lxxvi+204 pp. with 1 fdg. engr. plate and 2 wood-engr text illus. Old stain on upper margin of the first two or three leaves, else good clean copy.

### **THE FIRST BIOGRAPHY OF AN ENGLISH ARCHITECT**

21. JONES, INIGO. *The most notable antiquity of Great Britain, vulgarly called Stone-Heng, on Salisbury Plain, restored. The second edition.* (BOUND WITH): WALTER CHARLETON. *Chorea Gigantum: or; the most famous antiquity of Great Britain, vulgarly called Stone-Heng, standing on Salisbury Plain, restored to the Danes. The second edition.* London: Printed for D. Browne Junior...and J. Woodman & D. Lyon, 1725

Complete as issued, but without the third part (Webb's *Vindication*) and the index, and priced accordingly. BAL 1628 states: "The three parts of this work may occasionally be found separately, although it seems that all copies were originally issued with the three parts together (see Harris 914)." This edition is of special note in that the "Memoirs relating to the life and writings of Inigo Jones" is the first biography of an English architect (see Harris, p. 506). The first title was actually written by John Webb, Jones's pupil, from "some undigested notes" of his master, and was originally published in 1655. This is the second edition, but the first to contain Charlton's piece (even though it was originally published separately in 1663). Jones attributes the building of Stonehenge to the Romans, which was refuted by Charlton. An extensive and fascinating discussion of the Jones, Charleton and Webb titles is given in Harris, pp. 247-52. Harris, *BABW*, 384. BAL, *Early printed books*, 1628. This copy is complete with the frontispiece portrait of Jones engraved by Hollar; it is frequently missing. Schimmelman 49 noting that the Charleton, S. C. Library Society had a copy of this 1725 edition.

This is an interesting copy. It contains the 19th century bookplate of William Frederic Lawrence, Cowesfield, Wilts. who must have been a local antiquary; extensive tipped-in bibliographical notes, and a large envelope with press clippings relating to Stonehenge.

2 vols in one. Folio, recent dark brown paper sides, polished calf spine, dark red lettering piece (old style). I. Engr port., (x)+72 pp with 4 large fdg plates, 7 plates (of which 3 fdg) and 3 large engr. text illus; II. Engr port., (x)+48 pp with one engr plate facing p. 6. Old spot of heavy foxing in the lower outer margin of the Charlton.

### **IT SET THE STANDARDS FOR ENGLISH BRIDGE BUILDING**

22. LABELYE, CHARLES. *A description of Westminster Bridge. To which are added, an account of the methods made use of in laying the foundations of its piers...with an appendix, containing several particulars, relating to the said bridge, or to the history of the building thereof.* London: W. Strahan for the author, 1751

First edition. "The great triumph and ultimately the great tragedy in the career of the Swiss engineer Charles Labelye, who came to England in about 1725, was the building of Westminster Bridge...Together the *Short Account*, *The present state* and the *Description of Westminster Bridge* provide a complete and invaluable chronology of the various resolutions, alterations, preparations, and procedures from the surveys of the river for Hawksmoor's proposals in 1736 to the completion of the bridge in 1750." Harris, *BABW*, p. 258 and no. 401. The title page calls for two large copperplates; they were never published for which see Harris 402. Park List 107.

8vo, recent boards, printed paper lettering piece. (iv)+iv+119 pp. Late 19th cent library rubber stamp on bottom margin of t.p.

23. LABELYE, CHARLES. *A short account of the methods made use of in laying the foundation of the piers of Westminster Bridge. With an answer to the chief objections that have been made thereto...to which are annex'd the plans, elevations, and sections belonging to a design of a stone bridge, adapted to the stone piers which are to support Westminster-Bridge, with an explanation of that design.* London: Printed by A. Parker, 1739

First edition. A companion piece to the same author's better known *A description of Westminster Bridge*, 1750 (for which see Park List 107). Eileen Harris states: "Together the *Short account*, *The present state* and *The description of Westminster Bridge* provide a complete and invaluable chronology of the various resolutions, alterations, preparations and procedures from the surveys of the river for Hawksmoor's proposals in 1736 to the completion of the bridge in 1750." - *BABW*, p. 258. The plates called for in the title exist in only a single copy at the RA (Royal Academy of Arts, London); they were not issued with the regular edition. Harris, *BABW*, 405. OCLC locates but four copies in USA (UCLA, Yale, Lehigh & UVa).

12mo, recent boards, morocco lettering piece. (ii)+82 pp. Lower inner blank corner of the t.p. repaired; damage to the blank margins of the final three leaves but not affecting letterpress. Final leaf soiled.

### ***A BOOK FOR "THE FORGOTTEN MEN WHO DID THE DAILY WORK OF BUILDING"***

24. LANGLEY, BATTY. *The builders compleat assistant, or a library of arts and sciences, absolutely necessary to be understood by builders and workmen in general...proportioned by modules and minutes, according to Andrea Palladio. The fourth edition.* London: C. & R. Ware, 1766

Originally published in 1738 with the title *The builders compleat chest-book*. As has been pointed out in Eileen Harris's bibliography, freemasonry played a very important role in the writing and publishing of career of Langley. Harris states the book presents "a legendary history of geometry more or less as it appears in typical MSS Constitutions of Masonry." It was a popular work and went through at least four editions, as late as ca. 1790. The text is divided into eight sections: arithmetick, geometry, architecture, mensuration, plain trigonometry, surveying, mechanick powers, and hydrostatics. For the *Compleat chest-book* the quarto plates were bound flat, oblong ("landscape style") whereas in all editions of the *Builders compleat assistant* they were folded in two (or in this case in thirds), and bound on stubs to match the octavo volume of text.

"Almost all of the Langley pattern books were unoriginal productions cribbed from other works; nevertheless they were immensely popular. The five hundred subscribers to *The builder's complete assistant* (1738) and *The country builder's and workman's treasury of designs* (1740) came from Canterbury, York, Ipswich, Gloucester, Woodbridge, Malton, Norwich, York, Lower Hardress in Kent, and, of course, from London and its environs. They were carpenters, joiners, glaziers, masons, surveyors, carvers, and craftsmen such as these. With few exceptions...they are the forgotten men who did the daily work of building." - Harris, *BABW*, p. 268. Harris 421. Park List 39. Colvin, p. 504. New Berlin Catalogue 2275m. Provenance: Inscribed "William Pollock his book-gorbals, 1794."

2 vols in one. Thick 8vo, orig. calf, orig. spine lettering piece. (iv)+201+(iii) pp. with 77 engr plates folded in thirds and bound on stubs. Wants the blank front fly but a very good copy.

25. LANGLEY, BATTY. *The builder's director or bench-mate, being a pocket treasury of the Grecian, Roman, and Gothic orders of architecture.* London: Printed for and sold by H. Piers, 1751

Originally published 1747, this was a popular book with at least seven later issues. Prior to the appearance of Harris & Savage's *British Architectural books and writers*, the many publications of the Langleys were a bibliographical nightmare; the Harris & Savage book sorts them out and is prefaced by a wonderful essay on the eccentric author. Harris comments: "With the exception of *Ancient architecture*, Langley's architectural books are unoriginal, repetitive, slap-dash productions. Nevertheless they were continually in use and demand, and their influence on standard 18th century building all over the British Isles was enormous." The present book was intended for the workman and laborer as opposed to the nobleman and gentleman as explained in the introduction. It is stated below the imprint: "Those who purchase twelve books together, or recommend twelve buyers, shall have One Book Gratis."

Langley makes some uncharitable remarks about other architectural authors and includes his own designs for the orders. Harris, *BABW*, 426. Park List 40. Colvin, p. 504. Wiebenson III-A-30 ("a much used handbook"). RIBA, *Early printed books*, 1734-6.

12mo, old sheep, inner hinges strengthened. xxiv+184 engr plates on 92 leaves. Gutter margins of pp. iv and v have been strengthened; cloth tape touches letterpress but does not affect legibility.

