



# ArchivesSpace

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## Walter Curt Behrendt papers 8507461

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library
<b>Creator:</b>	Behrendt, Walter Curt, 1884-1945
<b>Title:</b>	Walter Curt Behrendt papers
<b>ID:</b>	8507461
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1910-1945
<b>Physical Description:</b>	3 manuscript boxes
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	Walter Curt Behrendt (1884-1945) was a German-American architect and an active advocate of German modernism. The collection is composed primarily of lectures and writings.

### Preferred Citation

Walter Curt Behrendt papers, 1910-1945. Department of Drawings & Archives, Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, Columbia University.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Walter Curt Behrendt was born December 16, 1884 in Metz, Alsace and died in April 26, 1945 in Norwich, Vermont. From 1912-1933, Behrendt worked in Civil Service in Germany shaping public housing policy, the principles of lay-out and development. Behrendt emigrated to the United States in 1934 and became a Visiting Lecturer in Housing and City Planning at Dartmouth College, 1934-1937. In 1937-1941, Behrendt was a Professor of City Planning and Housing at the University at Buffalo, SUNY and returned to Dartmouth in 1941.

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## Scope and Content

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The Walter Curt Behrendt papers are composed primarily of lectures and writings.

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## Scope and Content

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[Series I: Faculty Papers](#) contains papers related to Behrendt's career at Dartmouth College, including attendance cards, a grade book, examinations and a proposal for a class on building types from the Middle Ages to the present. The series also includes drafts of a letter explaining how Behrendt believes architects should be educated.

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## Scope and Content

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[Series II: Lectures](#) contains scripts, notes and slide lists of lectures Behrendt gave at Dartmouth College, Princeton University, Wheaton College and talks he gave in Germany. Most of the lectures are annotated. The majority of the lectures deal with the development of cities, city planning, regional planning, modern architecture, housing, transportation and zoning. The lectures cover the history of architecture from antiquity through the 1940s, including Greek, Rome, the Arts and Crafts Movement, the Art Nouveau Movement, and the International Style.

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## Scope and Content

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[Series III: Personal Papers](#) contains two letters from the contractor W.H. Trumbull regarding the construction of Behrendt's house. It also contains a letter from J. F. Schoellkopf, Jr. regarding the National Recreation Association. The series also contains biographical information, which lists Walter Curt Behrendt's education, civil service work in Prussia and Germany, and his career after he emigrated to the US in 1934.

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## Scope and Content

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[Series IV: Writings](#) contains annotated manuscripts by Behrendt covering city planning, modern architecture and housing. There are essays on organic forms, Frank Lloyd Wright, Japanese houses, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, the New Spirit of Building and the Origin of the Spirit of Modern Architecture. [Subseries 2: Articles](#) primarily contains articles on urban reconstruction and German architecture and architects such as, Alfred Messels, Hans Grisebach, and Hans Poelzig. [Subseries 3: Book Reviews](#) contains reviews written by Behrendt. Behrendt reviewed books by Lewis Mumford, Herman Kobbe and Henry-Russell Hitchcock.

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## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged in five series: Biographical Information, Faculty Papers, Lectures, Personal Papers, and Writings.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library

### Revision Description

File created. EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2011-03-02 2019-05-20

### Restrictions on Access

This collection is available for use by appointment in the Department of Drawings & Archives, Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, Columbia University. For further information, please email [avery-drawings@library.columbia.edu](mailto:avery-drawings@library.columbia.edu).

## Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Permission to publish must be obtained in writing from the Director, Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library, Columbia University, 1172 Amsterdam Ave., MC 0301, New York, NY 10027.

## Immediate Source of Acquisition

Accession number--1969.006.

