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## Howard Moïse Collection, 1911-1964

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Environmental Design Archives

College of Environmental Design

230 Wurster Hall #1820

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, California, 94720-1820

Phone: (510) 642-5124

Fax: (510) 642-2824

Email: [archives@socrates.berkeley.edu](mailto:archives@socrates.berkeley.edu)

<http://www.ced.berkeley.edu/cedarchives/>

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### Note

Arts and Humanities--ArchitectureHistory--California History--Bay Area HistoryHistory--California HistoryGeographical (By Place)--CaliforniaGeographical (By Place)--California--Bay AreaHistory--University of California History--UC Berkeley History

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### Collection Number: 1965-1

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#### Contact Information:

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URL: <http://www.ced.berkeley.edu/cedarchives/>

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### Descriptive Summary

**Collection Title:** Howard Moïse Collection,

**Date (inclusive):** 1911-1964

**Collection Number:** 1965-1

**Creator:** Moïse, Howard, 1887-1965

**Extent:** 8 boxes, 1 flat file drawer

**Repository:** Environmental Design Archives.

University of California, Berkeley.

Berkeley, California.

**Abstract:** The collection spans the years 1911-1964 and documents Moïse's architectural and teaching careers and his personal travels. The records include correspondence, photographs, slides, news clippings, class notes, sketches, and architectural drawings.

**Language:** English.

#### Access

Collection is open for research.

#### Publication Rights

All requests for permission to publish, reproduce, or quote from materials in the collection should be discussed with the Curator.

#### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Howard Moïse Collection, (1965-1), Environmental Design Archives. University of California, Berkeley. Berkeley, California.

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**Acquisition Information**

The collection was donated in 1965.

**Access Points**

Architects--California.

Architecture--California.

Architects--Travel.

Architecture--Study and teaching--California--Berkeley.

University of California, Berkeley--School of Architecture.

**Biography**

Howard Moïse (1887-1965)

Howard Moïse was born in 1887 in New Mexico and lived in Denver and Los Angeles. He attended Harvard University, earning his bachelor's degree in 1915, and his master's of architecture in 1916. He formed a partnership with Maurice M. Osborn in Boston, which lasted until the summer of 1917 when both partners entered the Army during World War I.

His work during the Boston partnership included an addition to the Nantucket Cottage Hospital, and the Holbrook Cow Barn. Later he took a job in the New York office of James Gamble Rogers. Some of his projects there included the exterior design of the main group of buildings at the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center and the planning designs of that institution's Neurological Institute Building, Bard Hall, and Medical Student's Dormitory. He also was responsible for the design of additions to the Taft School at Watertown, New York, and a new campus at Rochester for the Colgate Rochester Divinity School.

During the 1930s, Moïse was considered one of America's most modern designers. In 1932 he was invited to become a professor at the School of Architecture at University of California, Berkeley. From 1946 he also practiced in Berkeley, where he did mostly residential work. During this period he was responsible for the addition and alterations to the Architecture Building (The Ark), in association with Ellsworth Johnson and Carlton Steiner.

After his retirement in 1955 Moïse was invited to teach courses at the Rhode Island School of Design in Providence. He died in California in 1965.

**Scope and Contents Note**

The Howard Moïse collection spans the years 1911-1964 and documents Moïse's architectural and teaching careers and his personal travels. The collection is organized in six series: Personal Papers, Professional Papers, Faculty Papers, Office Records, Project Records, and Art. The records include correspondence, photographs, slides, news clippings, class notes, sketches, and architectural drawings.

Personal papers relate to Moïse's education, Army career, and travels. Professional and faculty records contain reports, speeches, course materials, and reference files. Project records primarily document Moïse's work in the Bay Area, though some early East Coast projects are documented in photographs. Art collected by Moïse includes publications by Grabhorn Press.

**Title:** Howard Moïse Papers,

**Identifier/Call Number:** BANC MSS C-B 979

**Contributing Institution:** The Bancroft Library

UC Berkeley

Berkeley, CA

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Boxes 1-3, 8

**I. Personal Papers , 1911-1952****Scope and Content Note**

Documents Moïse's life, education, and travels. Includes a humorous biographical sketch, diary, portraits of Moïse, photographs of friends and family, as well as snapshots of Moïse's years in the Army. Student records consist of notes and sketches, rather than elaborate projects. Travel sketches, photographs, slides, and two volumes of purchased photographs pertain to trips to Mexico, Europe, the Middle East, and within the United States. Architectural images from these travels may have been used for teaching.

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**A. Biographical Information**

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**B. Photographs**

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**C. Student Work**

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**D. Travel**

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Box 4

**II. Professional Papers , n.d., 1915-1961**

**Scope and Content Note**

Contains notes and reports relating to early East Coast work as well as an outline for a 1961 speech, "Early Modern Architecture in California," given at Rhode Island School of Design. Also includes a cover for House Beautiful magazine, designed by Moïse.

Boxes 4-6, 8

**III. Faculty Papers , 1933-1955**

**Scope and Content Note**

Consist of photographs of students and student work, lecture notes, and exams. Reference files contain published reports and other printed matter, primarily relating to housing issues.

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**A. Photographs**

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**B. Course Materials**

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**C. Reference Files**

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Box 6

**IV. Office Records , 1927-1962**

**Scope and Content Note**

Correspondence, clippings, and a Moïse drawing of a residence by Ernest Coxhead.

Boxes 6-8, Flat  
Files

**V. Project Records , 1917-1964**

**Scope and Content Note**

**Arrangement**

Arranged alphabetically within subseries.

Files contain specifications for war housing projects, university dormitory housing, alterations and additions to the UC Berkeley Architecture Building, and photographs of Colgate University (Rochester). A few residential projects are also documented in the files. Drawings primarily relate to residential projects in the Bay Area, but also includes some early, unidentified sketches. A scrapbook and a few drawings of East Coast work are also included.

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**A. Files**

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**B. Photographs**

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**C. Drawings**

**VI. Art , n.d., 1920s**

**Scope and Content Note**

Consists of sketches, photographs of Durr Freedley prints, etchings, and books printed by Grabhorn Press.