

Fae Thompson

AGORA EXCAVATIONS
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
ATHENS, GREECE



3 July 1960

Dear Verna:

Please share with M. Morgan my best thanks for attending to the travel money. It reached me in Oxford and has helped enormously in financing this rather costly year.

We enjoyed the year greatly. It was sometimes hectic with regular lectures in Oxford and a fair number in the provincial universities, in Dublin and in Cambridge. But it was very stimulating and helpful to be able to discuss problems in the history and topography of Athens with the many ancient historians in Oxford who are



INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY
ESTABLISHED 1925

My best to Dr. Oppenheimer on his return.

interested in the same problems from other angles.

I have come home by way of Germany. Lectures in Berlin and Göttingen provided a decent excuse for visits to those places. I was particularly glad to be able to see the Greek antiquities recently returned from Russia and now readily accessible in East Berlin. They seem not to have suffered in the slightest.

I'm settling down for what I hope will be two months of solid work in Athens.

All good wishes for the summer.

Sincerely,

Homer Thompson

Thompson

AGORA EXCAVATIONS 17
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES 31
ATHENS, GREECE 14



March 25, 1957

Dear Robert:

With regard to the appointment of Prof. Andre Weil, I should be glad to record my affirmative vote.

From the minutes of the Faculty meeting of March 12th, as also from the dossier on Weil, I infer that a great deal of soul-searching has already taken place and that the man's scholarly ability more than compensates for whatever deficiencies there may be in his personality. If ~~then~~ mathematicians, who would have to live with him more intimately than the rest of us, are prepared



AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
AT ATHENS

March 22, 1947

to tolerate his personal idiosyncracies
I am ready to concur in
the invitation.

With all good wishes

-Yours

Homer A.

Fac Thompson

Miss Sachs -

for your information

Pls return to D.O.

8 June 1959

Dear Homer:

Of course the arrangements you suggest for Miss Talcott and Miss Frantz are fine.

Thank you for the Kahane letter.

All the best,

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor Homer A. Thompson
American School of Classical Studies
Athens
Greece

AGORA EXCAVATIONS
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
ATHENS, GREECE



June 3, 1959

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey
U. S. A.

Dear Robert:

Two of my Athenian colleagues, Miss Lucy Talcott and Miss Alison Frantz, expect to be in Princeton for several months this coming fall and winter, probably from October through February. Their going is necessitated by domestic obligations, but they will both be spending most of their time in writing up Agora material, Miss Talcott doing vases of the classical period, Miss Frantz working on our Byzantine material. They will be living in their house at 27 Haslet and will be doing most of their work at home. It would be a very great convenience to them, however, if they might make occasional use of the Institute's library. There would be no question of regular office space; they would consult the books in the library itself or in the periodical room, or they might make occasional use of the long table in my seminar room. But the important thing for them is the right to use our good library, and, if you think it proper, I would greatly appreciate your assurance of this privilege.

With warm regards,

Homer

Homer A. Thompson

HAT/ak

Fac Thompson

AGORA EXCAVATIONS
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
ATHENS, GREECE



April 26, 1959

Dear Robert:

Please convey to the Trustees of the Institute my appreciation for the generous increase in stipend. I am sure that we also owe you a debt of gratitude for your effectual efforts in this matter.

Many thanks, too, for the action you have taken on G. R. Edwards' application for residence this summer. He is delighted by the arrangement, and so too am I.

With warm regards

Yours sincerely,

Homer Thompson

Dr Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.

Fac Thompson

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With warm regards

Yours sincerely,

Homer Thompson

Dr Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.

cc Mr. Morgan

20 April 1959

Dear Professor Thompson:

The Trustees of the Institute, meeting on April 18th, have fixed your salary, and that of your colleagues, at \$22,500 a year, starting July 1, 1959.

I am glad to tell you the good news.

Very sincerely,

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor H. A. Thompson
The Institute for Advanced Study

29 January 1959

Memorandum to Mr. Morgan:

This will confirm our conversation about financial arrangements for Professor Thompson's leave of absence for the academic year 1959-1960, to be Eastman Professor at Oxford. We shall continue our payments for him to T.I.A.A., and shall budget for his professorial travel fund as usual during his absence.

The twelve months for which the Institute will not pay Professor Thompson's salary is to be settled between you and Professor Thompson, when he knows the starting date of his Oxford salary.

Robert Oppenheimer

U. S. EDUCATORS NAMED

Columbia Professor Will Take
Chair at Oxford

OXFORD, England, Jan. 15
(UPI)—Two United States professors have been appointed to chairs at Oxford University for the 1959-60 academic year, it was announced today.

Homer Armstrong Thompson, 52 years old, professor of classical Archeology at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N. J., has been appointed George Eastman Visiting Professor at Oxford.

David Donald, 38, Associate Professor of History at Columbia University, will fill the Harold Vyvyan Harmsworth Chair at Oxford.

Thompson, Homer

Foe Thompson

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Thompson, Homer

Thompson c
Horslin
RO

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

July 10, 1957

Dear Robert:

Oxford has granted a postponement of my tenure of the Eastman Professorship from 1958-59 to 1959-60 which will greatly facilitate me in the planning of my work. It also affects our decision about the timing of the appointment of P. Kahane, since it removes one of the principal objections to the postponement of his appointment from 1957-58 to 1958-59. If nothing else stands in the way, I think it would be good to have him with us in the latter year.

With all good wishes

Yours sincerely

Homer Thompson

Fac Thompson
RO

C O P Y

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
Princeton, New Jersey

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With all good wishes

Yours sincerely

/s/Homer Thompson

NOTE: Shall I send him an appointment letter? wh

Fae Thompson

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES

June 7, 1957

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of June 3rd in which you report the recent action of the Trustees regarding retirement and pension arrangements, and at the same time to express my appreciation for the considerate decisions made by the Board.

Yours sincerely,

H.A. Thompson

Homer A. Thompson

HAT/nm

2 07

Thompson

3 June 1957

Dear Professor Thompson:

As you know, the Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study have been considering the adequacy of retirement and pension arrangements, both for the Faculty and for others who are in the employ of the Institute. Their deliberations have led to some changes in policy, all of which should be favorable for the employee, and some of which affect you.

1. The mandatory age for retirement for members of the Faculty has been advanced to the June 30th following their 70th birthday.
2. For those who have come to the Institute before the age of 55, the T.I.A.A. contracts will provide a minimum annual pension after retirement at 70 which, when supplemented by Social Security benefits, will come to \$10,000.
3. The Institute will ask that members of the Faculty continue to contribute five per cent of their salary to T.I.A.A. The Institute will match this contribution as it has in the past, and will also make such additional payment as may be required under the T.I.A.A. contract. In your case the increase in annual payments made by the Institute will be slightly in excess of \$300.
4. In estimating your pension at \$10,000, Social Security benefits of about \$1,300 per year have been included. If, after retirement, you should in any calendar year earn more than \$1,200, you would waive part of Social Security payments. This does not apply to supplementary unearned income. These provisions are in accord with present Federal legislation and administrative rulings, which may, of course, be changed.
5. The Institute will allocate the maximum that it may, which is fifty per cent of the total annual contribution that you and the Institute make toward your retirement, to College Retirement Equities Fund. This fund has been established in order that beneficiaries may be provided with a hedge against inflation, through investment in equities whose value and whose income have increased with the years in the past, and are expected to increase in the future. The Trustees are aware of the fact that benefits from C.R.E.F. vary as provided in C.R.E.F. contracts, and are not guaranteed as those accruing under T.I.A.A.; but they believe that, under the C.R.E.F.-T.I.A.A. arrangement, your total retirement benefits are more likely to exceed \$10,000 than to fall below this sum.

Within the next months you will receive a new contract from T.I.A.A. describing the provisions under which your retirement benefits will be paid. Should you have any questions about that contract or this letter, or the matters touched upon in it, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Very sincerely,

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor H. Thompson
Institute for Advanced Study

Thompson

19 March 1957

Dear Professor Thompson:

Enclosed is a preliminary draft of the minutes of the last Faculty meeting, which may be changed, but will give you some impression of what went on. Do you have an opinion on the proposed Faculty appointment? If so, could you get it to us before the next meeting, which is now planned for March 28th?

With best greetings,

Sincerely,

(Mrs. Wilder Hobson)
Secretary to the Director

Professor Homer A. Thompson
American School of Classical Studies
Athens, Greece

enclosure

H.A.T.

28 January 1957.

Mr. Henry Allen Moe
551 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Henry:

I am at last in a position to make a definite reply to the invitation conveyed in your letter of January 14th from the Electors to the George Eastman Visiting Professorship in the University of Oxford, and I am very happy to be able to accept the offer of the Professorship for the year 1958-59. My acceptance is subject only to the willingness of the Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study to grant me leave of absence for that year; our Director has indicated his readiness to support my application for such leave.

I have talked about the academic duties relating to the Professorship with Ben Meritt, as you suggested, and also with George Kennan who is now making preparations for his tenure next year. If it should be agreeable to the University, I would propose to lecture on the history and monuments of Athens with special reference to what has been done of recent years by the American School of Classical Studies in the Agora and elsewhere in the city.

Permit me to say again how deeply moved I am both by the honor and the responsibility involved in this appointment. At the same time, however, I regard with very great pleasure the prospect of renewing old and making new acquaintances among English colleagues, and no less to the possibility of relaxing for a time from the hurly burly of field work to the more reflective part of an archaeologist's life.

With warm personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

H.A.T.

Homer A. Thompson

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551 Fifth Avenue
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With warm personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

H.A.T.

Homer A. Thompson

Fac. Thompson

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

January 17/57

Dear Robert:

I should greatly appreciate knowing your reaction to this proposition.

