

Raymond Mathewson Hood, 1881-1934

A Finding Aid for  
Architectural Records for Two Proposals: Tower City and  
City Under a Single Roof, 1927-1929,  
in  
The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania

## Archival Description

### Descriptive Summary

- Title: Architectural Records for Two Proposals: Tower City and City Under a Single Roof, 1927-1929.
- Coll. ID: 022.
- Origin: Raymond Mathewson Hood, 1881-1934, architect.
- Extent: Architectural drawings 8 items;  
Photographs 22 photoprints;  
Textual materials 1 folder.
- Repository: The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania  
102 Meyerson Hall  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-6311  
(215) 898-8323
- Abstract: The Raymond Hood Collection comprises one manuscript, eight drawings, and 22 photographs documenting two visionary designs proposed in 1927 and 1929.
- 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-A6.
- Publications: Images in this collection are published in the following.
- Ciucci, Georgio [et al.]. *The American City: From the Civil War to the New Deal*. Cambridge, Mass: MIT Press, 1979. Pp. 439-440.
- Koolhaas, Rem. *Delirious New York: A Retroactive Manifesto for Manhattan*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1978. Pp.136-149.
- Raymond Hood: City of Towers: Whitney Museum of American Art at Philip Morris, January 7 to March 7, 1984*. New York: Whitney Museum of American Art, 1984.

## Biographical/Historical Sketch

One of the most important shapers of urban form in the United States during the early twentieth-century, Raymond Mathewson Hood (1881-1934) studied architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. Hood worked in the offices of Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson and Palmer & Hornbostle before establishing his practice in New York City in 1914. His reputation was built by a succession of trend-setting skyscrapers. Among his best-known works are: his competition-winning entry for the Chicago Tribune Tower (completed 1925), the Daily News Building (completed 1930), the McGraw-Hill Building (completed 1931), and Rockefeller Center (completed between 1931 and 1940) by Hood, Godley & Fouilhoux in association with Reinhard & Hofmeister and Corbett, Harrison & McMurray.

## Scope and Content Note

The Raymond Hood Collection comprises one manuscript, eight drawings, and twenty-two photographs documenting two visionary designs, donated to the Architectural Archives by Mrs. J. André Fouilhoux, widow of Hood's professional collaborator Jacques André Fouilhoux.

The most significant holdings in the collection are five original ink sketches signed and annotated by Hood illustrating his "Tower City" proposal of 1927. Three photomechanical enlargements of these sketches are preserved in the collection, two of which were rendered in ink and gouache by Hood and were among a selection of his drawings exhibited in the 1984 exhibition *Raymond Hood: City of Towers*, presented by the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. Also very important is an extraordinary six page typescript account of the project written by Hamilton M. Wright, with extensive annotations in Hood's handwriting. Photography related to the "Tower City" proposal includes: 18 photoprints of graphics, a model (location of the original is unknown) and views of New York City.

Hood's "City Under a Single Roof" proposal of 1929 is documented by four photoprints in the collection: one of an "atmospheric" perspective of a single tower attributed to Carl Landefeld and photographs of three models. The locations of the drawing and models are unknown.

Photographers of materials in this collection include W. H. Kelham, Jr., Samuel H. Gottscho and Louis H. Dreyer.

The collection is arranged in two series:

Series I "Tower City" proposal, 1927.

Series II. "City Under One Roof" proposal, 1929.

**Access Points for Indexing (Controlled Vocabulary)**

Hood, Raymond Mathewson, 1881-1934.  
Wright, Hamilton M.  
Landefeld, Carl, delineator.  
Dreyer, Louis H., photographer.  
Gottscho, Samuel H. (Samuel Herman), 1875-1971, photographer.  
Kelham, W. H., photographer.  
Architects--Archives.  
Architectural design--History--20th century--Sources.  
Architectural drawing--United States.  
Architecture, Modern--20th century--United States--Designs and plans.  
City planning--New York--New York--Designs and plans.  
Skyscrapers.  
Form/Genre:  
Architectural drawings--American.  
Photographs.

**Administrative Information**

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

Preferred citation: Raymond Hood Collection, The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania.

Acquisition: Gift of Mrs. Jacques André Fouilhoux, before 1970.

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 Brett Fusco. Work was substantially completed in 2002, with additions and corrections in 2003.

## Container list

### Series I. "Tower City Proposal," 1927.

Extent: 1 manuscript, 8 architectural drawings, 22 photographs.

Call#	Descriptive Title										
[022.1]	Manuscript. Hamilton M. Wright with extensive annotations by Raymond Hood, undated (6 sheets). Also included in this folder are several miscellaneous articles related to the subject.										
[022.2]	Original sketches signed and annotated by Raymond Hood (5 drawings).										
[022.3]	Photomechanical prints rendered by Raymond Hood (3 prints).										
[022.4]	Photographs (18 photoprints). <table border="0" style="margin-left: 2em;"> <tr> <td>[.1-.2]</td> <td>Photoprints of graphics. Undated.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>[.3-.8]</td> <td>Photoprints of model. Undated.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>[.9-.11]</td> <td>Photoprints of model, W. H. Kelham, Jr., photographer, ca. 1928.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>[.12-.14]</td> <td>Photoprints of model, Samuel H. Gottscho photographer. Undated.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>[.15-.18]</td> <td>Photoprints of New York City, Samuel H. Gottscho photographer. Undated.</td> </tr> </table>	[.1-.2]	Photoprints of graphics. Undated.	[.3-.8]	Photoprints of model. Undated.	[.9-.11]	Photoprints of model, W. H. Kelham, Jr., photographer, ca. 1928.	[.12-.14]	Photoprints of model, Samuel H. Gottscho photographer. Undated.	[.15-.18]	Photoprints of New York City, Samuel H. Gottscho photographer. Undated.
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### Series II. "City Under a Single Roof," 1929.

Extent: 4 photoprints.

Call#	Descriptive Title				
[022.5]	Photographs. <table border="0" style="margin-left: 2em;"> <tr> <td>[.1]</td> <td>Photoprints of graphic attributed to Carl Landefeld, Louis H. Dreyer, photographer. Undated.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>[.2-.4]</td> <td>Photoprints of three models, Louis H. Dreyer, photographer. Undated.</td> </tr> </table>	[.1]	Photoprints of graphic attributed to Carl Landefeld, Louis H. Dreyer, photographer. Undated.	[.2-.4]	Photoprints of three models, Louis H. Dreyer, photographer. Undated.
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