Architect: Biscoe, Maurice B.
Birth/Death Dates: 18??-1953
Practice Dates: 1905-1920; 1921-1924 (Colorado: 1905-1920; 1921-1924)
Firms: Gordon, Tracy & Swarthwout (New York)
Maurice Biscoe, Architect (1906-1907; 1912-1919)
Biscoe and Hewitt (1908-1911)
Andrews, Rantoul & James (1920-1924, Boston)
Andrews, Jones, Biscoe & James (1924-1953, Boston)

Biographical Information

Maurice B. Biscoe moved to Denver from New York in 1905 to supervise the construction of St. John's Episcopal Cathedral for the New York architectural firm of Gordon, Tracy & Swarthwout. Biscoe enjoyed immediate acceptance within the artistic and social circles of Denver. He helped organize the Denver Cactus Club, a male society with literary and artistic interests, and served as its president for the first three years. Biscoe also became the second president of the Colorado Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. He worked alone and in partnership with Henry Harwood Hewitt during his decade-and-a-half in Denver.

Rutherford Witthus described Biscoe’s work as exemplifying “some of the best elements of the design philosophy propounded by the Beaux-Arts Institute. His attention to detail, his thorough knowledge of historical styles, his awareness of the special needs of his clients, and his sense of beauty in architecture were the special aptitudes which brought him clients who demanded exacting architectural services.”

While working in solo practice, Biscoe designed many Denver residences for fellow members of the Cactus Club. He designed the Dickinson Branch Library, one of Denver’s eight Carnegie-funded branch libraries. Biscoe designed several college buildings, including Bemis and Cossitt Halls for Colorado College and the Physics Building on the campus of Colorado A&M in Fort Collins. In partnership with Hewitt, he designed the multi-building campus of Clayton School for Boys in Denver. Biscoe was also responsible for the Myron Stratton Home for children and the elderly in Colorado Springs.

Biscoe relocated his practice to Colorado Springs in 1917 and then returned to Boston in 1920 to join the firm of Andrews, Rantoul & James. A partnership between the Boston organization and the Denver architectural firm of Fisher & Fisher brought Biscoe back to Denver in 1921 for the design and construction of the University of Colorado School of Medicine and Hospital. He returned to Boston after the completion of the project where he remained in active practice until his death in 1953.
## Credited Buildings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Site No.</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>St. John’s Episcopal Cathedral</strong> (supervising architect)</td>
<td>1313 Clarkson St., Denver</td>
<td>5DV171</td>
<td>1905-11</td>
<td>National Register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bushee House</strong></td>
<td>1207 Aurora Ave., Boulder</td>
<td>5BL3379</td>
<td>1906</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Biscoe House</strong></td>
<td>320 Humboldt St., Denver</td>
<td></td>
<td>1908</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bemis Hall, Colorado College</strong></td>
<td>920 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs</td>
<td>5EP3954</td>
<td>1908</td>
<td>National Register</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Brecht Candy Company</strong> (Biscoe &amp; Hewitt)</td>
<td>1333 Wazee St., Denver</td>
<td>5DV482</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>Local District</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wood-Morris-Bonfils House</strong> (Biscoe &amp; Hewitt)</td>
<td>707 Washington St., Denver</td>
<td>5DV179</td>
<td>1909-11</td>
<td>National Register</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Clayton School for Boys</strong> (10 buildings with Hewitt)</td>
<td>3607 Martin Luther King Dr., Denver</td>
<td>5DV310</td>
<td>1909-11</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Livermore House</strong></td>
<td>901 Race St., Denver</td>
<td></td>
<td>c. 1910</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Banister House</strong></td>
<td>849 Race St., Denver</td>
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<td>c. 1910</td>
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<td><strong>Kassler-Dunklee House</strong> (Biscoe &amp; Hewitt)</td>
<td>727 Washington St., Denver</td>
<td>5DV2115</td>
<td>c. 1910</td>
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<td><strong>Ringold House</strong> (Biscoe &amp; Hewitt)</td>
<td>100 Humboldt St., Denver</td>
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<td>1910</td>
<td>NR District</td>
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<td><strong>Egelston House</strong></td>
<td>121 Lafayette St., Denver</td>
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<td>1913</td>
<td>NR District</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Myron Stratton Home</strong></td>
<td>Colorado Springs</td>
<td>5EP453</td>
<td>1913</td>
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<td><strong>Porter House</strong></td>
<td>975 Grant St., Denver</td>
<td>5DV946</td>
<td>1913</td>
<td>Local Landmark</td>
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<td><strong>Cossitt Memorial Hall</strong> Colorado College</td>
<td>906 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs</td>
<td>5EP3955</td>
<td>1914</td>
<td>National Register</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dickinson Branch Library</strong></td>
<td>1545 Hooker St., Denver</td>
<td>5DV8164</td>
<td>1914</td>
<td>NR/SR pending</td>
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<td><strong>Quine House</strong></td>
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<td><strong>McGugan House</strong></td>
<td>1640 E. 3rd Ave., Denver</td>
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<td><strong>Kistler-Sinsheimer House</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Physics Building, Colorado A&amp;M</strong></td>
<td>Building #66 CSU campus Fort Collins</td>
<td>5LR2080</td>
<td>1919</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Information Sources


Site Files Database, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver.

State Business Directories, 1905-1920

Revised: November 1, 2001