From discussion with Ben I gather that the academic requirements would be such as to permit me to do something which I have been wanting to do, viz. to put together a semi-popular account of the results of our work in the Agora. Not long ago the Oxford University Press asked me for just such a book, which might I should hope develop ~~follow~~ fairly easily and naturally out of the course of lectures.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

12/19
But I shall do nothing further about the matter until I hear from you.

I do hope that you and Kitty had a refreshing time in the Caribbean

Yours

Homer

NOTE: Meritt will be in Berkeley second term 58-59

Invitation to Prof. Thompson to be Eastman Professor At Oxford for academic 1958-1959.

Thompson

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

2 January 1957

Ref: PT/DSZ-130-Thompson, H. A.

Passport Office
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Willis H. Young
Acting Director

Gentlemen:

Homer A. Thompson is a Professor in the School of Historical Studies of the Institute for Advanced Study, at a salary of \$18,000 a year. Professor Thompson was appointed to the Faculty of the Institute on July 1st, 1947. Since that time he has customarily spent part of each year in Athens, Greece, for the purpose of archaeological exploration. These visits are an integral part of his professional career, and as such have helped to make the Institute for Advanced Study not merely a national, but an international center for Greek archaeology.

The Institute for Advanced Study is registered as an institution of higher education with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare; we have also been designated by the Department of State as a sponsor of the Exchange-Visitor Program. Enclosed is a copy of an elementary account of the organization and purposes of the Institute, and a copy of the Report of the Director, 1948-1953, with a marked passage describing the work done here in archaeology.

We earnestly hope that you will give favorable consideration to Professor Thompson's request for a renewal of his passport to enable him to visit Greece this year.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Oppenheimer
Director

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES

Dec. 28, 1952

Dear Robert:

In applying for a renewal of my passport I have run into opposition from the State Department on the ground that as a naturalized citizen of the U.S.A. I have been spending too much time abroad. The attached letters will show you the present status of negotiations.

In my original letter of enquiry I should obviously have said more of my relationship to this Institute; this might well have obviated the necessity of bothering you with the matter.

As to the substance of the information now desired by the State Department, it is fair to say, I believe, that when ~~they~~ appointment to the Institute was made in 1947, it was understood on both sides that for some years to come my principal scholarly obligation was to pursue the exploration of the Athenian Agora, an undertaking which inevitably involved regular and fairly lengthy sojourns in Athens.

I am glad to say that for the coming year⁽¹⁹⁵³⁾ I should be able to cut down my time abroad

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

very considerably; what I should like to do is to depart from Princeton on or about January 21st and return at the end of May.

If you feel the need to talk over any aspects of the matter I should be glad to call on you.

Sincerely,

Homer

I am glad to say that for the coming year I intend to call on you and see how you are

C O P Y

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

Dec 28 1956

In reply refer to
PT/DSZ-130-Thompson, Homer Armstrong

Dear Mr. Thompson:

Reference is made to your letter of December 3, 1956 requesting an extension of your passport.

It appears from the facts contained in your passport file that you may be in a position to bring your case within the scope of Section 354 (2)(B) of the Immigration Nationality Act of 1952 if you were residing abroad solely or principally in connection with your work on behalf of The Institute For Advanced Study. If so, this office will give further consideration to your case upon receipt of a letter from a responsible officer, other than yourself, of the Institute For Advanced Study stating the nature of the work which you conduct for the organization; whether you were and will be temporarily residing abroad for the sole or principle purpose of representing the organization; the amount of compensation received and the manner in which received; whether you are subject to recall by the organization; the length of time you have represented the organization; and whether The Institute For Advanced Study is registered with any government agency.

Sincerely,

/s/Willis H. Young
Willis H. Young
Acting Director, Passport Office

Mr. Homer A. Thompson
c/o The Institute For Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Fae Thompson

C O P Y

December 3, 1956

Passport Office
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

I enclose herewith my passport No. 50829 (New York Series), issued on January 16th, 1956, the duration of which is limited to January 1, 1957. I should like to apply for a renewal of the passport.

The limitation was imposed, I believe, because of the fact that although a naturalized citizen (since November 30, 1951) I have spent part of each year outside the United States. I would point out, however, that since naturalization I have never made my regular residence elsewhere than in the United States, and that I have been continuously in the employ of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey.

My sojourns abroad have been necessitated by the fact that I have been in charge of archaeological exploration which is being carried out in Athens, Greece by the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, a wholly American institution founded in 1881 and incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts. I am now and have been since 1929 a member of the staff of this organization.

The purpose of the exploration in Athens is to bring to light the Agora or civic centre of the ancient city. As part of the project, one of the ancient buildings, the Stoa of Attalos, has recently been reconstructed to serve as a permanent museum to house the finds from the excavation. An account of the undertaking appeared in the September 17th issue of Life Magazine, of which I enclose a copy herewith.

It has frequently been said, and I think with some truth, that the excavation of the Agora and the reconstruction of the Stoa of Attalos have contributed to a better understanding between the United States and Greece inasmuch as they have demonstrated a substantial American interest in both the past and the present of Greece without any overtones of commercial or military self interest. This view has been repeatedly expressed by American ambassadors to Greece, among whom I would name Mr. Lincoln MacVeagh and Mr. Cavendish Cannon who have followed the progress of the enterprise for many years. I have heard similar comments from such other visitors as Mr. Winthrop Aldrich, Mr. James B. Conant and Mr. John J. McCloy.

C O P Y

Passport Office
Page Two
December 3, 1956

In view of the circumstances noted above, I should presume that consideration might be given under Section 354 (2) (B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. I would beg to be informed of what further steps I must take in connection with an application for renewal of the passport.

Yours sincerely,

Homer A. Thompson

HAT:jeb

Enclosures

Homer Thompson

6 August 1956

Dear Mr. Baker:

We have your letter of 25 July requesting biographical data on Dr. Homer Thompson. May we suggest that you consult "Who's Who" wherein you will find as much information as we would be able to give you. If more data is required, we believe it would be best for you to contact Dr. Thompson when he returns in the fall.

Very truly yours,

Velma A. Mumper
Office of the Director

Mr. Norwood Baker
Director
ARTS PROGRAM
120 West 58 Street
New York 19, N. Y.

ARTS

120 WEST 58 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN COLLEGES

PROGRAM

July 25, 1956

Mrs. James Beacham
Secretary
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Mrs. Beacham:

Thank you for forwarding
Dr. Homer Thompson's photograph.

May we ask another favor?
We need biographical data for press releases
which are furnished to the Directors of Public
Relations on the campuses to be visited by
Dr. Thompson. Any material you are able to
send us will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Norwood Baker

Norwood Baker, Director

NB/m

5 July 1956

Dear Miss Baker:

Enclosed please find the
photograph of Dr. Homer Thompson, which
you requested in your letter of June 29th.
I do hope you will find it satisfactory.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. James Beacham)
Secretary

Miss Norwood Baker, Director
ARTS PROGRAM
120 West 58th Street
New York 19, New York

enclosure

ARTS

120 WEST 58 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN COLLEGES

PROGRAM

June 29, 1956

Director
Institute of Advanced Studies
Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Sir:

We are writing to inquire if you will be able to furnish a photograph of Dr. Homer A. Thompson.

Dr. Thompson will be visiting colleges under our auspices in December. As he is at present in Greece and we are anxious to attend to publicity needed for these visits, any assistance you can give us will be most helpful.

Very sincerely yours,

Norwood Baker

Norwood Baker, Director

NB/m

Dr. Homer A. Thompson
Professor of Classical
Archaeology

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

8 March 1955.

Mr. Robert Oppenheimer
Director's Office

Dear Mr. Oppenheimer:

Thank you for your
letter of March fourth confirming my re-
appointment as Research Assistant to Professor
Thompson for the year 1955-56. The increase
in stipend is, indeed, a pleasant surprise
and one for which I am deeply grateful.

Yours sincerely,

Evelyn Lord Smithson

Info from file re Prof. Homer A. Thompson:
Became Professor at Institute July 1, 1947.
Twin daughters and younger daughter--
are now 21 and 18 years respectively.

* 88 Battle Road purchased May 1947.

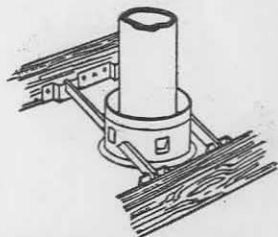
Moved to Princeton Sept. 47, although Prof. T.
proceeded to Agora, Greece, where he has
spent most of his time since.

Applied for US citizenship October 51.

July 1953--started reconstruction of the
Stoa of Attalos.

* Present Princeton Address:
Cherry Valley Road

Winter - 2nd - 3rd - 4th - 5th - 6th - 7th - 8th - 9th - 10th - 11th - 12th
see keybook



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AND HANGER SET**

from **AMERICAN METAL PRODUCTS CO., INC.** ADAMS
2911 COMPTON AVENUE • LOS ANGELES 11, CALIFORNIA 1-4133

AIR MAIL



Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Director
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

air mail

Fae Thompson

THE ALLEN R. HITE ART INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE
INVITES YOU TO

THE SIXTH ALLEN R. HITE MEMORIAL LECTURE
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

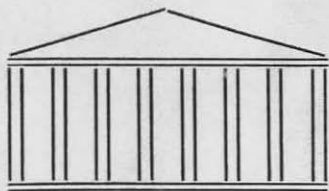
“THE ATHENIAN AGORA,
A QUARTER CENTURY OF EXPLORATION

IN

ANCIENT ATHENS”

BY

HOMER A. THOMPSON



Field Director, Agora Excavations, American School of
Classical Studies, Athens, and Professor of Classical
Archaeology Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N. J.

TUESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 15, at 8:30 PM.

