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Fran E. Shroeder Architectural Records 1927-1968 DADA 034

Title: Fran E. Shroeder Architectural Records

Creator: Fran E. Shroeder

Inclusive Dates: 1927-1968

Extent: 3.4 cu. ft.

Containers: 1 flat file drawer, 1 OVA oversize archival box, 1 OVB oversize archival box, 2

manuscript boxes

Language of Materials: Materials entirely in English.

Preferred Citation:

Fran E. Schroeder Architectural Records, Drawings and Documents Archive, Archives and Special Collections, Ball State University Libraries

Biographical Note:

Fran (Francis) Schroeder (1908-1988), a native of Indianapolis, attended Butler and Purdue Universities and the Beaux Arts School of Design in New York. From 1929 to 1940 he was employed by Pierre & Wright, Architects, in Indianapolis. During World War II he was resident architect for the Curtis-Wright Corporation. He joined the McGuire & Shook firm after the war and remained there until 1950, when he founded Fran E. Schroeder and Associates, Architects.

A charter member of the Indianapolis chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI), Schroeder served as Vice President of that organization in 1961, as President for two terms (1962-1964), as newsletter editor, and in a variety of other capacities including Chapter Historian. He was the Region Director of CSI (1971-74) and served on the Jury of Fellows (1974-76).

Schroeder was active also in the American Institute of Architects, the Indiana Society of Architects serving as Director, 1959-60, and Secretary, 1960-61, the Construction League of Indianapolis, the Marion County Electrical Registration Board, and the Knights of Columbus.

He served 14 years as a Director and as Design Chairman of the Indianapolis Christmas Committee.

Scope and Contents:

The collection documents Fran E. Schroeder's architectural career. It includes architectural drawings and renderings; photographs; reference material; materials concerning the Construction Specifications Institute; business correspondence; sketches; Christmas cards by Schroeder, Leslie F. Ayres, and Pierre & Wright, ca. 1930; a variety of scrapbook materials and memorabilia; and several award plaques.

The drawings are all from the office of Fran E. Schroeder and Associates. More than 120 buildings are represented. Most of the buildings are houses, churches, and schools. Most are for sites in Indianapolis and surrounding areas.

Many of the scrapbook items document the work of two other Indianapolis architectural firms, Pierre & Wright and McGuire & Shook, where Schroeder was employed prior to opening his own office. Among the buildings represented are the Milo Stuart Memorial Building at Arsenal Technical High School, the Indiana State Library and Historical Building, and Fendrick's Restaurant at Union Station, Indianapolis, Other scrapbook subjects are the Indianapolis Architectural Club, of which Schroeder was an active member and officer, and the Indianapolis Home Shows of 1931-1958. One pamphlet announces three new homes by the Architectural Guild of Indianapolis. A clipping (a map by Herbert Foltz) apparently pertains to the Historic American Buildings Survey project in Indiana of 1934. Ephemeral items include souvenirs of the Century of Progress Exposition in Chicago, 1933, and travel stickers.

Conditions Governing Access:

This collection is open for research.

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Custodial History:

The Fran E. Schroeder Architectural Records were received by Drawings and Documents Archive as a donation from Lilly E. Torres and Donald Wayne Torres Schroeder in 1997 and 2005.

Accruals: No additions are expected.

Processing Information:

Collection processing completed

Finding aid created 1998/6/6 by Andrew R. Seager; revised 2011/11/1 by Julie Edwards; revised 2012/2/17 by Carol Street.

Arrangement:

The Fran E. Schroeder Architectural Records are arranged chronologically.

Controlled Access Headings:

Architecture, American

Architecture--Indiana--Indianapolis

Architecture, commercial

Drawings, architectural (visual works)

Elevation drawings

School buildings

Documents

Houses--Indiana—1930s

Architecture--Designs and plans--Presentation drawings

Architecture--Designs and plans--Working drawings

Business records

Clippings, newspaper

Correspondence

Documents

Photographs

Printed ephemera

Art Deco

Buildings, school

Buildings, residential

Buildings, religious

Buildings, commercial

Indianapolis (Ind.)

Lodges, fraternal

Fran E. Schroeder and Associates, Architects

Schroeder, Fran E., 1908-1988

Indiana Society of Architects

Century of Progress International Exposition (1933-1934: Chicago, Ill.)

Ayres, Leslie F.

Pierre, Edward D., 1890-1971

Pierre & Wright

McGuire & Shook, Architects

Architectural Guild of Indianapolis (Indianapolis, Ind.)