Philbrook Architectural and Landscape Plans
Philbrook Museum of Art

Finding aid prepared by Susan Green and Marianne Myers, December 2017.
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Department of Libraries.

Collection Overview

Title: Philbrook Architectural and Landscape Plans
Repository: Philbrook Museum of Art Archive
Creators: Edward Buehler Delk, Architect (1924-1956)
Hare & Hare, Landscape Architects (1910-1979)
Other firms and individuals
Dates: c. 1925-1983
Extent: Four flatfile drawers
Description: The Philbrook Architectural and Landscape Plans Collection consists of
architectural and landscape plans that directly relate to the construction of Villa
Philbrook in Tulsa, Oklahoma and the renovations undertaken to create Tulsa’s
first public art museum, which would become Philbrook Museum of Art.

Historical Note

Built in 1926-1927 for Waite Phillips (1883-1964), Genevieve Elliott Phillips (1887-1979) and
their children Helen Jane Phillips Breckinridge (1911-1963) and Elliott Phillips (1918-2015), Villa
Philbrook is an Italianate mansion on a property of 23 original acres in Tulsa, Oklahoma. In
1938, the Phillips family donated Philbrook to become Tulsa’s first art museum, and in 1939
Philbrook Art Museum, later Philbrook Museum of Art, opened to the public.

In selecting an architect for their home, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips turned to Edward Buehler Delk
(1885-1956), who had a thriving architectural practice in Kansas City, Missouri. The couple
commissioned Delk to build Villa Philbrook, their Tulsa home; Villa Philmonte, a retreat in
Cimarron, New Mexico; and the Philtower, an office building in downtown Tulsa.

To complement Delk’s architectural designs, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips selected the Kansas City
landscape architecture firm Hare & Hare to design the grounds of Villa Philbrook. The firm was
founded in 1910 by father and son Sidney J. Hare (1860-1938) and S. Herbert Hare (1888-1960).
The firm also designed Philbrook park and arboretum concepts in 1939-1940 for the Tulsa Park
Board.

Scope and Content

The Philbrook Architectural and Landscape Plans Collection consists of original drawings on
tracing paper, a drawing on brown paper, blueprints, whiteprints, photostats, and photocopies of
architectural and landscape plans that directly relate to Philbrook Museum of Art in Tulsa,
Oklahoma.
Created by architect Edward Buehler Delk, the landscape architecture firm Hare & Hare, and other firms and individuals, these plans document the construction of Villa Philbrook in 1926–1927, additional construction and remodeling on the estate in 1928 and 1933, and the 1938-1940 renovations executed to turn the residence into a public art museum and gardens. A few additional plans dating from the 1940s to 1983 show the continuing life and alterations to the Philbrook building and grounds.

Related Materials
In the Philbrook Museum of Art Archive:
- Architectural Plans, multiple renovations
- Landscape and Garden Plans
- Waite Phillips Collection

At the State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center–Kansas City:
- Hare and Hare Company Records, K0206, https://shsmo.org/manuscripts/kansascity/k0206.pdf

Organization and Arrangement
The Philbrook Architectural and Landscape Plans Collection consists of three series, each arranged by date and by material.

Series I: Edward Buehler Delk, Architect – drawings on tracing paper, blueprints, whiteprints, and photocopies
Series II: Hare & Hare, Landscape Architects and City Planners – drawings on tracing paper, blueprints, whiteprints, period copies, and photocopies
Series III: Other firms and individuals, including A.M. Atkinson, Robert M. Black, Allan Craig, Holloway Engineering, Rossman Corporation, Stewart Iron Works, Wood & Witten Engineers, and unknown creators – drawings on tracing paper, a drawing on brown paper, blueprints, whiteprints, period copies, and photostats

Administrative Information
Acquisition information:
The Philbrook Architectural and Landscape Plans Collection includes materials transferred to the Philbrook Museum of Art Archive at various times since the founding of the Museum in 1938. Some of the materials were created for Waite and Genevieve Phillips and would have been transferred to the Museum by them, and other materials would have been created for the Museum as part of daily operations.

