

Auburn Station: A Legacy of Architectural Excellence

An Architectural Masterpiece: Lee Bacon's Legacy



Nestled amidst the bustling city of Auburn, Alabama, Auburn Station stands as a beacon of architectural grandeur. This monumental edifice, designed by the celebrated architect Lee Bacon, is a testament to the artistry, innovation, and enduring legacy of the American South.

Auburn Station by Lee Bacon

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 12273 KB



Print length : 40 pages
Lending : Enabled
Paperback : 115 pages
Item Weight : 10.2 ounces
Dimensions : 7.44 x 0.29 x 9.69 inches
Screen Reader : Supported

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Bacon, a native of Kentucky, was a master of the Beaux-Arts style, a fusion of classical and Renaissance elements that epitomized American architecture in the early 20th century. His designs were characterized by their symmetry, ornamentation, and grandeur, and Auburn Station is no exception.

A Historical Tapestry: The Origins of Auburn Station



The genesis of Auburn Station can be traced back to the early 1900s, when the city of Auburn experienced a period of rapid growth and expansion. The need for a grand central railway station became apparent, and in 1913, the Alabama Great Southern Railroad commissioned Lee Bacon to design such a structure.

Bacon's vision for Auburn Station was to create a building that would not only serve its functional purpose but also become a landmark that would define the city's identity. He drew inspiration from renowned Beaux-Arts train stations such as New York's Grand Central Terminal and Philadelphia's 30th Street Station, but he also infused the design with his own unique style.

Architectural Elements: A Symphony of Beauty and Function



Auburn Station is a symphony of architectural elements that blend harmoniously to create a visually stunning and functionally efficient space.

- **Grand Facade:** The exterior of the station is dominated by a grand facade that features a central arched entrance flanked by two smaller arched openings. The facade is adorned with intricate carvings, medallions, and a pediment that bears the station's name.
- **Arched Ceiling:** Inside the station, the most striking feature is the soaring arched ceiling that spans the entire length of the main concourse. The ceiling is adorned with intricate plasterwork, medallions, and a series of skylights that flood the space with natural light.
- **Ornate Chandeliers:** The concourse is further illuminated by a series of ornate chandeliers that hang from the ceiling. These chandeliers are made of cast iron and feature a combination of geometric and floral motifs.
- **Marble Floors:** The floors of the concourse are made of polished marble, which adds to the luxurious and elegant ambiance of the space.

A Living Landmark: Auburn Station's Continued Legacy



Auburn Station has served as the city's primary railway station for over a century, and it continues to be an important transportation hub for the region. However, its significance extends far beyond its functional role.

Auburn Station is a living landmark that embodies the architectural heritage of the American South. It has been meticulously restored and maintained over the years, and it remains a source of pride for the city of Auburn. The station is also a popular tourist destination, attracting visitors from around the world who come to admire its architectural beauty.

: A Legacy for Generations to Come

Auburn Station stands as a testament to the enduring power of architecture. It is a masterpiece of design that combines beauty, function, and historical significance. Lee Bacon's vision has created a legacy that will continue to inspire and enrich generations to come.

As the sun sets over Auburn, casting a warm glow on the station's facade, one cannot help but marvel at the vision and craftsmanship that brought this architectural marvel to life. Auburn Station is a true masterpiece, a symbol of the city's past, present, and future.



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