A BOOK OF THE LAW QUADRANGLE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
TOWERS OF THE LEGAL RESEARCH BUILDING
A Book of the

LAW QUADRANGLE

at

The University of Michigan

PUBLISHED BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE LAWYERS CLUB
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN
1934
WILLIAM WILSON COOK ardently believed that the future of democratic institutions must depend in large measure upon the ability and integrity of the members of the legal profession. He hoped to improve the quality of the leadership provided by that profession by improving the law schools. As the immediate object of his philanthropy he chose his Alma Mater, The University of Michigan Law School. The Law Quadrangle is the physical embodiment of one aspect of his idea and marks a milestone in legal education. In making possible a close fellowship between lawyers, teachers, and students in an inspiring environment he has promoted high ideals of scholarship and of professional conduct.

The following pages will outline the evolution of his plan and will depict and describe the beautiful buildings which his generosity has provided. It is hoped that the reader will be able to catch some of the idealism which motivated the donor in devoting the material fruits of his life's endeavors to the welfare of the legal profession, and, through it, to the welfare of his country.
EDITORIAL STAFF

NATHAN FRED, Editor

A. B. DIEFENBACH, Assistant Editor  HOWARD W. FANT, Business Manager

EMMETT E. EAGAN  JOHN B. MARTIN, JR.

JOHN E. GLOVIN, JR.  JOHN H. ROCKWELL

LAWRENCE HARTWIG  EDWIN L. STANLEY

SAMUEL KAUFMAN  MIRON K. TOWNE
# CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Wilson Cook</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of the Law School</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Evolution of the Quadrangle</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Buildings of the Lawyers Club</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Legal Research Building</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutchins Hall</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decorative Details</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Architectural Analysis</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyers Club Activities</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WILLIAM WILSON COOK
WILLIAM WILSON COOK

William Wilson Cook was a native of Michigan, having been born in Hillsdale on April 16, 1858. He was the son of John Poller Cook and Martha Wolford Cook and was descended, in the ninth generation, from the famous William Bradford, governor and historian of the Plymouth colony. Mr. Cook's early education was received in the public schools of Hillsdale, Michigan, and in the preparatory department of Hillsdale college. In 1876 he entered the University of Michigan and in 1880 received his Bachelor's degree. Two years later he was graduated from the Law School. From Law School Mr. Cook entered the office of William B. Coudert and was admitted to the New York bar in 1883, gradually rising to be one of its ablest and most influential members. For many years prior to his retirement he was general counsel for the Commercial Cable and Postal Telegraph Company. In 1921 Mr. Cook retired from active practice to devote himself to writing and study. He died June 4, 1930 at Port Chester, New York.

William Wilson Cook is known to every Michigan man for his generous gifts to the University and his untiring interest in its affairs. His gifts to his Alma Mater during his lifetime and under his will total nearly $16,000,000, thus making him the largest private benefactor of the University of Michigan. His most widely known gift is, of course, the Law Quadrangle. Second only to the Law Quadrangle was his generous donation of the Martha Cook dormitory for women, which he named in honor of his mother. Of his other benefactions perhaps the most outstanding was the establishment of a trust fund of $200,000 to found a chair in American Institutions at this University.

Mr. Cook was not only a prominent lawyer but also a prolific writer. His greatest work and one that is known to every lawyer is his "Cook on Corporations," which is now in its eighth edition. In 1924 he published "Principles of
Corporation Law," a summary of his longer work for the use of law students. In 1922 Mr. Cook’s "Power and Responsibility of the American Bar" made its appearance. In this book is set forth his belief in the importance of the lawyer as a leader in American democracy and the consequent necessity of maintaining a high level of intelligence and integrity in the Legal profession. Mr. Cook’s last book, "American Institutions and Their Preservation," in which he set forth his views on a subject in which he was passionately interested throughout his life, was published privately in 1927.