In The Allen Courtroom of the University of Louisville School of Law

Informal reception will be held after the lecture in Farnsley Lounge of Gardiner Hall on Bellknop Campus

Thompson

20 December 1954

Memorandum to Miss Sachs:

Dr. Oppenheimer has authorized the payment to Dr. Bieber of a further \$150 for 740 prints which Professor Thompson has brought to the Institute. As this is a Library charge, I imagine you may wish to make out the voucher yourself. Dr. Bieber's address:

Dr. Margarete Bieber
605 West 113th Street
New York 25, New York

V. Hobson

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

December 16, 1954

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

Since writing you the other day about
the second lot of Dr. Bieber's pictures,
I have looked over the material, found
it good and brought it to the Institute.

The price asked is \$150 for the 740
prints, which seems to me reasonable.

The cheque might be sent to

Dr. Margarete Bieber
605 West 113th Street
New York 25, New York

Yours sincerely,

H.A. Thompson

Homer A. Thompson

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

OK
R.O.

Thompson

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

December 8, 1954

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

The second, and final, lot of Dr. Margarete Bieber's photographs are now available. It consists of 740 prints on Hellenistic sculpture for which she asks \$150. (You will recall that we paid \$600 for the first lot of 2800 prints).

I haven't yet seen this second lot but I shall be driving over to New York on Sunday, December 12th and could then examine them. If they appear to be of good value, may I be authorized to say that we shall take them?

Sincerely,

H.A.T.

Homer A. Thompson

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
The Institute for Advanced Study

OK

R.O.

AGORA EXCAVATIONS
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
ATHENS, GREECE



Thompson
Ruth
will give
arrange
H. R. Thompson
OK 8/23

August 19, 1954

Mrs. Kathleen Russell
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.,
U. S. A.

Dear Kay :

Mrs. Evelyn Smithson is departing from Athens today and expects to arrive in New York on August 31st in the S/S Constitution. Since she is carrying with her in addition to her own luggage a sizable box containing photographs, drawings and records of various sorts for our work at the Institute I would be very grateful if she could be met at the pier. Please hold the bill for me on my return.

Many thanks for the helpful information in the matter of purchasing photographs.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

H. A. Thompson

Homer A. Thompson

P.S. Mrs. Thompson and I plan to leave Athens on August 22nd and to be back in Princeton by September 8th.

HAT/ak

Thompson
Ruth will have arranged
H. R. Thompson
OK 8/23



AGORA EXCAVATIONS
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
ATHENS, GREECE

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August 11, 1954

Dear Professor Thompson:

Dr. Oppenheimer has replied to my enquiry in response to your letter and request for funds for the purchase of Professor Bieber's collection of photographs. Dr. Oppenheimer has asked me to tell you that \$1,000.00 could be available for the collection of photographs provided we agree that it is really what we want. The money would be drawn from our Library budget account or the contingent fund.

I hope the above is sufficient for your preliminary negotiations. We will hold this pending until your return in September and you advise us of your wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Katherine Russell

Professor Homer Thompson
American School of Classical Studies
Athens, Greece

Copy to Mr. Morgan

August 2, 1954

Dear Professor Thompson:

Thank you for your letter of July 26th. Dr. Oppenheimer is in the Virgin Islands, and I believe he will not return until about the 15th of this month. I have, however, sent a copy of your letter down to him, and have asked if we might get an early word to you about the availability of funds and approval of the project. As soon as I hear from Dr. Oppenheimer I will write to you. He may send you a note from the Virgins; but in any case you will hear from us just as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Katherine Russell

Professor Homer Thompson
American School of Classical Studies
Athens, Greece

copy to Dr. O./VI
MCMorgan



AGORA EXCAVATIONS
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
ATHENS, GREECE

July 26, 1954

Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.,
U. S. A.

Dear Robert :

I have just learned that Professor Margarete Bieber, who recently retired from a professorship in Classical Archaeology at Columbia University, wishes to dispose of her working collection of photographs of classical art, chiefly sculpture. The collection comprises somewhat over 3000 photos and the price is likely to be in the neighborhood of \$ 1000. I have not seen the whole of the collection, but from what I have seen, and from what I know of the collector's standards, the quality in general should be high.

I should like to propose that the Institute acquire these photographs as the core of a set of study material in the general field of classical art and archaeology, something which we should certainly be building up. I would not wish, however, to go any further with the proposal until I have been able to look over the collection after my return in September.

Meanwhile, could you give me any indication as to whether the necessary sum of money could be made available within the present year, provided, of course, that the proposal should be approved in principle? This knowledge would help me in preliminary negotiations with Professor Bieber.

With all good wishes,

Yours ever,

Homer A. Thompson

HAT/ak

1 June 1954

Dear Professor Thompson:

Betty Horton tells me that you have not received copies of the last two Faculty Meeting minutes. I am enclosing them now, and send my apologies for not having done so before. I probably sent you copies by inter-office mail which are sitting around somewhere here.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Wilder Hobson)
Secretary to the Director

Professor Homer A. Thompson
American School of Classical Studies
Athens, Greece

enclosures

~~HAC~~ Thompson
100

22 June 1953

Dear Professor Thompson:

Dr. Oppenheimer is abroad and will not be back in Princeton until the middle of August. In his absence, I am acknowledging your letter of June 16th. Dr. Oppenheimer will, I know, be glad to have your letter, which I am holding for his return.

Sincerely yours,

Rosanna W. Jaffin
Secretary to the Director

Professor Homer A. Thompson
Agora Excavations
American School of Classical Studies
Athens, Greece

AGORA EXCAVATIONS
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
ATHENS, GREECE



June 16, 1953

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.,
U. S. A.

Dear Robert :

Just a note to say how very much we enjoyed the visits of the Garrisons and Harrison's. It was refreshing to meet a distinguished architect of the modern school who is still prepared to cast a respectful backward glance at the buildings of the Greeks. And I think we are exceedingly fortunate in having added Mr. Lloyd Garrison to our Board; it was a pleasure to observe his reactions to both the past and the present of this land.

Hermann and Mrs. Weyl and Ernst Kantorowicz have also passed this way in the course of the spring.

Last week we started cutting stone for the restoration of the Stoa of Attalos and we are hopeful that this undertaking will now go straight ahead.

With warm greetings,

As ever,

Homer A. Thompson

HAT/ak

AGORA EXCAVATIONS
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
ATHENS, GREECE



H. Thompson

April 12, 1953

Dear Robert:

I have yours of the 8th,
and shall look forward to meeting
Mr Lloyd Garrison and the Harrisons.

I have just come in from
showing Lord Halifax around
the Agora; he has pleasant
memories of his visit among us
at Princeton.

With best wishes
Sincerely

Homer Thompson

AGORA EXCAVATIONS
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
ATHENS, GREECE



Joe
Thompson

April 11, 1953

Dr Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J., U. S. A.

Dear Dr Oppenheimer:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of April 6th and to say how very much I appreciate the action of the trustees regarding travel grants and age of retirement. The one will be of great immediate assistance, and of the other I shall certainly hope to avail myself later.

With warm regards

Yours sincerely

Homer A. Thompson

*File
Thompson*

April 8, 1953

Dear Homer:

Once again, or rather twice, I am going to presume on your magnanimity. Lloyd Garrison, a distinguished New York lawyer, has just been elected to the Board of Trustees of the Institute. He plans to spend several weeks in Athens, probably in May; and I have suggested to him that he come in touch with you. I think you will like him.

Friends of ours, Wallace Harrison and his wife, Ellen, are also going to be in Greece. He is the architect of Rockefeller City, and a man of extraordinary sensibility; and they are both wholly charming people. I have urged them to call you, and I hope that they do.

I hope that neither of these visits, if they do come off, will be burdensome. I am quite sure that they will be rewarding.

With every warm good wish,

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor Homer Thompson
American School of Classical Studies
Athens, Greece

AGORA EXCAVATIONS
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
ATHENS, GREECE



Jac
Thompson

March 15, 1952

Dear Robert:

It will be a great pleasure to meet President and Mrs. Conant here in Athens later this month. I shall look forward eagerly to making their personal acquaintance and the whole school community will be happy to welcome them, not least because of the very close relations that the school has enjoyed with Harvard since its foundation. Three Harvard students are in residence at the school this year and Mr. Green, head of the Greek Department, is at present with us, - all of which may compensate in some measure for the fact that the present Director is of Yale!

Prof. Frank Brown of the American Academy in Rome is here for a few days and tells me that Lucy Shor's book has gone to press. The Academy is exceedingly grateful for the Institute's assistance in publishing this work.

The season's work in the Agora is going well. We feel particularly happy today, having just established that a lovely fifth century statue found 60 years ago was an akroterion on our Temple of Ares.

With all good wishes

Yours sincerely,
Homer Thompson

AGORA EXCAVATIONS
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
ATHENS, GREECE



August 16, 1952

Dear Robert:

John Travlos is exceedingly grateful, and so too am I, for the cheque that was sent so promptly to cover his travel expenses.

We are very much enjoying John von Neumann's brief visit these days.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

Homer Thompson



AGORA EXCAVATIONS
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
ATHENS, GREECE

April 3, 1952

Dear Robert:

We have had an extraordinarily pleasant visit from President and Mrs. Conant. They showed a lively interest in both the past and the present of this land, in its hills and flowers and birds. They came exhausted and went away, I believe, refreshed.

I was greatly gratified by the list of appointments that came of the Faculty meeting on March 17th and shall look forward to a good year.

With best wishes

Sincerely

Homer Thompson

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

March 11, 1952

Secretary to
President James B. Conant
Harvard University
Cambridge 38, Mass.

Dear Madam:

Dr. Oppenheimer has asked me to send you the enclosed copy of his letter to Professor Homer Thompson. If this arrives after President Conant has left the States, Dr. Oppenheimer would appreciate it if you would be kind enough to forward the letter to President Conant in England.

Sincerely yours,

Katherine Russell,
Secretary to the Dir

7
Jac

March 11, 1952

Dear Homer:

President and Mrs. Conant of Harvard will be in Athens roughly from March 23rd to March 30th. For both of them it is their first trip to Greece; and they are excited in a very literate and pleasing way. I have suggested to them that they call on you at the School. I think that they would be most grateful for learning a little from you, not only about your own work and that of the School, but of things that in a brief visit they might find interesting. I know that you will enjoy meeting them, and that if they learn little else in their trip to Greece than what they will find in you and your doings, they will not have cause to feel disappointed.

