

Drosten, Mary Lou Architectural Collection

Mary Lou Drosten Architectural Collection

n.d.



Title Statement

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2016.008

Unit Date

n.d.

Language

English .

Abstract

.

source

Kushner, Pinky

source

Rivard, Betsy Drosten

Creator

Drosten, Mary Lou, 1910-1991

Extent

9 Cubic Feet

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

Permission to publish material from Mary Lou Drosten Architectural Collection must be obtained from Special Collections, Virginia Tech.

Acquisition Information

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Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Mary Lou Drosten Architectural Collection was completed in March 2017.

Biographical / Historical

Mary Lou Drosten was born on July 5, 1910 in St. Louis, Missouri. Drosten attended Washington University in St. Louis from 1928-1933. There, she received a B.A. in Architecture. After graduation, Drosten became a caseworker. In 1937, Drosten married Fred Drosten. Mary Lou Drosten and Fred Drosten had four children. Throughout her life, Drosten lived in St. Louis, MO; Oak Ridge, TN; Nicaro, Cuba; Chattanooga, TN; Huntsville, AL; and retired in St. Louis, MO. In Chattanooga, TN, Mary Lou owned Drosten Design and worked on many projects. Some projects of note include a building design for a dental surgeon (1934), 7-room residence for the Drosten family in Chevy Chase (1937), and proposal for a new hospital for polio in Des Moines (1942). Despite Drosten suffering from polio, she continued to work in the architectural field. Drosten died on November 16, 1991.

Scope and Content

The Mary Lou Drosten Architectural Collection documents Mary Lou Drosten's personal and professional life as an architect. The collection contains Mary Lou Drosten's personal papers, including biographic information such as newspaper articles documenting Mary Lou Drosten's contraction of polio and her remarkable recovery. Mary Lou Drosten collected newspaper articles, advertisements, and other material on social inequality. Drosten's primary interest was women's rights, but she also collected materials on racial discrimination. Mary Lou Drosten's professional papers include associations and committees such as the Association of Women in Architecture, Huntsville League of Women Voters, and Congress on American Women Leaders. In addition, Drosten maintained project records, including research materials, financial records, contracts, photographs, and detailed drawings.

Separated Materials

Keywords

International Archive of Women in Architecture (IAWA)

History of Women in Architecture

Women-owned architectural firms

Women architects -- Tennessee

Women architects -- Missouri

Kushner, Pinky

Rivard, Betsy Drosten

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in original order as detailed by the creator.

Description of Subordinate Components

Series I: Personal Papers

Biographical Information

Biography - Mary Lou Drosten

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Biographies/"Who's Who?"

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Employment/Application Letters

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Drosten Residence in Huntsville

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Architectural Projects List (by Family)

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Student Work

Beginning 1930, Design etc.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Math and Architecture

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Materials

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Architecture History

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Ornament

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Elements of Architecture

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Geology

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Playground Course**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 13 (folder)**History of Art****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 14 (folder)**Architecture Course Notes****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 15 (folder)**Washington University, Architecture 42A****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 16 (folder)**Washington University: Working Drawings****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 17 (folder)**Washington University: Sketches for Advanced Design Project****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 18 (folder)**Schoolhouse for the Twenty-first Century****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 19 (folder)**Washington University [Alumni Files]****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 20-22 (folder)**Civic Society****Chattanooga Community Model City Affairs****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 23 (folder)**Huntsville Model Homes****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 24 (folder)**Huntsville Sketches****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 25 (folder)**The City****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 26 (folder)**Model City**

box-folder 1 (box)
Container 27 (folder)

Great Decisions

box-folder 1 (box)
Container 28 (folder)

Huntsville Council on Human Relations

box-folder 1 (box)
Container 29 (folder)

Huntsville Arts League and Museum Association

box-folder 1 (box)
Container 30 (folder)

Civic Engagement/LTE's Clippings

box-folder 2 (box)
Container 1 (folder)

Huntsville League of Women Voters

box-folder 2 (box)
Container 2 (folder)