26. LANGLEY, BATTY. *The city and country builder's and workman's treasury of designs: or the art of drawing and working the ornamental parts of architecture.* London: Printed and sold by S. Harding, 1745

Originally published 1740. This was a long popular book; it was still in print in a fifth edition in the late 1770s. Helen Park called this book the "third most often consulted [architectural] book" in the pre-Revolutionary American colonies; she found 20 references to it. As a widely used design source it is one of the few 18th century architectural books which is indispensable to any well-rounded collection on American colonial architecture. In addition, it contains important furniture designs (see Ward-Jackson 35-36). The author seems not to have held cabinetmakers in much esteem; in his introductory remarks he says that they "originally, were no more than spurious indocible chips; expelled by joiners for the superfluity of their sap. 'Tis a very great

difficulty to find one in fifty of them that can make a book-case &c., indispensably true, after any one of the five orders..." Harris, *BABW*, 450. Park List 42. All editions from 1745 on have a supplement of 14 separately numbered plates of roof trusses.

This copy belonged to Alexander McMillan Welch (1869-1943), a distinguished New York City architect. He is given a long note in Withey, which states: "There [in his office, at 15 E. 71st St] he installed his Library, one of the largest and most important collections of architectural works in New York." It was subsequently owned by James Grote Vanderpool (1903-1979), Dean of the school of architecture at Columbia University, a prominent preservationist and director of Avery Library.

4to, orig. calf, re sewn and rebaced by Green Dragon Bindery. (11)+22 pp with 186+14 engr. plates. Lightly browned throughout but a good sound copy.

27. LANGLEY, BATTY. *The Landed Gentleman's useful companion, or, a sure and easy method of improving estates by plantation of oak, elm, beech, birch, platanus, Portugal chestnut, horse chestnut, walnut...etc. Wherein is demonstrated, the necessity and advantage thereof; with their manner of raising, cultivating, felling. The whole being founded on above Thirty Years Experience, and now first published for the benefit of the publick by a Country Gentleman.* London: Printed for James Hodges, 1741

Originally published in 1728 as *A sure method of improving estates*. The present issue has the same text with a slightly variant cancel title page. The timber shortage at this time was a critical problem in England. Langley also addresses the matter of ornamental plantations of trees. Harris, *BABW*, 470 with the comment that there are two issues with varying pagination of the preliminaries. This reissue has the irregular pagination of the prelims corrected. Of this issue OCLC locates 8 copies in American libraries.

8vo, early full speckled calf, slight chip to the head of spine. [x]+xx+274 pp with a fdg. engr. frontisp. Early ownership inscription of James Tolefree, 1771 and Elizabeth Tolefree, 1785. Hinges cracked but holding.

28. LANGLEY, BATTY. *Practical geometry applied to the useful arts of building, surveying, gardening and mensuration: calculated for the service of gentlemen as well as artisans.* London: Printed for W. and J. Innys, 1726

First edition. This was one of Langley's most ambitious works, of particular interest for the material on garden ornament and garden plans. Thomas Jefferson had a copy (Sowerby 4185). Eileen Harris points out that it was [Langley's] "dedication of the fraternity of [free-masonry] over and above self-interest or financial gain, that gave meaning and direction to his career as an architectural publisher." The present work, practical geometry, was a Masonic subject and indeed the book was dedicated to Lord Paisley, who was installed as a Grand Master on 27 Dec. 1725. Park List 24. The Library Company of Philadelphia had a copy in 1746. BAL, *Early printed books*, no. 1753. Harris, *BABW*, 465. Roger Gaskell states that the woodcut decorations in the text are readily identifiable as those of Samuel Palmer, one of the best printers of the period.

Folio, old panelled calf, dark red lettering piece, spine rubbed. (iv)+(iv)+viii+(8)+136 pp. and 40 plates numbered 1-39, 41 (which is correct; see Harris). Title page (in red and black) has been washed.

### **BATTY LANGLEY VITRIOL**

29. LANGLEY, BATTY. *A survey of Westminster Bridge as 'tis now sinking into ruin...with remarks on the piratical method of building the piers.* London: M. Cooper, 1748

First edition. Westminster Bridge was to be the first stone bridge to be built over the Thames since London Bridge in the thirteenth century. The Swiss engineer Charles Labelye (1705-1781) was given the commission and it rankled the English community of architects and engineers. When one of his piers collapsed it brought forth a spate of pamphlets, of which the present is one. "The frontispiece, with its image of Labelye swinging from a gallows beneath his own bridge ('The Swiss Imposter rewarded, as his Ignorance justly deserves'), accurately reflects the tone of the whole pamphlet. With less bombast, Langley might perhaps have gained the recognition he obviously wanted, for hidden among all the fiery insults was the advice, which Labelye was eventually to follow...As it was the present squib probably did Langley's reputation more harm than good in the eyes of the Commissioners."- RIBA. The whole story is fascinating and is given in Harris. Harris 472. RIBA, *Early printed books*, 1757. Rare; this is only the second copy I have had in 48 years.

8vo, recent half calf, antique. viii+47+1 pp with engr frontisp.

## “BATTY LANGLEY GOTHIC”

30. LANGLEY, B. & T. *Gothic architecture, improved by rules and proportions, in many grand designs...with plans, elevations, and profiles geometrically explained...to which is added an historical dissertation on Gothic architecture*. London: I. & J. Taylor, n.d. [ca. 1790]

Originally published 1742 with the title *Ancient architecture*. One of the high spots of 18th century architectural publishing, this is often dismissed as a rococo whimsy; it is in fact “a work of some originality...the spirit of the designs is Kentian, their detail shows first-hand acquaintance with authentic examples including Westminster Abbey, whose ‘order’ is engraved, if not accurately, at least recognizably. Technically the designs are quite able, in the sense that the distribution of enrichments and the moulded profiles show a mind not insensitive to the grammar of classical design.” - Summerson, *Archit in Britain*, 229). Eileen Harris gives the work and its origin much attention. See also McCarty, *The origins of the Gothic Revival*, ch. 1. The work was used in the American colonies by William Buckland in his designs for Gunston Hall. Harris, *BABW*, 411. Park List 43. Archer 172.3. Schimmelman 61. New Berlin Catalogue 2276. Wiebenson III-A-29.

This copy has a good provenance. The front fly is inscribed ‘John Stead’s Book / Corn Exchange / Wake’ in an early hand. Colvin, p. 777, states that John Stead practiced in Wakefield in the 1820s. This copy has further evidence of Stead’s architectural competence in the form of 3 laid in scraps of paper with pen and pencil drawings of gothic moulding profiles.

4to, cont. sheep, spine repaired at an early date with old canvas, a charming and honest repair. (ii)+7+1 pp with plates numb. 1-62, A,B. Title page is engraved. Good clean copy. Preserved in a linen folding back box with morocco spine label.

31. LEADBETTER, J. *The gentleman and tradesman’s compleat assistant, or the whole art of measuring and estimating made easy. The third edition*. London: Printed for A. Webley, 1770

Originally published in 1768, at the height of the greatest building boom of the eighteenth century. “Though nominally addressed to ‘Gentlemen and Tradesmen’ it was primarily intended for the latter - for the large body of artificers who were ‘not capable of measuring, valuing or estimating their own works’ and therefore were liable to be exploited by commercially minded masters and architects.” - (Harris). To this third edition has been added a

plan and elevation of a town house with party walls. The frontispiece is a fine perspective view of a house going up with various tradesmen at work. 18th century owner’s inscription: John Hearn, Saffron Walden, Essex. Harris, *BABW*, 481.

8vo, orig. calf, neatly rebounded. viii+263+5 pp. with engr. frontisp. and 3 engr. plates, of which 2 are folding. The folding plate of the town house is worn and browned at the fold, but is intact.

