



Ludwig Abt Collection (C4465)

Collection Number: C4465

Collection Title: Ludwig Abt Collection

Dates: 1905-1978

Creator: Abt, Ludwig, 1882-1967

Abstract: Architectural drawings, blue prints, sketches, project files, and related material of Moberly, Missouri, architect Ludwig Abt related firms Abt & Cleavinger and J. Kay Cleavinger & Associates. Includes plans for schools, post offices, and other public buildings, churches, businesses, and residences in mid-Missouri counties.

Collection Size: 37.0 cubic feet
(161 folders, 10 architectural boxes, 1 oversize folder)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia. If you would like more information, please contact us at columbia@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Processed by: Aleksandra Kinlen on April 6, 2022.

Historical Note:

Ludwig Abt (1882-1967) was born in Höchst (Frankfurt am Main), Germany, to Franz Abt (1855-1897) and Margaretha Rosalia Jost (1856-1937) and was the eldest of four children, including brother Franz and two sisters. Not much is known about his childhood and younger years except that he was educated at the Technicum Hildburghausen in the late 1890s before coming to the US in 1901 by ship, landing in Galveston, Texas. He was employed in architectural offices in Galveston and Dallas and across the eastern US as a craftsman, estimator, site superintendent, and engineer. Abt returned to Germany for architectural training after a few years, coming back to the US in 1909 and eventually settling in Kansas City where he met his future wife Jessie Armstrong (1885-1966; m. 1911). Together they moved to Moberly where he would carry out the rest of his career except for a brief stint in Arkansas as chief procurement engineer for the Pine Bluff Arsenal project (1941-1943). Abt was able to develop a large clientele throughout Missouri and elsewhere, with his buildings becoming important and recognizable elements in many towns across the state.

He and Jessie had two daughters, Rosa Lu (1923-2015) and Helen (1925-2015), who attended Washington University and Fontbonne College, respectively. Ludwig partnered with fellow Missouri architect Joseph Kay (JK) Cleavinger (1927-2012) in 1952 with whom he worked until the former's retirement in 1965. Abt died two years later.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following four series:

- Oversize architectural drawings
- Oversize architectural renderings
- Project files
- Personal papers

Scope and Content Note:**Oversize architectural drawings**

This series contains the original architectural drawings (floorplans, structural specifications, etc.) as well as some blueprint copies of many of the building projects included in the third series of this collection. They have been maintained in their original physical order loosely based on type of building (e.g., public buildings, residences, churches, businesses, hospitals, and schools). Within each box they are listed alphabetically by location and then project.

Note: an identifier (e.g., 02-001, 02-002, etc.) is provided alongside each structure name; when projects have more than one set of drawings, the identifiers are provided in a ranged format (e.g., 01-001 -- 01-015). These identifiers assist in locating the proper physical item and have been assigned by the processor.

Oversize architectural renderings

This series consists of original two-dimensional artworks of proposed architectural designs created in order to provide clients with the firm's vision for construction. Many showcase exterior details of the proposed structures as well as how they would look "in use" by their target

populations. The renderings would have been used for presentation, marketing, and design analysis purposes rather than as specifications for building contractors.

Project files

This series includes architectural specifications, correspondence, photographs, contracts and bids, and financial information surrounding projects from the firms of Ludwig Abt, Abt & Cleavinger, and J. Kay Cleavinger & Associates. Files are organized alphabetically by location and then by project.

Personal papers

This series contains a photograph of a bowling team including J. K. Cleavinger--Abt's business partner--from c. 1950s.

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Bucklin (Mo.)	13	4, 6, 9, 10		
Bucklin Methodist Church (Bucklin, Mo.)		10		
Business enterprises	3, 13, 80, 81, 86, 102, 103, 136, 145	5, 6	1	
Callaway County (Mo.)	37	2, 6		
Carroll County (Mo.)	14	4, 7		
Carrollton Elementary School (Carrollton, Mo.)	14	7		
Carrollton First Baptist Church (Carrollton, Mo.)		4		
Carter, Charles W., 1922-2012		3		
Center High School (Center, Mo.)		7		
Central Christian Church (Moberly, Mo.)	83-85			
Central Grade School (Moberly, Mo.)		10		
Central Motor Parts (Mexico, Mo.)	80, 81			
Centralia (Mo.)	15, 16	2, 4		
Centralia High School (Centralia, Mo.)	15			
Centralia High School (Centralia, Mo.)	15			Yes
Centralia United Methodist Church (Centralia, Mo.)	16	4		
Chamier, Richard J., 1910-1984		3		
Chamois Elementary School (Chamois, Mo.)	17-19	7		
Chariton County (Mo.)	9-12, 62-65, 79	3, 5-9	1	
Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation (Bucklin, Mo.)		6		
Chillicothe (Mo.)	20-22	7		
Chula (Mo.)		9		
Church buildings	2, 16, 83-85, 90-93, 116-118, 123-131, 135, 146	4, 5, 9, 10	1	

