

(Collection #318)

David C.S. Polk, 1931-2007

A Finding Aid for
Architectural Records, 1956-2002
in

The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania

Archival Description

Descriptive Summary

Title: Architectural Records, 1956-2002.

Coll. ID: 318.

Origin: David C.S. Polk, 1931-2007, architect.

Extent: Architectural drawings, 680. (31 folders)
Papers, 1 linear foot. (1 box)
Photographic materials, 1 linear foot. (2 boxes)

Repository: The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania
102 Meyerson Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-6311
(215) 898-8323

Abstract:

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:

Publications:

Biographical/Historical Sketch

David C. S. Polk graduated from Episcopal Academy before beginning pre-med courses at Dartmouth College. However, he soon transferred to the University of Pennsylvania, where he pursued a career in architecture and graduated in 1956. At Penn, Polk received numerous medals, including the Laird Medal (1953), Oakley Medal (1955), Cret Medal (1955 & 1956), and the Arthur Spayed Brooke Gold Medal for Architectural Design in his fifth year.

In 1959, after a stint in the U.S. Army, and about one year in independent practice, Polk joined the office of Louis Kahn, one of his professors at the University of Pennsylvania. This connection with Kahn continued into 1962. Following three years working for Kneedler, Mirick and Zantzing, Polk returned to Kahn's office, where he worked on the Dominican Mother House, The Kansas City Office Tower, Broadway Office Tower, and initial designs for the Kimbell Art Museum -- among other projects. Polk established his own office in 1968 before forming a partnership with Linda O'Gwynn in 1988. Polk resumed independent practice in 1993 continuing until his death.

From 1965 until 1996 Polk returned to the University of Pennsylvania as an adjunct professor of architecture, teaching studio courses and an occasional seminar class. In addition, Polk was a visiting lecturer at USC in 1983-84 and at MIT in 1987.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains drawings, papers, and photographic materials related to the architectural and teaching career of David C.S. Polk.

The drawings, approximately 680 in total, represent a sampling of his architectural work, concentrated in Philadelphia and the surrounding area and date from the early 1960s to 2001. The papers, measuring one linear foot, relate mostly to his teaching at the University of Pennsylvania from the 1960s through the 1990s. The photographic materials (approximately one linear foot) contain slides and prints pertaining to architectural projects as well as portraits and travel slides. One folder of travel slides contains photographs of Louis I. Kahn buildings.

Series Overview

- I. Architectural Drawings
- II. Papers
- III. Photographic Materials

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

Access Points for Indexing (Controlled Vocabulary)

Polk, David C.S., 1931-2007.

Kahn, Louis I., 1901-1974.

University of Pennsylvania. Graduate School of Fine Arts.

Architecture in education.

Residential architecture.

Administrative Information

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

Preferred collection citation: David C.S. Polk Collection, The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania.

Acquisition: Gift of David C.S. Polk, 2005.

Processing: The collection was processed and the finding aid prepared by William Whitaker and Heather Isbell Schumacher, with the assistance of Lauren Mitchell. Work was substantially completed in August 2019.

Container list**Series I. Architectural Drawings**

Extent: 31 folders

Arrangement: Arranged by project in alphabetical order.

<i>Call#</i>	<i>Descriptive Title</i>
318.001	Benjamin Alexander Residence, Walnut Hill, PA (ca. 1969)—75 drawings
318.002	Add B. Anderson Residence, alterations & additions, Philadelphia, PA (1986-87)—14 drawings
318.003	George Appel Residence, Wynnewood, PA (1968)—14 drawings
318.004	David & Ellie Croyder Residence, Cragmoor, NY (1997-98)—46 drawings
318.005	Dilworth Presbyterian Church, West Chester, PA (1976-77)—70 drawings and prints
318.006	John M. Dunn Residence, alterations & additions, Jarrettown, PA (1970-71)—8 drawings and prints
318.007	John Eckman Residence, alterations & additions, Philadelphia, PA (1977-78)—8 drawings and prints
318.008	Antony and Beatrice Edgar Residence, Treddyfrin, PA (1986-88)—70 drawings and prints
318.009	William L. Franks Residence, alterations & additions, Treddyfrin, PA (1998-2002)—29 drawings and prints
318.010	Jem Hill Development, Havertown, PA (n.d.)—12 drawings and prints
318.011	John C. Keene Residence, Villanova, PA (1962-63)—93 drawings and prints
318.012	John and Margaret Libros Residence, Chester Springs, PA (1979-80)—28 drawings and prints
318.013	Ludwig's Corner Village Conservancy, West Chester, PA (1990-91)—12 drawings
318.014	Maxwell Townhouses, Philadelphia, PA (1979-80)—50 drawings and prints
318.015	Ian & Carol McHarg Residence, Chester County, PA (1990)—32 drawings and prints
318.016	Metairie Park Country Day School, Competition, Metairie, LA (1985)—16 drawings and prints

