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David R. Hermansen Papers
1957-92
DADA 033

Title: David R. Hermansen Papers

Creator: David R. Hermansen

Inclusive Dates: 1957-1992

Extent: 7 cu. ft.

Containers: 4 record storage boxes, 5 document cases, 4 slide boxes

Language of Materials: Materials entirely in English.

Preferred Citation:
David R. Hermansen Papers, Drawings and Documents Archive, Archives and Special Collections, Ball State University Libraries

Biographical Note:
An educator, architect, historian, and preservationist, Professor David R. Hermansen (1928-1994) was the first faculty member of the new College of Architecture and Planning at Ball State University in 1966. A pioneering individual, Professor Hermansen founded and became the first director of Ball State's graduate program in historic preservation in 1976. Helping to establish the first curriculum, Hermansen structured the history of architecture courses along typological lines ("history of housing," "history of city planning," etc.), rather than the typical arrangement. During his tenure, he helped establish the Architecture Library and the Architectural Slide Collection, which was later named in his honor. Within three years, from 1966-1968, these centers had amassed 35,000 volumes and 6,000 slides. Professor Hermansen also initiated and administered the History American Buildings Survey (HABS) program at the college.

A native of Chicago, Hermansen received his bachelors and masters degrees in architecture from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana and was an Army veteran. During his time as a student, he worked for an architectural firm in Chicago and Bloomington, Illinois. He taught at the University of Kansas between 1954 and 1966 and was a practicing architect in Kansas before moving to Indiana. Soon after arriving in Muncie, Professor Hermansen discovered that the Delaware County Courthouse was schedule for demolition. He began to document courthouses throughout the state and compiled his findings in a book titled *Hoosier Hysteria of the 19th*

Century. A photographic exhibit of his research was shown in all 92 courthouses within Indiana and also at the Octagon Building in Washington, D.C., which housed the American Institute of Architects. This project made Professor Hermansen one of the leading authorities on Indiana courthouses.

He was a director of Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, member of the Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board and the Muncie Historic Preservation and Rehabilitation Commission, and received the first Wilbur D. Peat Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Understanding and Appreciation of Indiana's Architectural Heritage. He retired from teaching in 1993. In 2003, he was posthumously honored by the College of Architecture and Planning Alumni Society Governing Board with the Charles M. Sappenfield Award of Excellence, an award given to CAP faculty members who have provided dedicated service to the students of the college. A historic preservation award and memorial scholarship named in his honor exists for students in the Masters of Science Program in Historic Preservation.

Sources:
Program for Omega Dinner, Ball State University, 13 April 1993.
The Muncie Star, 18 December 1994.

Scope and Contents:
This collection contains office files of David R. Hermansen concerning Hermansen's career as an architectural educator and advocate of historic preservation, covering the period ca. 1957-1990. It fills four record storage boxes, five document cases, and two other small boxes (7.2 cu. ft.). Although Hermansen was widely known for his work promoting the preservation of Indiana county courthouses, his courthouse research is not included in this collection.

Lecture notes for history of architecture courses constitute the bulk of the collection. 17 loose-leaf volumes of meticulously prepared notes (in 4 record storage boxes, catalog number 33-1) are arranged geographically (by continent) and then by historical period. Additional volumes hold notes for a televised course on the history of city planning (33-2) and notes on naval architecture (33-3).

Syllabi prepared by Hermansen for various history of architecture courses (33-4) list and give basic facts about the works to be studied in that course. Duplicated and given or sold to students, the syllabi served as study guides. The first in the series is for a course in "History of Renaissance and Baroque Architecture" at the University of Kansas, 1964. When Hermansen came to Ball State, he structured the history of architecture courses along typological lines ("history of housing, "history of city planning," etc.) rather than the typical chronological arrangement. This is reflected in eight later syllabi, for courses (or combinations of courses) at Ball State.

A 1959 syllabus on "modern architecture" by Turpin C. Bannister (33-5) evidently served as a model for those written by Hermansen. Hermansen studied under Bannister, a noted architectural historian, at the University of Illinois.