Architecture Talks/Model City

box-folder 2 (box)
Container 3 (folder)

Series II: Professional Papers

Associations and Committees

Washington D.C., 1974

box-folder 2 (box)
Container 4 (folder)

AIA National Convention, 1975

box-folder 2 (box)
Container 5 (folder)

AIA Bulletins

box-folder 2 (box)
Container 6 (folder)

AIA Meeting, St. Louis

box-folder 2 (box)
Container 7 (folder)

AIA

box-folder 2 (box)
Container 8 (folder)

AIA Membership Committee

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

AIA Public Relationship Committee

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

AIA Bus Tours

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 11-12 (folder)

AIA Tours

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

AIA Speakers

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

AIA Meeting-St. Louis

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Alpha Alpha Gamma-AWA

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

History of AWA

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 17 (folder)

Los Angeles Chapter-AWA

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 18 (folder)

Alpha Alpha Gamma & AIA St. Louis, Monsanto

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 19 (folder)

Alpha Alpha Gamma: Correspondence

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 20 (folder)

Association of Women in Architecture

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 21 (folder)

Architecture in St. Louis: Twelve Historic Structures

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 22-23 (folder)

Architecture in St. Louis: Twelve Contemporary Buildings

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 24 (folder)

Women's Architectural League-President

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 1-2 (folder)

Women's Architectural League

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Women's Architectural League-Speaker's Bureau

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Conferences

International Design Conference in Aspen (1964)

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 5-6 (folder)

International Design Conference in Aspen (1966)

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Aspen 1966-Notes

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

International Design Conference (1968)

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Congress on American Women Leaders, 1962

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Writings

Richard Neutra

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Union Station Supplement to WAL's "Historic Structures"

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

M.L.'s Chapter for AIA Book on St. Louis Architecture

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Research Notes

Notes for "Survival Through Design"

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Notes for "Doctor's Offices and Clinics: Medical and Dental"

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Notes for "The Natural House"

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

An American Architecture

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 17 (folder)

Reference Files

Articles on Architecture

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 14-21 (folder)

H. May Steinmesch: Architect 1930s

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

St. Louis Building Code P.W. Martin Room 208 City Hall

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

AEC Architecture in St. Louis

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

St. Louis EADs Bridge., 1904, W.F., Brick, Proetz

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Knoll au Louvre 1972

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

The Stephens Chairs - Knoll International

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Knoll Index of Contemporary Design

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Construction

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 8-9 (folder)

Face Brick Tables

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Yellow Pine Timbers Booklet

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Patios

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Decorating Planning

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Pencil Sketching-Watson

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Worlds Fair Houses - 1932-1933, 1940

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

"House of the Modern Age": Park Avenue at Thirty-ninth Street, New York"

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

The Architectural Forum: Including "Building Money"

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 17 (folder)

House & Home, Sept. 1936

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 18 (folder)

"House Beautiful Building Manual: New Produces, Plans, Designs", Spring 1936

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 19 (folder)

Planning and Remodeling Bathrooms

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 20 (folder)

Your Second Home: Masonite Corporation

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 21 (folder)

Open House: Reviewing Your New Wood

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 22 (folder)

Panelfold Doors Pamphlet, n.d.

box-folder 10 (box)

General Specifications for Your New Home, n.d.

box-folder 10 (box)

Crane: Modern Kitchen Equipment, n.d.

box-folder 10 (box)

Home Planners Inc, "Good Details", n.d.

box-folder 8 (box)

Series III: Office Records

Architecture Notes

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 22 (folder)

Mary Lou Drosten: Design

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 23 (folder)

Drosten Designs

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 24 (folder)

Drosten Design Construction Notes

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 25 (folder)

Construction Photos (project unknown), May 1962

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 26 (folder)

Series IV: Project Records

Scope and Contents

The following is a list of architectural projects carried out by Mary Lou Drosten

Arrangement The Project Index is a way to organize the various formats of architectural records from the same project. The index is arranged alphabetically by client name or project name. It contains information, where available, about the location, date, project type, architect, collaborators, photographers, and formats for each project in the collection.