- 318.017 Marc Moreau & Juliet Goodfriend Zimmerman Residence, Penn Valley, PA (1991-2000)—38 drawings and prints
- 318.018 Jim & Colleen Polk Residence, alts. & adds., Marblehead, MA (1999)—5 drawings
David & Amy Polk Residence, alts. & adds., Cragsmoor, NY (1998)—19 drawings
D. Stewart Polk House, Birchrunville, West Vincent Township, PA)—22 drawings
Shed for D. Stewart Polk, Birchrunville, West Vincent Township., PA—4 drawings
D. Stewart Polk House, unidentified location (1974)—4 drawings
- 318.019 James M. Richardson Residence, Merion, PA (1982-85)—13 drawings
- 318.020 James M. Richardson and Donald J. Hart Residence, Swan's Island, ME (1975-77)—34 drawings
- 318.021 James M. Richardson Residence, Wynnewood, PA (1969-70)—59 drawings and prints
- 318.022 Salvation Army Ivy Residence Recreation Building, Philadelphia, PA (1971-73)—19 drawings and prints
- 318.023 Robin & Eric Siegel Residence, Bryn Mawr, PA (1990-2001)—37 drawings and prints
- 318.024 Miles Sigler Residence, Merion, PA (1975-77)—34 drawings and prints
- 318.025 Geoffrey Steele House, alterations. & additions, Lumberville, PA (1970-71)—35 drawings and prints
- 318.026 Unidentified Housing Projects (n.d.)—17 drawings and prints
- 318.027 University of Pennsylvania, College Hall Room 200, Philadelphia, PA (1993-96)—23 drawings
University of Pennsylvania, Med School Dean's Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA (1980-82)—32 drawings and prints
- 318.028 Dilys and Saul Winegrad Residence, Narberth, PA (1976-77)—13 drawings
- 318.029 William E. Zeiter Residence, Philadelphia, PA (1980-83)—23 drawings
- 318.030 Polk, Student Work from University of Pennsylvania; Thesis – Cragsmoor Inn, 1956—8 drawings
Louis I. Kahn; prints, some rendered for Kansas City Office Tower and Broadway Office Building, 1966-67—7 prints
- 318.031 Mobile City Building Competition, on rigid boards—3 boards and 1 loose drawing
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Series II. Office, Project, and Teaching Files

Extent: ## folders.

Arrangement: Arranged by project in alphabetical order.

BOX 1

<i>Call#</i>	<i>Descriptive Title</i>
318.II.1	Office files: DCSP resume
318.II.2	Office files: List of projects
318.II.3	Office files: David Polk writings and talks
318.II.4	Office files: Theory: Inhabited Landscapes
318.II.5	Office files: Theory: Miscellaneous
318.II.6	Office files: Lecture Notes
318.II.7	Office files: Lecture Notes
318.II.8	Office files: Van Eyck
318.II.9	Office files: Proposals: Rural Village Conservancy
318.II.10	Office files: Proposals: Inhabited Landscape
318.II.11	Office files: Sketchbooks 1, 2, 3
318.II.12	Edgar Residence: Ideas/Principles
318.II.13	Richardson: Merion
318.II.14	Richardson, James M.: Billing
318.II.15	DCSP-Arch. Curriculum
318.II.16	Studio Programs – 1965-7
318.II.17	Arch 500 Programs
318.II.18	Studio - 1968
318.II.19	Studio - 1969
318.II.20	Studio - 1970

