A Guide to the Collections: Campus Landscaping

Overview

IIT’s campus landscaping was initially designed by Alfred Caldwell, a student and colleague of campus architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. Caldwell worked with Mies to plan the original plantings around the Mies-designed campus buildings, courtyards, and open areas in the 1940s. However, these plans were never fully implemented, and many were not maintained or forced to change as the campus developed over the following decades.

In 1996, Dirk Lohan, Trustee, recommended a major redesign of campus landscaping as a component of his master plan. The new landscaping was planned by Peter Lindsay Schaudt Landscape Architecture, Inc. of Chicago, and Michael van Valkenburgh Associates of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Their plan was adopted by IIT in 1998, and contracted to Peter Lindsay Schaudt. The first stage, completed in 2001, involved creating a new terraced field to the north of Crown Hall and a new streetscape/landscape along State St. and 33rd St. The plantings along State St. and 33rd St. parkways and medians were funded by the City of Chicago. The Schaudt Plan also included the Galvin Pritzker Grove and landscaping around State Street Village, both completed in 2003, as well as the yard in front and to the east of Main Building. The landscaping around the McCormick Tribune Campus Center was developed separately by that buildings architect, Rem Koolhaas in 2003-2005.

Materials in UASC

008.01.02  Institute of Design Records
Materials on the original Schaudt Plan and Mies Campus.

1998.10  Gilbert Force Papers
Memos regarding landscaping for the campus, ca. 1943 - 1947

024.04.01  Henry T. Heald President's Papers
In Box 64: Capital Gifts Campaign Committee. Foundations - Ryerson Landscape Planning Proposal. 1950

1998.062  Willard Hotchkiss Papers
Folder: WPA and Landscaping, ca. 1930s

1998.149  Press Releases
Jan. 27, 1948  IIT begins $20,000 landscaping program
May 27, 1953  Ivy planting ceremonies scheduled for May 28th (landscaping)
Sept. 23, 1998  IIT hires firm of Peter Lindsay Schaudt Landscape Architecture Inc.
Feb. 8, 1999  IIT presents “The IIT ‘Mies Campus’ landscape master plan of 1999”
1998.210  Alfred Caldwell Collection
Blueprint: “Landscape Plan for Housing Area” by Caldwell and Mies, 1954

1998.268  University History Collection
Glass slides (3x4”) apparently used in two early presentations about IIT (Chicago). Slides were found in a drawer with two original slide boxes labeled as follows (boxes were empty): 1) Complete set used for UET presentation; 2) Used 6-4-40 Alumni Banquet.

1999.014  Building and Grounds Collection
Financial documents relating to landscaping of “A.P.D. Building” (Architecture, Planning and Design, i.e. Crown Hall), ca. 1955

1999.026  Topical Files
Brochure: Renewing the Mies van der Rohe Campus, 1999

1999.052  Lohan Master Plan Records
Various files; see collection inventory.

2000.024  Peter Lindsay Schaudt Papers
50 drawings of Crown Hall Field, 1998 - 2000

2001.050  Chicago Architecture Foundation Collection
Tour training manual: Mies & Modernism: The IIT Campus Tour, 2001

2002.052  Lohan Master Plan Records
Various files; please request the collection inventory.

2002.006  W. Ronald Johnson Papers
30 images (35 mm color slides) of campus buildings, ca. 1950s.

2002.011  IIT Magazine

2002.058  Building and Grounds Collection
Oversize mounted posters documenting the campus redevelopment of the 1990s.

2002.067  Peter Lindsay Schaudt Papers
Book Schools For Cities: Urban Strategies with article “Education and the Urban Landscape: Illinois Institute of Technology” by Peter Lindsay Schaudt, 2002

2003.038  Peter Lindsay Schaudt Papers
Drawings for Federal Street Landscape Improvements and Galvin Pritzker Grove, 2000 – 2002
2003.049  Landscaping Collection
Six photographic reproductions of drawings or models of landscaping design for the field north of Crown Hall, 1999

2003.052  Communications and Marketing Records
Slide: Main Building with new landscaping, 2001

2004.005  Lohan Master Plan Records
Slides of design proposals, 1995

2004.006  Building and Grounds Collection
Poster of concept drawings for Lohan Master Plan with landscaping, 2002

2004.007  Peter Lindsay Schaudt Papers
Drawings for State Street Village and Alumni Pavers, 2003 - 2004

2004.041  Lohan Master Plan Collection

2006.010  David Baker Papers
Oversize mounted (on foam core) presentation boards with images (concept designs; architects’ drawings; blueprints) of various physical and architectural development projects on the campus of Illinois Institute of Technology (Chicago) (and surrounding Bronzeville area redevelopment) executed as part of the university’s long-range plans begun ca. 1998.

2007.52  Peter Lindsay Schaudt Landscape Architecture, Inc. Collection
Landscape drawings related to work done for two projects on the campus of Illinois Institute of Technology (Chicago) by Peter Lindsay Schaudt. Projects are: University Technology Park at IIT and IIT Research Institute [IITRI] Plaza. 9 pages; 30 x 42”; black lines on white paper.

2010.004  Mies van der Rohe Society Records/Lohan Master Plan Collection

2011.011  Robert Philip Gordon Papers
The Robert Philip Gordon papers consist of the output of the professional career of architect, urban planner, artist, and Illinois Institute of Technology (Chicago) graduate Robert Philip Gordon.

Drop Files
Landscaping, Campus Development, and Built Environment

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