## Processing Information

Processed; Kerri Pfister 2011.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Architecture -- England
- Architecture -- France
- Architecture -- United States
- Architecture -- Germany
- Housing -- United States
- Housing -- England
- Urban transportation
- Zoning
- Community development, Urban
- Suburbs
- Architecture, Modern
- International style (Architecture)
- Modern movement (Architecture)
- Arts and crafts movement
- City planning
- Behrendt, Walter Curt, 1884-1945
- Mumford, Lewis, 1895-1990
- Kobbe, Herman
- Hitchcock, Henry-Russell, 1903-1987
- Messel, Alfred, 1853-1909
- Grisebach, Hans, 1848-1904
- Poelzig, Hans, 1869-1936
- Mies van der Rohe, Ludwig, 1886-1969
- Wright, Frank Lloyd, 1867-1959
- Haussmann, Georges Eugène, baron, 1809-1891

- Wren, Christopher, Sir, 1632-1723

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## Publication Date

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1910-1945

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## Collection Inventory

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### Series I: Faculty Papers

#### Scope and Contents

contains papers related to Behrendt's career at Dartmouth College, including attendance cards, a grade book, examinations and a proposal for a class on building types from the Middle Ages to the present. The series also includes drafts of a letter explaining how Behrendt believes architects should be educated.

Title/Description	Instances	
Administrative, 1935-1944	box 01	folder 02

#### Scope and Contents

Includes attendance cards, grade book, examinations, and proposed courses

Correspondence, undated	box 01	folder 03
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### Series II: Lectures

#### Scope and Contents

contains scripts, notes and slide lists of lectures Behrendt gave at Dartmouth College, Princeton University, Wheaton College and talks he gave in Germany. Most of the lectures are annotated. The majority of the lectures deal with the development of cities, city planning, regional planning, modern architecture, housing, transportation and zoning. The lectures cover the history of architecture from

Title/Description	Instances	
Address on Regional Planning, Middle Atlantic States Art Conference, 1941	box 01	folder 04
City Planning, 1936-1937	box 01	folder 05
City Planning and Housing Volume 1, 1938	box 01	folder 06

City Planning , Historical Review, 1941-1942	box 01	folder 07
City Planning in a Democracy, Hanover Holiday, 1942	box 01	folder 08
City Planning Introduction, undated	box 01	folder 10
City Planning, Medieval Town, 1941	box 01	folder 09
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Includes a broadside for the Washington Square Neighbors Petition with an annotation		
City Planning, Seventeenth to Eighteenth Centuries, 1941	box 01	folder 11
Cities of the Future, undated	box 01	folder 12
Decentralization Former Town Extension System, 1936-1937	box 01	folder 13
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Includes newspaper clippings		
Development of City Planning on the Continent, 1942	box 01	folder 14
Form of the Future Cities, by Clarence S. Stein, 1945	box 01	folder 15
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Lecture given by Clarence S. Stein at the University of Miami, January 15, 1945		
History of the Development of City Types, undated	box 01	folder 16
Housing Lecture 1, Significance of Housing, undated	box 01	folder 17
Housing Lecture 2, Continental, 1943	box 01	folder 18
Problems in Housing, undated	box 01	folder 19
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Lecture is in German		
Problems in New Buildings, undated	box 01	folder 20
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Lecture is in German		
Princeton Lectures, Rehabilitation of Our Cities, Housing Problem, Regional Concept, undated	box 02	folder 01
Siedlungsfrage und Baukunst, 1923	box 02	folder 02



**Scope and Contents**

Includes copy of the Program Vereinigung für staatswissenschaftliche Fortbildung zu Berlin

Spirit of Modern Architecture I, Problem of Structure, 1934	box 02	folder 03
Spirit of Modern Architecture II, Arts and Crafts Movement, 1934	box 02	folder 04
Spirit of Modern Architecture III, Art Nouveau Movement, 1934	box 02	folder 05
Spirit of Modern Architecture IV, Role of America, 1934	box 02	folder 06
Spirit of Modern Architecture V, International Style, 1934	box 02	folder 07
Spirit of Modern Architecture VIII, Housing and Regional Planning, 1935	box 02	folder 08
Transportation Problems, 1936	box 02	folder 09
Wheaton College Lecture on Modern Architecture, 1937	box 02	folder 10
Zoning, 1936	box 02	folder 11

**Scope and Contents**

Includes clippings from newspapers

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**Series III: Personal Papers****Scope and Contents**

contains two letters from the contractor W.H. Trumbull regarding the construction of Behrendt's house. It also contains a letter from J. F. Schoellkopf, Jr. regarding the National Recreation Association. The series also contains biographical information, which lists Walter Curt Behrendt's education, civil service work in Prussia and Germany, and his career after he emigrated to the US in 1934.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Biographical Information, undated	box 01	folder 01
Correspondence, 1941-1942	box 02	folder 12
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Includes letters from a contractor regarding a house, a letter regarding the National Recreation Association and a letter containing a bibliography of books on the growth of Buffalo, NY		
Clippings, 1925-1944	box 02	folder 13

**Scope and Contents**

Contains two reports from the American Institute of Architects, one on the Committee on Economics of Site-Planning and Housing and one on the Committee on Community Planning; and a pamphlet "Between Ourselves" issued by the Publicity Department of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company

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**Series IV: Writings****Scope and Contents**

contains annotated manuscripts by Behrendt covering city planning, modern architecture and housing.