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Citizens Savings Association (Moberly, Mo.)	86	5	1	
City Bank and Trust (Moberly, Mo.)		5		
Clark County (Mo.)	61, 71-72	8, 9		
Clarksville (Mo.)	23-26	7		
Clarksville Middle School (Clarksville, Mo.)	23-25	7		
Clarksville Middle School (Clarksville, Mo.)	25			Yes
Clay County (Mo.)	31-33	8		
Cleavinger, Joseph K., 1927-2012	1-160	1-10	1	
Cleavinger, Joseph K., 1927-2012	161			Yes
Clifton Hill (Mo.)		4		
Clinton County (Mo.)	146	4, 5, 9		
Cole County (Mo.)	54	2, 5		
Columbia (Mo.)	28-30			
Conception College (Conception, Mo)		7		
Cooper County (Mo.)	2-3	3-5, 7, 9		
Daviess County (Mo.)	38-45	8	1	
Dickson, Kenneth H., 1916-1995		3, 6		
Downing (Mo.)		7		
East Park School (Moberly, Mo.)	88	10	1	
East Park School (Moberly, Mo.)	88			Yes
Edina (Mo.)		8		
Eisenstein, Leo, 1878-1945		3		
Elks (Fraternal Order). Lodge No. 999 (Macon, Mo.)		10		
Eminence (Mo.)		2		
Eolia (Mo.)		8	1	
Excelsior Springs (Mo.)	31-33	8		
Faessler, Christina K., 1856-1945		3		
Fatima High School (Westphalia, Mo.)	34-36, 160	10		
Fatima High School (Westphalia, Mo.)	160			Yes
Fayette (Mo.)		5, 8		
Fayette Christian Church (Fayette, Mo.)		5		
Fraternal Order of Eagles		5		
Fulton (Mo.)	37	6		
Gallatin Elementary School (Gallatin, Mo.)	38-41	8	1	
Gary, Theodore, 1856-1952		3		
Gasconade County (Mo.)		8		
Gentry County (Mo.)	1	2		

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Gilman City (Mo.)	42-45	8	1	
Glasgow (Mo.)		4, 6, 8		
Goodson, John V., 1884-1971		3		
Gorin Elementary School (Gorin, Mo.)		8		
Grand Theatre (Moberly, Mo.)		6		
Granger (Mo.)		8		
Greene County (Mo.)			1	
Grundy County (Mo.)	152-156	2, 6, 10	1	
Hannibal (Mo.)	46	2, 8		
Hardy, Wanda G., 1913-2001		3		
Hardy, William G., 1918-2000		3		
Harrisburg (Mo.)		8		
Harrison County (Mo.)		8		
Hawk Point (Mo.)		5		
Hayti (Mo.)		6		
Headbrink, Garrett H., 1867-1942		6		
Henry County (Mo.)	27	2		
Hermann (Mo.)		8		
Hermann Elementary School (Hermann, Mo.)		8		
Higbee Catholic Church (Higbee, Mo.)		5		
Higginsville High School (Higginsville, Mo.)		8		
Holden Elementary School (Holden, Mo.)	47	8	1	
Holden High School (Holden, Mo.)		8		
Holliday Christian Church (Holliday, Mo.)		5		
Hospital buildings--Design and construction	73, 74, 133, 134	6		
Howard County (Mo.)	137	4-6, 8, 9		
Humphreys (Mo.)		8		
Hunnewell Elementary School (Hunnewell, Mo.)	48			
Huntsville (Mo.)	49-52	2, 3, 6, 8	1	
Huntsville Elementary School (Huntsville, Mo.)	50, 51		1	
Huntsville Elementary School (Huntsville, Mo.)	50			Yes
Hurdland (Mo.)		8		
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church (Jefferson City, Mo.)		5		
Indian Creek (Mo.)		5, 8		
Indian Creek Catholic Church (Indian Creek, Mo.)		5		
Jackson County (Mo.)		5		
Jamestown (Mo.)	53	8	1	