We miss you very much, Homer, and hope that everything is going well with you.

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor Homer Thompson
American School of Classical Studies
Athens, Greece

October 23, 1951

File No. NSE 2185-P-8404

Dear Mr. Zimmerman:

In reply to your enquiry of October 15th, Professor Homer A. Thompson was appointed a permanent member of the Faculty of the Institute for Advanced Study as of July 1, 1947; Professor Thompson established residence in Princeton in September of that year. At the time of his appointment, Professor Thompson was a Canadian citizen.

Professor Thompson is known to his associates and to me as a man of the highest integrity and honor. No question has ever arisen of his loyalty to Canada and to the United States.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Oppenheimer

Mr. Karl I. Zimmerman, District Director
U. S. Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service
Fifth and Chestnut Sts.
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

4 - 554
3-1-51

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Immigration and Naturalization Service
Lafayette Building, Fifth & Chestnut Streets
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania
October 15, 1951

File No. NSE 2185-P-8404

Date: October 15, 1951

The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Sir:

Re: Homer Armstrong THOMPSON

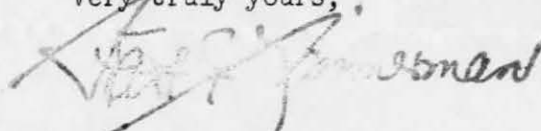
The above-named is an applicant for citizenship who claims employment by you from September, 1947 to the present time . Will you please verify the correctness of this claim and state what representation, if any, was made at the time of employment concerning citizenship?

To assist this office in determining what recommendation to make to the naturalization court with respect to the subject's admissibility to citizenship, you are also requested to ascertain and advise what his reputation for loyalty to the United States has been among his fellow workers. If you have personal knowledge respecting the subject, please also give us the benefit of your opinion.

Any information you may furnish will be treated as confidential if you so request.

Your cooperation in this matter will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,



Karl I. Zimmerman
District Director

P.S. Please refer to the file number appearing in the upper right-hand corner of this letter when making your reply.

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

*HAC
Thompson*

January 20, 1957

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

Please accept, and share with the Trustees of the Institute, my deep appreciation of your timely and considerate action on salaries.

Yours sincerely,

Homer A. Thompson

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.

January 19, 1951

Dear Professor Thompson:

It gives me pleasure to inform you that by unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study, your salary as Professor in the School of Historical Studies has been increased to \$18,000 per year as of the beginning of the next fiscal year, July 1, 1951.

Robert Oppenheimer

Professor Homer A. Thompson
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.

Copy: Miss Trinterud

8 JOC

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Dec. 5, 1950

Dear Robert:

Please accept my warm personal thanks for your successful efforts to have our salaries raised.

This past year, after paying the childrens school bills and my own travelling expenses I had something less than nothing left from my stipend. The increase will be very welcome.

Sincerely

Homer Thompson

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

D-CLUB.

This is to invite you to attend an
informal talk by Professor Homer A.
Thompson on "Recent Excavations in
Athens", to be given on Monday,
November 6, at 8 p.m., in the seminar
room of building D.

Members wives are welcomed; but for
the rest this invitation is personal.

Dr. R. Oppenheimer.

*File
11/6
For
Thompson*

CROSS REFERENCE

HARRISON, EVELYN, Research Assistant for Professor Thompson for 1950-51.

SEE: PERSONNEL FILE - HARRISON, EVELYN

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

February 15, 1949

Dear Mrs Russell:

Attached herewith is a brief note on Dr and Mrs Karouzo. I should like to recommend Dr Karouzo most warmly for a one-year membership; Mrs Karouzo would presumably accompany him and would give us still better value. I have been in correspondence with Karouzo on the matter but haven't yet received definite assurance that he would be free to accept an invitation. I shall get in touch with him as soon as I reach Athens (March 3) and if he is indeed free I shall then write you a more specific account of him.

Let me add that I concur heartily in the major recommendations of Professors Merritt, Panofsky and Cherniss, and that if the money can possibly be found I should also like to see Prof. Gerhard Ladner here next year.

Yours sincerely,

Homer A. Thompson.

Dr. Christos Karouzo

Dr. Karouzo is about 50 years of age. He holds degrees in classical archaeology from both the University of Athens and Munich. After serving as Ephor, i.e., official in charge of antiquities, in the provinces of Bocotia and the Aegean Islands, he became director of the National Museum in Athens, a post which he held for several years until resigning in the summer of 1948 through frustration in his relations with the then head of the archaeological service who has since himself resigned.

Karouzo is one of the ablest scholars and scholarly administrators of his generation in Greece. His particular field has been early Greek sculpture on which he has published a number of authoritative papers. At present he is well along with a monograph on the early sculptures from the Greek islands, and with another on an important lot of Athenian vases from Delos. Both of these studies could be completed in a year at the Institute.

Mrs. Karouzo is a distinguished archaeologist in her own right. She also has received training both in Greece and Germany. For most of her life she has been active in one capacity or another in the National Museum of which she is at present acting director. She has on hand studies of two important groups of Athenian vases, one of the 7th and the other of the 5th century B.C.; to enable her to complete these studies would be a real contribution on the part of the Institute.

The Museums of Greece are now in the process of rehabilitation, largely with the help of E.C.A. money. It would add tremendously to the effectiveness of this program if these two scholars, the best qualified museum administrators in Greece, could as a part of their year's program visit a number of American museums to observe policy and methods.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Karouzo speak fairly good English.

Homer A. Thompson

Homer A. Thompson

February 15, 1949

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF HUMANISTIC STUDIES
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

H.A. Thompson

January 25, 1950

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Director, Institute for Advanced Study

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

May I assume that it is agreeable to you that I should sail on February 14th next to resume my work in the exploration of the Agora at Athens? It would be my intention to spend the spring and summer in Athens, returning to Princeton early in September.

Yours sincerely,

Homer A. Thompson

Homer A. Thompson

HAT:W

Thompson

January 29, 1949

The Consul General of Greece
The Royal Greek Consulate
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

It would be much appreciated if every consideration is given the application of Professor Homer A. Thompson for a visa to Greece, valid for the year 1949.

Professor Thompson is a permanent member of the Faculty of the Institute for Advanced Study and Director of the excavations now being conducted by the American School of Classical Studies in the Agora at Athens. In the furtherance of his duties in this latter capacity Professor Thompson is planning to visit Greece. Both his eminence as an archaeologist and his deep feeling for Greece will, I am sure, commend him to your courteous attention.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Oppenheimer
Director

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Dear Mrs Russell:

Would the
Director be good enough to write
me a letter of recommendation to
the Greek consul for a visa?

I'm enclosing a copy of the
letter written by Prof. Meritt last
year; the same form might be
followed. Do excuse the flowery
language which has in the past
induced the consul to issue the
"Courtesy" visa rather than charging
the usual \$15 fee.

Please don't send the letter to
the Consul but to me, so that I

may include it with the other
papers.

Sincerely,

H.A. Thompson.

COPIE

**The Consul General of Greece
The Royal Greek Consulate
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, N.Y.**

My dear Sir:

I wish to recommend to you for a visa, valid for the calendar year 1948, on his passport to Greece, Professor Homer A. Thompson, a professor in our Institute for Advanced Study, a distinguished archaeologist and a lifelong friend of Greece.

Professor Thompson is the Director of the excavations conducted by the American School of Classical Studies in the Agora of Athens. These excavations, as you know, have been carried on since 1931, only with the interruption of the war, and Professor Thompson plans now to return to Greece to continue his duties with the School.

With many thanks and assurances of my most corial regards.

Ever sincerely yours

B. D. Meritt

December 16, 1949

Dear Professor Thompson:

It is a pleasure for me to inform you that at its meeting of November 15, 1949, the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Advanced Study adopted the following resolution:

It was moved and carried that, operative as of July 1, 1950, the minimum total pension of present full Institute professors should be \$6000; that the obligation of the Institute is to provide the difference between this amount and the pension provided through insurance; that the additional payments should be covered in the ordinary budget.

Thus, under the terms of this resolution, the funds available to you from the TIAA policy which you now hold will be supplemented by the Institute to bring the total to \$6000. a year. The Trustees of the Institute understand that in some cases a professor may desire to make provision for the support of his wife in the event of his death. In general, the Institute will allow each professor to exercise this option with regard to its contribution to his retirement allowance, and in general accordance with the terms of options as established by the TIAA.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Oppenheimer
Director

Professor Homer A. Thompson

Copy: Miss Trinterud, Business Office
Institute TIAA file - Director's Office

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

*Fac.
Thompson*

December 19, 1949

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Director

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

Permit me to acknowledge with
gratitude your letter of
December 16th regarding the
recent action of the Board of
Trustees in the matter of
pensions for members of faculty.

Yours sincerely,

Homer A. Thompson

Homer A. Thompson

HAT:W



AGORA EXCAVATIONS
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
ATHENS, GREECE

May 5, 1949

Dr. Robert Oppenheimer
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N.J.
U. S. A.

Dear Robert :

Thank you for keeping me advised of your deliberations regarding the policy of inviting professors emeriti. I wish merely to record my concurrence with the conclusions you have reached which seem to me sound, viz. that our general policy should be not to use our stipend funds in such cases but on the other hand not to exclude particularly desirable candidates of this category. As for Professor Linforth, whom I have known here in Athens, I should certainly be prepared to regard him as an exception and am delighted by the prospect of having him among us next year.

Yours sincerely,

Homer A. Thompson

Homer A. Thompson

HAT/ak

*Faculty
Thompson*

2/15

January 8, 1948

Alien Tax Division
Room 400
17 East 42nd St.
New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

This is to certify that Professor Homer A. Thompson is a member of the Faculty of the Institute for Advanced Study, having joined our staff in September, 1947.

