

PRELIMINARY INVENTORY
K0258 (KA0355)
EDMOND JACQUES ECKEL (1845-1934) PAPERS

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City. If you would like more information, please contact us at kansascity@shsmo.org.

Introduction

Approximately 18 folders with oversize drawings

The Edmond Jacques Eckel Papers contain materials related to Eckel's architectural training at the Ecole des Beaux Arts, a French school of architecture. These materials provide insight into his educational experience and include booklets describing courses of study and assignment sheets produced by the Ecole des Beaux Arts from 1865 to 1868, a book of manuscript notes taken by Eckel as a student, hand-drawn architectural sketches, and mounted photographs of architectural subjects. Additionally, the collection contains blueprints of Eckel's St. Joseph home, a small booklet advertising the services of other architects residing in St. Joseph in 1869, and a ledger of accounts for Eckel's ranch in Williford, Arkansas.

Many of the items are oversized. Photocopied reproductions of some of these materials are available for quick reference in the folders. Most of the collection is in French.

Biographical Note

Edmond Jacques Eckel was born in Strasbourg, France, on June 22, 1845. Receiving his early education in that city, at fourteen he became apprentice to a relative who was a prominent contractor and builder. He also studied architecture under the city architect of Strasbourg before attending the Atelier Paccard in Paris, France, in 1863. Subsequently, he attended the Atelier Vandoyer and entered the Ecole des Beaux Arts in 1864.

Eckel came to the United States in 1868, the year he graduated from the Ecole des Beaux Arts. After a short stay in New York City, he traveled to Cleveland, and then west, intending to settle in Kansas City. Eckel's journey was delayed several days in St. Joseph, Missouri. Exploring the town, he decided on July 3, 1869, to remain there and became a draftsman for a building firm with whom he later became a partner.

Eckel established his own company in 1880 and was soon joined by George R. Mann, to create the architectural firm of Eckel and Mann. This association, a very productive and important influence on the development and appearance of St. Joseph, continued until 1892. In 1910, Eckel, with his son, George R. Eckel, and William S. Aldrich, formed Eckel and Aldrich, Architects. The firm continues to operate today under the name Brunner and Brunner. The work of Eckel and his companies resulted in the designs of hundreds of buildings and residences in and around St. Joseph.

Eckel became a member of the Western Association of Architects in 1885, which combined with the American Institute of Architects in 1889. Eckel was also a fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 1889.

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Edmond J. Eckel died in St. Joseph, Missouri, on December 12, 1934.

Donor Information

The collection was donated by Ellen Lacey, representing the Eckel Estate, on March 14, 1986, as accession KA0355.

Copyright

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Location note:

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

Box List

Box 001

- f. 1 Biographical article, "Contemporary Architects and Their Works," in *The Western Architect*, September 1911
- f. 2 Assignments, Ecole des Beaux Arts, 1865-1868
- f. 3 Booklets, Ecole des Beaux Arts, *Programme des cours de perspective*, 1866, *Programme des cours Section D'Architecture*, 1867, and *Questionnaire des sciences pour l'admission en recorde classe*, 1865.
- f. 4 Booklets, Ecole des Beaux Arts, *Cours de Mathematiques*, 1867-1868 and a loose bound manuscript pertaining to mathematics, n.d.
- f. 5 Diagrams, Ecole des Beaux Arts, student handout lithographs relating to perspective, 1864-1866
- f. 6 Sketches from Ecole des Beaux Arts
- f. 7 Lithographs depicting various architectural plans and details for study
- f. 8 Illustrated German poem poster, Strasbourg, 1860
- f. 9 Photographs, Alpha Nu Pi Fraternity, 1899-1900
- f. 10 Photographic images of famous buildings
- f. 11 Booklet, W. Angelo Powell, architect, St. Joseph, Missouri, 1869
- f. 12 Advertisements
- f. 13 Architectural floor plans for the Edmond J. Eckel home at Westminster Place, St. Joseph, Missouri, 1912
- f. 14 Drawings, Eckel and Meier, C. D. Richards, Architects
- f. 15 Photographs
- f. 16 Ledger for Eckel Ranch, Williford, Arkansas, 1909-1912
- f. 17 Magazine articles, advertisements concerning agricultural equipment, 1873
- f. 18 Wallet, gold lettering "George R. Eckel, St. Joseph, MO."

Box 002x3

Architectural Drawings

- Roll 1 Residence for Mr. E. Jeckel, Eckel and Aldrich, Westminster Place, St. Joseph, Missouri, 1912

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Roll 2

Geo. R. Eckel residence, garage addition, Eckel and Aldrich, 1324 N. 25th
St., St. Joseph, Missouri, September 9, 1952