32. LE CLERC, SEBASTIAN. *A treatise of architecture, with remarks and observations necessary for young people who would apply themselves to that noble art*. London: Richard Ware, 1732

Originally published Paris, 1714; the first English edition was published by subscription and appeared 1723/4. It was translated from the original French edition by Ephriam Chambers. The book remained in print for nearly 25 years; Eileen Harris comments: “The demand for it must be due largely to the fact that it was, at that time, the only systematic treatise in English which covered in full what Sir William Chambers in 1759 called ‘the Decorative Part of Civil Architecture’: the orders, their ornaments and accompaniments - mouldings, impostes, arches, pediments, doors, windows, gates, balusters, balconies, niches, etc.” Harris, *BABW*, 485. Fowler 173 (undated edition). Park List 46. The work is particularly notable for the very fine quality of Sturt’s engravings.

2 vols. 8vo, orig. calf, both vols neatly rebounded. (viii)+v+143+(iii) pp. with engr. author’s portrait. Plate vol: Engr. t.p. with vignette; engr. frontisp. on verso of t.p. (this is plate 79); 4 pp. of engr. arms of buildings trades companies and plates 1-60, 61A, 61B, 62-78; 80-181. With 18th cent. engr. bookplates of H. & W. Berens. Very nice set.

33. LONDON. *The Acts of Parliament relating to the building of Fifty New Churches in and about the cities of London and Westminster*. London: John Baskett, 1721

Nice copy. A document of key importance for the student of 18th century London churches. “Just as the great fire of 1666 marks a new initiative in church building, so the Act for Building Fifty New Churches of 1711 marks another.” - Summerson, *Architecture in Britain*, pp. 174-5. Nicholas Hawksmoor was one of the two surveyors appointed in 1711. In the event only twelve churches were completed. This is not mentioned in Harris, *BABW*,

whereas she does list *The Building Act* of 1774 (Harris 91-94). Not in the BAL Catalogue.

8vo, orig. calf, blind filets on covers. Neatly rehinged. 179+(xx) pp.

34. LONDON. (ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL). *An Act for the Finishing and Adorning the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul's, London*. London: Printed by Charles Bill, 1702

An act to appropriate more money to finish Saint Paul's.

Tall 4to, disbound. Title page and 8 pp of letterpress in black letter as usual for Acts of Parliament. pp ii+427-434. Slight wormhole through blank margin.

### **PLATES HAND COLORED WITH CHARM AND DELICACY**

35. MIDDLETON, CHARLES. *The architect and builder's miscellany, or pocket library; containing original picturesque designs in architecture*. London: Printed for the author and sold by J. Debrett, J. Taylor a.o., 1799

First edition. A charming and uncommon color plate book giving plans and elevations for "cottages, farm, country and town houses, public buildings, temples, greenhouses, bridges, lodges and gates for the entrances to parks and pleasure grounds, stables, monumental tombs, garden seats, etc." John Archer has stated that "Middleton adopted a manner of illustration that was peculiarly his own. The designs are etched in a nervous line that obscures smaller details but delineates significant features of the building design and surrounding scenery, and also contributes an uncommon liveliness and animation to the illustration as a whole. The plates are further distinguished by bright, sometimes garish coloring in ocher, salmon, pale green, bright green, and bright blue tints." (*The lit. of Brit. domestic archit.*, p. 563). The coloring in this copy is not bright and garish; it is subdued and delicate (if occasionally a little slap-dash). Middleton was a pupil of James Paine and is noted in Colvin, p. 548. Berlin Catalogue 2310. BAL, *Early printed books*, 2117 (imperfect copy lacking 4 plates). This copy is inscribed "And. Notman, a present from the Right Hon'ble Baroness de Ros."

8vo, orig. speckled calf, gilt spine, expertly rehinged. Letterpress t.p., Ded. leaf, 'Address to the Public' and 60 etched plates of which 52 are delicately hand-colored; the remaining 8 are uncolored floor plans.

36. MORRIS, ROBERT. *Architecture improved, in a collection of modern, elegant and useful designs; from slight and graceful recesses, lodges and other decorations in parks, gardens, woods or forests, to the portico, bath, observatory, and interior ornaments of superb buildings*. London: Robert Sayer, 1755

Originally published 1751 as *The Architectural Remembrancer*; both editions are rare. Morris's primary contribution to architecture was as an author. In addition to his works of architectural theory in support of the English Palladian movement, he authored two important pattern books, *Rural architecture*, (1750), and the present work, which supplied designs consistent with his earlier theories promoting classical proportions, symmetry and simplicity. Of particular note in the present work are the "great variety of rich embellishments for chimneys (i.e. mantelpieces) in the taste of Inigo Jones, Mr. Kent, etc." There are also a number of charming designs for small symmetrical garden temples. Park List 52 cites the 1755 edition with four 18th century references (but to the first edition of 1751 there are no references at all). Berlin Catalogue 2284. Colvin, p. 558. Harris, *BABW*, 565. NUC locates three copies (Harvard, Yale and Oberlin). The present copy lacks the last leaf of letterpress (pp xv-xvi) and is priced accordingly.

8vo, later half polished calf spine and corners; marbled sides. xiv (ex-xvi) pp. with 50 engr. plates. T.p. printed in red and black. With the attractive bookplate of Marshall Sisson, Farm Hall, Godmanchester.

37. NEVE, RICHARD. *The city and country purchaser's and builder's dictionary: or, the complete builder's guide. The second edition, with additions*. London: D. Browne, a.o., 1726

Originally published in 1703, this was, to quote Eileen Harris, "an entirely new type of architectural book." It went to this second edition in 1726 and a third edition in 1736. Harris: "Although the date of Neve's death is unknown, it can safely be assumed that it was before 1726, when the second edition of his dictionary appeared with an advertisement drawing attention to the errors and omissions in the original work. The anonymous critical editor [was] probably John Ozell..." (Harris goes on to give a long and interesting rationale for this statement). Harris, *BABW*, 596. Park List 58. Kress 3657.

8vo, original full calf, neatly rebacked with dark red lettering piece. xii+xx+142 ff. First few and the last few pages with scattered foxing. Else a very good copy.

38. NICHOLSON, PETER. *The student's instructor in drawing and working the five orders of architecture*. London: I. and J. Taylor, 1795

First edition. This was of one of Nicholson's most popular works; by 1837 it was being reprinted in New York. "Nicholson was one of the leading intellects behind nineteenth century building technology. He used his great ability as a mathematician to simplify many old formulae used by architectural draughtsmen as well as to devise new ones." - Colvin, p. 594. His several works were very influential on the publications of the American Asher Benjamin. BAL gives a good note: "This is the first edition of Nicholson's popular handbook aimed at draughtsmen and architectural students. A second appeared in 1804, a third in 1810, a fourth in 1815, and the work continued to be reprinted until 1845, when a 'new edition' was published by M. Taylor, to whom the copyright had passed following his uncle Josiah Taylor's death in 1834. The last edition may have been an undated printing of around 1861." - no. 2301. Schimmelman 86. The present copy has the early ownership signature of John Taylor at head of title page.

8vo, orig. calf, neatly rebacked. iv+29+(iii) pp. with 33 engr. plates (several fdg). Light water stain to lower corner of first five plates; foxing to all engraved plates.

### **FIRST EDITION OF PAIN'S FIRST BOOK**

39. PAIN, WILLIAM. *The builder's companion and workman's general assistant: demonstrating, after the most easy and practical method, all the principal rules of architecture*. London: Printed for the author and Robert Sayer, 1758

First edition of Pain's first book. It was a popular and widely used 18th century pattern book, especially in America. "A practical minded collection of plates and captions illustrating how to design and execute foundations, chimneys, geometrical figures for architectural use; brick and stone arches; roof and dome framing; stairs and railings, etc. There are two chapters on the orders and related details, such as entablatures, mouldings, mantles and a 'Venetian' window. There is also a chapter on Gothic columns, doors, windows and mouldings. The imposition of Gothic details on classical structures suggest the influence of Langley's *Gothic architecture improved*." - Wiebenson III-C-24. William Pain was a highly important architectural writer; as Eileen Harris points out, in America the demand for his books exceeded that of any other 18th century English author. Harris, *BABW*, 612. Park List 63.