**Subseries 1: Other**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
<i>Bauten der Technik</i> , undated	box 02	folder 14
<i>City Planning</i> , undated	box 02	folder 15
<i>Concerning Organic Forms</i> , undated	box 02	folder 16
<i>Frank Lloyd Wright</i> , undated	box 02	folder 17
<i>French Architecture under Louis XIV</i> , undated	box 02	folder 18
<i>Gottfried Semper</i> , undated	box 02	folder 19
<i>Housing</i> , 1942	box 02	folder 20
<i>Japanese House</i> , undated	box 02	folder 21
<i>Der Kleinwohnungsbau in Deutschland Nach Dem Kriege</i> , undated	box 02	folder 22
<i>Die Letzten Wolkenkratzer</i> , undated	box 02	folder 23
<i>Ludwig Mies Van Der Rohe, Albright Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York</i> , undated	box 02	folder 24
<i>New Spirit of Building: an essay on the nature of form</i> , undated	box 02	folder 25 to 26
<i>New York, ein Stadtgesicht</i> , undated	box 03	folder 01
<i>Notes on City Planning</i> , 1944	box 03	folder 02
<i>Notes on Ancient and Medieval Cities</i> , undated	box 03	folder 03
<i>Origin of the Spirit of Modern Architecture</i> , undated	box 03	folder 04
<i>Reconstruction</i> , undated	box 03	folder 05

**Subseries 2: Articles**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
<i>Alfred Messels Museumpläne</i> , 1910	box 03	folder 06
<i>Alt-Gent</i> , undated	box 03	folder 07
<i>Der Aufbau Einer Kriegszerstörten Stadt in Ostpreussen</i> , undated	box 03	folder 08
<i>Die Architektur auf der Grassen Berliner Kunstaussstellung</i> , 1924	box 03	folder 09
<i>City Planner Looks at Buffalo</i> , 1937	box 03	folder 10
<i>Deutsche Gewerbeschau München</i> , 1922	box 03	folder 11
<i>Die Deutsche Werkbundaussstellung in Köln</i> , 1914	box 03	folder 12
<i>Die Form Unferer Zeit</i> , 1928	box 03	folder 13
<i>Hans Grisebach</i> , 1916	box 03	folder 14
<i>Hans Poelzig</i> , 1913	box 03	folder 15
<i>Hans Poelzig, Zum Sechzigsten Geburtstage</i> , undated	box 03	folder 16
<i>Messels Nachfolge</i> , 1912	box 03	folder 17
<i>Neue Bücher</i> , 1917	box 03	folder 18
<i>Schloss Rheinsberg</i> , 1913 (?)	box 03	folder 19
<i>Schloss Sanssouci</i> , undated	box 03	folder 20
<i>Das Stadtbauproblem</i> , undated	box 03	folder 21
<i>Über die Deutsche Baukunst der Gegenwart</i> , 1914	box 03	folder 22
<i>Vom Neuen Bauen</i> , 1928	box 03	folder 23
<i>What Retards Urban Reconstruction</i> , 1942	box 03	folder 24
<i>Zum Bauproblem der Zeit</i> , 1925	box 03	folder 25

**Subseries 3: Book Reviews**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
<i>Action for Cities, A Guide for Community Planning by Public Administration Services</i> , undated	box 03	folder 26
<i>The City in the Human Drama, The Culture of Cities</i> by Lewis Mumford, 1938	box 03	folder 27
<i>Housing and Regional Planning</i> by Herman Kobbe, 1941	box 03	folder 28
<i>The Record of Frank Lloyd Wright</i> by Henry-Russell Hitchcock, 1942	box 03	folder 29

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