FROM THE WILL OF WILLIAM W. COOK
CLOCK TOWER LEGAL RESEARCH BUILDING
HISTORY OF THE LAW SCHOOL

Early in the winter of 1823 two men, both on their way west, met by chance in Cleveland, Ohio. John Allen persuaded the other, E. W. Rumsey, with his wife, Ann, to go with him to Michigan. In February 1824 the three arrived at an oak grove on the Huron River about thirty-eight miles west of Detroit. After several months they were joined by John Allen's wife, whose name also was Ann. Later in the spring the two men found, among other beauties of the spot, a natural arbor which they called "Ann's Arbor." Such was the origin of the town which was to become one of the academic centers of the middle west.

A decision of the Supreme Court of Michigan, 4 Mich. 213 (1856), determined that the University of Michigan had been founded in 1817 by an act of the legislature in that year. The scheme prepared by Augustus B. Woodward, Presiding Judge of the territorial Supreme Court, was the most elaborate of the contemplated educational systems existing in the states. When Michigan became a state (January 26, 1837) a provision was made in the constitution for the support of a university. On March 18, 1837 the Organic Act of the University of Michigan was approved, providing for a Board of Regents, who with certain state officials as officers ex-officio, comprised its governing body. Action taken by the Board of Regents fixed the seat of the University at Ann Arbor, to which it was moved from Detroit.

By the Organic Act of 1837 a department of law was contemplated. However, the existing practice of obtaining legal education in the offices of practising attorneys, coupled with the more immediate need for a department of medicine and surgery, delayed the organization of the law school. The department of medicine and surgery was added to the University in 1848-49. In 1858 the need for a law department was so apparent and the petitions for one
so numerous that the Board of Regents appointed a committee to investigate. The committee reported that the needs of the contemplated law department for the University were for three professorships: "one of Common and Statute Law, one of Pleading, Practice and Evidence, and one of Equity Jurisprudence, Pleading and Practice." The Board adopted the report including the recommendation that the school should be organized at once and go into operation at the beginning of the next university year.

At this time the Board elected to the three professorships men who had distinguished themselves by their achievements as jurists: James V. Campbell, a Justice of the State Supreme Court, residing in Detroit; Charles I. Walker, a practising attorney of Detroit; and Thomas M. Cooley, residing at Adrian, who was to become one of the greatest legal minds of the 19th century.
When the Law School opened in 1858 there were 92 men enrolled, and the graduating class in 1860 was 24 in number. By 1906 the enrollment had increased to 956. A change in entrance requirements and more stringent examinations brought about a rapid decrease in a few years. However, under the increased requirements a more orderly growth took place and by 1933 the enrollment had again mounted to 580.

In the beginning the only requirements for admission were that the candidate should be eighteen years of age and should possess a good moral character. The course of instruction was given in the form of lectures. There were six series of lectures, allowing three for each term, alternating so as to allow students to enter at the beginning of either term. Only the seniors were quizzed during the lecture period. At the end of the two six-months’ terms there was an oral examination, which, coupled with a required thesis, led to the degree of Bachelor of Laws. Such arrangement of courses and examinations remained unchanged for about twenty years. In 1877 it was announced
THE CLOISTER FROM THE QUADRANGLE
that applicants for admission would be expected to be familiar with the proper use of the English language. This led to the requirement of an entrance examination. A few years later came the announcement that prospective students having college degrees and those who presented certificates or diplomas from academic or high schools need not take the entrance examination.

Under the leadership of Dean Harry B. Hutchins the raising of entrance requirements to include high school training, and the adoption of a complete three-year course in law lifted the school to a higher plane. However, the greatest advancement in requirements and in faculty has come under the administration of the present dean. One of the most notable steps in this progress has been the change from a faculty composed of retired practitioners to one made up of men who have made law teaching a profession.

During 1912 in a published address, Dean Bates expressed the need of using, in connection with the case book system, material showing the effect of political science, sociology, and economics on the law. Since that time there has been a gradual increase in the use of such material.

From 1877 to 1900 there appeared numerous changes, among them being: more rigid entrance examinations; a change from the two six-months' terms to two nine-months' terms, which in turn gave way to three nine-month's terms; the addition of new courses; and the substitution of the lecture and text-book method for the old lecture system. All students were included in the examinations which gradually became more far-reaching and comprehensive in their scope.

