

---

## **Guide to the Edward Huntsman-Trout Architectural Landscape Drawings**

Guide prepared by Kenneth W. Homsley for History Associates Incorporated

Ella Strong Denison Library

Libraries of The Claremont Colleges

Scripps College

1090 Columbia Avenue

Claremont, CA 91711

Phone: (909) 607-3941

Fax: (909) 607-1548

Email: [denison@libraries.claremont.edu](mailto:denison@libraries.claremont.edu)

URL: <http://libraries.claremont.edu/den/>

© 2005

Claremont University Consortium. All rights reserved.

---

## **Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Edward Huntsman-Trout Architectural Landscape Drawings Collection

**Creator:** Huntsman-Trout, Edward

**Dates:** 1927-1956

**Date (bulk):** (bulk 1929-1931)

**Quantity:** 3 cubic feet

**Repository:** Claremont Colleges. Library.

1090 Columbia Avenue

Claremont, California 91711

**Abstract:** This collection contains views, details, elevations, and drawings showing the planned arrangement of outside courts, inner courts, wall fountains, gate entrances, stone urns, and gardens throughout Scripps College. This collection also contains an aerial planting perspective of the college. The collection covers the years 1927 to 1956, with the bulk of the material ranging from 1929 to 1931.

**Physical Location:** Ella Strong Denison Library

**Collection Number:** D1987.1

**Language:** English

## **Administrative Information**

### **Restrictions on Access**

This collection is open for research with permission from Ella Strong Denison Library staff.

### **Publication Rights**

All requests for permission to publish must be submitted in writing to Denison Library.

### **Location of Originals**

Originals located at UCLA.

### **Preferred Citation**

Edward Huntsman-Trout Architectural Landscape Drawings Collection. Ella Strong Denison Library, Scripps College, Claremont, California.

### **Acquisition Information**

Gift of Marka Oliver Hibbs (Class of 1953) in 1987.

### **Processing Information**

Preliminary arrangement by library staff. Processed by History Associates Incorporated, 2005.

### **Accruals**

No addition to the collection is anticipated.

### **Biography of Edward Huntsman-Trout**

Edward Huntsman-Trout, landscape architect, was born on July 31, 1889 in Ontario, Canada. Shortly after his mother's death (1892), he moved to the home of his great-aunt and uncle (the Trout's) in Toronto. In 1908 the Trout's moved to Los Angeles, where Edward finished high school, and later graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in Botany in 1913. The following fall, he began his studies at Harvard's School of Landscape Architecture, graduating in 1916.

Huntsman-Trout was a well-known landscape architect in Southern California between 1920 and the early 1970's, and was a prominent designer of both residential estates and larger non-residential commissions. At Harvard, Huntsman-Trout studied a range of landscape traditions, including the principles of naturalistic English tradition to the more architectonic approach exemplified in Italian Renaissance and Baroque gardens as espoused by the Ecole des Beaux Arts. His early work was within the tradition of the great European estates that later gave way to an individual approach, which blended existing site conditions and the client's needs with his own preference for an uncontrived solution. Huntsman-Trout was a plantsman first, using plants to enhance rather than determine his designs. He adapted earlier traditions to inspire his development of a particular site.

Educated at Harvard, Huntsman-Trout was later trained at prestigious eastern firms. His first job was in the office of Fletcher Steele, a landscape architect in Boston. While at Fletcher Steele, he supervised the construction of an estate in northern Maine. This made him an ideal choice for his later collaborations with Gordon Kaufman, a leading architect during this period.

---

Huntsman-Trout served in WWI – posted in France. After the war Huntsman-Trout returned to the United States, working briefly as the head of the design department at A.D. Taylor in Cleveland, where he supervised crews on a variety of projects. After receiving news that his great-aunt was ill, Huntsman-Trout returned to Los Angeles. Not long after his arrival in Los Angeles Huntsman-Trout accepted a position with the landscape architecture department at Beverly Hills Nursery. One of the gardens Huntsman-Trout designed for Beverly Hills Nursery was for the home of Roy and Hazel Pinkham (1922). In the course of working on the Pinkham project, Huntsman-Trout met his wife, future clients, and several architects with whom he would later work – including Gordon Kaufman. His association with the Pinkhams enabled him to acquire his own clients, and eventually leave Beverly Hills nursery.

Huntsman-Trout joined a handful of independent landscape artists practicing in Southern California. He based his site plans on Italian Renaissance and Baroque models, diminishing the distinction between structures and surroundings and using plantings to clearly define spaces. During the 1920's Huntsman-Trout became interested in the romanticized Spanish Mission heritage that had transformed into a "California Style" landscape. These California Style projects include: Dios Dorados (1923), which he designed for movie director Thomas Ince; the Winnett Estate (1928-1929) overlooking Santa Monica Canyon; the Mudd Estate in Benedict Canyon; and the Jay Paley estate (1935), one of the last great estates.