Professor Thompson plans to make a trip to Athens, Greece, leaving La Guardia Field, January 25, 1948, TWA Flight No. 902. He will return to the United States some time in the early fall of 1948.

During his residence here, and since joining our staff, Professor Thompson earned the following taxable income paid to him by the Institute for Advanced Study:

1947 - \$7,500.00	Tax withheld: \$1,133.40
1948 - \$1,250.00	Tax withheld: 188.90

Estimated income from the Institute for the year 1948:

\$15,000.00

Tax to be withheld:

\$ 2,266.80

Yours sincerely,

Robert Oppenheimer
Director

October 4, 1947

Samuel D. Leidesdorf, Esq.
125 Park Avenue
New York 17, New York

Dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

Professor Homer Thompson is going over to New York on Monday and I have asked him to call in to see you to arrange the details of the mortgage which he requests. I think it is a good investment for the Institute and I am sure that you will enjoy making Professor Thompson's acquaintance.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

Copy to Professor Thompson

Homer Thompson

Museum

Faculty Thompson

The "finds" from the excavation, the workrooms and the office of the staff are now accommodated in a half-dozen old dwelling houses which stand in a group in the south central part of the excavations. These quarters have thus far proven convenient and economical, but a radical change is now necessary. The buildings have suffered structurally from the encroachment of the excavations and from the inevitable lapse of routine maintenance during the Occupation; to recondition them would be costly. These old buildings, moreover, with their small rooms, are quite inadequate for the effective display of museum pieces and, by reason of their flimsy construction, they are always liable to fire. The final and most cogent argument for a move is the fact that the present excavation houses partly overlie and so prevent the study of at least two important public buildings.

It will be recalled that in the '30's the zone of the Excavation was extended to include a sizeable area to the west of the Areopagus with the intention of erecting a permanent museum on that site. Despite the objections that have been raised, this still appears to be the most logical and, indeed, a very good site for the permanent Agora Museum. The building so placed would be well outside the ancient Market Square yet within sight and easy reach of the main area of the excavations so that it would be exceedingly convenient in a practical way for the completion of the necessary field work and, in the future, would assure the excavation and the finds being regarded as a unit. The ancient ground level in this area lies so low, moreover, that the new building would in no wise compete with the ancient "Theseum" and would interfere very little with the views of the surrounding hills. The site has another great advantage in that it lies directly on the road joining Acropolis and "Theseum," a route followed by virtually all visitors to Athens.

The archaeological exploration of the site was begun in 1939 and has been continued through the seasons of 1940, 1946 and 1947. The area is now seen to lie at the head of a valley between the Areopagus, the Pnyx and the Hill of the Nymphs. The wash from the adjoining hill slopes had filled the valley to an unexpected and unpredictable depth, the accumulation attaining a maximum depth of 35 feet in the middle of the valley.

The removal of this vast mass of earth has been slow and costly. It was absolutely essential, however, that the area be explored before being overlaid by the new building, and, as pointed out in the section on "Excavation," the exploration has in itself been fruitful.

By mid-summer, 1947, the excavation had gone far enough to reveal the contours of bedrock and to show that the museum could be set in this area without causing excessive damage to ancient foundations. The excavation is being pushed on in an autumn campaign this year and will be completed in the spring of 1948 so that by the summer of 1948, it is anticipated, the archaeological exploration and study will have been completed and the site will be available for construction.

Museum -2-

Architectural studies for the museum building have been carried on during the past two years, the architects, Mr. William Aldrich and Mr. W. Stuart Thompson, acting in consultation with various members of the School and Agora staffs.

In August, 1947, Mr. Stuart Thompson visited Athens, carrying with him a preliminary set of plans and a model of the building. After certain modifications had been made in consequence of further discussions with the Agora staff and in the light of the more complete clearance of the site, the plans and model were presented to a meeting of the Greek Archaeological Council held at the Agora on August 18th. Both the scheme of the building and its site were unanimously approved by the Council, which has the controlling voice in the matter of building within an "archaeological area." The plans were subsequently shown to Mr. Biris of the City Planning Board who has consistently advocated a site remote from the Agora proper; Mr. Biris could not bring himself to approve the present choice of site but agreed not to oppose it. Mr. Doxiades of the Fine Arts Commission readily gave his approval. The official approval of the Greek Government will not be forthcoming until the final working plans are presented, but the School was assured by the Archaeological Council of its whole-hearted backing.

On October 7th, 1947, the plans were considered by the Museum Committee of the American School and recommended for approval to the Board of Trustees.

The design envisages a building 168 feet (51.50 metres) square set around a large central courtyard. A broad opening in the north side will serve both as visitors' and service entrance, providing convenient access to and from the excavations. On all four sides the building will rise one storey above the level of the court; the east and south blocks will have in addition full basement storeys. The east block, set close to the foot of the Areopagus, will form the main mass of the building. It will comprise the public exhibition galleries, space for the more compact display of large groups of material that will ordinarily be accessible only to students, and, in the basement storey, storage space for a very great amount of pottery chiefly of documentary value. The west wing is designed to take the marble inscriptions; the north wing, such of the architectural and sculptural marbles as are not shown in the public galleries; a general overhand of the eaves will provide adequate outdoor shelter for the larger marbles of the same categories. In the basement of the south wing will be the technical workrooms: rooms for mending pottery, cleaning coins, making models of buildings, processing photographs. The upper storey of this wing will contain the records room, a photographic room, drafting room, study rooms for the excavators and numismatists and a living room - library for the use of the staff.

It is proposed to make the building of reinforced concrete, with an exterior facing of Peiraeus limestone for the main block. The roofs of all four blocks are to be gabled and covered with hand-made terracotta tiles of a color that will harmonize with the adjacent hills.

Museum -3-

The dimensions of the building have been arrived at by a very close check of existing display, storage and work space, with provision for a slight increase in the first two categories to accommodate material from the excavating still to be done, and with allowance for some decrease in the workspace which will be less needed as the large-scale excavating draws to a close.

It may be thought that the scale of the plant envisaged in these plans is excessive for a single excavation in Greek lands. It is to be remembered, however, that the Agora area has been inhabited continuously for some 5000 years so that in addition to the major antiquities such as sculpture and inscribed marbles from the public area, the excavation has yielded a vast mass of material from private houses, from wells, cisterns and graves. It is largely through the sheer bulk and long continuity of this material that the Agora Excavations are making their most distinctive contribution to our knowledge of Greek history, art and way of life.

The general scheme of the building as worked out in the present plans would appear to be the most effective and economical for the peculiar needs of the Agora. In the comparatively small area devoted to the public galleries will be shown outstanding examples of various categories, e.g. sculpture, pottery, inscriptions, with brief synoptic series to illustrate the development of Greek ceramics, coins, etc. and special exhibitions showing, for instance, the technique of Greek sculpture. In the large area assigned to well, cistern and tomb groups, the inscriptions, the sculptural and architectural marbles, the material will be displayed on simple shelving with study tables in immediate conjunction, an arrangement that has already been tested in the present temporary quarters and found ideal for the convenience of both the excavation staff and visiting scholars. The pottery preserved chiefly for its documentary value, i.e., as providing the evidence for the date of buildings or of other objects in association with which it has been found, will be stored in trays arranged as in the stacks of a modern library with each container as carefully recorded and as readily accessible as a book in a library. The technical workrooms will be vitally needed for the years still required to complete the excavation and the publication. Thereafter, these facilities will undoubtedly be of great value to the School in any further work it may do in Athens, or even in other parts of Greece.

In planning the building, the example of the Corinth Museum has been constantly in mind. In Corinth the general scheme envisaged for the Agora Museum was followed. Experience has shown, however, that relatively too little space was given to study material and to workrooms. In Corinth, moreover, the bulk of the documentary material has been stored in old private houses or unsubstantial new buildings in the village; this arrangement has proven awkward in use and costly in maintenance. The result has been that in less than ten years after the completion of the Corinth Museum, the building required enlargement which must now be carried out at greater cost and which can scarcely achieve the organic unity that might have been planned from the beginning.

The Rockefeller Foundation before World War II had allocated toward the cost of building the Agora Museum a sum of \$150,000 which would at

Museum -4-

that time have been ample for the erection of an adequate building. Of this amount, \$11,645.06 has already been drawn and expended to assist in clearing the site for the Museum. The cost of building in Athens has risen between two and three times its pre-war level. Hence the architect's estimate for building and equipping the Museum as described above is \$325,000. If the balance of \$138,354.94 that remains from the Foundation's original allocation be deducted, a sum of \$186,645.06 has yet to be found.

* * * * *

Excavation

In the course of the first twelve annual campaigns (1931-40, 1946, 1947) an area of some twenty-five acres has been worked over. The east, west and south sides of the principal square of the ancient city have been fixed and cleared, together with the public buildings that closed them. The north edge of the square and the flanking buildings have been shown to lie north of the Athens-Peiraeus Railway, i.e., outside the area now available for excavation. It seems probable, however, that only a very narrow strip of the square proper lies outside our zone. Practically the whole central area of the square has now been opened up and in it have appeared the foundations of a fifth century temple, a concert hall and numerous monument bases.

To the south of the square a large area has been cleared on the north slopes of the Acropolis and Areopagus. This has clarified the relationship between the Agora and those other two foci of public life in the ancient city; it has, moreover, led to the discovery of the Eleusinion, one of the most famous sanctuaries of Athens, and of a Bronze Age cemetery probably used by the royal family that dwelt at that time on the Acropolis.

To the northwest of the Areopagus another considerable area has been explored outside the limits of the square. The primary purpose of this exploration was to prepare a site for the permanent Agora Museum. It has also proved rewarding in other ways, throwing much light on the ancient road system, yielding an interesting family burial plot of the sixth century B.D. and giving us a most illuminating picture of how the artisans in bronze, marble and clay lived and worked around the edges of the market place.