Special mention should be made of the men in whose hands has rested the administrative
destiny of the Law School, the deans. Judge Campbell served in the capacity of dean of the school from its founding until 1871. He was succeeded by Judge Cooley (1871–1883). Then followed Charles A. Kent, serving from 1883 until 1885. He was succeeded by Henry Wade Rogers (1885–1890), who preceded Jerome C. Knowlton (1890–1895). Harry B. Hutchins became dean in 1895 and continued to serve in that capacity until 1910, when he resigned to become President of the University.

In 1903 Henry M. Bates, a young lawyer from Chicago and an alumnus of the University of Michigan, became one of its professors. He had distinguished himself as a practising attorney, and he assumed his new duties with
an attitude toward the study of law somewhat different from that of his predecessors.

His method of teaching included a study of cases which he had collected, together with the use of lectures and textbooks. The increased interest on the part of the students as they dealt with the concrete problems involved in the cases led to an exclusive use of the case-book system. In 1910 because of his distinguished service as a professor, Henry M. Bates was chosen to succeed Harry B. Hutchins as Dean of the Law School of the University of Michigan, in which capacity he has served with noted ability for twenty-three years.

Under Dean Bates’ leadership much progress has been made in legal education at this law school. With the increased facilities provided through the Cook endowment even greater advances in legal education and research are made possible.

“AS THE LAWS ARE ABOVE MAGISTRATES, SO ARE THE MAGISTRATES ABOVE THE PEOPLE AND IT MAY TRULY BE SAID THAT THE MAGISTRATE IS A SPEAKING LAW AND THE LAW A SILENT MAGISTRATE”

—CICERO

_Inscribed inside the entrance to the Legal Research Building_
DEAN HENRY MOORE BATES
Mr. Cook’s generous and splendid gift to his University, for the Law School, was not the result of any sudden impulse, nor was it worked out in accordance with any so-called “vision” of the type so often referred to in sentimental and journalistic description. As a student in the Law School, it is reported that he was quiet, earnest, but unobtrusive, making no demonstration of becoming an enthusiastic alumnus of the School. But it is highly probable that if not in his student days, at least early thereafter, Mr. Cook developed the desire and the intention of aiding the School, and the profession which it served. At any rate, while he was still a comparatively young, though highly successful lawyer, he informed the then Dean, and later President, Harry B. Hutchins, that he had provided in his will a fund for the salary of a professor of the law of corporations, in this School. Mr. Cook apparently made no written communication on this subject; but as Mr. Hutchins was retiring from the law deanship, he gave the writer an oral version of Mr. Cook’s statement to him. The sum was a generous one, the income from which would have paid a handsome salary, for those days, to the occupant of the proposed chair.

But not until ten years later was this early plan of Mr. Cook’s merged into the far more comprehensive and munificent gift which has made possible the development of the Lawyer’s Club and the Law Quadrangle. In the latter part of President Hutchins’ administration (perhaps about the year 1918), Mr. Cook had tentatively agreed to give the money for the erection of a dormitory for freshmen students, and had acquired the land upon which the present museum is situated, for that purpose. There were some difficulties in arriving at a full agreement in relation to this dormitory and its administration, and the plan was dropped—presumably some time in the year 1919.
A little later the suggestion was made to Mr. Cook, through President Hutchins, that the Law School was sadly in need of a new building and much more adequate equipment. Mr. Cook immediately and generously indicated that he was interested, and would give careful and sympathetic consideration to a proposal worked out in some detail, for adding to the Law School equipment. In the spring of 1920 a carefully prepared memorandum of a project of the kind indicated was submitted to President Hutchins, and by him to Mr. Cook. This plan contemplated, at first, the erection of two buildings—a Law School building, to include the library, and a dormitory, to be erected adjacent to the Law School building. The plan also included a proposal of an endowment, the income from which was to be used for the development of legal research and graduate work. Mr. Cook's response was prompt and generous and he suggested that the President and a representative of the Law School call upon him in New York, for further discussion of the possibilities. Mr. Hutchins, who in the meantime had retired from the presidency, was obliged to postpone, from week to week, the projected visit, because of temporary ill health. Finally, Mr. Cook suggested that the Law School representative visit him alone, and that was done within the next few days. During negotiations and discussions covering three days with Mr. Cook, his architects, and the Law School representative, there were developed, and tentatively agreed to, the outlines of a fairly complete plan. Mr. Cook had at first proposed to place the buildings upon the lot which he had already purchased for the projected dormitory, but he and all concerned were soon convinced that this piece of land
was too small for the purpose. Mr. Cook, in fact, during this three-day discussion, generously agreed to a four-building project and to a very great development of the plans for research and graduate work. It was during this visit that a complete outline was prepared and submitted in writing to Mr. Cook, embracing practically all of the features in the plan as it was finally executed.