Schimmelman 93. Berlin Catalogue 2287. Archer 236.1. Colvin, p. 606. Early ownership inscription of 'T. Hogg.'

Folio, recent tan linen sides, calf spine, raised bands, dark red lettering piece. (vi)+4 pp plus pp 5-81 which are in fact engraved plates counted as pages. Total of 77 plates as is correct. T.p. is printed in red & black. A nice clean copy.

40. PAIN, WILLIAM. *The practical builder; or workman's general assistant*. London: I. Taylor, 1776

Originally published 1774, this was one of the major 18th century pattern books. It was reprinted in Boston in 1792 and went through at least eight London editions. This and Pain's other works served as design sources not only for architects and builders but also for cabinet makers and carvers. Colvin, p. 606, pointing out the books of William Pain were "as successful in popularizing the 'Adam' style as the earlier books of William Halfpenny had been in disseminating Palladianism and rococo motifs. In fact it was this specific book which introduced details of the Adam taste: 'the very great revolution...which of late has so generally prevailed in the Stile of Architecture, especially in the decorative and ornamental department' yet which 'is vainly sought in any other practical treatise.' Harris, *BABW*, 646. Archer 240.1. Schimmelman 98. See Wiebenson III-C-24.

4to, modern tan linen sides, calf spine with raised bands, dark red lettering piece. (vi) pp.+ 6 pp of letterpress (explanations to the plates) and 83 engr. plates. Scattered light foxing. At the bottom of the t.p. is a small old rubber stamp "Printed in Great Britain."

### **ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PATTERN BOOKS OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY**

41. PAIN, WILLIAM. *The practical house carpenter; or, youth's instructor: containing a great variety of useful designs in carpentry and architecture...sixth edition, corrected*. London: J. Taylor at the Architectural Library, 1799

A long popular and very influential book, it was originally published in 1788; the second edition appeared in 1789. This may well have been the single most influential architectural book in late 18th and early 19th century America. Not only was it reprinted twice here (Boston, 1796; Philadelphia, 1797), it was also the immediate source for much of the material in America's first original architectural book, Asher Benjamin's *Country builder's assistant*,

Greenfield, Ma., 1797. One can still see many “William Pain doorcases” throughout the eastern states. Colvin, p. 606. Berlin Catalogue 2301. Harris, *BABW*, 656. BAL 2373 and 2374 (editions of 1788 and 1794) with excellent note. Bound at the end of this edition is “A list of prices for materials and labour...1791” (22 pages).

4to, recent full calf. 4 ff+15 ff of letterpress with plates numb. 1-148 (with 5 double-p.: 60, 63, 82, 83, 84); List of prices bound at the rear, 22 pp. Very good, very clean copy.

42. PAIN, WILLIAM & JAMES. *Pain's British Palladio: or, the builder's general assistant*. London: Printed for I. & J. Taylor, 1790

Originally published 1786. This was Pain's last book, in which he was assisted by his son James, who later became a pupil of John Nash and a practicing architect in Ireland. This book is transitional, spanning the period concerned primarily with building technology to that of the early house publications. This was one of the few 18th century pattern books to enable the experienced builder to follow a design through from groundwork to execution; it devotes one third of its plates to four complete designs for houses, and the rest to their fixtures and fittings. The designs combine Palladian massing, plans and details with Neoclassical surface treatment and Adamesque interiors. All of William Pain's books were influential in America (this title is listed in Schimmelman, *Archit treatises...available in America...through 1800*, no. 97). Wiebenson, III-C-24. BAL, 2368-2370. Harris 636.

Folio, orig full calf, neatly rebacked. 4+16 pp with 42 engr. plates (of which 2 double-p). Nice clean copy.

## **HOPPUS'S PALLADIO THE SECOND COMPLETE ENGLISH EDITION**

43. PALLADIO, ANDREA. *Andrea Palladio's Architecture, in four books...carefully revised and redelineated by EDW. HOPPUS...and embellished with a large variety of chimney pieces collected from the works of Inigo Jones and others*. London: Benjamin Cole, 1735

First edition of the Hoppus version, originally published in parts. This was the second complete English edition of Palladio after Leoni's. Though it was dedicated to Lord Burlington (without his permission) this was primarily intended for the building trades class, and was priced substantially lower

than other editions then on the market. Isaac Ware, in the advertisement to his translation of Palladio (London, 1738) dismissed it rather arrogantly as “done with so little understanding, so much negligence, that it cannot but give great offence to the judicious, and be of very bad consequence in misleading the unskilful, into whose hands it may happen to fall.” It was indeed a slap-dash production and was so carelessly put together that such copies as have survived tend to differ in collation and plate count. Though the title page calls for 226 copper plates this copy contains 224 by plate number. However, by counting the leaves there are 210 engraved plates (which corresponds with the last copy I owned and that copy was complete). This copy does lack plate 94 of Book IV (it was never bound in). A similar lacune appears in the BAL copy; that copy lacks pl. 96 in book 4. Eileen Harris wrote: “But Cole's cheap concoction, unscrupulous though it was, had several beneficial consequences. It quickly drew attention to the urgent need for a correct as well as complete edition of Palladio's works and was indirectly responsible for Ware's definitive version...it also set an extremely competitive price and thereby succeeded in extending the dissemination of the Palladian style.” - Harris, p. 363. The BAL catalogue goes on to discuss “the corrupt nature of the text and plates.” The note further states: “It seems that the nature of the work, intended as a cheap reference tool for students, builders and architects, has meant that relatively few copies of the two editions have survived.” OCLC locates just 3 copies in this country: MFA Houston, UTAustin and Duke. This copy is priced accordingly; the last complete copy I sold was priced \$8500.

2 vols, folio, cont. calf, rebacked with red leather title pieces. 251+(10) pp. Pagination irregular: Pages 34, 35, 243-246 and 250 are misnumbered 38, 33, 245-248 and 248 respectively. Engr. frontisp., engr. t.p., & engr. ded leaf and 225 plates (counted by plate number) or 210 plates counted by leaf (several 2 or 3 part). A clean, crisp, honest and unsophisticated copy. Despite the defects, very appealing.

## **PALLADIO IN ENGLISH**

44. PALLADIO, ANDREA. *The first book of architecture...translated out of Italian, with an appendix touching doors and windows, by Pr. Le Muet. Translated into English by Godfrey Richards...Eleventh edition, corrected and enlarged*. London: Printed by Edwin Midwinter, 1729

The first edition of this first English translation of Palladio appeared in 1663. All the 18th century editions of this book including the present issue of 1729

are afflicted with irregular pagination and plate numbering but this copy is quite complete. Thomas Jefferson had the edition of 1700 (O'Neal 94). He loaned his copy to the contractor James Oldham who wrote to him Dec. 122, 1804: "There never was a Palladio here [in Washington] even in private hands till I bought one...I send you my portable edition, which I value because it is portable. It contains only the first book on the orders which is the essential part." Harris, *BABW*, 682. Fowler 220 (edition of 1668). Park 69. This copy is clean and crisp and absolutely complete, and rare thus. All editions are now difficult to find.

4to, modern marbled sides, calf spine, dark red lettering piece, nicely bound. (2)+238 pp with engr. t.p., folding engr. model of St. Paul's and 70 engr. plates of which 4 folding.

### **BY A 'BRICKLAYER'S LABOURER'**

45. [PEACOCK, JAMES]. *Oikidia, or, nutshells: being ichnographic distributions for small villas...with occasional remarks by Jose MacPacke, a bricklayer's labourer*. London: the author, 1785

First edition of Peacock's "most important book" (Colvin, p. 628) but a copy which is defective and priced accordingly. It contains 23 (ex-25) engraved plans for small villas, together with some satirical directions for prospective builders, which are quoted at length in Jenkins, *Architect and patron*, pp. 143-44. Indeed, due to his discursive and satirical style, Eileen Harris wonders how seriously to take some of his comments. The material on settling accounts with tradesmen, though written with heavy irony, is important for the light it sheds on economic practices of the time. Harris, *BABW*, 694. Berlin Catalogue 2295. Schimmelman, 102. Archer 255.1 with long note.

