

Marjorie Sewell Cautley, 1891-1954

A Finding Aid for
Architectural Records, 1925-1935

in

The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania

Archival Description

Descriptive Summary

- Title: Architectural Records, 1925-1935.
- Coll. ID: 142
- Origin: Marjorie Sewell Cautley, 1891-1954, Landscape Architect.
- Extent: 14 folders
- Repository: The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania
102 Meyerson Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-6311
(215) 898-8323
- Abstract: The collection comprises photographs and printed material (dated 1925-1935) documenting a number of Marjorie Sewell Cautley's projects. Construction photographs are included for several of the projects. This collection contains no business records and very few personal items.
- 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 WorldCat, an international union catalogue of library and archival holdings. The record number for this collection is 235955524.
- Publications: Thaisa Way. "Designing Garden City Landscapes: Works by Marjorie L. Sewell Cautley, 1922-1937." *Studies in the History of Gardens and Designed Landscapes* 25:4 (October-December 2005), pp.297-316.

Biographical/Historical Sketch

Marjorie Sewell Cautley attended the Pratt Institute and graduated from the Packer Collegiate Institute. She studied landscape architecture at Cornell University (B.S. 1917). After working for Warren Manning and then for Julia Morgan, she opened her own practice in New Jersey. She was married to Randolph Cautley in 1922, and gave birth to a daughter, Patricia. In 1925 she was elected a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Marjorie Sewell Cautley made a substantial contribution to the developing planning profession as well as to landscape architecture. Her landscape projects show her characteristic focus on planning for people as well as on esthetics and plant materials. In particular, her work with Clarence Stein and Henry Wright engaged her deep concern for the needs of residents and the relationship between the project and the larger community. She gave many lectures and published articles and a book (*Garden Design*, 1935). She taught site planning and landscape design at MIT (1934-1937) and Columbia (1935-1937).

At the height of her productivity in 1937, she suffered a nervous breakdown and spent several years in a mental hospital. She obtained release in 1942, earned the Master of Fine Arts degree in City Planning from the University of Pennsylvania in 1943 and divorced Randolph Cautley in 1944. However, she was institutionalized again by 1946 and remained until her death in 1954.

Scope and Content Note

The collection comprises photographs and printed material (dated 1925-1935) documenting a number of Marjorie Sewell Cautley's projects, including Oak Croft, Ridgewood, NJ; Roosevelt Common, Tenafly, NJ; Town Plan and Development, Radburn, NJ; Phipps Garden Apartments, Queens, NY; Hillside Housing, Bronx, NY; and Recreational Development Projects for the State of New Hampshire. A few smaller projects are also represented. Construction photographs are included for several of the projects.

This collection contains no business records and very few personal items. The primary archive for Cautley's life and work is at the Cornell University Library, Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections: Marjorie Sewell Cautley Papers, 1847-1995 (Collection Number: 4908).

Architectural Archives staff have relied on research by Thaisa Way in processing this collection and preparing the finding aid: Thaisa Way. "Designing Garden City Landscapes: Works by Marjorie L. Sewell Cautley, 1922-1937." *Studies in the History of Gardens and Designed Landscapes* 25:4 (October-December 2005), pp.297-316.

Access Points for Indexing

Cautley, Marjorie Sewell, 1891-1954

Landscape Architects -- Archives.

Landscape Architecture -- History -- 20th century - Sources

City planning -- History -- 20th century -- Sources

New towns -- History -- 20th century -- Sources

Planned communities -- History -- 20th century -- Sources

Administrative Information

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

Preferred citation: Marjorie Sewell Cautley Collection, The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania.

Acquisition: Gift of Randolph Cautley, 1941 to the Library of the University of Pennsylvania. Internal transfer 2000 to the Architectural Archives.

Processing: The collection was processed and the finding aid prepared by William Whitaker and Nancy Thorne. Work was substantially completed in 2003, with additions and corrections in 2008.

Container list

Series I.

Call#	Descriptive Title
142.1	Articles by MSC, correspondence and clippings about her lectures, publications and projects
142.2	Personal material
142.3	Oak Croft, Ridgewood, NJ. 4 photographs, printed material
142.4	Gift information
142.5	Roosevelt Common, Tenafly, NJ 28 photographs; Ethical Culture School, Riverdale, NY. 1 photograph
142.6	Roosevelt Common, Tenafly, NJ. printed material, typescript, correspondence, 1 photograph
142.7	Radburn, NJ. 41 photographs
142.8	Radburn, NJ. printed material
142.9	Cheelcroft, Hohokus, NJ. printed material
142.10	Munsey Park, Long Island, NY. printed material
142.11	Hillside Housing, Bronx, NY. printed material and 36 photographs
142.12	Phipps Garden Apartments, Long Island, NY. 14 photographs
142.13	Phipps Garden Apartments, Long Island, NY. printed material
142.14	New Hampshire parks. printed material and photographs

Appendix A: Project Index

Oak Croft

Hawes Development Company (Mrs. John Hawes)

