

George Ashdown Audsley, 1838-1925

A Finding Aid for
Architectural Drawings, 1893-1935 (bulk 1893-1898),
in
The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania

Archival Description

Descriptive Summary

Title: Architectural Drawings, 1893-1935 (bulk 1893-1898).

Coll. ID: 013

Origin: George Ashdown Audsley, 1838-1925.

Extent: Architectural drawings, 15 items.

Repository: The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania
102 Meyerson Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-6311
(215) 898-8323

Abstract: The collection contains ten architectural drawings, 1893-1898, documenting five architectural projects by George Ashdown Audsley and his brother William J. Audsley, as well as five drawings illustrating the construction of architectural models in laminated cardboard, drawn by his son Berthold Audsley in 1935.

Cataloging: Collection-level records for materials in the Architectural Archives may be found in RLIN Eureka, the union catalogue of members of the Research Libraries Group. The record number for this collection is PAUP00-A11.

Biographical/Historical Sketch

George Ashdown Audsley (1838-1925) was born in Scotland, and practiced architecture in Liverpool in partnership with John Cunningham, and later with his brother, William J. Audsley (1833-1907). Although they were successful in their Liverpool practice, the Audsley brothers emigrated to New York in 1892. In America, the brothers designed many public buildings, most notably the Layton Art Gallery in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (1888), and the Church of Edward the Confessor in Philadelphia. An authority on organ construction, George Audsley was selected as designer of the great organ in the Festival Hall of the St. Louis Exposition of 1904, an organ subsequently installed in the John Wanamaker Store in Philadelphia.

George Audsley's son Berthold (1874-1962) dedicated the majority of his career to the building of scale models for the Newark Museum (Newark, NJ) and the Edison Lamp Works.

Scope and Content Note

The collection is arranged in two series. Series I comprises ten drawings documenting works by George Ashdown Audsley and his brother William J. Audsley (1893-1898). Projects include competition designs for the New York City Hall, 1893 and for the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, New Jersey, 1897, a detail elevation for an office building (possibly the Bowling Green Building), an elevation of an unidentified Gothic style building, and two renderings illustrating schemes for a bank, dated 1898. Series II comprises five drawings made by Berthold Audsley illustrating construction techniques for scale models in laminated cardboard, 1935.

Access Points for Indexing (Controlled Vocabulary)

Audsley, George Ashdown, 1838-1925.

Audsley, W. (William), b. 1833.

Audsley, Berthold.

Architects--Archives.

Architectural design--History-- 19th century--Sources.

Architectural drawing--United States.

Architecture, Modern--19th century--United States--Designs and plans.

Architectural models--History--Sources.

Genre:

Architectural drawings--American.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: This collection is available for research by appointment only.

Preferred citation: George Ashdown Audsley Collection, The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania.

Acquisition: Gift of G. Holmes Perkins, 1994.

Processing: The collection was processed and the finding aid prepared by William Whitaker, Emily Cooperman, Laura Stroffolino and Nancy Thorne. Work was substantially completed in 2000, with additions and corrections in 2003.

Container list

Series I. Architectural drawings related to the practice of George A. and William J. Audsley, 1893-1898.

Extent: 10 architectural drawings.

Call # Descriptive Title

- | | |
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| 013.1 | City Hall (Competition), New York, New York, 1893; 2 drawings |
| 013.1 | Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart (Competition), Newark, New Jersey, 1897;
4 drawings |
| 013.1 | unidentified projects (commercial building; Gothic church?; bank, 1898); 4 drawings |

Series II. Architectural drawings related to the practice of Berthold Audsley, 1935.

Extent: 5 architectural drawings.

Call # Descriptive Title

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 013.2 | Illustrations of construction techniques for scale models in laminated cardboard;
5 drawings |
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