

Dec. 25, 1955

Kansas City, Mo.

March 18 - 1941.

Letter written by A. Tommasini to Robert Taft concerning history of gargoyles on mus. nat. hist building

Professor Robert Taft  
The University of Kansas  
Lawrence, Kansas;

Dear Professor Taft,

Referring to your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> inst. regarding the gargoyles on the Dyche Museum, I am pleased to be able to give you the following facts.

All the ornamental stone work on the Dyche Museum including the gargoyles was carved by the master carver and sculptor JOSEPH ROBLADO FRAZEE of Kansas City, Mo. He used no models; - simply set the stone at a convenient height on a block, made a few marks on it with an arc-light carbon, and started cutting at the top and worked downward; - finally freeing the figure from the encasing stone. All the animal figures were carved on the ground in front of the building and afterward set in the wall by the masons. As I recall, the arch over the entrance is the only work carved in situ.

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