

Edgar V. Seeler, 1867-1929
A Finding Aid for
Architectural Drawings, 1895-1896,
in
The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania

Archival Description

Descriptive Summary

- Title: Architectural Drawings, 1895-1896.
- Coll. ID: 203
- Origin: Edgar V. Seeler, 1867-1929, architect.
- Extent: Architectural drawings 5 sheets.
- Repository: The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania
102 Meyerson Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-6311
(215) 898-8323
- Abstract: The collection comprises five architectural drawings of buildings designed by Seeler for the University of Pennsylvania and one booklet.
- 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-A36.

Biographical/Historical Sketch

Edgar V. Seeler was born in Philadelphia, PA and graduated from Central High School in 1884. He was trained in architecture at MIT (1890) and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Paris (1890-1893). He established his own practice in Philadelphia in 1893 and taught at the University of Pennsylvania as an assistant professor of architectural design until 1898.

His architectural practice consisted largely of commercial buildings such as the Curtis Publishing Company Building. He also designed the First Baptist Church in Philadelphia and residences outside of the city.

Scope and Content Note

The collection contains five architectural drawings for two buildings designed by Seeler for the University of Pennsylvania, one located on the West Philadelphia campus (extant, known as Hayden Hall) and another located outside Philadelphia in Delaware County, a primarily residential building. The collection also contains a booklet related to the latter project.

Materials related to Seeler are also found in other collections of the Architectural Archives. The Frank Miles Day Collection contains a remarkable large-scale rendering of Day's design for the Horticultural Hall executed by Seeler. In addition, Seeler was associated with Warren Powers Laird for two projects represented in the Warren Powers Laird Collection.

Access Points for Indexing (Controlled Vocabulary)

Seeler, Edgar V. (Edgar Viguers), 1867-1929.
University of Pennsylvania--Buildings.
Architects--Archives.
Architectural design--History--19th century--Sources.
Architectural drawing--United States.
Architecture, Modern--19th century--United States--Designs and plans.
College buildings.
Philadelphia (Pa.)--Buildings, structures, etc--History--Sources.
Architectural drawings--American.

Administrative Information

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

Preferred citation: Edgar V. Seeler Collection, The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania.

Acquisition: Internal transfer from the Division of Facilities Services. The booklet is a gift of Robert H. Koch.

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 Ann D. Gardner. Work was substantially completed in 2001, with additions and corrections in 2004.

Container list

Series I. Architectural Drawings.

Call#	Descriptive Title
[203.1]	Residence and Library for the Professor of Astronomy; construction drawings, 1895 (4 blueprints, 1 booklet).
[203.1]	Dental School; construction drawing, 6/20/1896 (1 blueprint).

Appendix A

Project Index

Residence and Library for the Professor of Astronomy

University of Pennsylvania

"Reese Wall Flower Farm," Delaware County, PA

holdings dates: 1895

note/s: Edgar V. Seeler. Job number 136, drawings 136-1 through 136-4.

holdings:

[203.1] Residence and Library for the Professor of Astronomy; construction drawings, 1895 (4 blueprints, 1 booklet).

Dental School of the University of Pennsylvania (later Hayden Hall)

University of Pennsylvania

3320 Smith Walk, Philadelphia, PA

holdings dates: 1896

note/s: Edgar V. Seeler. Job number 148, drawing 148-6.

holdings:

[203.1] Dental School; construction drawing, 6/20/1896 (1 blueprint).