Olof Dahlstrand Collection 2008-01

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Title: Olof Dahlstrand Collection

Identifier/Call Number: 2008-01

Physical Description: 16 Cubic Feet -4 boxes, 4 flat file drawers

Date (inclusive): 1938, 1947 – 2004

Abstract: Records in the Olof Dahlstrand Collection span the years 1947-1983. The collection is organized into three series: Personal Papers, Project Records, and Art and Artifacts. Personal Papers include local and regional newspaper articles and personal correspondence from the 1960s to the late 1990s. Project Records include preliminary sketches, working drawings, renderings, final plans, and blueprints. They also include some written records (correspondence, specifications, notes, and reports) and photographs. These files document the buildings and the creative and developmental process of the architect. The written records also indicate the extent of the participation of the client in the design process. The Art and Artifacts includes drawings and paintings completed throughout Dahlstrand’s career.

Access Statement
Collection is open for research. Many of the Environmental Design Archives collections are stored offsite and advance notice is required for use.

Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of Item], Olof Dahlstrand Collection, (2008-01), Environmental Design Archives, University of California, Berkeley.

Biographical Note
Olof Dahlstrand, born in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin in 1916, earning his degree in architecture from Cornell University in 1939. After receiving his degree, Dahlstrand worked briefly in Wisconsin, and then moved to the San Francisco Bay area in 1948. He worked as an associate for Fred and Lois Langhorst, both modernist architects gaining recognition in Northern California. While working for the Langhorsts, Dahlstrand worked on the Muscatine residence and a show at the San Francisco Museum of Art (later San Francisco Museum of Modern Art). The trio’s sketches, renderings, photographs, and drawings were a sensation.

When the Langhorsts moved to Europe in 1950, Olof became responsible for the practice. During this uncertain period, Olof and John Lautner discussed a partnership but nothing came of their discussions. Later, Olof worked in the San Francisco offices of Skidmore, Owens & Merrill, and produced renderings for a number of other architects including John Carl Warnock.

Inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright, Dahlstrand’s work exhibits elements and ideals emphasized by the strong horizontal and vertical elements of the Prairie style. His work also reflects Wright’s “organic architecture” and its ideas that: a building (and its appearance) should follow forms that are in harmony with its natural environment; that the materials used on the exterior should be sympathetic to the building’s locale, thereby relating the building to its setting; and that use should be made of low-pitched overhanging roofs to provide protection from the sun in the summer and to provide some weather protection in the winter. In addition, maximum use should be made of natural day lighting. During a nine-year period between 1950 and 1958, seven clients who wanted site-specific, custom-designed, homes came to Dahlstrand. These “Usonian” residences are built on sites that range from flat parcels, to steep hillsides, to cliff sides on the San Francisco Bay.

In the early 1960s, Dahlstrand relocated to Carmel in the Monterey Bay area. Here he established his own practice and continued to work on residences, commercial centers, and educational facilities located throughout Northern California. His significant projects included the 1966 Carmel Valley Shopping Center and the UC Santa Cruz Faculty Housing begun in 1974. Dahlstrand retired in 1984 and currently resides in Carmel where he has become active in city politics. He has continued to do renderings for other architects.

Sources:
Welty, William. Olof Dahlstrand: The Usonians, the Magnificent Seven of the East Bay. Brook House Press, 2007

System of Arrangement
The collection is organized into three series: Personal Papers, Project Records, and Art and Artifacts.
Scope and Contents
Records in the Olof Dahlstrand Collection span the years 1947-1983. The collection is organized into three series: Personal Papers, Project Records, and Art and Artifacts. The majority of the collection documents the design work of Olof Dahlstrand. A small quantity of Personal Papers include local and regional newspaper articles and the personal correspondence from the 1960s to the late 1990s. These clippings and letters cover topics such as local buildings Dahlstrand designed, as well as his role in the Carmel City Council and historical events that he felt were important or impacted his life in some way. Dahlstrand’s correspondence includes letters and invitations that indicate the professional relationships and friendships he maintained throughout his life. Project Records include preliminary sketches, working drawings, renderings, final plans, and blueprints. They also include some written records (correspondence, specifications, notes, and reports) and photographs. These files document the buildings and the creative and developmental process of the architect. The written records also indicate the extent of the participation of the client in the design process. The Art and Artifacts series contains drawings and paintings completed throughout Dahlstrand’s career.

