

18TH CENTURY



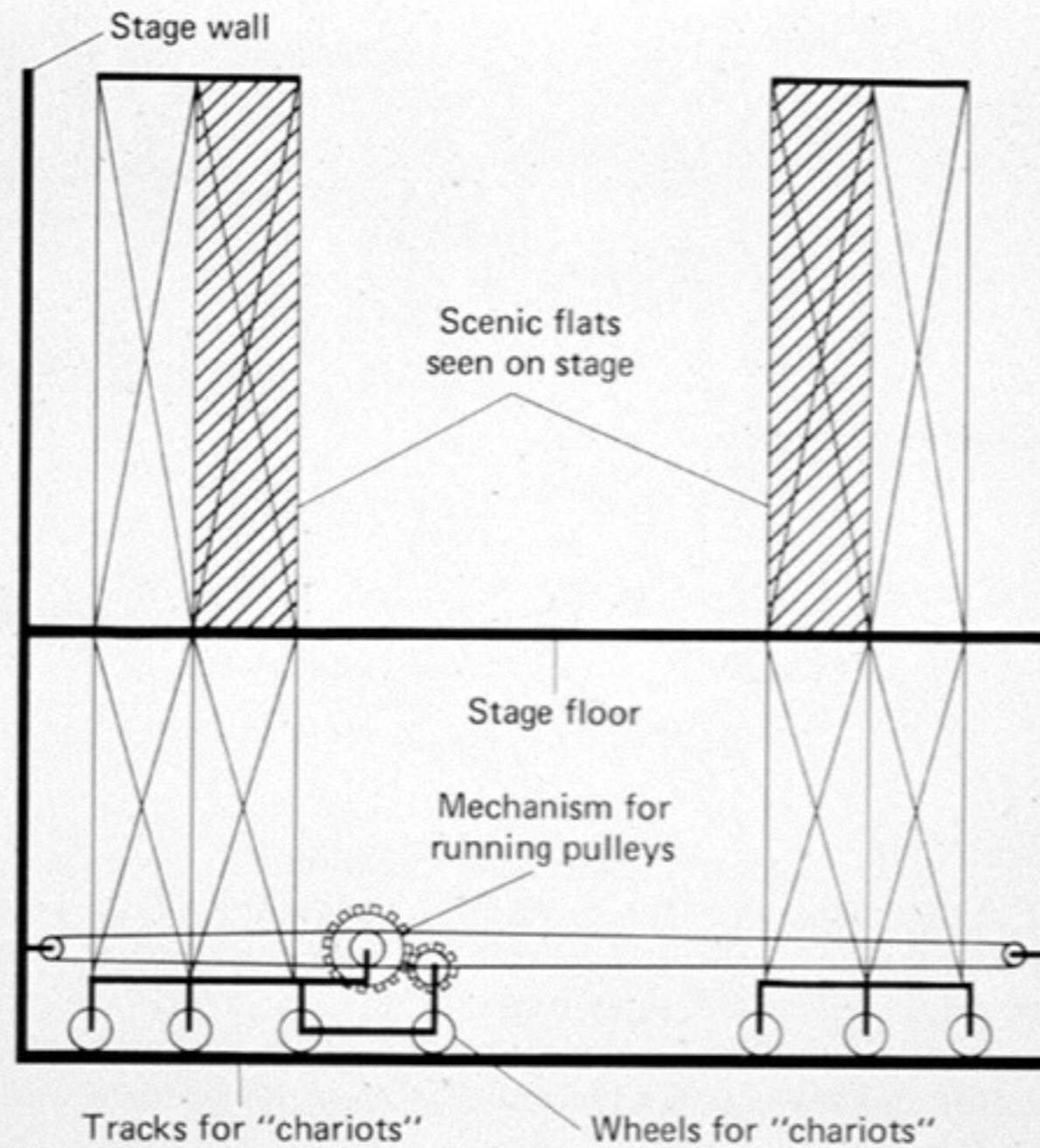
THEATRE INNOVATIONS

ITALIAN RENAISSANCE

Influence

- ❖ Germany, Russia, Sweden
- ❖ Drottningholm (Sweden) Pole and Chariot System
- ❖ playhouses became larger (accommodate larger audiences)
- ❖ i.e. Drury Lane - 650 in 1700, 3000 in 1800
- ❖ interior shape of house- ovoid (egg-shaped)- improve sightlines
- ❖ backless benches in pit

