

Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, fl. 1946-1973

A Finding Aid for
Architectural Records, 1946 - 1989

in

The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania

Archival Description

Descriptive Summary

- Title: Architectural Records, 1946-1989.
- Coll. ID: 087
- Origin: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, fl. 1946-1973, architects
- Extent: Architectural drawings: 55 sheets;
Photographs: 21 photoprints;
Biographical materials: 1 file.
- Repository: The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania
102 Meyerson Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-6311
(215) 898-8323
- Abstract: The collection comprises architectural drawings and photoprints, documenting twenty three projects designed between 1946 and ca. 1978 by the firm of Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen and its successor firm, J. Roy Carroll, Jr. & Associates.
- 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 PAUP02-A16.
- Publications: O'Gorman, James F., *et al.* *Drawing toward Building: Philadelphia Architectural Graphics, 1732-1986*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1986. Pp. 217, 230-1.

Biographical/Historical Sketch

Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen was formed in 1946, when William L. Van Alen (1907-2003) joined J. Roy Carroll, Jr. (1904-1990) and John T. Grisdale (1904-1985), who had formed a partnership the previous year. All were graduates of the University of Pennsylvania's School of Architecture. The reputation of the firm was quickly established with important commissions for the City of Philadelphia, including the Youth Study Center and the International Airport. The firm continued until 1973, when J. Roy Carroll, Jr. & Partners was formed. Between 1977 and his retirement in 1985, Carroll practiced independently.

Scope and Content Note

The collection comprises 55 architectural drawings and 21 photoprints, documenting 23 projects designed between 1946 and 1978 by the firm of Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen and its successor firm, J. Roy Carroll, Jr. & Partners.

The bulk of the collection comprises rendered presentation drawings delineated by John T. Grisdale and the otherwise unidentified "Oakes" and "Kempa". Photographic materials include reproductions of graphics as well as views of various built works. The collection also contains a photocopy of Carroll's submission dated 1989 for the American Institute of Architects Architectural Biography project. This document includes extensive biographical information as well as a "partial list of projects."

The collection contains no reports, project or office files. The collection contains no materials for the Youth Study Center in Philadelphia.

The collection is arranged in three series:

- I. Architectural Drawings.
- II. Photographs.
- III. Biographical Materials.

A full index to projects represented in this collection is found in Appendix A.

Access Points for Indexing (Controlled Vocabulary)

Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen.

Carroll, J. Roy (Jefferson Roy), 1904-

Grisdale, John T. (John Thomas), 1904-1985.

Van Alen, William L. (William Laurens), 1907-2003.

Architects--Archives.

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

Architectural drawing--United States.

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

Philadelphia (Pa.)--Buildings, structures, etc--History--Sources.

Genre:

Architectural drawings--American.

Photographs.

Administrative Information

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

Preferred citation: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen Collection, The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania.

Acquisition: Gift of Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, 1979. Additional materials gift of J. Roy Carroll, 1989.

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 Sabrina Locks. Work was substantially completed in 2002, with additions and corrections in 2004.

Container list

Series I. Architectural Drawings.

Extent: 55 architectural drawings and 1 oversize photoprint.

Arrangement: Arranged in alphabetical order by client name.

Call#	Descriptive Title
[087.1]	Boston City Hall, competition; presentation drawings, n.d. (8 originals).
[087.2]	Bucks County Courthouse; presentation drawings, "Kempa" delineator, n.d. (1 original).
[087.3]	J. Lewis Crozer Branch Library; presentation drawings, "Oakes" delineator, n.d. (1 original).
[087.4]	Library Company of Philadelphia; presentation drawings, "Oakes" and "Kempa" delineators, n.d. (5 originals).
[087.5]	Lincoln University, Fine Arts Building; presentation drawings, "Oakes" delineator, n.d. (1 original).
[087.6]	Mellor Residence, alterations and additions; design and construction drawings, 1946 (14 originals).
[087.7]	Southwestern at Memphis, Jelke Science Center; presentation drawings, "JBA" delineator, n.d. (1 original).
[087.8]	U. S. Courthouse and Office Building; presentation drawings, "Grisdale" delineator, 1963 (1 original, 1 oversize photoprint).
[087.9]	U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications; presentation drawings, n.d. (1 original).
[087.10]	U. S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Prisons, Philadelphia Metropolitan Correctional Center; presentation drawings, n.d. (3 originals).
[087.11]	U. S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Agency, Headquarters Building and NASA, Headquarters Building (Federal Office Buildings # 10a & 10b); presentation drawings, 1957 (15 originals).
[087.12]	University of Pennsylvania, David Rittenhouse Annex (Laboratories for Physics, Mathematics, and Astronomy); presentation drawings, "Oakes" delineator, n.d. (1 original).

