

**CHARTER, SUPPLEMENTAL
CHARTER, BY-LAWS, AND LIST
OF
MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTION
OF CIVIL ENGINEERS; PP. 1-179**

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OF CIVIL ENGINEERS; PP. 1-179**

CHARTER, ⁴²³⁵⁻⁷
SUPPLEMENTAL CHARTER,
BY-LAWS,

AND

LIST OF MEMBERS

OF

The Institution of Civil Engineers.

ESTABLISHED JANUARY 2, 1818.—INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER JUNE 3, 1828.

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1893.

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CHARTER.



CHARTER

or

The Institution of Civil Engineers.

INCORPORATED JUNE 3, 1828.

GEORGE THE FOURTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith: To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

WHEREAS THOMAS TELFORD, of Abingdon Street, in our city of Westminster, Esquire, a Fellow of the Royal Societies of London and Edinburgh, and others of our loving subjects, have formed themselves into a Society for the general advancement of Mechanical Science, and more particularly for promoting the acquisition of that species of knowledge which constitutes the profession of a Civil Engineer, being the art of directing the great sources of power in Nature for the use and convenience of man, as the means of production and of traffic in states both for external and internal trade, as applied in the construction of roads, bridges, aqueducts, canals, river navigation and docks, for internal intercourse and exchange, and in the construction of ports, harbours, moles, breakwaters and lighthouses, and in the art of navigation by artificial power for the purposes of commerce, and in the construction and adaptation of machinery, and in the drainage of cities and towns: And have subscribed and collected considerable sums of money for those purposes: And We have been besought to grant to them, and to those who shall hereafter become members of the same Society, our Royal Charter of Incorporation, for the purposes aforesaid: Now KNOW YE, that We, being desirous of encouraging a design so laudable

The nature and object of the Society.

Name of the
Society.

and salutary, of our especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have willed, granted, and declared: And do by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, will, grant, and declare, that the said THOMAS TELFORD, and such others of our loving subjects as have formed themselves into, and are now members of the said Society, or who shall at any time hereafter become members thereof, according to such regulations or by-laws as shall be hereafter framed or enacted, shall, by virtue of these presents, be the members of, and form one Body Politic and Corporate, for the purposes aforesaid, by the name of "THE INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS;" by which name they shall have perpetual succession, and a common seal, with full power and authority to alter, vary, break, and renew the same, at their discretion: and by the same name to sue, and be sued, implead, and be impleaded, answer, and be answered unto, in every court of us, our heirs and successors; and be for ever able and capable in the law, to purchase, receive, possess, and enjoy to them and their successors, any goods and chattels whatsoever, and also be able and capable in the law (notwithstanding the statutes of mortmain) to take, purchase, possess, hold and enjoy to them and their successors, a Hall, and any messuages, lands, tenements, or hereditaments whatsoever, the yearly value of which, including the site of the said Hall, shall not exceed in the whole the sum of one thousand pounds, computing the same respectively at the rack-rent which might have been had or gotten for the same respectively at the time of the purchase or acquisition thereof; and to act in all the concerns of the said body politic and corporate for the purposes aforesaid, as fully and effectually to all intents, effects, constructions, and purposes whatsoever, as any other of our liege subjects, or any other body politic or corporate in our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, not being under any disability, might do in their respective concerns. And We do hereby grant our especial licence and authority unto all and every person and persons, bodies politic and corporate (otherwise competent), to grant, sell, alien, and convey in mortmain, unto and to the use of the said Society, and their successors, any messuages, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, not exceeding such annual value as aforesaid.

And our will and pleasure is, and We further grant and declare, that there shall be a General Meeting of the members of the said body politic and corporate, to be held from time to time, as hereinafter mentioned, and that there shall always be a Council, to direct and manage the concerns of the said body politic and corporate; and that the General Meetings and the Council shall have the entire direction and management of the same, in the manner, and subject to the regulations, hereinafter mentioned. But our will and pleasure is, that at all General Meetings, and Meetings of the Council, the majority of the members present, and having a right to vote thereat respectively, shall decide upon the matters propounded at such Meetings, the person presiding therein having, in case of an equality of numbers, a second or casting vote. And We do hereby also will, grant, and declare, that the Council shall consist of a President, four Vice-Presidents, and not more than fifteen, nor less than seven other Members, to be elected out of the Members of the said body politic and corporate; and that the first Members of the Council, exclusive of the President, shall be elected within six calendar months after the date of this our Charter; and that the said THOMAS TELFORD shall be the first President of the said body politic and corporate. And We do hereby further will, grant, and declare, that it shall be lawful for the Members of the said body politic and corporate, hereby established, to hold General Meetings once in the year, or oftener, for the purposes hereinafter mentioned (viz.); That the General Meeting shall choose the President, Vice-Presidents, and other Members of the Council; that the General Meetings shall make and establish such by-laws as they shall deem to be useful and necessary for the regulation of the said body politic and corporate, for the admission of Members, for the management of the estates, goods and business of the said body politic and corporate, and for fixing and determining the manner of electing the President, Vice-Presidents, and other Members of the Council, and the period of their continuance in office; as also of electing and appointing a Treasurer, two Auditors, and two Secretaries, and such other officers, attendants, and servants, as shall be deemed necessary or useful for the said body politic and corporate; and such by-laws

A General Meeting and Council.

The Member presiding at any Meeting shall have a second or casting vote. Constitution of the Council.

General Meeting.

General Meetings to make by-laws and regulations.

Mode of electing Officers to be defined by by-laws.