The oral discussions with Mr. Cook had occupied practically all of the first two days, and substantial agreement upon all the main features of the project had been reached. This agreement was then put in written form, during the night following the last conversations with Mr. Cook. On the third day this written memorandum was examined with great care, some changes were made by Mr. Cook, and at the end of the discussion he had two copies typed, kept one, and handed the other copy, initialed by him, to the Law School representative. It was this memorandum which, almost word for word, became that part of Mr. Cook’s will, drawn in 1920, which made provision for the University. That will, including the plan for the Law School, was subsequently modified somewhat by Mr. Cook, but the general plan, and in fact, most of the details, have been carried through his successive wills into the present magnificent realization of Mr. Cook’s project.

Mr. Cook felt strongly that it was the duty of the State to maintain the Law School on a par with the best law schools of the country. He wished his gift to be used for what he called “top purposes,” such as the great expansion of research and graduate work, the payment of exceptionally high salaries to legal scholars and teachers of outstanding ability, the
improvement of the library, and the establishment of fellowships and scholarships.

Once the general plan had been outlined and accepted, the architects, Messrs. York and Sawyer, began intensive work upon their part of the project, and loyally, and with great artistic taste and ability, created the beautiful plans so effectively and perfectly transformed into the granite and limestone buildings which form the Law Quadrangle. The part of the quadrangle group which was first completed included the Lawyers Club, with its lounge, recreation room, guest rooms, dining hall and kitchen, and the residence hall facing on North University Avenue. These buildings were completed in the fall of 1924, and then for the first time, occupied. Formal dedicatory exercises were held in June of 1925. These exercises included the reading, by Mr. John T. Creighton, of New York City, of a carefully prepared and stimulating letter from the donor himself, and addresses by Dean Roscoe Pound, of the Harvard Law School, Dean James P. Hall, of the University of Chicago Law School, Mr. John M. Zane, a distinguished alumnus of the University and an eminent member of the Chicago Bar, and Dean Henry M. Bates, of the University of Michigan Law School. A memorial volume containing these addresses was published, and copies were distributed to interested persons.

In 1930 an additional dormitory, named “John P. Cook Building,” in memory of Mr. Cook’s father, was completed. In the summer of 1931 the beautiful and impressive library building was completed and named the “William W. Cook Legal Research Library.” Finally, in the early fall of 1933, the splendid structure which houses the administrative and professorial offices, lecture, class and seminar rooms, the court room, and the Law Review editorial rooms, was completed and occupied. No expense, planning, or labor was spared in the development of the Law Quadrangle. Together these buildings unquestionably form one of the most beautiful, impressive, and useful groups of structures in the world.

The motives and reasons which led Mr. Cook to make this gift must be apparent from the foregoing sketch of the development of his purpose. The writer remembers his saying, on the day on which he initialed the plan above
AN AERIAL VIEW OF THE LAW QUADRANGLE
described, substantially as follows: "One reason for my wish to make this gift is my belief that the legal profession, as well as others, has become more or less commercialized. In the lower ranges of the profession are those whom we call shysters, who resort to indefensible means to secure their desired results. Such lawyers are usually petty, tricky, and harmful to society. Unfortunately, there are those in the upper ranges of the profession who are quite as harmful, and on a much larger scale." Mr. Cook later crystallized his thought on this subject, in more guarded language, in the eloquent passage in his will which has been artistically inscribed in the metal tablet over the doorway leading from Hutchins Hall into the interior of the Quadrangle.