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Jefferson City (Mo.)	54	2, 5		
Johnson County (Mo.)	47, 159	2, 8, 10	1	
Johnson, Lewis W., 1901-1974		3		
Jonesburg Elementary School (Jonesburg, Mo.)	55-60	8		
Kahoka (Mo.)	61	8		
Kansas City (Mo.)		5		
Kelly Hotel (Moberly, Mo.)		6		
Kemper Military School (Boonville, Mo.)		7		
Keytesville Junior Senior High School (Keytesville, Mo.)	62-65	8		
Keytesville Junior Senior High School (Keytesville, Mo.)	63			Yes
Kirksville (Mo.)		4, 6		
KNCM (Radio Station : Moberly, Mo.)		6		
Knox City (Mo.)		8		
Knox County (Mo.)		8		
La Belle (Mo.)		8		
La Plata (Mo.)	68	4-6, 9	1	
La Plata Community Presbyterian Church (La Plata, Mo.)		4		
La Plata Elementary School (La Plata, Mo.)	68	9	1	
La Plata Elementary School (La Plata, Mo.)	68			Yes
La Plata First Christian Church (La Plata, Mo.)		5		
Ladonia (Mo.)	66, 67	7, 8	1	
Ladonia Elementary School (Ladonia, Mo.)	66, 67	8	1	
Ladonia High School (Ladonia, Mo.)	149	7, 8		
Ladonia High School (Ladonia, Mo.)	149			Yes
Lafayette County (Mo.)	70	2, 3, 8		
Lakenan (Mo.)		5		
Lathrop Christian Church (Lathrop, Mo.)		5		
Lathrop Methodist Episcopal Church (Lathrop, Mo.)		4		
Lee, William O., 1918-1983		3		
Lewis County (Mo.)	69	2, 8	1	
Lewis County County Home (Lewistown, Mo.)		2		
Lewistown (Mo.)	69	8	1	
Lewistown (Mo.)	69			Yes
Lexington (Mo.)	70	2, 3		
Lincoln County (Mo.)		5, 10		

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Lincoln School (Moberly, Mo.)				
Linn County (Mo.)	6-8, 13, 75, 76	2, 4-7, 10	1	
Linn County Courthouse (Linneus, Mo.)		2		
Linn County Jail (Linneus, Mo.)		2		
Livingston County (Mo.)	20-22	2, 7, 9		
Luray Elementary School (Luray, Mo.)	71, 72	9		
Luray Elementary School (Luray, Mo.)	71			Yes
Macon (Mo.)	73, 74	2-4, 6, 10		
Macon Baptist Church (Macon, Mo.)		4		
Macon County (Mo.)	68, 73, 74	2-7, 9, 10	1	
Macon County Samaritan Hospital (Macon, Mo.)	73, 74	6		
Madison (Mo.)		9		
Marceline (Mo.)	75, 76			
Marceline Elementary School (Marceline, Mo.)	75, 76			
Marion County (Mo.)	46, 139, 140	2, 8, 9		
Marshall (Mo.)	77	2		
Maryville (Mo.)	78	2		
McHugh, John W., 1899-1967		4		
Mechanics Bank and Trust Company (Moberly, Mo.)	102	5	1	
Mechanics Bank and Trust Company (Moberly, Mo.)	102			Yes
Mendon High School (Mendon, Mo.)	79	9		
Merchants Hotel (Moberly, Mo.)		6		
Metropolitan Insurance Company (Moberly, Mo.)	103	5		
Mexico (Mo.)	80-82	2, 5, 6		
Mid-Missouri Savings and Loan (Boonville, Mo.)	3	5		
Moberly (Mo.)	83-88, 90-110, 113-119, 123-134	1-6, 9, 10	1	
Moberly Central Christian Church (Moberly, Mo.)	83-85	5		
Moberly Community Center (Moberly, Mo.)	87			
Moberly Country Club (Moberly, Mo.)		6		
Moberly First Baptist Church (Moberly, Mo.)	90, 91			
Moberly First Baptist Church (Moberly, Mo.)	90			Yes
Moberly First Christian Church (Moberly, Mo.)	92, 93	4, 5	1	
Moberly First Christian Church (Moberly, Mo.)	93			Yes
Moberly High School (Moberly, Mo.)	94-97	9	1	
Moberly Housing Authority (Moberly, Mo.)	98, 99	1	1	

