

The Filson Historical Society

Ward, Jasper D., 1921-2002
Architectural drawings, 1924-1997 (bulk: 1949-1997)

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Size of Collection:
67 ovsh. folders

Locator Number:
Mss./AR/W259

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Biographical Note

Jasper D. (Dudley) Ward, III, a prominent architect in Louisville, was born on October 8, 1921, in Flemington, New Jersey to parents, Jasper D. Ward, II and Constance Fargis (Allen). Ward served in the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers from 1943 to 1946, and then graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) with a Bachelor of Architecture in 1948. Following his graduation, Ward worked under Gordan Bunshaft at the design firm Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill. He married Lucretia Baldwin on November 12, 1949, in Scarsdale, New York, and together they had five children, Lucretia, Michael, James, Alexander, and Abigail.

Throughout his early career, Ward worked for multiple firms in New York and was a visiting professor at Columbia and the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, before taking a job with the General Electric Company in Louisville. Unfortunately, his position was eliminated after seven months, but he soon found other employment in Louisville with the Reynolds Metals Company. In August of 1958, Ward started a private practice where he collaborated and fostered the careers of many promising young architects. He also was on the faculty of the University of Kentucky's Department of Architecture. Thus, his influence went beyond his colleagues at his firm. Not one for retirement, Ward joined Hazelet * Erdal Consulting Engineers and Architects after closing his practice in 1993. At the time, the firm was Louisville's largest civil- and structural-engineering firm. Then, in 1995, he joined The Stone Group—a firm established by Bill Stone. His wife, Lucretia, passed away in 1996, and in 2002, Ward died in Louisville at the age of 80.

Known for his enthusiasm for Modern architecture, Ward is sometimes credited with bringing the Modern style to Louisville. He did not limit himself in design nor in what projects he would accept. He worked with residential, commercial, educational, religious, and public projects at every scale imaginable, applying the same energy and creativity to each. His firm contributed to bold designs for housing, like the well-known Leight House in Louisville's Glenview neighborhood. Other unique home designs include the A. H. Woode House, the Vernon Robertson Solar House, and the Bill Hume House. Ward brought character to basic building types, such as office buildings and parking structures. His firm's 1966 design for the Doctor's Office Building still stands at Floyd and Liberty Streets in Louisville. Ward's notable Louisville parking structures include the 120 South Sixth Street garage, Louisville Gardens garage on Sixth near Cedar St., and the Federal Garage at Seventh and Magazine Streets. Multiple educational buildings benefited from Ward's expertise, such as the St. Francis School in Goshen, KY, the Okolona Elementary School in Louisville, the University of Louisville's Swain

Student Activities Center, Portland Elementary in Louisville, and Alice Lloyd College in Pippa Passes, KY. Ward's firm also worked with numerous commercial clients in Louisville, including the City Blueprint building, Jake Seligman and Son's Stout and Tall Men's Clothing Store, Joe's Palm Room, and Ollie's Trolley. Ward is as well known for his unfulfilled projects as his completed ones.

Ward proposed exciting projects for Louisville, such as a mixed-use neighborhood along the Big Four Bridge and converting Ballard Mills' concrete silos into a high-rise apartment. Although neither were ever constructed, they demonstrate his singular vision and his devotion to preservation. He was also a proponent of responsible urban planning, serving as president of the volunteer group called Citizens Metropolitan Planning Council, also as a chairman of a committee for the Louisville Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and was a member of the Cornerstone 2020 group, which had a role in writing the Jefferson County's comprehensive land-use plan.

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Scope and Content Note

This collection contains architectural drawings of projects produced by Jasper D. Ward, which include working drawings for public, religious, residential, commercial, and educational buildings. Most architectural projects are located in the Louisville, Kentucky area; some projects from other locales are also present. The collection includes works associated with Ward and his firm's most well-known designs, such as the Leight House, the Doctor's Office Building, and his Louisville parking garages. Some of his most unique residential designs – including the A. H. Woode House, the Vernon Robertson Solar House, the Bill Hume House, and homes in the Benchmark subdivision in New Albany, Indiana – are also represented. Documents relating to bold proposals for the Big Four Bridge and the Ballard Mills silos are also included. See the project index for more information.