Throughout the negotiations and discussions regarding this gift, Mr. Cook exercised that keen judgment and sound sense which contributed so much to his eminence as a lawyer. Some apocryphal and unauthentic stories of
this transaction have sentimentally ascribed to Mr. Cook a so-called "vision", as if in a dream, or a trance-like state, he had seen the whole project, even as to details. The writer believes that it is no compliment to Mr. Cook to ascribe the origin of the project to such apocryphal experiences. The actual course of development of the plan reflects far more credit upon him, and the truth is that the project was worked out, step by step, and grew in richness and in scope, as discussions proceeded. The writer believes that no other man in history has made so generous a gift in aid of his law school, or his profession, and the institutions which that profession serves.

Upon the Board of Regents, and the officers of the University, as well as upon the faculty of the Law School, now and in the future, rests the solemn obligation to observe scrupulously the conditions and wishes expressed by Mr. Cook in the various instruments by which the gift was made to the University. Nothing less than rich and continuing contributions to the study of our legal institutions, and to the administration of law, can meet and match the greatness of Mr. Cook's gift.

HENRY M. BATES

"JUSTICE AND POWER MUST BE BROUGHT TOGETHER SO THAT WHATEVER IS JUST MAY BE POWERFUL AND WHATEVER IS POWERFUL MAY BE JUST"

—PASCAL

Inscribed inside the entrance to the Legal Research Building
The Central Tower and Adjoining Residences
THE BUILDINGS OF THE LAWYERS CLUB

Had Baedeker a note for the present day visitor to Ann Arbor, he would first invite an inspection of the buildings on the central campus. The visitor would be impressed by the great recitation halls of modern design, the massive pillared facades, the imposing bulk of brick and steel construction characteristic of twentieth century architecture. And then, in at least apparent transition from the twentieth century into the fifteenth, the visitor might pass under the great central tower of the Law Quadrangle into architectural surroundings which conceal from the eye the restless stirrings of the present in the quiet beauty and dignity of an exterior reminiscent of far earlier times and ways.

The Tower, which rises some sixty-five feet from the center of the Lawyers Club, recalls to the visitor the entrance to Clock Court in Hampton Court Palace, with its ornate stone work and its four octahedral turrets capped with Byzantine spires. In so far as purpose and use are revealed in construction the Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge and the Inns of Court in London show certain similarities to the Law Quadrangle. While one will not find here the fine gardens of the English Quads, which time and careful culture, during four centuries, have made beautiful, this American group has a more spacious quadrangle, covered with a rich carpet of bent grass, across which flag-stone walks have been laid connecting the various sections of the dormitories with the Legal Research Building, Hutchins Hall, and the lounge of the Lawyers Club. A low arbor vitae hedge circumscribes the court; and small plots in front of the dormitories, within the court, are strewn with the colorful blue myrtle. The lack of architectural unity which mars certain English collegiate groups as a result of repeated building and rebuilding by different architects, has been avoided in the Law Quadrangle. The sectioned dormi-
tories for the residents, the dining hall, and lounge rooms for students and dons, are found alike in the English and this American group. Here, however, the building forms used in the chapels at Eton and King’s College, Cambridge, are employed in the dining hall.

The Club group is constructed of Weymouth seam-faced granite with trimmings of Indiana limestone. The dining hall to the west is one-hundred and forty feet in length and thirty-four feet in width. On the exterior, turrets run up each corner, capped twelve feet above the roof with Byzantine domes. Massive iron-bound and studded doors open onto the court, and into the lobby of the lounge. In the interior of the dining hall is a hammer-beam ceiling fifty feet above a floor inlaid with Missouri and Tennessee marbles of different hues. The great ceiling is carved from old oak ship timbers, and at the ends of the nine main trusses supporting the beams are carved figures of eminent jurists among whom are Coke, Blackstone, Marshall, and Cooley. Along the Indiana limestone walls a beautiful dark oak paneled wainscoting rises some ten feet. Above this are eighteen large Gothic windows of cathedral glass with English Gothic tracery. Accommodations for three hundred men are provided by massive oak tables, each seating twelve men.