8vo, contemp. polished tree calf, dark green lettering piece. (iv)+89 pp. with 23+2 engr. plates. Page 43/44 and plates 19 and 20 were never bound in.

### **LARGE UNTRIMMED COPY PRINTED ON THICK PAPER**

46. PLAW, JOHN. *Rural architecture; or designs, from the simple cottage to the decorated villa; including some which have been executed*. London: J. & J. Taylor, 1794

A large untrimmed copy printed on thick paper. Originally published 1785. There were further editions in 1790, 1794, 1796, 1800, and 1802. Archer 260.1. Archer calls this the first example of a genre of British architectural literature often described informally as the "villa book," and Eileen Harris calls this specific book the beginning of the Picturesque and thus the terminus to her bibliography. Archer claims this to be the first British architectural book to include aquatinted plates. Wiebenson III-D-37: "Unlike an earlier class of cottage publications which was socially conscious and concerned with housing reform, utility and economy of construction, *Rural architecture* concentrated almost entirely on the picturesque character of vernacular architecture and rustic building materials. Plaw's book was the first of a class of house publications in which the house was illustrated in a picturesque landscape, the plan was subordinated to the picturesque effect of elevation, and the newly developed medium of aquatint was used to give a picturesque character to his illustrations." Colvin, p. 642. Berlin Catalogue 2296 (edition of 1794). Abbey, *Life*, 47 (edition of 1790).

Small folio, old marbled sides, modern calf spine, dark red lettering piece. 8 pp+(viii) pp list of subscribers and 61 aquatint plates. All of the elevations are in bistre aquatint. Scattered foxing on the first dozen or so leaves.

### **THE STANDARD 18TH CENTURY CARPENTER'S HANDBOOK**

47. PRICE, FRANCIS. *The British carpenter; or, a treatise on carpentry. The third edition, enlarged, and illustrated with sixty-two copper plates*. London: Printed by C. & J. Ackers, a.o., 1753

First published in 1733, this was "the first comprehensive work on carpentry in English and the standard one for the remainder of the century." - Harris. The supplement gives Palladio's orders "proportioned and adjusted by divisions on scales" which enabled the ordinary carpenter to visually proportion the orders without the use of fractions. The book was very popular in the American Colonies; Helen Park found more references to it (27) than to any other single title. It was in fact not superseded until 1820 when Thomas Tredgold published his *Elements of carpentry*. Harris, *BABW*, 712. BAL, *Early printed books* describes editions of 1735 and 1753 (nos. 2615, 2616). Park List 67. Cicognara 953.

4to, recent calf spine, marbled boards by Green Dragon Bindery. viii+72 pp with 2 engr. frontispieces (the first a tablet with the approbation of Hawksmoor, James and Gibbs; the second, to the supplement, a bust of Palladio on a pedestal) and 72 engr. plates. T.p. and frontisp mounted. A rather worn copy but nicely restored and absolutely complete.

48. PRICE, FRANCIS. *A series of particular and useful observations, made with great diligence and care, upon that admirable structure, the Cathedral-Church of Salisbury.* London: C. & J. Akers, and R. Baldwin, 1753

First edition of the first book to seriously attempt a structural analysis of Gothic architecture, and, as such, a work of importance (see P. Ferriday, "Francis Price, Carpenter," *The Architectural Review*, (Nov. 1953), pp. 327-28). See also Eileen Harris who elaborates on this point. She points out that the plans, elevations and sections of the Cathedral are among the earliest analytical renderings of a Gothic building, preceded only by Smith's *Specimens of ancient carpentry* (1736). Harris, *BABW*, 705.

4to, recent calf spine, cloth sides, antique. (xiv)+v+78+1 pp. with engr. frontisp (numb pl 1, facing 1), and 13 plates (1 fdg). Light foxing.

49. [RALPH, JAMES]. *A critical review of the publick buildings, statues and ornaments in, and about London and Westminster. To which is prefix'd the dimensions of St. Peter's Church at Rome, and St. Paul's Cathedral at London.* London: C. Ackers for J. Wilford and J. Clarke, 1734

First edition. A controversial and important book by an American and friend of Benjamin Franklin who settled in London in the 1720s. Summerson calls him "an embittered and stupid critic" - *Georgian London*, p. 87, and it is true that Ralph does not hide his prejudices; he was a staunch Palladian and dismissed all earlier work, including Hawksmoor's churches, as "Gothic heaps of stone, without form or order". Park List 68. Harris, *BABW*, no. 727 with a long and fascinating note. See also BAL, *Early printed books*, 2700 - "the work was very influential."

8vo, beautifully rebound with marbled sides, calf spine, dark red lettering piece. (viii)+viii+119 pp. with folding letterpress table. With the Macclesfield bookplate (North Library, 1860). Half title foxed, else a very good copy.

## LARGE PAPER COPY, UNTRIMMED

50. RAWLINS, THOMAS. *Familiar architecture; consisting of original designs for houses for Gentlemen and Tradesmen, Parsonages and Summer-Retreats...* [?Norwich], Printed for the Author, 1768

First edition. Printed certification at foot of title: "N.B. No copy of this work is authentic that has not my Name in my own Hand-Writing affixed to it in the title page." This copy is indeed signed by the author. It contains original designs in the English Palladian style for gentlemen's and tradesmen's houses, parsonages, summer retreats, churches, etc. Rawlins includes a triangular planned building in an effort to refute the statements of Isaac Ware and William Chambers who "utterly rejected [this plan] as incapable of any design within" (see E. Kauffman, *Archit. in the age of reason*, and W. Hermann, *Laugier and 18th century French theory*, p. 183). Eileen Harris compares the book with Swan's *Collection of designs in architecture*, 1757, and Crunden's *Convenient and ornamental architecture*, 1767 (but it is much rarer than those two books). Harris, *BABW*, 732. Fowler 275. Colvin, p. 672. Wiebenson, III-D-33, pointing out that it is "a pretentious work that was parodied by Peacock in *Nutshells* (1785) for its eccentricities of plan and measurements". Schimmelman 112. NUC locates four copies. Millard, *English Books*, 64 (this edition) with interesting note.

Small folio, modern cloth sides, polished calf spine and corners, died dark brown; morocco title label lettered in gilt. (2)+viii+9-30; (2) explanatory leaf of text to the final plate. With 60 engr. plates

51. RICHARDSON, GEORGE. *A treatise on the five orders of architecture ... accompanied with observations made on several of the antiquities at Rome, with various parts of Italy, at Pola in Istria, and the southern provinces of France in the years 1760, 1761, 1762 and 1763.* London: Printed for the author, 1787

First edition. Richardson is known primarily as one of the major disseminators of the Adam style of decoration, as indeed he should be, having spent 18 years as draftsman and designer to the brothers. His publications were numerous (Colvin lists eleven books; Harris lists eight), and with one exception (*Iconology*), he engraved in aquatint all the plates for his books. Harris, *BABW*, 744. Berlin Catalogue 2297. Abbey, *Life*, 58. Colvin, p. 687. Harris states: "In his *Treatise of the Five Orders* (1787), forms and proportions are pur-

posely varied so that 'the Ideas of the student should not be circumscribed on all occasions to the same rules', that 'genius and invention' may be given scope, and his 'collection of designs [be rendered] more pleasing than a repetition of the same forms and proportions'.

Large folio, recent marbled boards, calf spine, dark red lettering piece. (x)+32 pp with 22 plates in uncolored aquatint. Some foxing on the first plate, a few of the other plates foxed in the margins.