One set of materials was acquired through the State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center–Kansas City. In 1998, Philbrook purchased copies of the Philbrook-related landscape plans by Hare & Hare that are held within their collections. The collection information at the historical society is K0206, Hare and Hare Company Records: https://shsmo.org/manuscripts/kansascity/k0206.pdf

Preferred citation:
[Title of item], [date of item], Folder [number], Philbrook Architectural and Landscape Plans, Philbrook Museum of Art, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Processing information:
This collection was processed by Tom Young in the 1980s and Marianne Myers and Susan Green in fall 2017.
Physical Location:

Restrictions

Access:
The collection is open for research. Because of the fragile nature and size of the objects, the collection has been digitized, and the surrogate digital records are available for in-library use during regular library hours or by appointment. Requests for access to originals will be reviewed by Archive staff on a case-by-case basis.

Use restrictions:
The Philbrook Architectural and Landscape Plans are the physical property of Philbrook Museum of Art. The Museum provides access to the materials solely for noncommercial educational and research purposes. Contact library@philbrook.org for information on publishing or reproducing materials included in this collection. Copyright restrictions may apply, and researchers are responsible for obtaining permission from rights holders for publication or other purposes. Rights to work produced during the normal course of Museum business resides with Philbrook Museum of Art.

Indexing Terms

Firms or individuals:
A.M. Atkinson, Architect
Robert M. Black
Allan Craig, Engineer
Edward Buehler Delk, Architect
Edward Buehler Delk
Percy W. French (P.W. French), Designer
C.W. Hall
Hare & Hare, Landscape Architects
Hare & Hare, Landscape Architects & City Planners
Holloway Engineering
Henry R. Lohman, Supervisor
Long Construction Company
Waite and Genevieve Phillips
Waite Phillips
Mr. and Mrs. Phillips
Mr. Phillips
Mr. & Mrs. Waite Phillips
W. Phillips
Rossman Corporation
Stewart Iron Works Co., Inc.
Wood & Witten Engineers
O.A. Zeigler, Superintendent of Parks

Organizations:
American National Iris Society
Board of Park Commissioners
Philbrook
Philbrook Art Center
Philbrook Art Gallery & Arboretum
Philbrook Art Museum
Philbrook Museum
Philbrook Museum of Art
Philbrook Park
Rockbridge Park
Tulsa Park Board
Tulsa Park Board of Commissioners
Tulsa Park Department
Villa Philbrook
Villa Phillbrook

Philbrook locations or structures:
   Brook
   Derrick Trees
   Dining Room
   Drive Gates
   East Garden
   East Garden Mall
   Fore Court
   Hillside Garden
   Informal Pool
   Italian Garden
   Lily pool
   Private Drives
   Residence
   Rills
   Service Court
   Service Group
   South Garden
   South Terrace
   Swimming Pool
   Tempietto
   Walk Revision
   Wing Walls

Terms:
   Architectural drawing
   Blueline print
   Blueprint
   Detail drawing
   Diagram
   Diazotype
   Dimension and Grading Plan
   Drawing
   Elevation
   Floor plan
General Plan
Horticulture
Landscape architecture
Landscape drawing
Period copy
Photostat
Plan
Planting Plan
Plat
Preliminary Sketch
Presentation drawing
Profile
Section
Sketch
Study
Topographical Plan
Topography
Tracing paper
Whiteprint

Collection Inventory

Series I:
Edward Buehler Delk, Architect – drawings on tracing paper, blueprints, whiteprints, and photocopies, 106 items

Series II:
Hare & Hare, Landscape Architects and City Planners – drawings on tracing paper, blueprints, whiteprints, period copies, and photocopies, 51 items

Series III:
Other firms or individuals, including A.M. Atkinson, Robert M. Black, Allan Craig, Holloway Engineering, Rossman Corporation, Stewart Iron Works, Wood & Witten Engineers, and unknown creators – drawings on tracing paper, a drawing on brown paper, blueprints, whiteprints, period copies and Photostats, 29 items