

A Guide to the Carlton Sturges Abbott, [Proposed designs for James River Park, Richmond, Virginia], ca. 1970

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Descriptive Summary

Accession Number

42613, 42614

Language

English

Creator

Carlton Sturges Abbott

Physical Characteristics

2 sheets, ink and colored pencil on foam board, 76 x 102 cm. (42613); 1 sheet, ink and colored pencil on foam board, 76 x 91 cm. and 1 sheet, black and white print over fiberboard, 72 x 102 cm. (42614).

Repository

The Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open to research.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

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Biographical Information

Carlton Sturges Abbott (1939-) was born in Salem, Virginia. His father, Stanley W. Abbott, is best known as primary designer and first resident landscape architect of the Blue Ridge Parkway. During his father's stint on the parkway, the family lived in Salem. Afterward, they relocated to the Tidewater region. The younger Abbott attended the School of Architecture at the University of Virginia, graduating in 1963 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. His post-graduate work took place at the famed Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. Abbott applied his skills in a number of fields including architecture, urban planning, landscape architecture, sculpture, and graphic arts. His Williamsburg, Virginia, firm, Carlton Abbott and Partners, Architects and Landscape Architects, has designed over fifty local, state, and national park projects.

Carlton Abbott is as well-known for his art as for his architecture. He has put on numerous one-man shows of his work and his graphic designs and renderings have received over sixty awards of merit. For his architectural work, Abbott has received dozens of awards, including Fitz-Gibbon Architecture Firm award and the William C. Noland Medal. He was appointed as a Visiting Professor of Design at the School of Architecture at the University of Virginia in 1977. Carlton Sturges Abbott was elected to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects in 1983.

Scope and Content

These accessions consists of one black and white and three color renderings by Williamsburg, Virginia, architect Carlton Sturges Abbott. The drawings depict proposed development along the James River in Richmond, Virginia. The color drawings include a plan for Belle Isle which features a fountain and multi-level observation decks; tall office and/or apartment towers, perhaps also located on Belle Isle; and a westward view of Richmond from along the James. The black and white rendering features tall observation platforms along the south bank of the James similar to those erected in James River Park that provide access to Riverside Drive.