Other records concerning Hermansen's teaching and professional practice are contained in 88

folders (33-6 through 33-86, in three document cases). Included are correspondence, reports, handwritten notes, draft HABS architectural descriptions and National Register of Historic Places inventory-nomination forms, photographs and photo negatives of buildings taken for a series of downtown revitalization workshops, press releases and newspaper clippings concerning the workshops, photographs of drawings produced during the workshops, and claims for reimbursement of expenses. The original arrangement of these records—geographically by county, in alphabetical order by county name—has been retained, except for eight folders (33-6 through 33-13) that pertain to topics broader than a single county.

Hermansen's geographical files originally contained additional information about historic buildings and historic preservation activities in Indiana. He was an active collector of clippings, promotional leaflets for tourist sites and house museums, events calendars, maps, locally published books and pamphlets, historic structure reports, some student papers documenting historic properties, and similar materials. About 400 such items (1.2 lin. ft.) were transferred to the DOC- collection for ease of access. A set of pasteboard dividers that Hermansen made for his geographical files, one divider for each county, with labels neatly printed in his hand, have been reused for their original purpose in the DOC- collection file cabinets.

Three additional boxes contain photographic negatives, prints, contact sheets, and slides that had been stored in the office of the College of Architecture and Planning staff photographer (catalog nos. 33-87 through 33-97). Included are images of Hermansen's Indiana County Courthouse research, city revitalization studies, student projects, Indiana round barns, preservation events, and Hermansen's retirement party. Some of the photos are by the Ball State University Public Information Service. Authorship of the other photos is uncertain. Evidently some of the negatives were taken by Hermansen, others by College of Architecture and Planning staff photographers. Similarly for the slides: Hermansen may have taken the slides of the Emily Kimbrough House before and during restoration (catalog no. 33-96). College staff photographers probably took the slides of student work done in Hermansen's classes (33-97).

Conditions Governing Access:
This collection is open for research.

Copyright Notice: Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Drawings and Documents Archive, Archives and Special Collections, Ball State University Libraries, Muncie, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Drawings and Documents Archive.

Custodial History:
The David R. Hermansen Papers were received by Drawings and Documents Archive as a donation from David R. Hermansen on 1993/8/5; additions were made by Evelyn Hermansen in 1994; Steve Tally (college photographer) on 2004/9/15.

Accruals: No additions are expected.

Processing Information:
Collection processing completed

Finding aid created 2002/6/6 Andrew R. Seager, revised 2010/2/23 by Ryan W. Shrack; revised 2012/2/17 by Carol Street.

Arrangement:
The David R. Hermansen Papers are arranged by subject; slides are arranged chronologically.

Controlled Access Headings:

Architecture, American
Architecture, Indiana
Architecture, commercial
Drawings, architectural (visual works)
Elevation drawings
Photographic slides
Architectural models
Lecturers
Professor
Hermansen, David R., 1928-1994
Ball State University. College of Architecture and Planning
Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana
Architecture--Indiana--Bloomington.

FINDING AID FOR SLIDES

	CONTAINER
Professor Kinst, ARCH 404 (Fall 1971), "New Social Science Building Proposal," 3-D models, elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 1-21.	Slide Box 1, Bin 1
Gerald Klaehn, COS 401 (Fall 1971), "Single Family Attached Dwellings," elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 22-31.	Slide Box 1, Bin 2
Unknown, Unknown (Fall 1971), house elevation/floor plans and site plan for Houston development called Operation Breakthrough, Slides: 32-38.	Slide Box 1, Bin 2
Professor Kinst, 4th Year (Winter 1972), "College of Business New Business Center Proposal," 3-D models, elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 39-98.	Slide Box 1, Bin 3-5
John Padgett, 1973, "60th Paris Prize in Architecture," elevation/floor/ site plans, Slides: 99-104.	Slide Box 1, Bin 6
Anthony Costello, ARCH 401 (Fall 1974), "Spatial Model," 3-D model, Slide: 105.	Slide Box 1, Bin 6
Harry Eggink, 4th Year (Fall 1974), "Beth El Synagogue, Muncie, IN Proposals," elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 106-132.	Slide Box 1, Bin 7