Chariot
&
pole
method of
changing
scenery



source:

<http://heironimohrkach.blogspot.com/2013/07/theatre-of-italian-renaissance-ii.html>

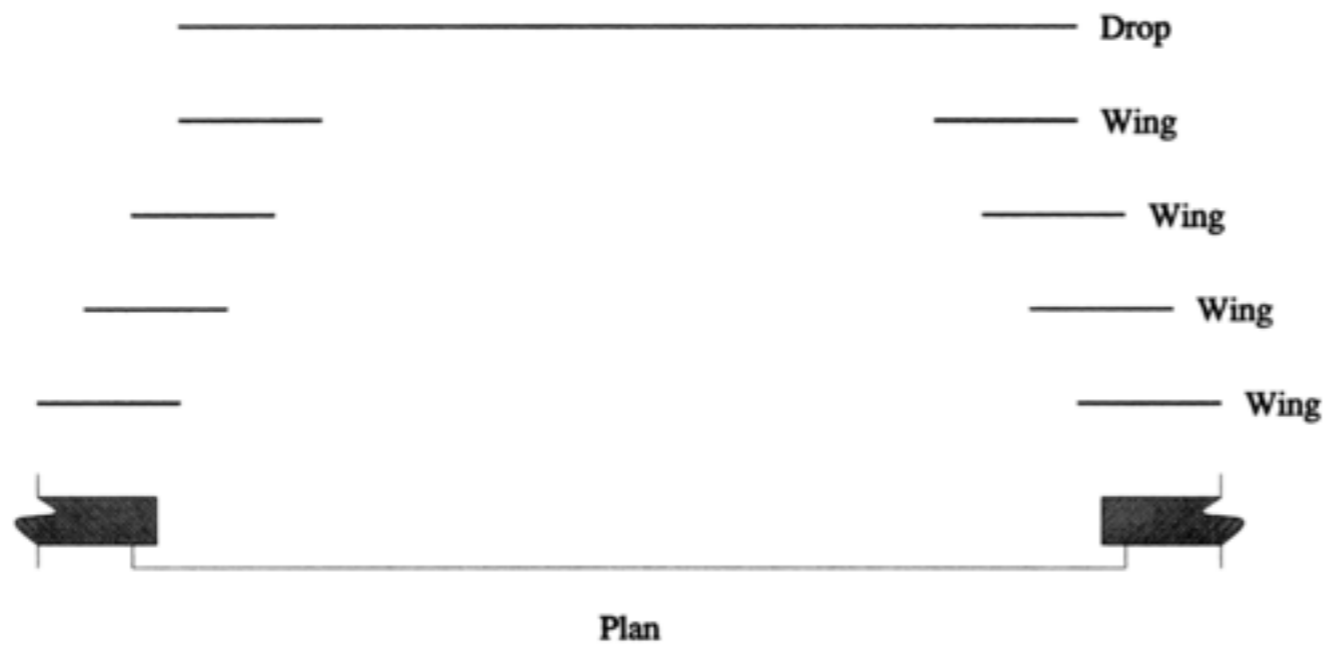
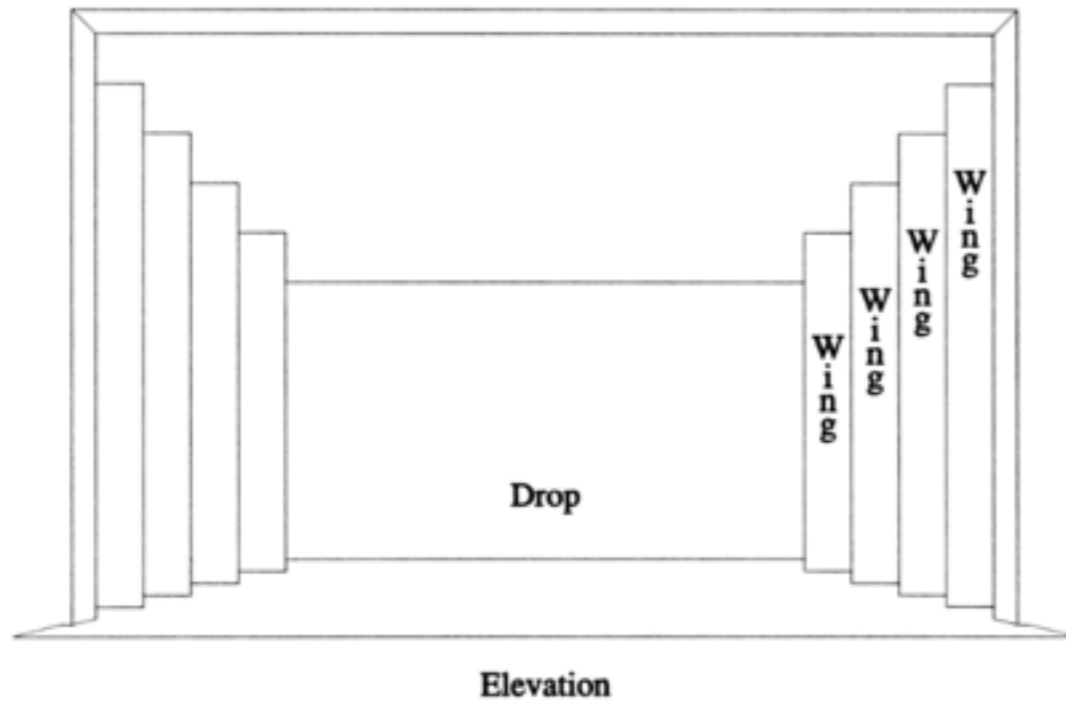
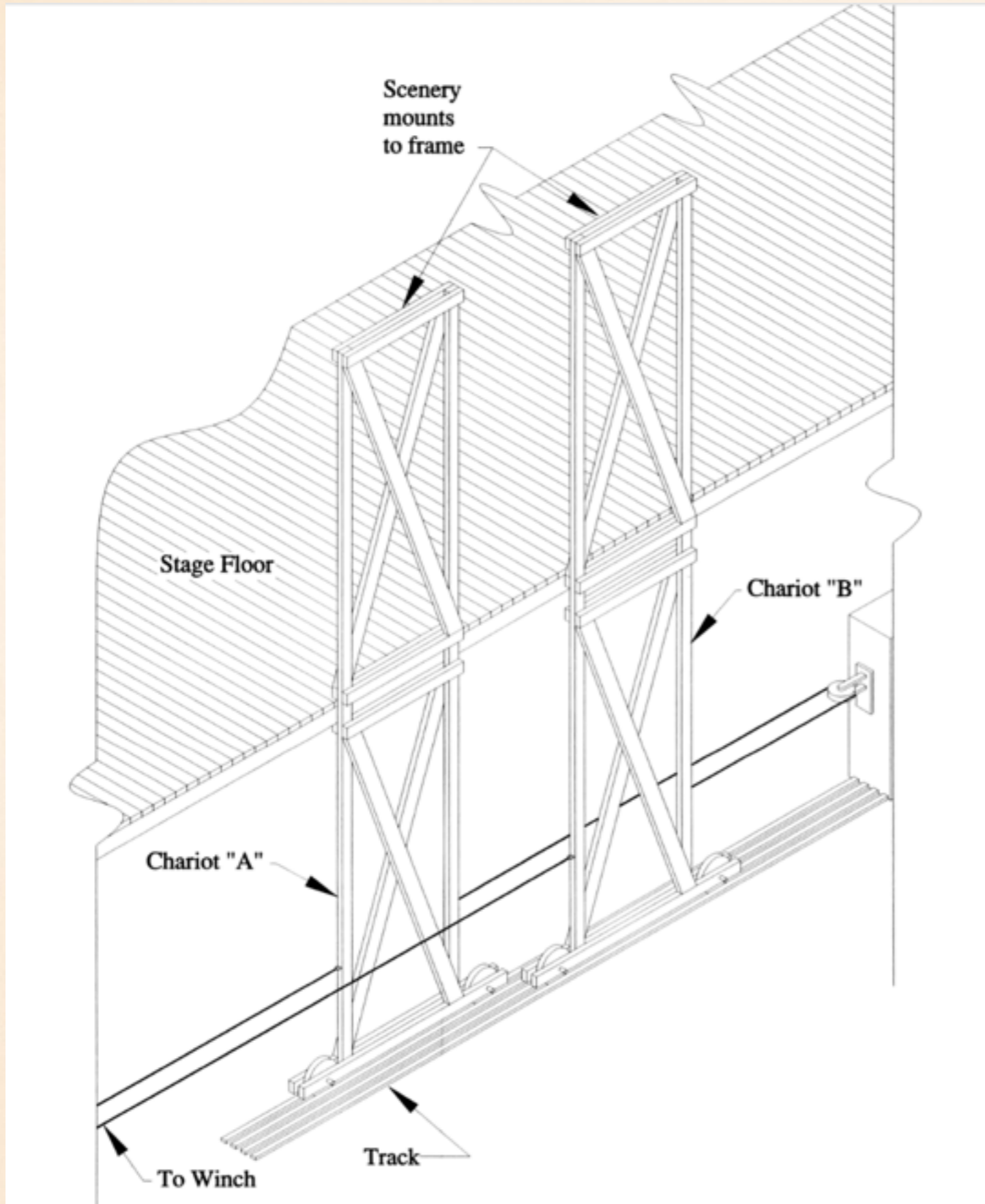