The lobby connecting the lounge and the dining room is remarkable for its two great tapestries dating back to the early days of the Holy Roman Empire. The floor is of brown Welsh tile, as are the floors of the stairs and halls of the dormitories. The administrative offices, and the faculty dining room—with its rich furnishings and ornate fireplace—are just off the lobby.

The lounge is largely Renaissance in style. Its high vaulted ceiling is of white plaster with a design in relief. The floor is of wide, white oak fastened by dowels. The walls are of dark oak paneling. A great fireplace on the east side with a finely carved mantel and an ancient tapestry at the side add to the beauty of this room. The furniture consists of large leather lounges and richly upholstered chairs. The great bay window at the north end reaches to the ceiling, and several less pretentious bays protrude from the west side. Above the lounge are eight guest rooms for visiting lawyers, each provided with a bed, dresser, desk, chairs, and a private bath. There is also
a smaller, yet luxuriously furnished lounge. Directly below the main lounge is the large game room for the recreation of the Club members, on the walls of which hangs the very valuable Cook collection of early prints of English coaching and hunting scenes. The spacious and modern kitchens adjoin the dining hall on the south side. Running along the east side of the lounge on the exterior is the frequently photographed wall arcade, commonly referred to as the cloister—one of the more striking spots in the Quad—the sloping roof of which is supported by Doric columns and low arches. A decorative low stone railing which is broken at intervals by the gable windows of the guest rooms extends along the eaves of the lounge roof.

The dormitory proper extends for two blocks eastward from the lounge. In contrast to the flat roof constructions, characteristic of the modern campus buildings, its peaked and gabled roof covered with vari-hued slate shingles,
such as are used throughout the Quadrangle, lends color to the residences. In groups of four, chimneys rise above each section. It is a single building made up of nine sections, alphabetically named, each section having its own entrance. With the exception of sections “D” and “J” which rise above the other sections, each section has three floors, with suites and bath on the second floor, and single rooms on the first and third floors. The rooms are spacious and well lighted by leaded glass windows. The walls are of plaster, the floors of painted concrete covered by thick rugs. Each room has a quartered oak desk with a study lamp attached, a dresser and a bed of the same wood, a lounging chair, and a reading lamp. In each room, also, there is hot and cold running water which is softened by an elaborate softening system. In a few of the rooms are fireplaces, each with separate chimney, and imported Welsh andirons. Each section entrance is surmounted by a pediment or box moulding. Over each entrance is hung a mediaeval lantern with the section letter on the glass.

The Lawyers Club dormitory provided accommodations for one hundred and fifty-eight men. The John P. Cook Building, opened for occupancy in the fall of 1930, added accommodations for one hundred and eighteen men, making the present capacity of the Quadrangle, two-hundred and seventy-six. This new unit extends from the east wing of the Lawyers Club southward along Tappan Street. The new addition, built as a memorial to the donor’s father, follows closely the architectural style of the Lawyers Club, and the general arrangement of the sections is the same. The rooms are somewhat larger, and the appointments slightly better than in the old dormitory. There is an additional floor in the new dormitory. In the basement are the storage rooms, a large water softening system for the John P. Cook Building, and the carpenter’s shop.

Near the center of the building is the John Poller Cook Memorial Room—a room set apart in memory of the donor’s father. In this room is a full length portrait of John Cook by the artist Henry Caro-Delvaille. The walls of this room are paneled with carved English oak reaching to the ceiling. In the center of the east wall is a large fire-place of white Indiana limestone with a Levanto
marble base. There are nine stained glass windows, eight of which are topped by designs symbolic of various branches of the law, the center one bearing the coat of arms of Michigan and an inscription with the name "John Poller Cook." The room is furnished with reading stands, a hand carved table, and upholstered furniture upon a thick and luxurious rug.

The visitor returns to the court and to the south of the court looms the impressive grandeur of the two more recent additions to the Quadrangle: the Legal Research Building and Hutchins Hall.