[087.13] University of Pennsylvania, Franklin Building (Administration and General Services Building); presentation drawings, "Oakes" delineator, n.d. (2 originals).

[087.14] Yarnall Residence; presentation drawings, "Oakes" delineator, n.d. (1 original).

Series II. Photographs.

Extent: 21 photoprints.

Arrangement: Arranged by project in alphabetical order by client name.

Call#	Descriptive Title
[087.15]	American Society for Testing and Materials, National Headquarters Building; photoprints (2 graphics).
[087.16]	Bucks County Courthouse; photoprints (1 graphic, 1 as-built).
[087.17]	LaSalle College, Gymnasium; photoprints (2 as built).
[087.18]	Margaret Grundy Memorial Library; photoprints (1 as-built).
[087.19]	Philadelphia Housing Authority, Fitzwater Housing Project; photoprints (1 graphic).
[087.20]	Philadelphia International Airport, Terminal Buildings; photoprints (2 graphic, 1 as-built).
[087.21]	Philadelphia State Office Building; photoprints (1 graphic, 1 as-built).
[087.22]	Presbyterian Board of Pensions, Prentiss House; photoprints (1 as-built).
[087.23]	U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications; photoprints (1 graphic, 1 as-built).
[087.24]	U. S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Agency, Headquarters Building and NASA, Headquarters Building (Federal Office Buildings # 10a & 10b); photoprints (1 as-built).
[087.25]	University of Pennsylvania, David Rittenhouse Annex (Laboratories for Physics, Mathematics and Astronomy); photoprints (1 graphic).
[087.26]	University of Pennsylvania, Law School, alterations & additions; photoprints (1 as-built, 1 graphic).
[087.27]	University of Pennsylvania, Remodeling of "1900 Building" (Law School Building); photoprints (1 as-built).

Series III. Biographical Materials.

Extent: 1 folder.

Call#	Descriptive Title
[087.28]	J. Roy Carroll, Jr. submission to the American Institute of Architects Architectural Biography project, 1989 (1 folder).

Appendix A

Alphabetical Project Index

American Society for Testing and Materials, National Headquarters Building

1916 Race Street, Logan Circle, Philadelphia, PA

dates: 1964; built

note/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.

holdings:

[087.15] photoprints (2 graphics).

Boston City Hall, competition

Boston, MA

dates: 1962; unpremiated

note/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.

holdings:

[087.1] presentation drawings, n.d. (8 originals).

Bucks County Courthouse

55 E. Court Street, Doylestown, PA

dates: 1955-1962

note/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects; with Fred F. Martin, associated architect.

holdings:

[087.2] presentation drawings, "Kempa" delineator, n.d. (1 original).

[087.16] photoprints (1 graphic, 1 as-built).

J. Lewis Crozer Branch Library

620 Engle Street, Chester, PA

dates: ca.1973; built

note/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.

holdings:

[087.3] presentation drawings, "Oakes" delineator, n.d. (1 original).

LaSalle College, Gymnasium

Philadelphia, PA

dates: ca.1968

note/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.

holdings:

[087.17] photoprints (2 as built).

Library Company of Philadelphia, New Library Building

1314 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA

dates: 1964-1965; builtnote/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.holdings:

[087.4] presentation drawings, "Oakes" and "Kempa" delineators, n.d. (5 originals).

Lincoln University, Fine Arts Building

Lincoln University, PA

dates: ca.1965note/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.holdings:

[087.5] presentation drawings, "Oakes" delineator, n.d. (1 original).

