

Landscape Architecture

A Guide to the Resources in the Michigan State University Archives

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“Assistant Professor John Burroughs (left) and James T. Mueller (right), Detroit senior in landscape architecture at Michigan State University discuss with Pat Smith (center), Director of Lansing Model Cities agency, Community Design Center, the prototype designs of MSU students for regeneration of a Model Cities neighborhood. The designs were made as a class project.” Photo dated April 3, 1973. (A007850)

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This guide was created to aid visitors to the Michigan State University Archives in finding resources related to Landscape Architecture including Campus Grounds. Note that this guide is not a comprehensive listing of all the available sources, but is intended to be a starting point from which visitors can begin their research according to their specific needs. Online versions of the finding aids for most collections listed can be accessed by clicking on the collection name.

MSU Departmental Records

[Associate Provost records, 1960-1989, circa 2012](#)

UA 3.4

- 139.5 cubic feet
- Materials pertain to the school/department of Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture in the late 1960s and in the 1980s.

[College of Agriculture and Natural Resources records, 1866-2017](#)

UA 5.1

- 17 cubic feet
- Includes an organization chart for the department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning, 1947, as well as training materials for the landscape industry.

[College of Social Science records, 1954-2015](#)

UA 15.11

- 2.0 cubic feet
- Contains information about appointments for assistant instructors and lecturers, and graduate students in Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture in the 1960s.

[Cooperative Extension Service records, 1913-2013](#)

UA 16.34

- 120 cubic feet
- Contains annual and monthly reports from extension agents in Landscape Architecture. Photographs are also included in some reports.

[Division of Campus Park and Planning records, 1915-2011](#)

UA 4.2

- 1.4 cubic feet
- Includes sketches and maps of the MSU campus (1924-1952) including a topographical map of campus, reports and proposals about campus development and buildings, Alma College and MSU-Oakland University developmental plans, the Beal Botanical Gardens, Lansing City Planning, and correspondence between Harold Lautner, director of Campus Park and Planning, and John Hannah.

[General Academic Administration records, 1969-1987](#)

UA 3.6

- 39 cubic feet
- Includes materials about the school/department in the 1970s and 1980s.

Hannah Archives Project records, 1946-1973

UA 2.1.12.2

- 0.66 cubic feet
- Contains the written responses of Harold Lautner (Head, Department of Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture, 1946-1960; Campus Landscape Architect; Director of Division for Physical Plant Planning and Development, 1961-1965; Director of Campus Planning and Maintenance, 1965-1970). Also includes copies of letters written by John A. Hannah to Lautner illustrating Hannah's active interest in the planning of the campus and in the preservation of campus fauna and flora.

Hidden Lake Gardens records, 1926-2003

UA 4.2.4

- 0.8 cubic feet
- The majority of the collection contains correspondence, starting with Harry Fee's (donor of the property to Michigan State University) correspondence, and a drawing for a garden. Also included are correspondence related to running the gardens and photographs of the grounds mainly from the 1960s.

Department of Horticulture records, 1877-2014

UA 16.58

- 3.4 cubic feet
- Includes graduate and undergraduate handbooks, biographical files and subject files compiled by Frank Dennis about the history of the department. The collection also contains photographs including some used by Frank Dennis in the department history book "From Seed to Fruit" as well as published and unpublished annual reports.

Media Communications records, 1925-2015, bulk 1936-2003

UA 8.1.1

- 170 cubic feet
- Subject files series contains information about the Landscape Architecture program 1976-1980 as well as the Department of Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture from 1953 to 1977.
- Includes faculty biographical files.

Office of the President. Clifton Wharton papers, 1950-1977

UA 2.1.14

- 28.3 cubic feet
- Included are three folders regarding the School of Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture.

Office of the Secretary of the Board of Trustees records, 1857-2016

UA 1.2

- 7 cubic feet
- Contains two folders regarding Professor Harold Lautner (Director of Campus Park and Planning at MSU) dated from the mid1950s.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs records, 1850-2015

UA 3

- 44 cubic feet
- Includes materials concerning the School of Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture (1966-1967) and the Department of Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture (1967-1970).

Public Relations Department records, 1943-2004 UA 8.1

- 5 cubic feet, 1 volume
- Includes photographs from the Nursery and Landscape conference from 1955 and 1956 as well as five folders of photographs regarding Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning (1950-1959, 1970-1979)

School of Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture records, 1928-1990 UA 16.120

- 0.1 cubic feet
- The collection consists of materials including brochures, correspondence, reports, serials and surveys.

State Board of Agriculture/Board of Trustee records, 1850-present UA 1

- 109.0 cubic feet, 29 reels of microfilm (35 mm)
- Contains materials regarding the Landscape Architecture program and campus grounds.

University Architect and Chairman of the Building Committee records, 1856-1976 UA 4.9.1

- 9.0 cubic feet
- The collection contains specifications, correspondence, bills, and blueprints of many campus buildings. The Buildings series contains files related to buildings.
- The Subject Files series contains files not related to specific buildings. These include reports, files containing material on several buildings, grounds, lighting, tunnels and conduits, drains, and swampland sales, insurance policies. Most notable in this series is the Olmstead Brothers report about the grounds.

University Committee on Curriculum records, 1948-2013 UA 14.6.4

- 12.0 cubic feet
- Includes materials concerning the Landscape Architecture degree, 1967.