Of the many ancient buildings discovered, about one-third have thus far been completely explored, studied and published. These include the two Periclean temples of Hephaistos and of Area, the civic buildings along the west side of the square and the fountain house called the Klepsydra high on the north slope of the Acropolis. Three more buildings, viz., the Concert Hall, the Library of Pantainos and the Altar of the Twelve Gods, have been explored and studied and manuscripts for their publication are in various stages of preparation.

Excavation -5-

Apart from the topographical and architectural results, the other "finds" from the excavation have been very numerous. Some 6000 marble inscriptions and 1000 ostraka have provided a wealth of new and detailed information on Athenian history and public life. The coins number just short of 100,000, a collection large enough, when thoroughly studied, to assure the solution of many outstanding problems in Greek numismatics. The sculpture includes a number of first-rate pieces of the sixth and fifth centuries B.C., a good series of portrait studied of the Roman period, and many partially worked pieces of great interest for the technique of ancient sculpture. The pottery is overwhelming in bulk, range and continuity, providing as it does a complete sequence from the Neolithic period into the Mediaeval. Since the great majority of the vases have been found in closed deposits such as tombs, wells and cisterns, often in combination with external evidence for dating, this material is adding greatly to the completeness and precision of our knowledge of Greek ceramics.

The primary objective of the undertaking is already assured for it may be said that the Agora Excavations have provided the best documented and most complete picture yet available of the working centre of one of the more important city states of ancient Greece.

In many respects, however, the job is only half done. Several isolated but substantial masses of earth have still to be removed. The largest in area is the space occupied by the group of modern houses which are now used as temporary museum and workrooms. There remain also the modern streets serving these houses and several other "bridge-heads" left from the preliminary excavations.

It must be emphasized, moreover, that only about one-third of the total area has as yet been explored to bottom. The principal public buildings have no doubt all been located. But for the most part excavation has as yet been carried down only to the ground level of late antiquity. Between this level and bedrock lies a hard packed stratified accumulation of one to six feet in which may be read the record of earlier ages: the debris resulting from the Persian and the Roman sack of Athens, the traces of early houses, and of sanctuaries. On this site the richest harvest is frequently to be gathered from the surface of bedrock itself, for it is only the careful scraping of bedrock that reveals the early graves, mouths of wells and cisterns, the casting pits in which the bronze statues were poured, the pit holes in which the ostraka were discarded after balloting day. It is the myriad scraps of information gathered from such sources as these that add flesh and blood to the dry bones of the topographical and architectural frame. Much of the material antedates the fifth century, thus illuminating those early chapters of Athenian history on which the literary sources throw only an occasional and fitful gleam.

These earlier levels must be explored. It is important that the work be done now without interruption, for the proper definitive publication of large categories of material such as the architecture, pottery and ostraka cannot be prepared without cognizance of the evidence from the deeper strata. It is also exceedingly desirable that this exploration, which calls for the highest skill, should be carried

Excavation -6-

out by the present members of the staff who have perfected their digging technique.

The School is under legal and moral obligation to landscape the area and has already been criticized because of the unsightly appearance of the area in its present semi-finished state. The landscaping can be done economically and effectively only when the final exploration is completed.

It is estimated that after the close of the School's financial year 1947-48, the exploration of the principal area could be completed in five seasons comparable in scale with the season of 1947. If the rate of exchange and the scale of wages in Greece remains as now, the annual expenditure for stipends of Fellows, wages, handling of earth and maintenance of plant would be approximately \$50,000, making a total of \$250,000 for the completion of the program of excavation.

* * * * *

Publication

The Excavation of the Agora will not reach final completion until the results have been made available in published form, both to scholars and to the general public. Much of this work has already been done in a preliminary way in advance studies which have appeared primarily in the journal Hesperia. But at the conclusion of the excavation the results must be summarized and account taken of the critical discussion from all interested scholars in a series of volumes which deal with the several categories of discovery. The overhead expense involved in the manufacture of these books is estimated at \$85,000.*

* Architecture	(one volume,	\$5,000)	Thompson and Travlos;
Ostraka	(one volume,	\$4,000)	Vanderpool, Young, Raubitschek;
Inscriptions	(two volumes,	\$12,000)	Meritt;
Pottery	(five volumes,	\$16,000)	Weinberg, Young, Talcott Vanderpool, Edwards (?)
Sculpture	(one volume,	\$6,000)	Carpenter;
Figurines	(one volume,	\$6,000)	D.B. Thompson;
Lamps	(one volume,	\$6,000)	Howland;
Coins	(two volumes,	\$10,000)	Shear, Thompson;
Miscellaneous Finds	(one volume,	\$5,000)	G. Weinberg, Stamires;
Amphora Handles	(one volume,	\$5,000)	V. Grace;
History and Topography	(one volume,	\$5,000)	Thompson;
Byzantine and Turk- ish Discoveries	(one volume,	\$5,000)	Travlos, Frantz.

The expense of preparation must also be reckoned as part of the cost of publication. Even though much has already been done, there remains much to do and the final preparations will not have been made

Publication -7-

until the close of excavations five years hence when those assigned to the task of publication will have had time to master the material and to finish their manuscripts. Many of the authors now at work will continue through the next five years to give their services toward the publications program while they hold fellowships or remunerative positions in the School and elsewhere. The American School through its fellowships in the Agora is contributing now annually all of \$13,000 and most of an additional \$6500 to work closely related to the problems of final excavation and publication.*

* This figure represents the actual budget allowance in 1947-1948 for Mr. Vanderpool, Mr. Rodney Young, Mr. Homer A. Thompson, Miss Margaret Crosby, Miss Margaret Thompson, and Miss Lucy Talcott, who are giving all their time to the Agora, and Mr. Travlos and Mr. Parsons, who are giving or will give most of their time to the Agora. Stipends are far below the amounts these members ought to receive, in many cases not being high enough even to defray the cost of living in Athens. The continuation of the work is being made possible because most of the Agora fellows have private means or other sources of income which they are willing to devote to their necessary expenses.

There is also outside academic help which the School is happy to have available and which it is using in the prosecution of its program. Professor Thompson and Professor Meritt at the Institute for Advanced Study are giving now their entire time, on full salary, to the study of the Agora. Mr. Paul Clement, as editor, is busy with the preliminary publications and receives \$2,000 which should be credited as part of the School's effort. The Institute is also making available some of its membership stipends for the study of Agora material under the direction of Thompson and Meritt. The normal annual use of stipends of this sort may be expected to average \$7,500. Including these salaries and stipends the American School, through its resources and through resources which it has won to its support, will be contributing an annual sum of approximately \$59,000 toward the completion of the Agora undertaking. It has also the support of numerous volunteer scholars who have undertaken to work upon the problems of publication without expecting remuneration themselves other than possible traveling expenses when visits to Athens are necessary. Among these scholars who expect no remuneration are Mr. Saul Weingerg, Miss Alison Frantz, Professor Rhys Carpenter, Professor Richard Howland, Professor A. E. Raubitschek, Professor W. Kendrick Pritchett, and Professor Sterling Dow.

The maintenance of this liaison with Greece will require the expenditure of \$32,000 during the next five years, beyond the present resources of the School, in order to accomplish the definitive study and publication of the Agora as outlined above. The School therefore seeks a grant of \$117,000.00 for the preparation and manufacture of these publications. At the same time the School wishes to record its own contribution, and the contribution of its pledged supporters, in the amount of \$59,000 a year for at least five years (a total of \$295,000.00) which is being used toward the same end of completing the whole task of the excavation.

Publication -8-

Professor Thompson and Professor Meritt are now centralizing all the final work (except excavation) at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, where ample facilities for library study and research are available, and where there is no overhead cost for the routine of carrying on the work.

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WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS
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NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
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1947 SEP 20 AM 11 24

SECRETARY INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY=

PRINCETON NJER=

DELAYED BY IMMIGRATION HOPE TO REACH PRINCETON WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER TWENTY FOURTH=

HOMER THOMPSON. (

TELEPHONE No. 2580
 TELEPHONED TO LT
 TIME 8:15^{AM}
 BY L TO BE for me
 ATTEMPTS TO DELIVER da 114
Stm
da 3450

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Memorandum

To..... Mrs. K. Russell..... Date..... 9/24/47.....

From C. E. Higbee..... Re.....

Professor Homer Thompson has arrived in Princeton.

Will be out to the Institute tomorrow, 9/25/47

AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES

ATHENS, GREECE

EXTRACT from July 24th letter received from Professor Homer A.
Thompson on July 29th.

"I am planning to leave Athens on August 26th, sailing in the
Queen Elizabeth from Southampton on the 27th. We shall hope to make the move
from Toronto to Princeton on September 10/11th.

Yours sincerely,

Homer A. Thompson "
(signature)

J.R.

Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association
of America
522 Fifth Avenue New York 18, New York

July 16, 1947

Frank A. McConnell
Controller

Re: A-14, 120
Homer A. Thompson

Miss Bernetta A. Miller
Director's Office
The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Miss Miller:

Your letter of June 27th in regard to the reinstatement of Professor Homer A. Thompson's contract No. A-14, 120 has been referred to me in reference to the currency basis in connection with premium payments.

Professor Thompson's contract No. A-14, 120 is now based on Canadian currency. Although his contract is in Canadian currency we are ready to accept payments in U. S. currency. If premiums are paid in U. S. currency, an adjustment will be made for exchange according to the rate of exchange on the first of the calendar month in which the premium is received whenever the rate of exchange on that day exceeds 1%. Since we are at present using the official rate of exchange in connection with premium payments and the difference is less than 1% no adjustments for exchange are being made now. Since the Institute for Advanced Study will be remitting premiums for Professor Thompson under the provisions of your retirement plan, he could have his contract transferred from Canadian to U. S. currency. In transferring his contract to U. S. currency it would be rewritten and revalued in accordance with the open market rate of exchange which is used when transfers are made.

