Illinois Institute of Technology
University Archives & Special Collections
Galvin Library, Chicago

Collection Guide: Alfred Caldwell

Overview

Alfred Caldwell (1903–1998) was an alumnus of Illinois Institute of Technology (Chicago), a faculty member in the Architecture, Planning and Design department (predecessor of IIT's College of Architecture), and IIT's landscape designer. As a student of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Caldwell received two academic degrees from IIT – a Bachelor of Architecture in 1942 and an M.S. in City Planning in 1947. He was also awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters & Science degree by IIT in 1988. In 1982 he was presented with the Alumni Association's Professional Achievement Award. As a faculty member, he served as Professor of Architecture from 1945–1960 and from 1981–1998 (as Ludwig Mies van der Rohe Professor of Architecture).

Materials in UASC

Drop File

Alfred Caldwell

Student Thesis

City in the Landscape: A Preface for Panning
by Alfred Caldwell, 1948
M.S., City Planning
Call No. TC 145, photocopy in collection 1991.015

Publications

Alfred Caldwell: The Life and Work of a Prairie School Landscape Architect, edited by Dennis Domer, 1997.
SB470.C33A78A781997

Processed Collections

1990.06 *35 mm slides used in Slide Show: "IIT – The Center for Leadership"*
See TAB 35 for the following: "Carousel B; includes: Andre Vacroux (B18); Alfred Caldwell (B33); Association of American Railroads; George Schipporeit (B51); Thomas Martin (B56). Carousel C; includes: Thomas Martin (C12 & C28); Alfred Caldwell (C32); Association of American Railroads; Myron Goldsmith (?) (C51)

1990.5.3 *Slide show on the history of IIT*
The list of images found with the slides is as follows (note that some slides were missing): Slide No. 34 Visiting Institute Professor of Architecture Alfred Caldwell

1991.15 *Mies van der Rohe Centennial Records*
See materials in:
Box 1A/Folder: Alfred Caldwell
Box 3A/Alfred Caldwell Thesis [a photocopy, original in IIT thesis collection.]
Tape 3/Joe Fujikawa (cont'd); Alfred Caldwell [a short impassioned defense of Mies' architectural genius]; Anthony Candido; Helmut Jahn

1998.10 *Gilbert Force Papers*
Includes a Dec. 6, 1947 memo re landscaping "around the new buildings" and mentions Caldwell's comments.

1998.33 *Biographical Files/Alfred Caldwell*

1998.199 *Unprocessed Photos Collection*
Photocopies in Caldwell's drop file for reference purposes.

1998.210 *Blueprint*
"Landscape Plan for Housing Area" by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Alfred Caldwell; 11/1/1954

1999.14 *Building and Grounds Records*
"File # 204" (probably refers to account number) being financial documents relating to landscaping of "A.P.D. Building" (Architecture, Planning and Design, i.e. Crown Hall). Bulk is with purchase requisitions and work orders. Also some bid and work correspondence, including memo signed by Alfred Caldwell.

2001.09 *Department of Architecture Records*
IIT Architecture Department semester grade reports, signed by the instructor. Includes names of students enrolled in class and grade assigned.
Restriction: Student records are covered by FERPA regulations; not open for research, but Archivist can be asked to search them for relevant information.

2002.58 *Oversize mounted posters used in connection with the campus redevelopment program in the 1990s.*
In "Landscaping" group: II.3 *Proposal for the field north of Crown Hall*; aerial view line drawing showing area including Crown Hall, Siegel Hall, Wishnick Hall, and Perlstein Hall; includes benches, fountains [later, Pritzker Galvin Grove], Alfred Caldwell Memorial, and tree plantings; July 15, 1999; 22x17"; b&w; Peter Lindsay Schaudt Landscape Architecture, Inc.

2003.05 *Deceased Donor Files/Box 10/Alfred Caldwell*

2003.10 Photographs (35 mm color slides) of university-related activities and events. Identification, per binder spine included in Box 3: "Generic Communicorp, 1989" which includes "Alfred Caldwell Design Class"

2004.41 *IIT in the Landscape: 1999 Illinois Institute of Technology West Campus Landscape Master Plan. After Mies and Caldwell: A Report to the Mies Campus Committee*.
Fifty-one page document with drawings, photos, text, and tables. Contents listed as: Introduction; Large-Scale Campus Landscape Issues; Strengths and Weaknesses of the Campus Landscape; The Mies and Caldwell Legacy; Recommendations; Project Priorities and Decision Pathways; Probably Construction Costs; Afterword.
[Second copy in the Lohan Master Plan Records/Oversize Box 1]

For more information, contact archives@itt.edu or visit UASC, Galvin Library, 35 W 33rd St, Chicago, IL, Monday- Friday, 1pm-5pm.

Edits October, 2015
Compiled November, 2005