[Project Index link]

A Summary of the Project Index is listed below.

Bodley, Don and Judy (3790 Cusawilla Trail, Chattanooga, TN; 1964; bathroom remodel)

box-folder 4 (box)
Container 27 (folder)

Bodley, Don and Judy (3003 Ozark Road, Chattanooga, TN; 1965-1968; interior design)

box-folder 4 (box)
Container 27 (folder)

Bomze, Howard (6942 Waterman Avenue, University City, MO; 1975; landscape)

box-folder 4 (box)
Container 28 (folder)

Bomze, Howard (6942 Waterman Avenue, University City, MO; 1976; screened porch)

box-folder 7 (box)

Brigham Jr., H.F. (4 Narraganset, Ladue, MO; 1976; residence addition)

box-folder 4 (box)
Container 29 (folder)

Brock Construction Co. (Chattanooga, TN; 1962; exterior aesthetic suggestions)

box-folder 4 (box)
Container 30 (folder)

Brownlee, Roland (939 Talley Road, Chattanooga, Tn; 1962; garden, terrace and interior design)

box-folder 5 (box)
Container 1-2 (folder)

Burgess, Hubert (1634 Greenhills Drive, Hixson, TN; 1964; interior design)

box-folder 5 (box)
Container 3 (folder)

Bus shelter (Stuart Heights Garden Club, Chattanooga, TN; 1964; proposed bus shelter design)

box-folder 5 (box)
Container 4 (folder)

Cherry, James D (7425 Kingsbury, University City, MO; 1975; garden design)

box-folder 5 (box)
Container 5 (folder)

Children's Clinic (Green & Miller, 304 Ashland Terrace, Chattanooga, TN; 1956; design and oversight of construction)

box-folder 5 (box)
Container 6-9 (folder)
box 15

Community Garden (South Side, 6600 block of Delmar Blvd, University City, MO; 1977; proposed garden for vacant lot)

box-folder 5 (box)
Container 11 (folder)
box 10

Chattanooga Unitarian Church

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Crenshaw Clinic (St. Louis, MO; 1934; dental clinic (first job))

box-folder 7 (box)

Davis, Robert S. (6911 Waterman Avenue, University City, MO; 1979; kitchen renovation)

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Derthick & Henley (Chattanooga architectural firm; 1962; drafting job, proposed bell tower for methodist church)

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Dorris, Andrew and Barbara (6370 Waterman Avenue, University City, MO; 1977; foundation planting)

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 14-15 (folder)

box 10

Drosten, Fred and Mary Lou (46 Rye Lane, St. Louis MO; 1938; architect's residence)

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 16-21 (folder)

box 8

box 9

box 13

Drosten, Fred and Mary Lou (2883 Stuart Terrace, Chattanooga, TN; 1955; architect's residence)

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 22-36 (folder)

box 8

box 11

box 13

Drosten, Fred and Mary Lou (945 Old Bonhomme Rd, University City, MO; 1979; addition to architect's home)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

box 11

Falkowski, Edward and Evelyn (2206 East Governors Drive, Huntsville, AL; 1966; interior/exterior decoration)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

box 11

Folts, Bishop, and Thomas Office (Provident Building, Chattanooga, TN)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Gibson, Raymond (Regal and Berkeley Red Bank, TN; 1964; plan revisions)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

box 11

box 13

Graham, Dr. & Mrs. Frank B. (211 Shallowford Road, Chattanooga, TN; 1958; sketches drive & residence)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 5-6 (folder)

Gronaua, Drs. Axel and Marianna (7062 Waterman Avenue, University City, MO; 1975; kitchen flooring)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Harford, Dr. and Mrs. Carl G. (6940 Waterman Avenue, University City, MO; 1970; porch and deck)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 8-9 (folder)