Related Collections:

Jasper Ward papers (013x56)

Jasper Ward photograph collection

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 - Iroquois Park Municipal Riding Stable
 - Care Systems, Inc., Anne Lynne Manor Camelot
- Folder 2: IBM Parts Distribution Center
 - Goodson Grove
 - The Cloister Project
- Folder 3: Renovation and Expansion of Central Maintenance Facility
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 - Addition and Alterations to Wedekind House
 - Campbell Hall Apartments
 - James S. and Anne L. Pope House
 - Dulworth Main Street Warehouse Dock and Stairs
 - Jersey Park, Property of Margaret Tower
- Folder 4: Hampton House
 - Model House Benchmark Lot #24
 - Jake Seligman & Son, Tall & Big Store
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 - Springfield, Property of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Haynie
 - Stone Place Farm House
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 - A. H. Woody [i.e. Woode] House
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- Folder 7: Early Education Program, Parent-Child Center
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 - Addition and Renovation to Southwick Community Center
 - Riggs House
 - Addition to Shelor House
 - Gorham House, Benchmark, Lot No. 26
 - 2016 Locust Lane
- Folder 8: Neighborhood House
 - Christ Church Cathedral
 - House for Mr. & Mrs. William C. Bixby
 - Heritage Plaza

Louisville Zoo Concession Building and African Outpost
City Blue Building
Richard Johnson House, Benchmark
UofL Cancer Center

Folder 9: Peterson Residence; Donald A. Peterson Tract; Peterson House
Central Printing Co.

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Untitled Street Scene with Notes
Existing Site Plan For: 1211 W. Broadway, Louisville, Kentucky 40203
Fernlea Farm
Waverly Hill Sanatorium Railroad & Tunnel Location; Waverly Hills Senior Citizens

Center

Ward House
Proposed Alterations to D + R Pharmacare
Iroquois Amphitheatre Renovation
New Fellowship Hall Addition to First Baptist Church

Folder 10: Unknown Building

Barney Bright residence
UofL Radiation Center
Bill Newman House
Andral Lowe House
Residence for Robert E. Bennett
Spalding University Student and Conference Center
Spalding University Leadership Center

Folder 11: West Downtown Property Disposal Map

Walnut Ridge Subdivision
The Greater Mount Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church
Dr. Young and Moses Office Building
Alterations to Residence for Grady Clay and Judith McCandless

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McAfee Funeral Home
New Building for PW Incorporated
Flanagan House

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Masonic Temple, Prince Hall, Grand Lodge
Rusty's Produce Market
Plantation Aquatic Center Phased Development
Carriage House Renovation
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Residence for Donnie & Buddy Lake
Stanford House Addition
Proposed Office Building & Parking Annex for Rosen Enterprises Inc.
Mason Residence
Parking Garage, 5th & Liberty
David and Susan Friedmann House, Benchmark

St. Charles Borromeo
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 1123 S. 12th St. Apartments
 Central Park East Restaurant, Bar and Restaurant Remodeling
 Washburn Building
 Emergency Stabilization Cast Iron Front for Louisville Stained Glass, Renovation of
 Building
 Hutton House
 Tom McCulloch House and renovations
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Subject Headings

Architects - Kentucky - Louisville.
Architecture - Awards.
Architecture - Designs and plans.
Architecture - Kentucky.
Architecture, Domestic - Kentucky - Louisville.
Ballard Mills (Louisville, Ky.)
Bridges - Kentucky - Louisville.
Buildings - Kentucky.
University of Louisville (Louisville, Ky.)
Louisville (Ky.) - Buildings, structures, etc.
Parking garages - Kentucky - Louisville.
School buildings - Kentucky.