During the 1920's, Huntsman-Trout was also involved in non-residential landscape design. The most representative examples of his non-residential projects are the La Quinta Hotel (1926-1929) near Indio, Scripps College (1927) in Claremont, and Bullock's Wilshire (1929). Scripps College, like the La Quinta Hotel, features one and two story Spanish Colonial Revival buildings placed on rectilinear, interlocking axes. The plan at Scripps was highly complex. The open spaces are enhanced by the addition of intimate courtyards and slight changes of level. Two major axes make up the scheme; the east-west axis of the auditorium; and the art building facing north toward the bowling green and Toll Hall. These axes together make the structural backbone of the plan. They give it strength and stability to contrast with the free form of trees and other plants. Garden grounds are frequent throughout. Shade trees are everywhere.

During World War II Huntsman-Trout's career was briefly placed on hold. Although he was too old to join the military (53), he supported the war effort by working for the Douglas Corporation as a camoufleur. After the war Huntsman-Trout returned to his office, but instead of working on large estates, he was involved in designing smaller gardens within the new subdivisions that were sprouting up throughout Southern California. By 1965, Huntsman-Trout worked exclusively on residential projects, completing thirty private gardens in his final seven years of practice.

1889	Born in Ontario, Canada on July 31, 1889.
1892	Mother dies
1908	Moved to Los Angeles, California.
1913	Graduated from UC Berkeley.
1916	Graduated from Harvard's School of Landscape Architecture.
1922	Designed garden for Beverly Hills Nursery for the home of Roy and Hazel Pinkham.
1923	Designed Dios Dorados for movie director Thomas Ince.
1926-1929	Designed La Quinta Hotel near Indio.
1927	Designed Scripps College in Claremont, California.
1928-1929	Designed Winnett Estate.
1929	Designed Bullock's Wilshire.
1935	Designed Jay Paley estate.

#### **Scope and Contents of the Collection**

This collection consists of one series - Architectural Landscape Drawings. The material in the collection includes views, details, elevations, and drawings showing the planned arrangement of inner courts, outside courts, wall fountains, gate entrances, stone urns, and gardens throughout Scripps College. This collection also contains an aerial planting perspective of the college. The collection covers the years 1927-1956 with the bulk of the material ranging from 1927 to 1931.

#### **Index Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

#### **Names:**

Huntsman-Trout, Edward, 1889-1974

#### **Subjects:**

Scripps College--History--Sources.

Landscape architecture - California

#### **Genres and Forms of Materials**

Architectural drawings

Series 1. **Architectural Landscape Drawings, 1927-1956**

**Physical Description:** 3 cubic feet

**Scope and Content Note**

This collection contains views, details, elevations, and drawings showing the planned arrangement of outside courts, inner courts, wall fountains, gate entrances, stone urns, and gardens throughout Scripps College. This collection also contains an aerial planting perspective of the college.

Box 1, Folder 1  
Box 1, Folder 2  
Box 1, Folder 3  
Box 1, Folder 4  
Box 1, Folder 5  
Box 1, Folder 6  
Box 1, Folder 7-8  
Box 1, Folder 7  
Box 1, Folder 8  
Box 1, Folder 9  
Box 1, Folder 10  
Box 1, 11  
Box 1, Folder 12  
Box 1, Folder 13  
Box 1, Folder 14  
Box 1, Folder 15  
Box 1, Folder 16  
Box 1, Folder 17  
Box 1, Folder 18  
Box 1, Folder 19  
Box 1, Folder 20  
Box 1, Folder 21  
Box 1, Folder 22  
Box 1, Folder 23  
Box 1, Folder 24  
Box 1, Folder 25  
Box 1, Folder 26

**Alumnae Park, 1930**

**Arrangement of Walks, 1931**

**Balch Hall and Campus Entrance, Arrangement of Grounds, 1929**

**Bowling Green Walls and Steps, 1928**

**Campus Light Posts, 1930**

**Campus Plans, 1927-1928**

**Clark Hall, 1928**

**Arrangement of Grounds, 1928**

**Fountain in Dining Court, 1928**

**Courtyard, undated**

**Denison Library, 1930-1931**

**Dorsey Hall, Planting Plan, 1930**

**Eleventh Street Entrance, 1936**

**F.S. Cast Stone Urns, 1936**

**Fine Arts Building, 1938-1939**

**General Plan, 1929**

**Lath House, 1936**

**Margaret Fowler Memorial Garden, 1932-1934**

**Music Buildings, Smith and Williams, Architects, 1956**

**Planting Perspective, undated**

**Park Strip at Foothill Boulevard, 1941**

**Preliminary Site Development Plan, Quinton Engineers Ltd., undated**

**Revised Study for Arrangement of Quadrangle, 1928**

**Rose Garden, 1929**

**Scripps Hall, Arrangement of Grounds, 1928-1929**

**Swimming Pool, 1929**

**Twelfth Street from Columbia T. Amherst Avenue, Proposed Improvement, 1930**