Harford, Dr. and Mrs. Carl G. (6940 Waterman Avenue, University City, MO; 1978; kitchen renovation)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

box 10

Hayden, Mr. and Mrs. Donald (2918 Nurick Drive, Chattanooga, TN; 1962; garage change and repairs)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Hayes, Tom & Paula (6926 Dartmouth Avenue, University City, MO; 1978; double decker screen porch)

box-folder 7 (box)

Hayes, Tom & Paula (6926 Dartmouth Avenue, University City, MO; 1974; kitchen and bathroom)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Kruesi, Paul R. (302 Arrow Drive, Signal Mountain, TN; 1962; consultant and figures)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Kushner, Peter and Pinky (2633 Harris St., Eugene, OR; 1978; suggested revisions (not executed))

box-folder 10 (box)

Levine, Charles (Altamont Road, Chattanooga, TN; 1957; residence)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

box 12

Livingston, Dr. and Mrs Phillip (111 Provident Building, Chattanooga, TN; 1960; interior design of medical office)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

box 14

Livingston, Dr. and Mrs Phillip (1718 Minnekahda Road, Chattanooga, TN; 1956; overseer for Richard Neutra project; interior design of medical office; cd of letters w/ Neutra)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 16-19 (folder)

Loeffel, Dr. Ellen (Rooms 201-211, 425 DeBaliviere, St. Louise, MO; 1945; interior design of medical office)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 20 (folder)

Marsh, Mr. and Mrs. Fred (Carroll Lane, Chattanooga, TN; 1959; plan preparation)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 21 (folder)

box 12

Memorial Baptist Church (Red Bank, TN; 1959; sketches, classrooms, etc)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 22 (folder)

Metcalf, Richard P. and Margaret (346 East Drive, Oak Ridge, TN; 1964; remodel w/ balcony & interior design)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 23 (folder)

Miller, Dr. Robert T. (Minnekahda Road, Chattanooga, TN; 1957; house design)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 26 (folder)

box 12

Nelson, Mrs. Anita (Lancaster Avenue, Red Bank, TN; 1963; house placement)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 27 (folder)

box 11

Oak Ridge Township, Tennessee (Oak Ridge, TN; 1948-50; high school renovation)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 24-25 (folder)

Poss, Mr. and Mrs. H.M. (319 Buena Vista Drive, Chattanooga, TN; 1962; rainwater drainage and patio)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 28 (folder)

box 13

Rivard, Loren and Caroline (Baltimore, MD; 1977; proposed renovation)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 29 (folder)

Robinson, W.W. Mr. and Mrs. (Forest Park Drive, Signal Mountain, TN; 1963; interior design)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 30 (folder)

Rudner, Dr. and Mrs. Richard (6939 Waterman Avenue, University City, MO; 1977; landscape plans)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 31 (folder)

box 7

Rust, Mr. and Mrs. Jack (102 Windmere Chattanooga, TN; 1965; bathroom remodel)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 32 (folder)

Shavin, Seymour and Gerte (334 North Crest Road, Chattanooga, TN; 1977; interior design for Wright house)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 33 (folder)

Shearer, Dr. Wayne (306 Ashland Terrace, Chattanooga, TN; 1963; optometric clinic)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 34-35 (folder)

box 15

Shearer, Dr. Wayne (122 Valley Brook Road, Hixson, TN; 1965; consultation on house design)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 36 (folder)

box 7

Solomon, Jay and Rosalind (2932 Folts Drive, Chattanooga, TN; 1958; remodel for residence)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 37 (folder)

Sotlongs Tennis Court (unknown; 1962; Tennis court)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 38 (folder)

Thomas, Elmer (1111 and 1113 East Third Street Chattanooga, TN; 1958-63; commercial building consultation)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 39 (folder)

box 11

Trundle, Dr. Frank (2943 Folts Circle, Chattanooga, TN; 1961; residential design)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 40-41 (folder)

box 7

box 12

Weil, Mark L. (1201 Westmoreland Ave., SE Huntsville, AL; 1967; landscape design)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 43 (folder)

Weinberg, Morris and Janie Mae (8601 Clarendon Lane, Hixson, TN; 1964; addition to residence)

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 42 (folder)