

Charles Zeller Klauder, 1872-1938

A Finding Aid for
Architectural Records for the Proposed
Woodrow Wilson House, 1920-1921,
in
The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania

Archival Description

Descriptive Summary

- Title: Architectural Records for the Proposed Woodrow Wilson House, 1920-1921.
- Coll. ID: 038
- Origin: Charles Z. Klauder, 1872-1938, architect.
- Extent: Architectural drawings 184 sheets (165 originals, 19 prints)
Photographs 13 photoprints
Notes and correspondence 44 leaves
- Repository: The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania
102 Meyerson Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-6311
(215) 898-8323
- Abstract: The collection comprises sketches and design drawings for an unbuilt house (in Washington, DC) commissioned by President Woodrow Wilson in 1921, together with Klauder's notes from correspondence and conferences with President Wilson. Most of the drawings are by Charles Z. Klauder, some are by W. Pope Barney, who was then employed in the Day and Klauder office. Some notes and drawings on White House stationery may be by Woodrow Wilson.
- 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>
- 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-A8

Biographical/Historical Sketch

Charles Zeller Klauder was born in Philadelphia. He entered the firm of T. P. Chandler at the age 15 while studying architecture at the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Art. As a young man, he also worked for a number of firms in the city: Wilson Bros., Cope & Stewardson, Frank Miles Day & Bro., and Horace Trumbauer. In 1900, Klauder was appointed chief draftsman in the office of Frank Miles Day & Bro. In 1911 the firm became Day Bros. & Klauder, and in 1913, after the retirement of H. Kent Day, it became Day & Klauder. After the death of Frank Miles Day in 1918, Klauder continued to practice under that name. From 1927 until his retirement, Klauder practiced under his own name.

Klauder was honored for his design skills and extraordinary sketching ability. His nationally recognized practice excelled in academic campus buildings. In addition, he designed residences, churches, banks, and office buildings.

In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson wrote to Frank Miles Day, whose work he knew when he was president of Princeton University. Day's brother and executor responded, informing the President of Day's death two years previous and suggesting that he consider Klauder. President Wilson engaged Klauder to design a residence in Washington, where he intended to live after his departure from the White House. Klauder prepared several schemes for different sites the President was considering, including Conduit Road, Q Street, and Ridge Road. Klauder also advised the President on the merits of four existing houses with probable costs of alterations. Even after President Wilson purchased a house in Washington (2340 S Street NW, built in 1915, designed by Waddy Wood), he had Klauder continue to refine his designs for a house to be built on Conduit Road overlooking the Potomac River. He appears to have abandoned the project at some time after May 1921.

Scope and Content Note

The collection comprises sketches and design drawings for the proposed Woodrow Wilson House and Klauder's notes from correspondence and conferences with President Wilson. Most of the drawings are by Charles Z. Klauder, some are by W. Pope Barney, who was then employed in the of the Day and Klauder office. Some notes and drawings on White House stationery may be by Woodrow Wilson.

Additional drawings for this project are held by the Woodrow Wilson House, 2340 S Street NW, Washington, DC.

The Architectural Archives does not hold any original correspondence between Klauder and Woodrow Wilson. The Library of Congress Manuscript Division holds 23 items of correspondence between Klauder and Wilson, dated from 29 October 1920 to 6 February 1922, bulk November 1920 to January 1921. Wilson correspondence at the Library of Congress is available on microfilm. It has also been edited and published: *The Papers of Woodrow Wilson*. Arthur S. Link, ed. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1992.

Access Points for Indexing (Controlled Vocabulary)

Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924.

Klauder, Charles Z. (Charles Zeller), 1872- 1938.

Architects--Archives.

Architectural design--History--20th century--Sources.

Architectural drawing--United States.

Architecture, Modern--20th century--United States--Designs and plans.

Architecture, Domestic--Designs and plans.

Barney, W. Pope (William Pope), 1890-1970.

Day and Klauder.

Administrative Information

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

Preferred citation: Architectural Records for the Proposed Woodrow Wilson House, The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania.

Acquisition: Gift of Mrs. John Lloyd, 1991.

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 2001, with additions and corrections in 2003.

Container list

Series I. Architectural Drawings.

A. Large Drawings

Call#	Descriptive Title
038.1	6 architectural drawings (4 originals, 2 prints); 1 map
038.2	10 architectural drawings (10 originals)
038.3	6 architectural drawings (3 originals, 3 prints)
038.4	22 architectural drawings (19 originals, 3 prints)

B. Smaller Drawings

038.5	67 architectural drawings (originals)
038.6	14 architectural drawings (originals)
038.7	4 architectural drawings (originals)
038.8	Scheme 1. 17 architectural drawings (11 originals, 6 prints)
038.9	Scheme 2. 7 architectural drawings (originals)
038.10	Scheme 3. 9 architectural drawings (6 originals, 3 prints)
038.11	Set # 6. 22 architectural drawings (20 originals, 2 prints)

Series II. Photographs of Drawings.

038.12	13 photoprints
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Series III. Notes and Correspondence.

038.13	10 leaves of notes
038.14	33 leaves of notes, 1 leaf correspondence