Margaret Grundy Memorial Library

680 Radcliffe Street, Bristol, PA

dates: ca. 1964, builtnote/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.holdings:

[087.18] photoprints (1 as-built).

Mellor Residence, Alterations & Additions

Newtown, PA

dates: 1946, builtnote/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.holdings:

[087.6] design and construction drawings, 1946 (14 originals).

Philadelphia Housing Authority, Fitzwater Housing Project

Philadelphia, PA

dates: ca. 1957note/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.holdings:

[087.20] photoprints (1 graphic).

Philadelphia International Airport, Terminal Buildings

Philadelphia, PA

dates: 1952-1953; builtnote/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects; Airways Engineering Corporationholdings:

[087.19] photoprints (2 graphic, 1 as-built).

Philadelphia State Office Building

1400 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, PA

dates: 1959; builtnote/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects; with Harbeson, Hough, Livingston & Larson and Nolen & Swinburne.holdings:

[087.21] photoprints (1 graphic, 1 as-built).

Presbyterian Board of Pensions, Prentiss House19th and Arch Streets, Philadelphia, PAdates: ca. 1970; builtnote/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.holdings:

[087.22] photoprints (1 as-built).

Southwestern at Memphis (now called Rhodes College), Frazier Jelke Science Center

Memphis, TN

dates: 1966-1968; builtnote/s: H. Clinton Parent, architect (role of Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects unidentified).holdings:

[087.7] presentation drawings, "JBA" delineator, n.d. (1 original).

U. S. Courthouse and Federal Office Building

600 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA

dates: 1963-1968; builtnote/s: "Federal Courthouse Architects & Engineers": Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects; Bellante, Clauss, Miller & Nolan, and Stewart, Noble, Class & Partners, associated architects. John T. Grisdale, design architect.holdings:

[087.8] presentation drawings, 1963 (1 original, 1 oversize photoprint).

U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications

8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD

dates: 1973-80; builtnote/s: J. Roy Carroll, Jr. & Partners, architects; Bucher – Meyers Associates, Inc., associated architects.holdings:

[087.9] presentation drawings, n.d. (1 original).

[087.23] photoprints (1 graphic, 1 as-built).

U. S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Prisons, Philadelphia Metropolitan Correctional Center
Philadelphia, PA

dates: ca. 1970; unbuilt

note/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects; Burns & Loewe, architects and engineers.

holdings:

[087.10] presentation drawings, n.d. (3 originals).

U. S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Agency, Headquarters Building and NASA, Headquarters Building (Federal Office Buildings #10a & 10b)

800 Independence Avenue S.W. (FAA) and 600 Maryland Avenue S.W. (NASA), Washington, D.C.

dates: 1957-1962; built

note/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects; Holabird & Root, architects and engineers

holdings:

[087.11] presentation drawings, 1957 (15 originals).

[087.24] photoprints (1 as built).

University of Pennsylvania, David Rittenhouse Laboratory, additions & alterations (Laboratories for Physics, Mathematics and Astronomy)

Philadelphia, PA

dates: 1964-1967; built

note/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.

holdings:

[087.12] presentation drawings, "Oakes" delineator, n.d. (1 original).

[087.25] photoprints (1 graphic).

University of Pennsylvania, Franklin Building (Administration and General Services Building)

Philadelphia, PA

dates: 1964-1967; built

note/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.

holdings:

[087.13] presentation drawings, "Oakes" delineator, n.d. (2 originals).

University of Pennsylvania, Law School Additions

Philadelphia, PA

dates: 1960-1962; built

note/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.

holdings:

[087.26] photoprints (1 as-built, 1 graphic).

University of Pennsylvania, Remodeling of “1900 Building” (Law School Building)

Philadelphia, PA

dates: 1960-1962; built

note/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.

holdings:

[087.27] photoprints (1 as-built).

Alexander C. Yarnall Residence

Northeast Harbor, ME

dates: ca. 1955

note/s: Carroll, Grisdale & Van Alen, architects.

holdings:

[087.14] presentation drawings, “Oakes” delineator”, n.d. (1 original).