

Agnes Selkirk Clark Collection

COLLECTION, MS B91

DATE

1925 – 1976

CONTRIBUTOR

Fairfield Museum

ADMINISTRATIVE/BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY ELEMENT

Agnes Selkirk Clark was born in Janesville, Wisconsin in 1898. She attended the Lowthorpe School of Landscape Architecture, 1915-1918, then worked in the Des Moines office of Pearce & Robinson as a drafter and planting supervisor, 1918-1919. In 1920 she moved to New York and worked for well-known landscape architect and teacher, Ellen Biddle Shipman for two years. After marrying architect Cameron Clark, she opened her own office at 101 Park Avenue in New York and continued her practice there until moving to Fairfield, Connecticut. Agnes was elected a fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects in 1952. Her work primarily includes residential commissions at estates in Santa Barbara, Phoenix, New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. Of her documented commissions, 72% were executed in Fairfield or Greens Farms. In the 1960s, she and her husband retired and moved to the Caribbean and later, in 1969, to Guatemala, where she died in 1983.

SCOPE & CONTENT

The drawings (both blueline and original), photographs, specifications, notes and correspondence are arranged alphabetically by the last name of the property owner for whom she worked. Half of the collection (that was donated in 1997) has been scanned onto a CD-ROM that is available for research. Additional drawings and photographs are included in the Landscape Architecture Collection at the Fairfield Historical Society.

Collection Contents

Agnes Selkirk Clark Collection

Box 1

Folders 29-41: Studies and details

Folder 28: Wheeler, Halstead, Tokeneke Trail, Darien, Conn.

Entrance walk, 30 March 1965; drawn by ASC; with note from Agnes on verso; tissue, 8-1/2" x 11"
Notes, pencil on yellow lined paper, 8" x 12-1/2"

Folder 27: Watts, Samuel H., 55 St. John's Place, New Canaan, Conn.

Black and white photographs; detail of garden seat (copy)

Folder 26: Warner, Bradford, 1386 Hillside Road, Fairfield

Color photograph of house; photocopy of pool plan

Folder 25: Van Meter, Galen, 510 Sasco Hill, Southport, Conn.

Color photographs

Folder 24: Upson, Charles H., 358 Tranquility Road, Middlebury, Conn.

Black and white photographs

Folder 23: Stokes, S. Emlen, 631 Chester Avenue, Morristown, NJ

Black and white photographs

Folders 21-22: Stetson, Eugene, 26 Beachside Avenue, Greens Farms, Conn.

Folder 21. Agreement for pool installation, 1958; includes specifications, catalog

Folder 22. Black and white photographs, some by Samuel Gottscho

Folders 16-20: Schaff, Mr. and Mrs. Norman, 1610 Hillside Road, Fairfield



Requisitions and estimates, 1970-1971
Correspondence, 1969-1974
Bills, 1969-1970
Swimming pool, bills, correspondence and sketches
planting notes for Spring 1971 (bills & correspondence)

Folder 15: Rudkin, William, 152 Sturges Highway, Southport

Tulip orders, 1965, 1966

Folder 14: Rigg, Mrs. H. K., 360 Mine Hill Road, Fairfield

Contract and specifications, 1936

Folder 13: Richardson, H. Smith, 124 Beachside Ave., Greens Farms, Conn.

Color photographs of gardens

Folder 12: Perlis, Dr. Sanford J., 4 Fairview Drive, Westport

Plan of terrace, n.d.; pencil on yellow lined paper,
8-1/2" x 14"; sketch, 7-1/4" x 10-1/4"

Folder 11: Mylott, Mrs. Joseph, 115 River Rd., Southport

Folder 10: Harmon, Mrs. William E., 489 Sasco Hill Road, Fairfield

Black and white photographs by George Van Anda, NY

Folder 9: Hall, Mrs. Willis, 219 Chestnut Hill Road, Litchfield, Conn.

Black and white photographs

Folder 8: Fairman, Mr. & Mrs. Fred, 1681 Hillside Road, Fairfield

Folder 7a: DeWitt, John R., 1488 Brookside Drive, Fairfield (2 records)

Black and white photographs

Mrs. DeWitt's Garden Pool

Mrs. DeWitt's Sunken Garden

Folder 7: Dawson, Mr. & Mrs. Northrop, 1101 Pequot Avenue, Southport

Topographical map; blueline, 8" x 12-3/4" and photocopy

Folder 6: Davis, William Hammett, 130 East 74th St., New York, NY

Folder 5: Clark, Mr. & Mrs. George E., 15 Verna Hill Road, Fairfield

Bill from Holink Construction, 1961

Folder 4: Clark, Mr. & Mrs. Cameron, 533 Merwins Lane, Fairfield

black and white photographs

Folder 3: Carpenter, Mrs. Donald F.

[Plot plan], pencil on yellow lined paper, 8" x 11-7/8"

Oversize Folder 9

Oversize Folder 8

Oversize Folder 7

Oversize Folder 6

Oversize Folder 5

Oversize Folder 4

Oversize Folder 3

Oversize Folder 2

Clark, Mr. & Mrs. George E., 15 Verna Hill Road, Fairfield - Plot plan, drawing No. 1A, Revision 5 August 1961, John Breck, architect; scale 1/16"=1'0"; tissue, 21" x 33"; blueline, 21" x 33"

Colin, Mr. & Mrs. Justin, West Lane, Ridgefield, Conn.

Preliminary plan for driveway & service court, n.d.; scale 1"=20'0"; tissue, 18" x 22"; blueline, 18" x 22"

Rose garden, Spring 1975; scale 3/8"=1'0"; tissue, 16"x22"

Construction details for entrance walk, steps, wall & curb, 1975; various scales; original, 16" x 22" (2 copies)

Design plan for a rose garden, 1975; scale 1/4"=1'0"; original, 16" x 22"; blueline, 16-1/2" x 22"

Revision to flower gardens, n.d.; scale 1/4 scale; original, 22" x 32" (2 versions); blueline, 22" x 32" (2 copies)

Rose Garden planting plan, revised Nov. 1975; scale 3/8"=1'0"; blueline, 16" x 21-1/2"

General plan for driveway & service court, n.d.; blueline, 15-1/2" x 21"

Construction details, entrance walk, steps, wall & curb (2 versions), n.d.; scale 1/4"=1'0"; blueline, 16" x 22"

[Sketch study of flower garden], n.d.; scale 1/4"=1'0"; pencil on blueline paper, 24" x 36"

Oversize Folder 1

Albright, C. Monroe, 420 Greenfield Hill Road, Fairfield

Anderson, Mrs. Nils, 1100 Pequot Road, Southport

Baekland, Mrs. George, 2644 Bronson Road, Fairfield

Barnes, A. Victor, Canoe Hill, New Canaan, Conn.

Beirn, Mary Jane (Mrs. Kenneth), 137 Rose Hill Rd., Southport

Oversize Box 2

Scrapbook, photographs

Series 1: Biographical Information

Qualifications for fellowship, American Society of

Landscape Architects; membership directory, ASLA, 1979