FIGURE 1-6

source: *The Stagecraft Handbook*
By Daniel Ionazzi



source:

The Stagecraft Handbook
By Daniel Ionazzi

OTHER CHANGES TO THE THEATRICAL SPACE

- ❖ spectators removed from sitting on stage
- ❖ 4th wall influences behavior of audience & actors
- ❖ some spaces- i.e. the new Comédie Française introduces seats in pit (1782)
- ❖ English stages- the apron shrinks- pushing the proscenium arch forward - backstage area is deeper
- ❖ use of borders, ground rows, rolled backdrops, scenic cutouts, grooved wings

THE BIBBIENA FAMILY

- ❖ 1690-1787 : 7 generations of Scenic Designers
- ❖ Italian family- designed all over Europe
- ❖ introduced angle perspective
- ❖ used baroque art/style in designs
- ❖ originally from outside of Florence, Italy
- ❖ designs published in engravings- still in use in Sweden (Drottningholm Theatre)

Drottningholms Theatre

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=EdRUdoKfPvo&list=PLvNtSWbxDkTGK57A6eDfvy-
ieBKc_owBX](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EdRUdoKfPvo&list=PLvNtSWbxDkTGK57A6eDfvy-
ieBKc_owBX)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=eE7vqJxnvsc&index=5&list=PLvNtSWbxDkTGK57A6eDfvy-
ieBKc_owBX](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eE7vqJxnvsc&index=5&list=PLvNtSWbxDkTGK57A6eDfvy-
ieBKc_owBX)

SCENIC EXPERIMENTS

- ❖ beginnings of the box set
- ❖ three-dimensional elements (properties, practicals)
- ❖ stage lighting- oil lamps, candles, coverings, etc.

COSTUMING

- ❖ not historically accurate
- ❖ specific to actors- to make them look good
- ❖ no effort to depict a character
- ❖ a few attempts to use costuming to depict character's social status, nationality, etc.

School For Scandal (cont.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1BbSIqOL2Yw>