Ridge Road and Overlook Avenue, Ridgewood, NJ

holdings dates: 1923-1929

note/s: Built, 1923-1924. Thomas C. Rogers, architect; Marjorie Sewell Cautley, Landscape Architect. Tribune Home Owners' Service Institute demonstration houses (6 houses).

holdings:

142.3 Oak Croft, Ridgewood, NJ. 4 photographs, printed material

Roosevelt Common

Board of Education of Tenafly, NJ

Tenafly, NJ

holdings dates: 1924-1933

note/s: Built 1921-1931 (dedicated 1928). Marjorie Sewell Cautley, Landscape Architect; Trygve Hammer, sculptor. The property (30 acres) was given by Malcolm S. Mackay and Miss Jennie Mackay to the Board of Education for Roosevelt Memorial playground and park for children. Holdings include construction photographs. One photograph by A. B. Bogart, photographer. Three photographs by Clara E. Sipprell.

holdings:

142.5 Roosevelt Common, Tenafly, NJ 28 photographs;

142.6 Roosevelt Common, Tenafly, NJ. printed material, typescript, correspondence, 1 photograph

Ethical Culture School

Fieldston, Riverdale-on-Hudson, the Bronx, New York City

holdings dates: ca.1929

note/s: Built, 1926. Robert D. Kohn and Clarence Stein, Architects; Marjorie Sewell Cautley, Landscape Architect. Richard Southall Grant, photographer.

holdings:

142.5 Ethical Culture School, Riverdale, NY. 1 photograph

Town Plan and Development, Radburn, New Jersey

City Housing Corporation

Radburn, New Jersey

holdings dates: 1928-1930

note/s: Designed, 1928-1930, Clarence S. Stein and Henry Wright, architects associated - town planners; Marjorie Sewell Cautley, landscape architect. Holdings include construction photographs. One photograph by Clara E. Sipprell, photographer.

holdings:

142.7 Radburn, NJ. photographs

142.8 Radburn, NJ. printed material

Master Model Home

Home Owners Institute of America

Cheelcroft, Hohokus, NJ

holdings dates: 1930,1931

note/s: Built 1930. Royal Barry Wills, architect; Marjorie Sewell Cautley, Landscape Architect; Harold W. Cheel, realtor-builder.

holdings:

142.9 Cheelcroft, Hohokus, NJ. printed material

Phipps Garden Apartments

Phipps Houses, Inc.

50th Avenue and 39th Street, Long Island City, Queens, New York

holdings dates: 1931-1933

note/s: Built, 1931, Clarence S. Stein, architect; Marjorie Sewell Cautley, landscape architect; Garden Estates, Inc., builders. Holdings include construction photographs. Four photographs by Ben Judah Lubschez, photographer.

holdings:

142.12 Phipps Garden Apartments, Long Island, NY. 14 photographs

142.13 Phipps Garden Apartments, Long Island, NY. printed material

McConnell Residence

Mrs. James E. McConnell

Abbey Road and Bellows Lane, Munsey Park, Manhasset, Long Island, NY

holdings dates: 1932

note/s: Built, 1932. Frederick L. Ackerman, Architect George Allen Richardson, Inc., builder. The landscape architect is not identified in the printed materials. The presence of materials related to this project in the collection suggests that Marjorie Sewell Cautley may have been landscape architect.

holdings:

142.10 Munsey Park, Long Island, NY. printed material

Hillside Housing Development

Clarence S. Stein

Boston Road, Wilson Avenue, Hicks Avenue, and Eastchester Road, Bronx, New York

holdings dates: 1934, 1935

note/s: Designed, 1931-1933, built 1934-1935, Clarence S. Stein, architect; Marjorie Sewell Cautley, landscape architect; Starret Brothers & Eken, builders. Financed by the Public Works Administration. Holdings include construction photographs. Later renamed Eastchester Heights.

holdings:

142.11 Hillside Housing, Bronx, NY. printed material and 36 photographs

Recreational Development Projects

State of New Hampshire

holdings dates: 1934, 1935note/s: Built, 1934, Marjorie Sewell Cautley, landscape consultant.. Parks constructed using labor paid by the Civil Works Administration and the Civilian Conservation Corps. Holdings include construction photographs.holdings:

Dover, New Hampshire (dam, swimming hole, footbridge, community room)

142.14 7 photographs

Kingston Great Pond, Kingston, New Hampshire

142.14 3 photographs and printed material

Dorr's Pond Park (134 acres, later Livingston Park), Manchester, New Hampshire

142.14 17 photographs and printed material

Driving Park, , Loring Avenue and Willow Street, Manchester, New Hampshire

142.14 1 photograph and printed material

Whittemore Flats, Manchester, New Hampshire

142.14 1 photograph

Rock Rimmon Park (136 acres), off Mason Road, Manchester, New Hampshire

142.14 8 photographs and printed material

Wadleigh Park (Kezar Lake Recreational Center), North Sutton, New Hampshire

142.14 9 photographs and printed material

Peterboro Park, Peterboro, New Hampshire

142.14 3 photographs

Bathing Beach, Lake Wentworth, Wolfboro, New Hampshire

142.14 1 photograph and printed material