52. [RIOU, STEPHEN]. *The Grecian orders of architecture. Delineated and explained from the Antiquities of Athens...to which are added remarks concerning publick and private edifices with designs.* London: J. Dixwell for the author, 1768

First and only edition, a good clean untrimmed copy. As pointed out by Howard Colvin, 'this was intended to give wider currency to the discoveries of Stuart and Revett, and included a number of plates drawn by the author to show how Grecian features could be incorporated in buildings of basically Palladian character.' - *Biog. Dict.*, p. 693. In his preface Riou gives the first English checklist of Vitruvian manuscripts and printed editions. Eileen Harris gives a good account of the origins of the book and a fascinating commentary on its relationship to the works of LeRoy and Stuart and Revett. In part II of the work Riou gives some interesting designs of his own: a church after the manner of an antique temple, Cenotaph (a grand machine for fireworks); Design for an open place at White Hall, with porticoes; design for a new street (i.e. row houses) in the city; a town house, a villa of trapezoidal plan with wings, a country house and a most extraordinary octagonally-planned hunter's hall. Harris states that the reception to these designs was "lukewarm." Harris, *BABW*, 746. Park List 116.

Folio, recently bound with tan linen sides, polished calf spine and corners, dark red morocco lettering piece. (xx)+78 pp with 18+10 engr. plates of which 8 are double-p. Engr. vignette on title and 6 engravings in the text. A nice copy.

53. ROBERTSON, J[OHN]. *A general treatise of mensuration: containing many useful and necessary improvements composed for the benefit of artificers, builders, measurers, surveyors, gaugers, farmers, gentlemen, young students, etc. Fourth edition.* London: J. Nourse, 1779

Originally published 1739, this was esteemed "the only book of any value that could be consulted either by artisan or mathematician" until Charles

Hutton's *Treatise* of 1770. Robertson is perhaps better known to architectural historians for his *Treatise of...mathematical instruments* of 1747. Harris, *BABW*, 750.

12mo, recent marbled sides, calf spine. xvi+353+(iii) pp with 3 fdg engr plates. Occas marginal soiling but no loss of text or letterpress. For this sort of book a very good copy.

54. *RUDIMENTS of ancient architecture, containing an historical account of the five orders, with their proportions, and examples of each from antiques; also extracts from Vitruvius, Pliny...with a dictionary of terms. The second edition, much enlarged.* London: I. & J. Taylor, 1794 (BOUND WITH) *Essays on gothic architecture by T. Warton, J. Bentham, Capt. Grose & J. Milner.* London: J. Taylor, 1800

Fine copy. The *Rudiments*, originally published 1789, was meant for the general reader. "The identity of the anonymous author has not been discovered. He was clearly a gentleman of scholarly bent, well grounded in the classics, and familiar with the major antiquarian and architectural publications of the period." - Harris. The text is based on Chambers, *Treatise*; Stuart and Revett, *Antiquities*; Norden, *Travels in Nubia*; Piranesi, *Della magnificenza*; Newton, *Vitruvius*; and Castell, *Villas* and perhaps other sources. Harris, *BABW*, 763. Colvin, p. 795, notes the portrait. Archer 302.2. Schimmelman 119. BAL, *Early printed books*, 2871.

The *Essays on gothic architecture* were first published in 1800 (the present copy is the second edition as indicated by the fact that p. 13 is misnumbered 11). BAL, *Early printed books*, 1001 with fascinating note.

2 vols in one. 8vo, full contemp. speckled calf, dark red lettering piece, spine with handsome gilt stamps. xvi+117+(ii) pp with 11 plates numbered [1], 2-4, 4\*, 5-10 and with engr. port. vignette on t.p. *Essays*: xxiii+149+(ii) pp. with 10 engr plates of which 2 fdg. 18th cent. engr. bookplate of George W. Gent.

### ***A RARE BOOK, AND A COPY WITH AN EARLY AMERICAN PROVENANCE***

55. *The RUDIMENTS of Architecture; or the Young Workman's Instructor...with twenty-three elegant designs of buildings, the most of which have been actually executed in North Britain.* London: John Donaldson, 1775

Originally published 1772 in Edinburgh. BAL, *Early Printed Books*: “Harris identifies this practical treatise for the instruction of workmen, especially those in Scotland, as being selected mainly from Salmon’s *Palladio Londinensis* (1762 edition), and to a lesser degree from Le Clerc’s *Treatise* (1723-24), while the concluding designs for houses are copied with minor variations from those drawn by the Edinburgh stone-mason George Jameson and published as *Thirty-three designs* (1765). *The rudiments of architecture* was first published in 1772...Another edition (or more likely another edition of the same sheets) was published in London 1775...Harris notes that the success of the compilation is due more to the absence of other such works printed in Scotland and the efforts of the publishers than to the second-hand second-rate contents. The large folded plate XIII is often missing from copies having either been removed by an unscrupulous bookseller for separate sale, or by an architect for framing on the office wall.” (no. 2874). It is present in the copy here. Harris, *BABW*, 769. Both Harris and OCLC locate just one copy, the same copy, at Yale.

The present copy has an American provenance right back to the 18th century. It is signed on the front fly-leaf “George G. Erving Boston Dec. 10th, 1792 / Benj Hale Oct. 1858.” (Hale was the author of *Introduction to the mechanical principles of carpentry*, Boston & Gardiner, Me., 1827).

4to, recent tan cloth sides, calf spine with raised bands and dark red lettering piece. (viii)+127+(1)+6+(16) pp with 47 plates (ex-48); Plate 3 in the final section was never bound in. All 5 of the folding plates in the first part are present. Scattered foxing throughout.

56. SALMON, WILLIAM. *The country builder’s estimator, or the architect’s companion, for estimating of new buildings, or repairing of old...the eighth edition, carefully revised and corrected...by John Green, Architect, in Salisbury*. London: Printed for S. Crowder, 1770

Originally published in Colchester about 1733, this was Salmon’s first book and the first book to be wholly devoted to builder’s prices. It was very popular; Eileen Harris lists twelve printings between 1733 and 1784 plus a 1960 reprint by C. E. Kenny called *The measurer’s mate*. But nowadays all editions are rare. It was perhaps the most popular 18th century price book, covering the work of bricklayers, blacksmiths, carpenters, plasterers, painters, thatchers and trimmers, as well as just about every major part of a house or barn. BAL, *Early printed books*, 2884 edition of ca. 1733 with a very interesting note. Harris, *BABW*, 784. Park List 73. Kress 7050 (edition of 1774). Wallis, *British Mathematics*, 727SAL27/52.

12mo, orig. sheep. About one half inch of leather missing at top of spine, else a very good copy. xii+108 pp. with 1 fdg table printed on both sides.

57. SALMON, WILLIAM. *The London and country builder’s vade mecum: or, the compleat and universal architect’s assistant. Third edition, revised and corrected*. London: J. Hodges, 1755

A fine crisp copy. Originally published 1741. Harris states that Salmon was not deterred, as other authors doubtless were, by objections that prices differed throughout the country. This was a much used book in the colonies, advertised by Boston, New York and Philadelphia booksellers in the 1750s and 1760s. With Salmon’s other price books, it served as a standard of reference for establishing prices for the various building trades in America before the Revolution; after the war price books compiled and published by Americans began to appear. Harris, *BABW*, 790. Park List 74. Archer 437.2. Schimmelman 124 citing 7 pre-1800 references. Wallis, *Brit. Mathematics*, 727SAL45/48. Colvin, p. 711.

8vo, orig. full polished sheep, upper joints starting but a fine clean and crisp copy. (ii)+x+187+1 pp with engr. frontisp.

58. SALMON, WILLIAM. *Palladio Londinensis: or, the London art of building. The second edition, enriched with fifteen additional copper plates...by E. Hoppus*. London: A. Ward a.o., 1738

Originally published 1734, this work “for nearly forty years remained a standard builder’s manual and in that time saw more editions than any of the several other books of its kind.” - Harris. This is one of the most important source books for studying the architecture of colonial America. Helen Park found 27 references in pre-Revolutionary 18th century records. It was designed to provide the builder with everything he needed to build and decorate a house according to a plan provided in some other source. It was especially influential in colonial Virginia; on this see T. T. Waterman’s *Mansions of Virginia* (in *passim*). Harris, *BABW*, 794. Park List 75. Schimmelman 125. Wiebenson III-C-19. Archer 438.2. BAL, *Early printed books*, 2888-2890.