W. J. Beal Botanical Garden and Campus Plant collection, 1926-2005 UA 4.2.1

- 0.5 cubic feet
- Includes the annual reports of the Beal Botanical Garden and Campus Plant Collections contain general information such as plans to expand the Beal Botanical Garden in the late 1920s, Dutch Elm Disease, new plantings, and the seed exchange and labelling programs. The 1968 report contains a map and brochure of the Botanical Gardens. The 1971 report contains a rare plant list.

MSU Faculty Collections

Charles W. Barr papers, 1922-1999 UA 17.267

- 1.0 cubic feet
- Contains materials relating to the study and teaching of urban planning and landscape architecture including lecture notes and course materials for courses Barr taught at Michigan State University. Also includes papers and speeches that Barr and others presented at

conferences as well as bibliographies, state and federal government reports, and materials from professional organizations. There are folders of manuscripts, some including correspondence, about Andrew Jackson Downing, other noted American landscape architects, and the history of the Detroit Zoological Park.

Clare A. Gunn papers, 1940-2000

UA 17.288

- 5.4 cubic feet
- Consists of publications and photographs relating to tourism in Michigan (including the Upper Peninsula). There are also publications, articles, and conference proceedings relating to tourism, landscaping, recreation, national parks, and outdoor recreation. Geographic locations include the U.S. states of Michigan, Texas, Illinois, Oklahoma, Delaware; the Canadian provinces of Newfoundland and Nova Scotia; the Arctic; and Venezuela.

John C. Howell papers, 1955-1972

UA 17.7

- 5.5 cubic feet
- These papers deal with Howell's activities in the College of Social Science and on university committees. Most of the material is from the early 1960s and pertains to sociology classes.

Madison Kuhn collection, 1827-1966

UA 17.107

- 13.2 cubic feet, 57 volumes on shelf
- Materials related to Landscape Architecture include
 - Landscape Architecture, Department of - Career Pamphlet, undated
 - Landscape Gardening examinations, 1892
 - S. M. Bartlett and J. C. Holmes Report to the Board about Campus Grounds September 5, 1855
 - MAC Grounds Report by O. C. Simonds, 1906

Harold W. Lautner papers, 1954, 1976

UA 17.100

- 2 folders, 1 audio cassette
- Includes an issue of "Landscape Architecture" from January 1954 that contains the article by Lautner, "The Landscape Architect Serving a University Combined Teaching and Creation of Landscape Values." In addition, there is an audiocassette tape recording of Lautner reminiscing about his days as a student at Michigan State College (now Michigan State University) and describing the campus during his time as an employee at MSU. There is also one photograph of Lautner.

Clarence L. Munn papers, 1946-1972

UA 17.75

- 36 cubic feet
- Includes landscape plans and architect drawing for the buildings at the golf course on campus.

[Chase Newman papers, 1894-1951](#)

UA 17.37

- 0.1 cubic feet, 1 scrapbook and oversized photographs
- Consists of personal papers including correspondence, newspaper articles, papers he authored, manuscripts, notes, drawings and designs in landscape gardening, collected research materials, a scrapbook of events and happenings at the college, and other materials he used to teach courses in mechanical drawing and design. There are also scripts for lectures he gave on WKAR Radio about the architecture of the home. Also include are Ruth Newman photographs which include images that are probably of M.A.C. included a flooded river and bridge, an elk, and children in period dress.

[Linda Oliphant Stanford papers, 1983-1991](#)

UA 17.256

- 2.33 cubic feet
- Contains research files and photographs for the book *MSU Campus--Buildings, Places, Spaces* by Stanford and C. Kurt Dewhurst. Also included are slides that Stanford used for teaching and the book. The slides include images of Michigan State University buildings and grounds as well as maps and a few historical photos.

MSU Student Collections

[Louis A. Bregger papers, 1884-1909](#)

UA 10.3.93

- 0.25 cubic feet
- Includes his "Notes on Landscape Gardening and Horticulture" dated 1886.

[Mary Hammes Corbin papers, 1919-1920, 1951-1955, undated](#)

UA 10.3.321

- 0.75 cubic feet
- Includes a scrapbook from her time as a landscape architecture student at Michigan State College. Among the items in the scrapbook are landscape architecture syllabi, Campus Capsules (MSC Newsletters to parents), student receipts, fees, schedules, and a rule sheet called West Yakeley Standards. The collection also contains photographs of Mary Hammes, her friends, Beal Garden, and a landscape architecture class.

[Elnora and Richard Leyes papers, 1946-1952, undated](#)

UA 10.3.310

- 1.5 cubic feet
- Includes course materials for Landscape Architecture classes from 1946 and 1947 and additional materials related to study at Michigan State and their business, Janesville Floral.

Other Resources at the MSU Archives

Serials

Landscape Crop Advisory Team Alert (Serial 1116)

New Rare Plants on Campus (Serial 485)

University Publications

Alumni and Faculty Catalogues

Alumni Newsletters

Annual Reports (Published and Unpublished)

Course Catalogs

Faculty Biographical Files

Faculty and Student Directories

MSU Staff Newsletters

MSU Yearbooks (Wolverine and the Red Cedar Log)

MSU Information Files

Campus Parks and Grounds

Gardens, Grounds

Landscape Architecture (On-Campus)

MSU Photograph Files – Print and Digital

Landscape Architecture students, faculty, designs, and projects

Campus Parks and Grounds



Landscape architecture students in the classroom, 1955.

(A007846)