Professor Rawlings, 4th Year (Fall 1974), "Revitalization Project for Muncie Neighborhood," 3-D models, Slides: 133-137.	Slide Box 1, Bin 8
Harry Eggink, 4th Year (Winter 1974), "Adaptive Reuse for a Steel Truss Bridge over the White River," 3-D models, elevation/site plans, Slides: 138-145.	Slide Box 1, Bin 8
Harry Eggink, ARCH 402 (Winter 1974), "Modern Building Designs," 3-D models, Slides: 146-153.	Slide Box 1, Bin 8
Professors McGuire and Kjaer, ARCH 403 (Spring 1975), "Modern Building Designs," 3-D models, Slides: 154-174.	Slide Box 1, Bin 9
Chenhis Yetken, ARCH 401-2-3 (Fall 1975), "Modern Building Designs," 3-D models, Slides: 175-182.	Slide Box 1, Bin 10
Allan Wallis, ARCH 498 (Spring 1976), "Mobile Home Adaptations," elevation/site plans, Slides: 183-184.	Slide Box 1, Bin 10
Chenhis Yetken, ARCH 401-2-3 (Spring 1976), "Campus Dormitory Prototypes," 3-D models, elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 185-249.	Slide Box 1, Bin 10-13
Juan Bonta, ARCH 401-2-3 (2nd Summer 1976), "Variation on Chess Pieces," 3-D models, Slides: 250-278.	Slide Box 1, Bin 13-14
Juan Bonta, ARCH 401-2-3 (Fall 1976), "Wooden Block Structures," 3-D models, Slides: 279-295.	Slide Box 1, Bin 15
Chenhis Yetken, ARCH 401-2-3 (Fall 1976), "Modern Building Designs," 3-D models, Slides: 296-341.	Slide Box 1, Bin 16-17
Chenhis Yetken, ARCH 401-2-3 (Winter 1976), "Modern Building Designs," 3-D models, Slides: 342-400.	Slide Box 1, Bin 18-20
Robert Koester, ARCH 401-2-3 (Spring 1977), "Energy Community-Adaptive Reuse of the American Suburb," floor/site plans, Slides: 401-407.	Slide Box 2, Bin 1
Robert Taylor, ARCH 401 (Spring 1977), "Modern Building Designs," 3-D models, Slides: 408-467.	Slide Box 2, Bin 1-3
Robert Taylor, ARCH 403 (Spring 1977), "Modern Building Designs," 3-D models, Slides: 468-493.	Slide Box 2, Bin 4
Chenhis Yetken, ARCH 401-2-3 (Spring 1977), "A Place of Worship: Designs for Churches," 3-D models, Slides: 494-575.	Slide Box 2, Bin 5-8

Robert Koester, ARCH 402 (Summer 1977), "Multi-Family Building Designs," elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 576-594. Slide Box 2, Bin 9

David Hermansen, HLFI (Summer 1977), "Auburn Façade Improvements," elevation/site plans, Slides: 595-610. Slide Box 2, Bin 10

David Hermansen, HLFI (Summer 1977), "Greensburg, Indiana Façade Improvements," elevation plans, Slides: 611-615. Slide Box 2, Bin 10

Professor Bunn, ARCH 401 (Fall 1977), "Spatial Model," 3-D model, Slide: 616. Slide Box 2, Bin 10

David Hermansen, HLFI (Fall 1977), "Greencastle, Indiana Façade Improvements," elevation/site plans, Slides: 617-635. Slide Box 2, Bin 11

David Hermansen, HLFI (Fall 1977), "Jasper, Indiana Redevelopment," Elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 636-660. Slide Box 2, Bin 12

Professor Sand, ARCH 401 (Fall 1977), "Muncie Children's Museum Design," 3-D models, Slides: 661-663. Slide Box 2, Bin 13