Kindly let us know whether or not Professor Thompson desires to leave his contract in Canadian currency and remit in U. S. currency or if he would be interested in transferring such contract to U. S. currency.

Yours truly

F. A. McConnell
(signature)

Controller

FAH:GAL

THE ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

TORONTO 5, CANADA

CABLE ADDRESS:

ROMA, TORONTO

AGENTS IN ENGLAND:

THOMAS MEADOWS & CO., LTD.

35, MILK STREET,
LONDON, E.C. 2.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

June 17, 1947.

Dr. Frank Aydelotte,
Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, N.J.

Dear Dr. Aydelotte,

We were delighted to hear that you have found yourselves a comfortable house, as we are looking forward greatly to seeing much of you in Princeton next year. We have heard of Dr. Oppenheimer's appointment, and look forward to meeting him. But before he takes over, perhaps you would be good enough to write for my husband the usual letter which is required by United States immigration authorities. This would include, I understand, the official statement of my husband's appointment, his salary, his intentions of remaining in the United States, and any other relative matter. As he will have very little time when he returns from Greece, I am trying to gather the vast dossier necessary for his immigration before he returns, and would much appreciate your help and any advice you might give on this important matter.

With very best wishes to you and to your wife,

Yours sincerely,

Dorothy Burr Thompson

(Mrs. H. A. Thompson).

DBT/MC

file

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY

May 23, 1947.

Dear Dr. Aydelott:

I have opened
an account with the First
National Bank in Princeton
and should be glad to have
my stipend payments deposited
there when the time comes.

I am sailing today for
Greece where my mailing
address will be

The American School of Classical
Studies,

Athens, Greece.

until late August.

Yours sincerely,

Homer A. Thompson

copy to Mrs. Rosenfeld
Miss Miller
Miss Trivterud

January 2, 1947

Professor Homer A. Thompson
Department of Art and Archaeology
University of Toronto
Toronto, Canada

Dear Professor Thompson:

Thank you for your letter of December 30th which has arrived during Dr. Aydelotte's absence on a holiday in Florida. The Institute will be very glad to reinstate your annuity contract, deducting the cost of \$409.18 from your salary next year, and I am asking Miss Miller to take care of this. I am also passing on to Miss Miller the information about your housing requirements.

Dr. Aydelotte returns from Florida on January 31st and he and Mrs. Aydelotte are looking forward to seeing you and Mrs. Thompson in Princeton sometime either in February or March.

Yours sincerely,

Jane S. Richardson
Secretary to Dr. Aydelotte

Copy to Miss Miller

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY

December 30, 1946.

Dr. Frank Aydelotte,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, N.J., U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Aydelotte:

Thank you for your letter of December 21st with the information about the annuity. The provision seems to me to be satisfactory and so too does the arrangement for reinstating my policy. It would be a very great convenience to me if you could arrange to have the cost of reinstating the contract (viz. \$409.18) deducted from my salary of next year.

I had long conversations with Professor Meritt in the course of the meetings of the Archaeological Institute in Rochester last week. It becomes increasingly clear that the arrangement is going to be very profitable in a scholarly way as well as exceedingly pleasant.

Professor Meritt suggested that I give Miss Miller some indication of our housing needs so that she might have them in mind in case something turns up before our visit to Princeton. We have twin daughters, aged 11 and a third daughter aged 8. At present we are in the very happy position of having a maid; she is willing to go down with us and we shall make a great effort to arrange this. If we could choose we would prefer to rent for two or three years in the hope that we might then be able to build at a more reasonable cost. But this, of course, is wishful thinking. If absolutely necessary we could retain our Toronto house and Mrs. Thompson with the family could remain here for another year. But I very much hope that we can go down together and make the move in the late summer. My present plan is to leave for Athens late in May and spend the summer there.

- 2 -

I am also writing to Miss Norris, one of your Princeton real-estate agents recommended by Professor Meritt, to enlist her help in our search.

We look forward to visiting you in February or March and shall let you know as soon as we can fix a date.

With all good wishes for the New Year,

Yours sincerely,

Homer A. Thompson

H. A. Thompson.

HAT/MMT

Copy to Miss Miller

December 30, 1946

Miss Mary Campbell,
Secretary to Professor Thompson
Department of Archaeology
University of Toronto
Toronto 5, Canada

Dear Miss Campbell:

I have your letter of December 27th and hasten to send you under separate cover a copy of the latest Bulletin of the Institute for Advanced Study. As you will see from the Bulletin all the work at the Institute is on the post-doctorate level. If Professor Thompson is also interested in the work of the Graduate School of Princeton University, I would suggest that you write directly to the Dean of the Graduate School, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, for a copy of their latest catalog.

Yours sincerely,

Jane S. Richardson
Secretary to Dr. Aydelotte

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Toronto 5,

December 27, 1946.

The Secretary,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, N.J.

Dear Sir:

Would you be kind enough to send to Professor Homer Thompson the Graduate calendar for the year 1946-47. I wrote on November 12th to ask for the undergraduate one, but he would like to know the graduate courses offered also.

Yours very truly,

Mary Campbell

Secretary.

PERSONAL

December 21, 1946

Professor Homer A. Thompson
Department of Archaeology
University of Toronto
Toronto, Canada

Dear Professor Thompson:

I now have definite information about your annuity and enclose copy of a letter which I received from the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association this morning. If you are prepared to make them a payment of \$409.18 they will reinstate your original contract and the proceeds of that contract, plus the 5% of your salary we are proposing that you should pay and the 5% paid by the Institute would provide you at age 65 with an annuity of something over \$5,000. It is impossible to be quite definite about the total on account of the difference between American and Canadian currency but it will be somewhere in that neighborhood.

Do you consider this provision satisfactory and are you prepared to make the payment called for? If it would be any convenience to you to have the Institute make it immediately and deduct it in installments from your salary next year, that could easily be arranged.

We are all of us looking forward with the greatest enthusiasm to your coming to the Institute next year and when you come down to pay us a visit in February or March, I propose with your approval to make a public announcement of your appointment.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:jer
Enc. 1

Copy to Miss Miller

Copy to Prof. Thompson
Miss Miller



TEACHERS INSURANCE & ANNUITY ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA

522 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

December 19, 1946

Mr. Frank Aydelotte
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Aydelotte:

Mr. Mattocks has asked me to reply to your letter of December 16 regarding Professor Homer A. Thompson's Deferred annuity contract No. A14,120.

Premium payments under the above contract were discontinued on August 1, 1946. It will be necessary that Professor Thompson reinstate his contract before we would accept the payment of \$1500 per year as you suggest. The cost of reinstating the contract on July 1, 1947 on the basis of Professor Thompson's present premium of \$33.34 would be \$409.18 including the July 1 payment.

I am showing in the tabulation below the benefits that would accrue under the above contract if payments of \$1500 per year were commenced August 1, 1947. You will note that this date is one month later than the date shown in your letter, since we believe that deductions from salary would be made in July and the first payment would probably reach us on August 1.

	Monthly Annuity at age 65 Regular Settlement (10/1/71)
<u>A 14,120</u>	
Present Premium \$33.34 monthly buys	\$173.04
<u>8/1/47</u>	
Additional Prem. <u>91.66</u> monthly buys	<u>245.64</u>
\$125.00 total	\$418.68 total

I trust this gives you the information you desire, but if you have any further questions do not hesitate to communicate with me.

Yours truly,

Corwin H. Barnum
Chief Computer

CHB:pdm

P. S. The above contract was issued on the basis of Canadian currency and therefore must be changed over to United States currency sometime prior to the resumption of premium payments and an adjustment made in accordance with the exchange rate at the time the currency is changed.

PERSONAL

December 16, 1946

Professor Homer A. Thompson
Department of Archaeology
University of Toronto
Toronto, Canada

Dear Professor Thompson:

I am delighted to have your letter and look forward with great enthusiasm to having you on our staff at the Institute, as will all the members of the Faculty.

One of the first things you ought to do is to consider where you will live in Princeton. By the time you come, we shall have some Institute apartments, one of which I have no doubt we could assign to you but it occurs to me that you may want a house and may prefer to buy rather than to rent. It would, I think, be a good thing if you and Mrs. Thompson could pay a visit to Princeton sometime early in the new year to look over the possibilities.

I am, meanwhile, taking up with the TIAA the question of your annuity contract in order to find out just what you could expect at age 65 from the TIAA. I shall write to you further as soon as I have heard from them.

Meanwhile I should like to repeat the invitation which I sent you to come to Princeton and to stay with us some time in the spring when you find it convenient.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:JAF

Copy to Miss Miller

June 20, 1947

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that Professor Homer Armstrong Thompson of Toronto has been appointed to a Professorship in the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton with a salary of \$15,000 a year. Professor Thompson's appointment dates from July 1, 1947 and he intends to remain permanently in the United States. I should very greatly appreciate any courtesies which our immigration officials may be able to show him in his transfer from Toronto to Princeton.

FRANK AYDELOTTE
Director

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 20th day of June, 1947

Notary Public of the State of New Jersey

3 copies sent
le

December 16, 1946

R. L. Mattocks, Esq.
Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association
522 Fifth Avenue
New York 18, New York

Dear Mattocks:

You will be interested to know that we have recently appointed Professor Homer A. Thompson of the University of Toronto as a member of the Institute Faculty. Professor Thompson tells me that he has been a contributor to the TIAA for many years and has a kind of paid-up contract, No. A 14,120. Professor Thompson was born September 7, 1906. If payments were resumed on his annuity contract at the rate of \$1,500 a year as from July 1, 1947, can you tell me what his annuity would be at age 65, that is in September 1971 or June 1972? I make it a rule in making new appointments at the Institute to get everything clear about a man's annuity at the time he is appointed and should like to know just what Professor Thompson would be entitled to expect.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:jar

Copy to Miss Miller

C O P Y

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
Department of Archaeology

December 13, 1946

Mr. Frank Aydelotte
Director, The Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Aydelotte:

I have delayed answering your letter of December 2nd until such time as I could have a final conversation with our President. I have done that today and can now say that I shall be free and shall be very happy to accept your offer of a professorship in the Institute, the appointment to take effect as from July 1st, 1947.