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Moberly Housing Authority (Moberly, Mo.)	99			Yes
Moberly Junior College (Moberly, Mo.)	100	9	1	
Moberly Junior College (Moberly, Mo.)	100			Yes
Moberly Junior High School (Moberly, Mo.)	101	9		
Moberly Junior High School (Moberly, Mo.)	101			Yes
Moberly Police and Fire Station (Moberly, Mo.)	89	3		
Moberly Police and Fire Station (Moberly, Mo.)	89			Yes
Moberly Post Office (Moberly, Mo.)	113-115	3		
Moberly Post Office (Moberly, Mo.)	113			Yes
Moberly Presbyterian Church (Moberly, Mo.)	116-118	4	1	
Moniteau County (Mo.)	53	8	1	
Monroe City (Mo.)	136	6		
Monroe County (Mo.)	136, 141-144	4-6, 8, 9	1	
Monroe County Health Center (Paris, Mo.)		6		
Montgomery City (Mo.)	135	4, 6		
Montgomery City First Methodist Church (Montgomery City, Mo.)		4		
Montgomery City First United Methodist Church (Montgomery City, Mo.)	135	4		
Montgomery City Methodist Church (Montgomery City, Mo.)		4		
Montgomery City Sanatorium (Montgomery City, Mo.)		6		
Montgomery County (Mo.)	55-60, 135	4, 6, 8, 10		
Morgan County (Mo.)		6		
Municipal Auditorium (Moberly, Mo.)	104-106	2		
National Guard Armory (Albany, Mo.)	1	2		
National Guard Armory (Chillicothe, Mo.)	20	2		
National Guard Armory (Clinton, Mo.)	27	2		
National Guard Armory (Fulton, Mo.)	37	2		
National Guard Armory (Hannibal, Mo.)	46	2		
National Guard Armory (Jefferson City, Mo.)	54	2		
National Guard Armory (Lexington, Mo.)	70	2		
National Guard Armory (Marshall, Mo.)	77	2		
National Guard Armory (Maryville, Mo.)	78	2		
National Guard Armory (Mexico, Mo.)	82	2		
National Guard Armory (Moberly, Mo.)	107-110	2		
National Guard Armory (Richmond, Mo.)	148	2		

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National Guard Armory (Sedalia, Mo.)	150	2		
National Guard Armory (St. Joseph, Mo.)	151	2		
National Guard Armory (Warrensburg, Mo.)	159	2		
Nevada Presbyterian Church (Nevada, Iowa)		4		
New Franklin (Mo.)	137	5, 9		
New Franklin (Mo.)	137			Yes
Newtown-Harris Elementary School (Newtown, Mo.)	138	9		
Nivert, William B., 1886-1966		6		
Nivert, William J., 1859-1927		6		
Nodaway County (Mo.)	78	2, 7		
Nolen, William M., 1900-1954		6		
Noll Hotel (Moberly, Mo.)		6		
North Park School (Moberly, Mo.)		10		
O'Keefe, John C., 1859-1940		4, 5		
Oakwood Cemetery (Macon, Mo.)		10		
Olivet Southern Baptist Church (Wichita, Kan.)		4		
Omar Bradley Municipal Airport (Moberly, Mo.)		2		
Orscheln, Gerald A., 1926-2003		4, 5		
Osage County (Mo.)	17-19, 34-36, 160	7, 10		
Palmyra High School (Palmyra, Mo.)	139, 140	9		
Paris (Mo.)	141-144	4, 6, 9	1	
Paris Baptist Church (Paris, Mo.)		4		
Paris Elementary School (Paris, Mo.)		9	1	
Paris High School (Paris, Mo.)	141-144	9	1	
Park Baptist Church (Brookfield, Mo.)		4		
Pemiscot County (Mo.)		6		
Pemiscot Memorial Hospital (Hayti, Mo.)		6		
Perry (Mo.)	145	4, 6		
Perry Presbyterian Church (Perry, Mo.)		4		
Pettis County (Mo.)	150	2		
Pike County (Mo.)	4-5, 23-26	5, 7, 8	1	
Pilot Grove (Mo.)		9		
Plattsburg High School (Plattsburg, Mo.)		9		
Plattsburg Methodist Church (Plattsburg, Mo.)	146			
Price, Roy S., 1887-1971		4		
Putnam County (Mo.)		2, 10		
Ralls County (Mo.)	145	4, 6, 7		

