

K Lenore K. Bradley (1935-1998) Papers, 1966-1982
0309 0.29 cubic feet

This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri-Research Center, Kansas City](http://www.shsmo.org). If you would like more information, please contact us at kansascity@shsmo.org.

INTRODUCTION

The papers of Lenore K. Bradley contain notes, drawings, pamphlets, maps, correspondence, newspaper clippings, and photographs collected by Bradley for use in writing a book on the life and work of Louis Curtiss, noted Kansas City architect.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Lenore K. Bradley on April 25, 1990 (Accession No. KA0571).

RESTRICTIONS

The Donor has given and assigned to the University of Missouri all rights of copyright which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Local author and historian, Lenore K. Bradley, earned her bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Her published works include numerous newspaper and magazine articles as well as two books – *Corinthian Hall: An American Palace in Gladstone*, published in 1981, and a biography, *Robert Alexander Long: A Lumberman of the Gilded Age*, published in 1989. Bradley served as a publicist for the Kansas City Museum and as arts administrator of the Civic Arts Council of Kansas City, Kansas. From 1983 to 1997, she edited the Harry S. Truman Library's journal, *Whistle Stop*, to which she contributed a number of articles. At the time of her death in 1998, she was working on a history of Longview Farm. She was a longtime resident of Fairway, Kansas.

Local architect, Louis Singleton Curtiss, was born in Belleville, Ontario, on July 1, 1865. The amount of education Curtiss received is not clear, although it is known that he was enrolled in the University of Toronto in the fall of 1884. Sometime later he went to Paris to study architecture at the Ecole des Beaux Arts, although there is no record of his attendance.

Curtiss moved to Kansas City around 1890, and, along with Frederick C. Gunn, designed the Missouri State Building, which won the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition competition in Chicago. Curtiss went on to design many other historic landmarks such as the Baltimore Hotel (1898), the Folly Theater (1900), and the Willis Wood Theater (1904). Curtiss is credited with designing the first metal and glass curtain-wall building for the Boley Clothing Company (1908). A large source of commissions for Curtiss was the railroad industry, for which he designed hotels and depots. Curtiss continued to be productive up until his death in his office on June 24, 1924.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers have been arranged by type of material, by topic, and then chronologically. The collection contains the research files compiled by Bradley in her efforts to write a book on architect, Louis Curtiss. These materials include photographs of a house designed by Curtiss with individuals included in the images, correspondence between Bradley and others regarding information on Curtiss, news clippings and other publications regarding buildings designed by Curtiss and other architectural topics, maps, and miscellaneous notes taken by Bradley, including bibliographies and timelines.

PREFERRED CITATION:

Specific item; box number; folder number; *Lenore K. Bradley (1935-1998) Papers, 1966-1982 (K0309)*; The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

FOLDER LIST

- f. 1 Photographs, Tromhauser residence, 1977, n.d.
- f. 2 Negatives & slides, Comee article, 1963 & Tromhauser residence, n.d.
- f. 3 Correspondence, 1974-1982
- f. 4 Articles & brochures, 1963-1976, n.d.
- f. 5 Note and sketch book, 1971, n.d.
- f. 6 Timelines, 1975, n.d.
- f. 7 Railroad hotels & depots, 1909-1975
- f. 8 Tromhauser residence (1913-1914), 3603 W. Roanoke Dr., c. 1970s
- f. 9 Roland C. Thomas vs. Louis Curtiss, 1917
- f. 10 Application for proposed historical district (#2 Janssen Place), 1975-1978
- f.11 Maps, Westheight, Kansas City, Kansas, n.d.

LOCATION NOTE: The collection is stored offsite and will need to be retrieved before viewing.

SUBJECT TERMS

Architect - Designed houses
Architects – Missouri – Kansas City
Architecture - Biography
Buildings – Missouri – Kansas City
Railroad stations
Railroads – Buildings and structures

Processed 7/2016