Project Index
The following is a list of architectural projects from the Olof Dahlstrand Collection. For more complete information about collection contents for each project download the complete Project Index in an Excel spreadsheet format by going to Olof Dahlstrand i-Page. For instructions on interpreting the Project Index, see The Guide to the Project Index. The project list below, derived from the Project Index, is arranged alphabetically by Project/Client Name and contains information, where available, about the location, date, project type, collaborators, photographers, and formats for each project in the collection.

Project/Client Name (location, date, project type) Collaborator (role), Photographer [Format - Ms=Manuscripts, Dr=Drawings, Ph=Photographs]

• Aquajito Building (Monterey, CA; 1966-68; commercial) Collaborator: Loran A. List/Dale J. Fehr Consulting Engineers [Ms, Dr, Ph]
• Atlantic Richfield Co. Service Station (Carmel Valley, CA; 1968; commercial) [Dr]
• Bank of America: Hollister Branch (Hollister, CA; 1969; commercial) Collaborator: Howard G. Carter (Structural Engineer) [Dr, Ph]
• Bank of America: King City Branch (King City, CA; 1967-68; commercial) Collaborator: Charles Robert Hugh (Landscape Architect) [Dr, Ph]
• Butterfield (Carmel, CA; 1971-72; residential) [Dr]
• Caniglia, Anthony (Monterey, CA; 1965; residential) [Ms, Dr]
• Carmel Plaza - misc. (design studies, parking garage, "Le Duet" theatre, etc) (Carmel, CA; 1959-65; commercial) [Ms, Dr, Ph]
• Carmel Plaza - working drawing tracings (Carmel, CA; 1959-65; commercial) Collaborator: Alexander Boome (Consulting Engineer) [Dr]
• Carmel Valley/Mid-Valley Shopping Center (Carmel Valley, CA; 1966-81; commercial) [Dr, Ph]
• Central Coast Properties: Highlands Apartment Building for Fenton & Clark (Carmel Highlands, CA; 1961; residential-multi) [Dr]
• Convalescent Hospital, Forest Hill Manor (Pacific Grove, CA; 1967-68; medical) Collaborator: Stone, Marraccini, and Patterson Associated Architects [Dr]
• Crocker-Citizens National Bank: Carmel Office (Carmel, CA; 1965; commercial) Collaborator: Loran A. List/Dale J. Fehr Consulting Engineers [Dr, Ph]
• Dahlstrand, Olof Additions & Alterations (Orinda, CA; n.d.; residential) [Dr, Ph]
• Dahlstrand, Olof: Residence and Studio (Dousman, WI; 1946-48; residential) [Dr]
• Dansk Designs LTD. (Carmel, CA; 1973-74; residential) [Dr, Ph]
• Dental Office Building: T. W. Slaughter (Salinas, CA; 1968-70; medical) Collaborator: Howard G. Carter (Structural Engineer) [Dr]
• Dodds, Ruth (Carmel Valley, CA; 1960-61; residential) [Ms, Dr, Ph]
• Dunaway, Jane (Carmel Valley, CA; 1976; residential) [Dr]
• Emile Norman Building (Carmel, CA; 1976; commercial) Collaborator: Neill Engineering [Ms, Dr]
• Farrar, Philip (Otter Cove, CA; 1971; residential) [Dr]
• Feichtmeir, R.A. (Walnut Creek, CA; 1952; residential) [Dr, Ph]
• Garneau, Douglas (Lafayette, CA; 1956-62; residential) [Ms, Dr, Ph]
• Genoa Bay Farms (Genoa Bay, BC; 1970; commercial) [Dr]
• Greene, Margaret (Otter Cove, CA; 1976; residential) [Dr]
• Gurries Apartment Projects (Carmel Highlands, CA; 1963-65; residential-multi) [Dr]
• Hammond, Eugene R. (Carmel, CA; 1972; residential) Collaborator: Richard G. Lee (Mechanical Engineer) [Dr]
• Handley Office/Apt building (Carmel, CA; 1980-81; residential-multi) Collaborator: Neill Engineering [Dr]
• Hartwell, Thomas (Pebble Beach, CA; 1974-75; residential) [Dr]
• Hockett, Jane (Carmel, CA; 1962; residential) [Dr]
• Holiday Inn: Monterey preliminary study (Monterey, CA; 1963-65; commercial) [Dr]
• JCC - Progressive Architecture Competition (1946 competition) [Dr]
• Johnston, William R. (Carmel Valley, CA; 1973; residential) [Dr]
• Kay, Sidney A. (Carmel Meadows, CA; 1973-75; residential) [Ms, Dr]
• Knapton, James (Berkeley, CA; 1958; residential) [Dr]
• Knapton, James (Aloha, OR; 1968; residential) [Dr]
