

Architectural Firm: Valk, L.B. & Son
Office: Brooklyn, NY; Los Angeles, CA
Practice Dates: 1859 - 1924
Principals: Lawrence B. Valk (1838-1924)
 Arthur Valk
Additional Firms: Valk & Saeltzer

Information

Architect Lawrence B. Valk enjoyed a long career that was national in scope, resulting in the design of numerous churches and residences throughout the United States between 1859 and 1924. Valk's junior partner in the firm from 1885 on was his son Arthur, and together they operated under the name L. B. Valk & Son. During the decades when they were based in New York, Lawrence and Arthur Valk completed commissions for many churches in New York and other states east of the Mississippi River. After moving to Los Angeles in the late 1890s, they spent the remainder of their careers designing Craftsman bungalows along with a smaller number of known churches. In addition, Arthur Valk is credited with designing some of California's early movie theaters. The First Presbyterian Church of Eckert is a rare example of the firm's later ecclesiastical work and the influence of their years working with Craftsman buildings can be seen both on and within this rural church. This is one of only two buildings attributed to this architectural firm that have been identified in the state of Colorado.

Credited Buildings (partial list)

Building Name	Location	Site No.	Date*	Status
St. Paul's Episcopal Church	308-314 Clay St. Waterton, WI		1859 (enlarged 1890)	Extant
St. Michael's Episcopal Church	375 Hope St. Bristol, Rhode Island		1859-61	Extant
New Tabernacle	Brooklyn, NY		1859?	Non-extant
Perrysburgh Congregational Church	Perrysburgh, OH		Ca. 1878	Unknown
Congregational Church	111 Church St. Groton, NY		1883	Extant
Union Presbyterian Church	719 Ave. F, Fort Madison, Iowa		1884-85	Extant
Christ Church Cathedral	2901 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA		1886	Extant
First Baptist Church	317 E. Kiowa St. Colorado Springs		1890-91	Church
First Baptist Church (old)	Capitol Street, Jackson, MS		1891-95	Non-extant

F.J. Lauerman House	383 State St. Marinette, WI		1901	Extant
First Presbyterian Church of Eckert	13011 Colo. Hwy. 65, Eckert	5DT1379	1915-21	National Register
Congregational Church of Patchogue	95 E. Main St. Patchogue, NY		Unknown	Extant

*Completion date is stated if known. Plan, building permit, or assessor date is shown if completion date is unknown.

Information Sources

Cawthon, Richard. "Some churches and others buildings designed by Lawrence B. Valk (1838-1924) (or L.B. Valk & Son, or Valk & Saeltzer), of Brooklyn, New York." June 15, 2006.

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

Sladek, Ron. "First Presbyterian Church of Eckert" National Register of Historic Places registration form, September 2, 2005. Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society.

Revised: October 28, 2006