Chenhis Yetken, ARCH 403 (Winter 1977), "Modern Building Designs," 3-D models, Slides: 664-777. Slide Box 2, Bin 13-18

David Hermansen, HLFI (Spring 1978), "Anderson, Indiana Façade Improvements," elevation plans, Slides: 778-784. Slide Box 2, Bin 18

David Hermansen, HLFI (Summer 1978), "Vincennes, Indiana Façade Improvements," elevation plans, Slides: 785-797. Slide Box 2, Bin 19

Arthur Schaller, ARCH 401-2-3 (Summer 1978), "Modern Building Designs," 3-D models, Slides: 798-829. Slide Box 2, Bin 19-20

David Hermansen, ARCH 401-2-3 (Winter 1978), "Hartford City, Indiana Redevelopment," elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 830-1,024. Slide Box 3, Bin 1-10

Harry Eggink, ARCH 401-2-3 (Spring 1979), "Geneva, Indiana Redevelopment," elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 1,025-1,063. Slide Box 3, Bin 11-12

David Hermansen, HLFI (Spring 1979), "Bloomington, Indiana Redevelopment," elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 1,064-1,077. Slide Box 3, Bin 13

David Hermansen, ARCH 401-2-3 (Spring 1979), "Marion, Indiana Redevelopment," elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 1,078-1,160. Slide Box 3, Bin 13-17

Schmidt Thomsen, ARCH 401-2-3 (Spring 1979), "Muncie Aqua-Fun Center Proposal," elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 1,161-1,186. Slide Box 3, Bin 18-19

Robert Fisher, ARCH 401-2-3 (Summer 1979), "Modern Building Designs," 3-D models, Slides: 1,187-1,201. Slide Box 3, Bin 20

Harry Eggink, ARCH 401-2-3 (Fall 1979), "Union City, Indiana Redevelopment," elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 1,202-1,238. Slide Box 4, Bin 1-2

Harry Eggink/David Hermansen, ARCH 401-2-3 (Fall 1979), "Wabash, Indiana Redevelopment," elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 1,239-1,277. Slide Box 4, Bin 3-5

David Hermansen, ARCH 401-2-3 (Fall 1979), "Shelbyville, Indiana Redevelopment," elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 1,278-1,304. Slide Box 4, Bin 5-6

Barry Russell, ARCH 401-2-3 (Fall 1979), "Modern Building Designs," Elevation/floor plans, Slides: 1,305-1,340. Slide Box 4, Bin 7-8

Anthony Costello, ARCH 401 (Spring 1980), "White River/City Center, Indianapolis, Indiana Proposal," 3-D models, elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 1,341-1,365. Slide Box 4, Bin 9

Harry Eggink, ARCH 401-2-3 (Spring 1980), "Rushville, Indiana Redevelopment," elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 1,366-1,402. Slide Box 4, Bin 10-11

Faculty Pictures, Spring 1980, "David Hermansen (2) and Juan Bonta (1), Slides: 1,403-1,405 Slide Box 4, Bin 11

Robert Koester, ARCH 403 (Spring 1980), "Energy House of the 80s," Elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 1,406-1,460 Slide Box 4, Bin 12-14

John Hertz, ARCH 401-2-3 (Summer 1980), "Modern Building Designs," 3-D models, Slides: 1,461-1,467. Slide Box 4, Bin 15

Arthur Schaller, ARCH 401-2-3 (Summer 1980), "Modern Building Designs," 3-D models, Slides: 1,468-1,487. Slide Box 4, Bin 15-16

Harry Eggink, ARCH 401-2-3 (Fall 1980), "Redkey, Indiana Redevelopment," elevation/floor/site plans, Slides: 1,488-1,540. Slide Box 4, Bin 17-19

Harry Eggink, ARCH 401-2-3 (Winter 1980), "Green Street," 3-D models, Slides: 1,541-1,572. Slide Box 4, Bin 19-20