• Kutsky, Roman J. (Lafayette, CA; 1950-54; residential) [Ms, Dr]
• Langhorst, Fred Projects (Lafayette, CA; 1949-50; residential) [Dr]
• Leidig Building (Carmel, CA; 1978-80; commercial) Collaborator: Dale J. Fehr (consulting engineer) [Ms, Dr]
• Leppert, George (Carmel, CA; 1972-73; residential) [Dr]
• Little Brothers, Property Development (Carmel, CA; 1981-84; planning?) [Ms, Dr]
• Littlefield, Robert C. (Pebble Beach, CA; 1980-83; residential) [Ms, Dr]
• Los Gatos Town Center Competition (Los Gatos, CA; 1962; competition) [Dr]
• Lund, Todd (Milwaukee, WI; 1947; residential) [Dr]
• Muscatine, Charles S. (Berkeley, CA; 1955-67; residential) [Dr, Ph]
• Muscatine/Park Property (Angwin, CA; 1973-74; commercial) [Dr]
• Neill Building (Carmel, CA; 1980-81; commercial) Collaborator: J.D. Raggett & Assoc. (Structural Engineers) [Dr, Ph]
• Oliver, E. Jean: Design Studies (Pebble Beach, CA; 1962; residential) [Ms, Dr]
• Olivier, E. Jean: Design Studies (Pebble Beach, CA; 1973-74; residential) [Dr]
• Palm, Gunther (Monterey County, CA; 1967; residential) [Dr]
• Perspectives and studies: misc projects 1967-79 [Ms, Dr]
• Peterson, W.H. (Point Richmond, CA; 1953-54; residential) [Ms, Dr]
• Reid, John R. (Carmel, CA; 1971-72; residential) [Dr]
• Reid, John: study project (Carmel Valley, CA; 1969; residential) [Dr]
• Reimers Commercial Development: Working Drawings Tracings (Carmel, CA; 1976-77; commercial) Collaborator: Howard G. Carter (Structural Engineer) [Dr]
• Sachs, Maurice David (Carmel Highlands, CA; 1969-71; residential) [Ms, Dr]
• Schoenbrun (Carmel Meadows, CA; 1968-69; residential) Collaborator: Loran A. List, Jr. (Consulting Engineer); Charles Robert Haugh (Landscape Architect) [Ms, Dr]
• Sconberg, Bruce (Salinas Valley, CA; 1967-68; residential) [Dr]
• Simpson, A.W. III (Carmel, CA; 1972-73; residential) [Ms, Dr]
• Smith, George (Orinda, CA; 1956-57, 1961; residential) [Dr]
• Smith, W.A. (Carmel, CA; n.d.; residential) [Dr]
• Sollecito Hotel (Monterey, CA; 1962; commercial) [Dr]
• Standard Oil Service Station: David Ave/Hawthorne St (Monterey, CA; 1971; commercial) [Dr]
• Standard Oil Service Station: Golf Course Rd/Freeway Frontage Rd (Monterey, CA; 1968; commercial) [Dr, Ph]
• Stout Apartments (Santa Cruz, CA; 1971; residential-multi) Collaborator: Charles E Stout (Landscape Architect) [Dr]
• Stratton, Harry (Otter Cove, CA; 1974; residential) [Dr]
• Templeman, Ted (Otter Cove, CA; 1980; residential) [Dr]
• The York school: Faculty Apartments Addition (Monterey, CA; 1969; educational) Collaborator: Loran A. List, Jr. (Consulting Engineer) [Dr]
• The York school: Headmaster’s Residence (Monterey, CA; 1967-68; educational) [Dr]
• Thurston, W.H. (Orinda, CA; 1952-53; residential) [Ms, Dr]
• Twin Theaters: Toro Creek Estates (Toro Park, CA; 1971; commercial) [Dr]
• UC Santa Cruz: Misc. (Santa Cruz, CA; n.d.; educational) [Dr]
• UC Santa Cruz: Music Center (Santa Cruz, CA; n.d.; educational) [Dr]
• UC Santa Cruz: Porter College House; Provost Residence (Santa Cruz, CA; 1974-83; educational/residential) Collaborator: List Engineering Co. (Mechanical Engineer) [Dr, Ph]
• Valle-Riestra, J. Frank (Walnut Creek, CA; 1954-55; residential) [Dr, Ph]
• Valley Plaza: Post Office (Carmel Valley, CA; 1969; commercial) [Dr]
• Valley Plaza: shopping center (Carmel Valley, CA; 1986-71; commercial) [Dr]
• Valley Plaza: twin theater (Carmel Valley, CA; 1970-71; commercial) [Dr]
• Wells Fargo Bank: Carmel Office (Carmel, CA; 1965; commercial) Collaborator: Alexander Boome (Consulting Engineer) [Dr, Ph]
• Wells Fargo Bank: Carmel Office - Preliminary drawings, sketches (Carmel, CA; 1964; commercial) [Dr]
• Wells Fargo Bank: Carmel Office - working drawing tracings (Carmel, CA; 1964-65; commercial) [Dr]
• Whitaker, Francis: Forge Shop Building (Aspen, CO; 1963; commercial) [Dr]