With regard to the annuity let me explain that I had contributed to the TIAA until this session when the University of Toronto transferred its annuity accounts to the Dominion Government. In accordance with the understanding between the TIAA and the University of Toronto, I arranged to have my contract regarded as "paid up." The number of my contract is A 14,120. I should think that payments of premium could simply be resumed.

I look forward very eagerly to the splendid opportunity for productive scholarship opened up by this appointment and with great pleasure to the association with you and the other members of the staff. I trust that it will also be possible in this way for Mrs. Thompson to resume her participation in publishing the results of our excavations in Athens.

Mrs. Thompson and I hope that we may avail ourselves of your invitation to visit Princeton in the spring in order to lay out our work and to find a place in which to lay our heads.

Yours sincerely,

HOMER A. THOMPSON

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY

December 13, 1946.

Mr Frank Aydelotte,
Director, The Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, N. J., U. S. A.

Dear Mr Aydelotte:

I have delayed answering your letter of December 2nd until such time as I could have a final conversation with our President. I have done that today and can now say that I shall be free and shall be very happy to accept your offer of a professorship in the Institute, the appointment to take effect as from July 1st 1947.

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the staff. I trust that it will also be possible in this way for Mrs Thompson to resume her participation in publishing the results of our excavations in Athens.

Mrs Thompson and I hope that we may avail ourselves of your invitation to visit Princeton in the spring in order to lay out our work and to find a place in which to lay our heads.

Yours sincerely,

Homer A. Thompson.

Copy To Miss Miller
Prof. Meritt

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PRESIDENT

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1946 NOV 30 AM 10 17

FRANK AYDELOTTE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY==

REGRET INABILITY TO VISIT YOU IN DECEMBER BUT AM PREPARED
TO ACCEPT POSITION AS PREVIOUSLY OUTLINED=

HOMER THOMPSON;

TELEPHONE No. *9580*

TELEPHONED TO *Mrs Richardson*

TIME *1040A*

BY *[Signature]* TO BE *[Signature]*

ATTEMPTS TO DELIVER

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

T E L E G R A M

Received November 30, 1946

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Regret inability to visit you in December but am
prepared to accept position as previously outlined.

HOMER R. THOMPSON
Boston, Massachusetts

T E L E G R A M

Received November 30, 1946

Dr. Frank Aydelotte
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey

Regret inability to visit you in December but am
prepared to accept position as previously outlined.

HOMER A. THOMPSON
Boston, Massachusetts

November 22, 1946

Professor Homer A. Thompson
University of Toronto
Toronto, Canada

Dear Professor Thompson:

Could you and Mrs. Thompson come down to Princeton at our expense some time in the near future to discuss with me and the members of our Faculty, the opening in Humanistic Studies about which we spoke informally when you were here for the Bicentennial? I would suggest some time in the first week in December, if that is convenient for you. It would suit me best personally if you could be here from the 3rd to the 5th or from the 4th to the 6th. I hope very much that it will be possible for Mrs. Thompson to come with you. My wife and I would expect you to be our personal guests in our house while you are here. I should like very much for both of you to have the opportunity of studying the work of the Institute and discussing with us our plans for the future with the hope that you may be interested in them.

Looking forward with great pleasure to your visit,
I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte

FA:jar

Copy to Professor Meritt

Mrs. Aydelotte

HOMER A. THOMPSON

Education B.A., M.A., ~~XXXXX~~ Univ. of British Columbia; Ph.D.,
Univ. of Michigan, 1929; fellow, American School of Classical Studies,
Athens, 1929-33.

Honors LL.D., Univ. of British Columbia, 1949. Fellow, Royal
Society of Canada; corr. fellow, British Academy; member, American
Philosophical Society, *Century Association* ^
L.H.D. Dartmouth 1957
Member German Arch. Institut

Career Instr., classics, Univ. of British Columbia, 1925-27;
asst. prof., classical archaeology, Univ. of Toronto, 1933-41, asso.
prof., 1941-46, professor and head of department of art and archaeology
1946-47. Asst. dir. and curator of classical collection, Royal Ontario
Museum, Toronto, 1933-47; /director, Agora Excavations, American School
of Classical Studies, Athens, since 1945. Served as lieutenant, Royal
Canadian Naval Vol. Res., 1942-45; on loan to Royal Navy, 1943-45; officer
in charge of Naval Intelligence in Adriatic, 1943-45.

Professor, Institute for Advanced Study, since 1947.

December 2, 1946

Professor Homer A. Thompson
University of Toronto
Toronto, Canada

Dear Professor Thompson:

Your telegram gave me and all the members of the School of Humanistic Studies the greatest satisfaction. It gives me great pleasure to send you herewith a formal offer of a Professorship in the School of Humanistic Studies at the Institute as from July 1, 1947, with a salary of \$15,000 per year. Over and above this the Institute will pay 5% of your salary to the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association on the condition that you contribute a like amount to provide a pension for you at our retiring age of 65. I hope very much that you have already been contributing to the TIAA and that our contributions will go to swell your accumulations toward a pension. If by any chance you have no prospects of this kind, we should want to insist that the contributions paid by you and by us would be sufficient to provide you with a minimum pension of \$4,000. If you will let me know what your situation is, I can tell you immediately what annual contribution would be necessary to provide a pension of this amount. If the necessary contribution from the Institute exceeds 5% I may be required to reduce your salary slightly in order to provide an adequate pension. On the other hand, if 5% will, as I hope, produce a pension for you at 65 generously in excess of \$4,000, that will give us the greatest satisfaction.

We look forward to your presence at the Institute with the greatest enthusiasm. I hold very firmly to the conviction that we ought here to strengthen our strongest subjects and I hope that your coming will make the Institute not merely a national but an international center for Greek archaeology.

If at any time this spring you and Mrs. Thompson find it convenient to visit Princeton in order to look out for housing accommodations and to consult Professor Meritt about your plans for work, I wish very heartily to invite you to come at the expense of the Institute and to stay with us while you are here.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Frank Aydelotte, Director

Copy to Miss Miller

1946

Homer Armstrong Thompson was born at Devlin, Ontario, on September 7, 1906. He received the degree of B.A. from the University of British Columbia in 1925, his M.A. from the same University in 1927, and his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1929. Since 1929 he has been continuously associated with the work of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. Before the excavations of the Agora were begun the newly established commission which handled Mr. Rokereller's grant of money selected Thompson to be the first Fellow, working with Dr. Leslie Shear on the Excavation Staff. Thompson spent the summer of 1929 travelling in Europe, particularly in Italy and Greece, and devoted the subsequent year to excavation with the veteran Greek archaeologist Mr. Konstantinos Kourouniotes. The site explored was the Hill of the Pnyx, the meeting place of the Athenian Assembly, and the results were published in Thompson's first major academic paper, "The Pnyx in Athens," Hesperia, I (1932), pp. 90-217. Work in the Agora was actually commenced in 1931 and from that time until now Thompson has been either in charge of the Excavations or acting as deputy to Dr. Shear. Upon Dr. Shear's death the Managing Committee of the American School appointed him as successor to Dr. Shear, and this is the position he now holds. The skill of Thompson's work, the lucidity and the high scholarly value of his publications have won him an international reputation as classicist and archaeologist. He has made a masterful study of the topography of the heart of ancient Athens, publishing his results in a monograph entitled "Buildings on the West Side of the Agora," Hesperia, VI (1937), pp. 1-226. This is now the standard work upon this subject, **though**, in a way, it has been only preliminary to

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the complete study of the general plan of the ancient city. Thompson has already solved many of the problems, though his final publication will probably wait until all excavations have been completed. In 1933 an arrangement was made with the University of Toronto whereby Thompson became Curator of the Classical Collections in the Royal Ontario Museum and Assistant Professor of Classical Archaeology in the University but still continued to devote some months each year to his exploration in Greece. At about the same time he married one of the Fellows of the Agora, Miss Dorothy Burr, who has taken an active interest not only in his work in Greece but in the care of the Museum in Toronto where she has now succeeded him as the Keeper of the Classical Collections. Thompson's publications in Hesperia have been almost continuous, his other major works being a treatise entitled "Two Centuries of Hellenistic Pottery," Volume III (1934), pp. 309-480 and a restudy of the Pnyx with Robert Scranton, Volume XII (1943), pp. 269-383. A separate volume, Hesperia, Supplement IV, published in 1940, presented a definitive study of the Council House of ancient Athens.

Thompson has been sought by Harvard University and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts as well as by Cambridge University, England, but he has so far decided to remain at Toronto where his work is congenial and where he has the freedom to carry on his original researches in Athenian history and archaeology. He has made himself familiar not only with exploration in the field but also with the history of exploration. This familiarity brings into his range some study of the history of art and links the work that he normally does with Professor Panofsky's field. His classical archaeology, of course, is preëminently allied to Professor Goldman's province, while his

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association with the Excavations of Athens brings him into close contact on almost every front with the work of Professor Meritt. Indeed, the three members of the Faculty of the School of Humanistic Studies recommend most warmly the extending of an invitation to Professor Thompson to come to the Institute as a colleague and new faculty member. With so much of the work that is being done in Athens already centered at the Institute through the publication of the journal Hesperia and the other activities of the Publications Committee of the American School and with Professor Meritt's study of the newly discovered Greek inscriptions, the presence of Professor Thompson would make the Institute a unique center for classical archaeology and for the study of the new discoveries which have become the responsibility of American scholars by virtue of the Excavations at Athens.

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