

Harry Sternfeld, 1888-1976

A Finding Aid for
Architectural Drawings, ca.1907-1921,
in
The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania

Archival Description

Descriptive Summary

- Title: Architectural Drawings, 1910-1921.
- Coll. ID: 036
- Origin: Harry Sternfeld, 1888-1976, Architect.
- Extent: Architectural drawings 5 items.
- Repository: The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania
102 Meyerson Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-6311
(215) 898-8323
- Abstract: The collection comprises drawings completed by Sternfeld while a student at the University of Pennsylvania and during his study at the American Academy in Rome.
- Indexes: This collection is included in the Philadelphia Architects and Buildings Project, a searchable database of architectural research materials related to architects and architecture in Philadelphia and surrounding regions:
<http://www.philadelphiabuildings.org/pab/>
- 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 PAUP01-A19.

Biographical/Historical Sketch

Harry Sternfeld was born in Philadelphia and trained in architecture at the University of Pennsylvania (B.S. 1911, M. Arch. 1914). He was awarded the Paris Prize in 1914, but he took a teaching position at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh and delayed his study in Europe until after World War I. He attended the Ecole des Beaux-Arts (Atelier Jaussely) in Paris 1919-1920 and studied at the American Academy in Rome 1920-1921. In 1923 Sternfeld left his position as head of the Department of Architecture at Carnegie-Mellon to become Professor of Design at the University of Pennsylvania, where he taught until his retirement in 1959.

Scope and Content Note

The collection comprises drawings completed by Sternfeld while a student at the University of Pennsylvania and during his study at the American Academy in Rome. A series of student drawings executed in the School of Architecture between 1910 and 1911 is valuable for the study of architectural education during Paul Cret's tenure at the University. And Sternfeld's renderings executed during his period of study at the American Academy in Rome reflect the Beaux-Arts style of architectural rendering he had learned as a student of Cret. Two drawings done at the American Academy in Rome are remarkable for their large dimensions as well as their fine execution: "Portico of the Cathedral in Civita Castellana" (93" x 123") and "Late 14th Century Mosaic over Side Portal of Santa Maria in Aracoeli" (50" x 110").

Access Points for Indexing (Controlled Vocabulary)

Sternfeld, Harry.
University of Pennsylvania. Dept. of Architecture--History--Sources.
University of Pennsylvania. Graduate School of Fine Arts--History--Sources.
American Academy in Rome--History--Sources.
Architects--Archives.
Architectural design--History--20th century--Sources.
Architectural drawing--United States.
Architecture, Modern--20th century--United States--Designs and plans.
Architectural design--Study and teaching--History--Sources.
Architectural drawings--American.
Student drawings.

Administrative Information

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

Preferred citation: Harry Sternfeld Collection, The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania.

Acquisition: Gift of Harry Sternfeld.

Processing: The collection was processed and the finding aid prepared by William Whitaker, Emily Cooperman, Laura Stroffolino and Nancy Thorne, with the research assistance of Jennifer Webb. Work was substantially completed in 2001, with additions and corrections in 2003.

Container list

Series I. Architectural Drawings.

Call#	Descriptive Title
036.1	Portico of the Cathedral in Civita Castellana. 93" x 123", 1921 (The date 1914 on the drawing refers to Sternfeld's receipt of the Paris Prize, not to the date of execution of the drawing.)
036.2	Late 14th Century Mosaic over Side Portal of Santa Maria in Aracoeli. 50" x 110" (estimated dimensions), ca. 1921 (The date 1914 on the drawing refers to Sternfeld's receipt of the Paris Prize, not to the date of execution of the drawing.)
036.3	Elevation of Church interior showing apse mosaic. 28" x 15" (approx), 1910-1911
036.4	Church plan. 28" x 15" (approx), 1910-1911
036.5	Church elevation. 28" x 15" (approx), 1910-1911