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Randolph County (Mo.)	49-52, 83-134, 147	1-6, 8-10	1	
Randolph County Courthouse (Huntsville, Mo.)		2		
Randolph County Courthouse (Moberly, Mo.)	119			
Randolph County Historical Society (Moberly, Mo.)		2		
Randolph County Jail (Huntsville, Mo.)	52		1	
Randolph County Sanatorium (Huntsville, Mo.)		6		
Randolph County Welfare Office (Moberly, Mo.)		2		
Ray County (Mo.)	148	2		
Renick (Mo.)	147			Yes
Richmond (Mo.)	148	2		
Riffel, William J., 1932-2022		4		
Rothwell Park (Moberly, Mo.)	111, 112	2		
Saline County (Mo.)	77	2, 4, 10		
Sandford, William A., 1908-1980		6		
School buildings	4-12, 14, 15, 17-19, 21-26, 31-36, 38-45, 47, 48, 50, 51, 53, 55-69, 71, 72, 75, 79, 88, 94-97, 100, 101, 121, 123-129, 132, 137-144, 147, 149, 153-158, 160	7-10	1	
Schuyler County (Mo.)		7		
Scotland County (Mo.)		8		
Sedalia (Mo.)	150	2		
Shannon County (Mo.)		2		
Shelby County (Mo.)	48	5		
Skinner, Albert, 1877-1954		6		
Slater Baptist Church (Slater, Mo.)		4		
Slater Grade School (Slater, Mo.)		10		
Smith, Robert W., 1918-1998		4		
Southeast Park Grade School (Moberly, Mo.)		10		
St. Barnabas Episcopal Church (Moberly, Mo.)		5		
St. Columban Catholic Church (Chillicothe, Mo.)		7		
St. James Catholic Church (Kansas City, Mo.)		5		
St. Joseph (Mo.)	151	2		
St. Joseph Catholic Church (Pilot Grove, Mo.)		9		

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St. Mary Catholic Church (Glasgow, Mo.)		8		
St. Pius X Catholic Church (Moberly, Mo.)	123-129	9		
Stamper, Howard H., 1889-1959		4		
State Training School for Girls (Chillicothe, Mo.)	21, 22	7		
Stephens, Temple J., Jr., 1924-2002		4, 6		
Still-Hildreth Sanatorium (Macon, Mo.)		6		
Sullivan County (Mo.)	138	8, 9		
Tallen, William J., 1886-1973		6		
Tomlinson, Greenville L., 1882-1949		5		
Trenton (Mo.)	153-156	2, 6, 10	1	
Trenton Country Club (Trenton, Mo.)	152	6		
Trenton Country Club (Trenton, Mo.)	152			Yes
Trenton Elementary School (Trenton, Mo.)	153	10	1	
Trenton High School (Trenton, Mo.)	154-156	10	1	
Trinity Methodist Church (Moberly, Mo.)	130, 131	4		
Unionville (Mo.)		2, 10		
Vandalia Elementary School (Vandalia, Mo.)		10		
Vandalia Junior Senior High School (Vandalia, Mo.)	157, 158	10	1	
Vandalia Junior Senior High School (Vandalia, Mo.)	157			Yes
Versailles (Mo.)		6		
Warrensburg (Mo.)	159	2, 10		
Warrensburg Elementary School (Warrensburg, Mo.)		10		
Weis, Phares K., Jr., 1918-2003		5		
Wellsville High School (Wellsville, Mo.)		10		
West Park School (Moberly, Mo.)	88	10	1	
West Park School (Moberly, Mo.)	88			Yes
Westlake, Francis K., 1915-1992		4, 6		
Westphalia (Mo.)	34-36, 160	10		
Wichita (Kan.)		4		
Willard (Mo.)			1	
Winfield (Mo.)		10		
Woodland Hospital (Moberly, Mo.)	133, 134	6		
Wright Memorial Hospital (Trenton, Mo.)		6		
Zion Lutheran Church (Moberly, Mo.)		5		