- 318.II.21 Studio - 1971
- 318.II.22 Studio - 1972
- 318.II.23 Studio - 1973
- 318.II.24 Studio - 1974
- 318.II.25 School Studio – 1974-5
- 318.II.26 Studio - 1975
- 318.II.27 Studio - 1976
- 318.II.28 Studio - 1977
- 318.II.29 Studio – 1978
- 318.II.30 Design of the Environment, 1979
- 318.II.31 Studio - 1981
- 318.II.32 Arch 500 - 1982
- 318.II.33 India – Studio – 1984
- 318.II.34 Spring Studio 1986, Living Space: House, Community
- 318.II.35 Arch 500 Fall 1986 seminar notes
- 318.II.36 Studio – 1987- City as Theater, Theater as City
- 318.II.37 Spring Studio
- 318.II.38 Spring -1990 Studio, Med School Library
- 318.II.39 Studio - 1991
- 318.II.40 Arch 501 – Fall - 1991
- 318.II.41 Studio - 1992
- 318.II.42 Studio - 1993
- 318.II.43 Studio - 1994
- 318.II.44 Kahn Seminar - 1994

318.II.45 Spring Studio – 1995, Arden Theatre

Series III. Photographic Materials

Extent: 33 folders.

Arrangement: Arranged by project in alphabetical order.

BOX 2

Call# *Descriptive Title*

- 318.III.1 Bawa / Fellowship Farm Development
- 318.III.2 Dilworthtown Presbyterian Church
- 318.III.3 Dunn Residence
- 318.III.4 Edgar Residence
- 318.III.5 Keene Residence
- 318.III.6 Libros Residence
- 318.III.7 Metairie Country Day School Competition
- 318.III.8 Mobile, AL, County / City Building Competition
- 318.III.9 Polk, David and Amy Residence: Cragmoor, NY
- 318.III.10 Polk, D. Stewart Shed Addition
- 318.III.11 Polk, Jim and Colleen: Marblehead, MA
- 318.III.12 Richardson Residence: Wynnewood—exteriors
- 318.III.13 Richardson Residence: Wynnewood—interiors
- 318.III.14 Richardson / Hart Residence, Maine

BOX 3

- 318.III.15 Richardson Residence: Merion
- 318.III.16 Salvation Army, Ivy House
- 318.III.17 Sigler Residence
- 318.III.18 Steele Residence
- 318.III.19 Zeiter Residence

- 318.III.20 Portraits of David C.S. Polk and Linda O’Gwynn
- 318.III.21 Travel Slides: India
- 318.III.22 Travel Slides: Works by Louis I. Kahn
- 318.III.23 Travel Slides: Mexico
- 318.III.24 Travel Slides: United States, including works by Irving Gill, Philip Johnson, Eiel Saarinen, Robert Venturi, and Frank Lloyd Wright

Appendix A

Project Index

Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Alexander Residence

Walnut Hill [Huntingdon Valley], PA
1969; unbuilt

Holdings:

318.III.2 photography

Add B. Anderson Residence, Pool House addition

10 Summit Place, Philadelphia, PA
1986-87; built

Holdings:

George F.B. Appel Residence

300 block of Hathaway Lane, Wynnewood, PA
1968; unbuilt

Holdings:

David & Ellie Croyder Residence

Henry Rd., Cragmoor, NY
1997-98; unbuilt

Holdings:

318.I.8 architectural drawings

318.II.18 office files

Dilworthtown Presbyterian Church, New Church Building (now Harvest Community Presbyterian Church)

1385 Birmingham Rd., West Chester, PA
1976-78; built

Holdings:

318.I.9 architectural drawings

318.III.5 photography

John M. Dunn Residence, alterations and additions

1322 Limekiln Pike, Dresher, PA
[40.157069, -75.178675]

1970-71; built

Holdings:

318.I.10 architectural drawings

318.III.6 photography

Antony and Beatrice Edgar Residence

1575 LeBoutillier Rd. Treddyfrin Township, Pennsylvania
1986-88; built (additions for William L. Franks, 1998-2002)

Holdings:

318.I.11 architectural drawings
318.II.19 office files
318.III.7 photography

William L. Franks Residence

1575 LeBoutillier Rd. Treddyfrin Township, Pennsylvania
1998-2002; alterations & additions

Holdings:

318.I.12 architectural drawings
318.II.20 office files

“Jem Hill” Development

Off Darby Rd., Havertown, PA
Note/s: n.d.