4to, orig. full sheep, hinges cracked but a very good copy. (viii)+132+(28+iv) pp with 52 engr. plates (most fdg) numb. 1-37; A-P. This copy does not repeat pp. 77-80 as in the Harris collation. Scattered old and very light water stains, but a very good copy.

**ABSOLUTELY COMPLETE COPY OF  
A VERY RARE BOOK**

59. SCAMOZZI, VINCENT. *The Mirror of Architecture: or the ground-rules of the art of building, exactly laid down by Vincent Scamozzi...reviewed and enlarged by Joachim Schuym of Amsterdam, translated out of Dutch by W. F...Hereunto is added the description and use of an ordinary joynt-rule by John Browne. Third edition with addition of stair-cases and chimney-pieces.* London: Printed for W. Fisher, 1676

Absolutely complete copy of a very rare book. Originally published in Venice in 1615, "Scamozzi's 800-page 'summa' of architecture was, of course, entirely unsuited for the popular market, but his international reputation made an abstract a widely saleable proposition. By a skilful reduction of the material to a few pages, Schuym produced a handbook of the orders that could vie with Vignola's...The publisher Fisher translated Schuym's Dutch text himself...Not satisfied, however, with a manual of the orders, Fisher added to it a treatise by the mathematical instrument maker John Brown...Fisher further enriched his *Mirror of Architecture* by a 'contracted' version of Wotton's *Elements of Architecture*, retitled *The Ground Rules of Architecture*...To this he added details of the 'Roman' and Corinthian capitals copied from Dancker Danckerts folio edition of Scamozzi, three chimney-piece designs from J. Barbet's *Book of Architecture*...and four designs for stairs from works on perspective by Marolois and Hondius...It was precisely its miscellaneous composition that made the *Mirror* so popular that it appeared worth while reprinting four times during the eighteenth century, the last as late as 1752." - Harris, *BABW*, p. 410 and no. 804. The first edition was published in London, 1669. Thomas Jefferson owned a copy of the seventh edition of 1734 (see O'Neal 111b). Park 49.

4to, recent full calf antique by the Green Dragon Bindery. Part I (Scamozzi): Engr t.p., printed t.p., (vi) + (ii) + pp. 1-23 with pls. 1-40 + 3 unnumb between pls 32 & 33; followed by 3 pls of chimney pieces; followed by 4 plates of stairs. Part II (Brown): (ii) + 29 pp with fdg. engr plate of the Rule. Part III (Wotton): 22 pp. Margins a bit thumb soiled; Engr. t.p. mounted. But a very good absolutely complete copy of a very rare book.

**"AN ODDITY AMONG ARCHITECTURAL BOOKS"**

60. SKAIFE, THOMAS. *A key to civil architecture; or, the universal British builder. Second edition, corrected.* London: R. Baldwin, 1776

Originally published 1774. A peculiar book with a long and rambling text, Harris calls this "an oddity among architectural books." To the historian, she says, "the main interest of the *Key* is the information it provides about labor relations in the building industry at the time of the great Building Act of 1774, when speculative development was booming and competition between journeymen, master builders, architects, surveyors, and measurers was intense." Harris, *BABW*, 830. This is a much more useful work than the usual tabular sort of surveyor's manual, as it discusses in detail the methods and procedures of measuring each and every kind of material and job. Frank Jenkins in his excellent *Architect and Patron* (Lon., 1961) makes no less than four extensive quotes from Skaife. BAL, *Early printed books*, 3047 (as in the BAL copy our copy also as p. 387 misnumbered 389).

8vo, recent polished calf spine, raised bands, linen sides, well bound. xii+387 pp with 2 fdg. engr. plates. Pale old embossed library stamp just visible on t.p.

61. SWAN, ABRAHAM. *The British architect or the builder's treasury of stair-cases.* London: Printed for the author, [1765?]

First published 1745; this went through five British editions and stayed in print for over twenty years. It was also one of the most popular pattern books used in colonial America (it was reprinted in Philadelphia in 1775 and as such was the first architectural book printed in America). It was also reprinted in Boston in 1794. Architectural details taken straight from its plates can be found from Maine to Georgia. Harris, *BABW*, 863. Park List 79. Schimmelman 134. Wiebenson III-C-22. Fowler 341. Colvin, p. 799. Like so many of these pattern books this has in recent years become quite scarce.

Folio, recent full reverse calf. viii+16 pp. with 60 engr. plates. Good clean copy.

62. SWAN, ABRAHAM. *A collection of designs in architecture, containing new plans and elevations of houses for general use*. London: Printed and sold by the author, 1757

First edition, an excellent copy. Though Swan's external elevations were more or less Palladian in character, his interior designs reflected the contemporary taste for rococo decoration. His books were very popular in America; the Philadelphia edition of his *British Architect* was the first architectural book to be printed in this country. The present work was also reprinted in America in 1775 but 4 pages and 10 plates were all that were ever produced and are known by only two copies (NYPL and Avery Library). Thus this complete British edition is all the more important for American collections.

Swan was a fascinating character. The introductions to this and to his *British Carpenter* were self-aggrandizing and dripping with false modesty. He had, he claimed, "little view to his own Profit; a great...love for the Science of Architecture", an "earnest desire of promoting the Knowledge and Practice of it, especially in [his] own country", a wish to "wipe-off" reproaches by foreigners of "the Declension of the Arts and Sciences among us", and, above all, "to raise the glory of his own country" - these were his motives. See the fascinating note in Harris. (BAL, *Early printed books*, 3222). Harris, *BABW*, 870. Park List 80. Berlin Catalogue 2285. All editions of this book are now very scarce.

2 volumes. Folio, orig. calf, beautifully and professionally rebacked, gilt spines, dark red lettering pieces. vi+8 pp. with 61 plates; iv+12 pp. with 63 plates. A really nice 2 vol set.

63. TAYLOR'S ARCHITECTURAL LIBRARY (Publisher). *A catalogue of modern books on architecture, theoretical, practical, and ornamental: viz, Books of Plans and Elevations for Houses, Temples, Bridges &c. Of Ornaments for Internal Decorations, Foliage for Carvers, &c. On Perspective. Books of use to Carpenters, Bricklayers, and Workmen in general, &c &c. Which, with the best Ancient Authors, are constantly for sale at I. and J. Taylors's Architectural Library, No. 56, High Holborn, London. Where may be had the works of the most celebrated French Architects and Engineers.* [London, 1792?]

These Taylor catalogues are, or used to be, ubiquitous, primarily because they were stitched into the back of almost all of Taylor's publications. In many cases they were removed and sold separately. BAL, *Early Printed Books*,

nos 3253-3283 lists 30 of them, almost all of which are bound into books Taylor published. They are almost always undated and the key to assigning them a date is to work out the most recently published [and dated] book. The BAL entries are dated in this way. The copy on offer here is BAL 3259 with the note: "This catalogue announces John Phillips' *General History of Inland Navigation* (1792) as 'in the press and speedily will be published.'"

They are fun to read through for anyone familiar with this literature as included among the standard titles are some stunning rarities (i.e. rare today).

8vo, disbound, untrimmed, with three stab holes along the spine. 16 pp. Excellent copy.

64. TAYLOR, WILLIAM. *The measurer's assistant; or, mensuration made easy, by a new set of tables. Birmingham: Printed by J. Belcher, sold by the author W. Taylor, Bookseller, Spiceal Street; and the other booksellers in Birmingham, also by T. Vernor, Birchin-Lane, London, 1792*

First edition, a rare work. The author calls himself on the title land surveyor. The work was applicable to the work of artificiers, bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, slaters and tilers, plasterers, painters, glaziers, pavoirs, plumbers, vaulted and arched roofs, etc. OCLC does not locate any copies in American libraries. ESTC does locate a copy at the Spencer Research Library at the U of Kansas; they locate six copies in the UK (Birmingham PL, BL, Cambridge, NLS, Oxford and St. Andrews). My own records indicate that I owned one other copy of this book in the 1980s; I sold it to Arnaud de Vitry but I can find no record of it in his auction catalogue (Sotheby's London 10-11 April 2002).