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Architects -- California.
Architects -- California -- San Francisco Bay Area.
Architecture, Modern -- 20th century -- California -- San Francisco Bay Area.
Prairie School
Dahlstrand, Olof

SERIES I. PERSONAL PAPERS 1950s-2000s
Physical Description: 0.5 Cubic Feet -1 Box
Scope and Contents
Dahlstrand’s personal papers include scrapbooks and newspaper clippings that document thirty years (1950s-2000s) of Dahlstrand’s professional activities and personal friendships. This includes, personal correspondence, and newspaper articles that commemorate Dahlstrand’s work as an architect, painter, and his civic role in the Carmel city council. Photographs include portraits of and residences of Dahlstrand.

Box 3, Folder 1--4
A. Correspondence/Clippings and Miscellaneous 1950s-2000s

B. Photographs
Box 2, Folder 1
Portraits 1949-2007

Box 2, Folder 2
Office of Olof Dahlstrand, Architect (Carmel, CA) 1959

Box 2, Folder 3
Dahlstrand Residence (Carmel, CA) n.d.

Box 2, Folder 4
Vacation Cabin, Genoa Bay Farms (Duncan, B.C.) n.d.

SERIES II. PROJECT RECORDS 1947-1983
Physical Description: 13 Cubic Feet -2 Boxes, 4 Flat File Drawers
Scope and Contents
Primarily drawings for residential and commercial projects; also includes a small quantity of correspondence and photographs.
SERIES II. PROJECT RECORDS 1947-1983

A. Drawings
   See Also
   Project Index

B. Project Files
   See Also
   Project Index

C. Photographs
   See Also
   Project Index

SERIES III. ART AND ARTIFACTS 1938, 1962, 1984-2004

   Physical Description: 0.5 Cubic Feet - 1 Box, Framed
   Scope and Contents
   This series contains approximately 30 original works of art including drawings and paintings of landscapes and structures. Media includes watercolor, oils, charcoal, and pencil. This also contains photocopies of Dahlstrand’s paintings not in the EDA.

A. Pencil Drawings

   Box 3, Folder 1  20 pencil drawings
   Box 3, Folder 2  photographs of drawings and paintings
   Box Framed     6 watercolor paintings
   Box Framed     1 oil painting
   Box Framed     7 pencil drawings