Holdings:

318.I.14 architectural drawings

Mr. & Mrs. John C. Keene Residence

Meadowbank Rd., Villanova, PA
1962-63; unbuilt

Holdings:

318.I.15 architectural drawings
318.III.9 photography

John B. and Margaret Libros Residence, alterations and additions

Route 401 Chester Springs, Pennsylvania
1979-80; built

Holdings:

318.I.16 architectural drawings
318.II.21 office files
318.III.10 photography

Ludwig’s Corner Village Conservancy

West Chester County, PA
1990-91; unbuilt

Holdings:

318.I.34 architectural drawings
318.II.22 office files

Maxwell Townhouses for Bravo Corp., developers

321 West Tulpenhocken St., Philadelphia, PA
1979-80; unbuilt

Holdings:

318.I.17 architectural drawings
318.III.11 photography

Ian L. and Carol McHarg Residence, alterations and additions

[Chester County, PA]
1990; unbuilt

Holdings:

318.I.18 architectural drawings

318.II.24 office files

Metairie Park Country Day School, new building, competition

300 Park Rd., Metairie, LA

1985; unpremiated

Holdings:

318.I.20 architectural drawings

318.II.23 office files

318.III.12 photography

Mobile County/City Building Competition

Mobile, Alabama

n.d., unbuilt

Holdings:

318.I.36 architectural drawings

318.III.13 photography

Marc Moreau & Juliet Goodfriend Zimmerman Residence, alts. & adds.

334 Rosemary Lane, Penn Valley, PA

1991-92; Pool enclosure and entrance porch built. 1997-2000; garage and entry court built

Holdings:

318.I.21 architectural drawings

318.II.26 office files

318.III.14 photography

David & Amy Polk Residence, alterations and additions

Schuyler Ave., Cragmoor, NY

1998; built

Holdings:

318.III.16 photography

D. Stewart Polk Residence

Hilltop Road, Birchrunville, West Vincent Township, PA

1973; unbuilt

Holdings:**Shed for Mr. & Mrs. D. Stewart Polk**

Hilltop Road, Birchrunville, West Vincent Township, PA

[40.143256, -75.640558]

ca. 1962-63; unbuilt

Holdings:

Drawings....

318.III.17 photography

James & Colleen Polk Residence, alterations and additions

5 Valley Rd., Marblehead, MA

1999; built

Holdings:

Drawings....

318.II.30 office files

318.III.18 photography

Mr. & Mrs. James M. Richardson Residence, alterations and additions

642 S. Highland Ave. Merion, PA

1982-85; built

Holdings:

318.I.24 architectural drawings

318.II.32 office files

318.II.33 office files

318.III.22 photography

James M. Richardson & Donald J. Hart Residence

Finney Field Rd., Swans Island, Maine

[44.180706, -68.410745]

1975-77; built

Holdings:

318.I.25 architectural drawings

318.II.31 office files

318.III.21 photography

Mr. & Mrs. James M. Richardson Residence, alts. & adds.

111 Old Gulph Rd. Wynnewood, PA

1969-70; built

Holdings:

318.I.26 architectural drawings

318.III.20 photography

Salvation Army, Ivy House Recreation Building

4050 Conshohocken Ave., Philadelphia, PA

1971-73; built

Holdings:

318.I.13 architectural drawings

318.III.23 photography

Robin & Eric Siegel Residence, alts. & adds.

834 Deerfield Lane, Bryn Mawr, PA

1990; built (interior alterations; 1996-97, garage addition; 2000-01, mbr)

Holdings:

318.I.27 architectural drawings

318.II.35 office files

318.II.36 office files

Miles Sigler Residence

416 Haywood Dr., Merion, PA

1975-77; built

Holdings:

318.I.28 architectural drawings
318.III.24 photography

Mrs. & Mrs. Geoffrey Steele Residence, alts & adds.

6611 Fleecy Dale Rd., Lumberville, PA
1970-71; built

Holdings:

318.I.30 architectural drawings
318.III.26 photography

Unidentified Housing Project
13th and Spruce, Philadelphia

Holdings:

Unidentified Highrise Housing Project

Holdings:

University of Pennsylvania, College Hall Room 200, renovation

University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA
1993-96; built

Holdings:

318.I.31 architectural drawings

University of Pennsylvania, School of Medicine, Dean's Conference Room

University of Pennsylvania, School of Medicine
Philadelphia, PA
1980-82; built

Dilys & Saul Winegrad Residence; alts. & adds.

627 Righter's Mill Rd., Narberth, PA
1976-77; built (deck addition, 1990)

Holdings:

318.I.32 architectural drawings

William E. Zeiter Residence, alterations and additions

8917 Crefeld St., Philadelphia, PA
1980-83; built

Holdings:

318.I.33 architectural drawings
318.II.37 office files
318.III.28 photography