8vo, orig. sheep, xxiii+1+455+1 pp. Binding is original; it was restored by the Green Dragon Bindery.

65. WARE, I(SAAC). *Designs of Inigo Jones and others*. London: J. Millan, [1731]

First edition. The importance of this particular collection of Inigo Jones designs lies in its small size and portability - it was a suitable pocket companion for the travelling gentleman and builder, both in Europe and America. Peter Harrison, the architect of Newport, had a copy in his library. It was also intended to disseminate Lord Burlington's architectural taste to a wider

public. Ware's original finished drawings for the book (along with three others that were not engraved) are in the Soane Museum. Harris/Savage, *BABW*, 910. Park List 85. Fowler 437. Berlin Catalogue 2274.

8vo, old calf, neatly rebacked. Engr. title, 3 engr. leaves of contents and 48 plates (numbered 1-53; 6 double-page). Very light foxing on engr. t.p. but a good copy.

### ***A RARITY BY THE ARCHITECT JOHN WOOD***

66. WOOD, JOHN. *A description of the Exchange in Bristol: wherein the ceremony of laying the first stone of that structure; together with that of opening the building for public use, is regularly recited.* Bath: Printed in the year 1745 and sold by J. Leake a.o., 1745

First and only edition, rare; the edition was 300 copies. The explanation for this book is given by Harris, but in a footnote rather than in the text itself: "Although concerned with a single building of his own design, this too is consistent with his attitude to precise historical facts. His failure to find an account of the opening ceremonies of the London exchange prompted him to publish 'all the circumstances' surrounding the building and opening of the Bristol Exchange, 'it being certain that Precedents in or relating to Architecture carry their uses along with them as well as Precedents in the Law.'" (p. 488, note 68). In addition to describing the ceremonies, the book illustrates this fine building in two plans, two elevations and two sections and plates of the front gate and front doors. Harris, *BABW*, 922. OCLC locates 7 copies in American libraries.

8vo, old mottled calf, neatly rebacked. (iv)+36+(1) pp. with 8 engr plates (of which 6 double-p). Scattered light foxing.

67. WOOD, JOHN. *An essay towards a description of Bath.* Bath: Thomas Boddely, 1742 - [Part II, Bath: W. Frederick, 1743]

First edition. In this work "he allowed his imagination full scope, identifying the city of Bladud as the ancient seat of Apollo and establishing a Druidic University at Stanton Drew. This historical romanticism serves as an introduction to Wood's own account of the Georgian improvements in which he had played so prominent a part. He also took the opportunity to attack those who had opposed his schemes, and to denounce the 'piratical' architecture of

those master builders who did not submit themselves to his architectural direction." - Colvin, p. 910. Eileen Harris points out that this was the only one of Wood's books successful enough to require reprinting; it went through three editions. Harris also notes a Part III (her no. 925) published separately in 1743; this is very rare, she locates only one copy (Bath Reference Library) and states that it was not incorporated into the 1749 or later editions. The BAL note states that this third part, "very scarce", was possibly suppressed by the author. Harris, *BABW*, 924. Fowler 442 (third edition of 1765). Cicognara 1828. BAL, *Early printed books*, 3703 (edition of 1749).

2 parts in 1 vol. 8vo, old marbled sides, neatly rebacked. (x)+92 pp; (iv)+104 pp with 13 plates on 7 (6 double each with 2 numbers plus 1 single); part II with 2 pls (on 1), i.e. 1 fdg plate. Final leaf a bit dusty; a good copy.

### ***"THE MOST PECULIAR BOOK ON ARCHITECTURE WRITTEN IN ENGLAND DURING THE 18TH CENTURY"***

68. WOOD, JOHN. *The origin of building: or, the plagiarism of the heathens detected. In five books.* Bath: S. & F. Farley a.o., 1741

Fine copy of the first and only edition of the author's first book. The late Professor Wittkower called this "the most peculiar book on architecture written in England during the 18th century." And Sir John Summerson gave it an extended note: "...as his *Origin of building* shows he had read a great deal...he had a curiously original mind, fundamentally unlearned but steeped in amateur erudition. In his book he showed, to his own satisfaction, and with the help of Villalpando, that classic architecture had been revealed to the Jews and incorporated in the Temple of Jerusalem. The book is personal and has no particular connection with Palladianism except that it illustrates in a remarkable way the desire for an absolute sanction, biblical as well as philosophical, for the Vitruvian source of architectural virtue." - *Architecture in Britain*, 223, 209. A long and fascinating analysis is given by Harris, pp. 480-487; *BABW* 929. She also states that the original MS is in the Soane Museum. Wiebenson II-23. Fowler 441. Millard, *English*, 91. NUC locates 6 copies. BAL, *Early printed books*, 3704.

Folio, orig. calf, neatly rebacked, a fine clean copy. (6)+235+errata leaf with 25 engr. plates (numbered 1-36; 11 double-p. plates bearing 2 numbers each).

**INCLUDES 'THE ELEMENTS  
OF ARCHITECTURE'**

69. WOTTON, SIR HENRY. *Reliquiae Wottonianae: or a collection lives, letters, poems...and other incomparable pieces of language and art. Third edition, with large additions.* London: Printed by T. Roycroft for R. Marriott a.o., 1672

This includes Wotton's famous *The elements of architecture* first published in 1624, said to be 'the first significant British contribution to architectural theory' (pp. 1-71). Good notes on this important essay are given in Harris, *BABW*, pp. 499-502 and in the Millard *British* catalogue no. 95. Harris states that it was included in the present work on the basis mainly of literary merit, "but its dissemination was greatest however in the very quarter for which it was not intended, in the building trades, among ordinary artizans." She then lists several builders' books which reprinted the essay in whole or in part. Park List 119; Helen Park found 3 pre-Revolutionary American locations: Loganian Library, Harvard and the Charleston Library Society. The pagination is irregular due to typesetter's errors but the work appears to be complete; certainly 'The Elements' is all there. With the ownership inscription of 'Richd Lake, 1707.'

8vo, old calf (appears to be the original binding), with replacement spine label. (lxxxiv)+581+(ii) pp. with 4 engr portraits. Table of contents bound in as the final leaf. Good copy.

**"THE FATHER OF ENGLISH  
ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY"**

70. WREN, CHRISTOPHER, Jr. *Parentalia: or memoirs of the family of Wrens ... chiefly of Sir Christopher Wren, late Surveyor-General of the Royal Buildings, president of the Royal Society, etc....compiled by his son Christopher; now published by his grandson, Stephen Wren, Esq.* London; T. Osborne & R. Dodsley, 1750

Fine copy. Only edition, complete with the mezzotint portrait of Wren as frontispiece engraved by I. Faber (this is often missing). This is the most important source of original information on Wren, and contains Wren's only known published writings on architecture, probably written in the early 1680s. "As a biography of an English architect, *Parentalia* is preceded only by the 'Memoirs Relating to the Life and Writings of Inigo Jones Esq.' prefixed to the second edition *Stone Heng Restored* (1725). *Parentalia* must however be granted the distinction of being the *father* of English architectural history and was described as such in the late eighteenth century by James Essex." - Eileen Harris, p. 506. *BABW* 949. Colvin, p. 921. Wiebenson II-18. Lewine, p. 576. Millard *British Books*, no.97. This copy contains two engraved bookplates: Scrope Berdmore, S.T.P., Coll. Mert. Custon, 1790; and Henry C. Compton, Esq., Manor House, Lyndhurst.

Folio, cont. hinges very slightly cracked, spine nicely gilt; red edges, dark red lettering piece. Title page in red and black. (iv)+xii+(4)+368+(iv) pp (pp. 161-180 omitted, as is correct; see Harris 949) with 12 engr. plates (incl. mezzotint portrait and engr. ded. leaf); also 3 engr. text illus and engr head and tail pieces.