



ARIZONA
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

TITLE: Ernest L. Nickels Collection

DATE RANGE: 1963-2013

CALL NUMBER: PP-MS 275

LOCATION: Arizona Historical Society at Papago Park, 1300 N. College Avenue, Tempe, AZ 85281

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 14 linear ft (445 architectural drawings and 16 poster boards)

PROVENANCE: Donated by Ernest Nickels in August 2022

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RESTRICTIONS ON USE: This collection is unrestricted.

PREFERRED CITATION: Ernest L. Nickels Collection, PP-MS 275, Arizona Historical Society–Papago Park

PROCESSED BY: Lyndsay Hertzig 2022

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: Ernest L. Nickels earned his Bachelor of Architecture from Arizona State University in 1964. Along his academic journey, he married Jeanette Yvonne Schneider. Nickels later served on the Downtown Redevelopment Sounding Board where he advocated for preserving Tempe’s identity. In 1970, he became a member of the American Institute of Architects. Following his association with George Schoneberger Associates, he established the E. L. Nickels Design Studio in Tempe, Arizona, starting a career in architecture and landscape architecture spanning over three decades. Today, Nickels has transitioned his focus to art, curating a diverse portfolio that includes sculptural commissions ranging from church memorials to residential gardens and corporate installations.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: This collection houses architectural records associated with Ernest L. Nickels. It consists of architectural drawings and presentation boards showcasing his work on various projects, including those pertaining to churches, residences, competitions and academic work.

SUBJECT TERMS: Nickels, Ernest L.; E. L. Nickels Design Studio; Architects—Arizona; Architectural drawings; Churches; Residential architecture; Design competitions

RELATED MATERIALS: UNP 2017.7.8 Robert Hershberger Collection; Julian Clark Collection

Series I: Architectural Drawings

Series II: Presentation Boards

CONTAINER LIST:**Series I: Architectural Drawings**

Case	Folder	Project Name	Job No.	Address	Location	Dates	Drawings
33A	1	Landscape Project for Sunset Magazine 1970 Garden Contest		322 East Broadway Lane	Tempe, AZ	1970	2
33A	2	United Presbyterian Church			Sun City, AZ	1971	4
33A	2	DeCato Residence		SE Corner 32nd Street and San Miguel Place	Paradise Valley, AZ	1972	51
33A	2	Shaw Residence		1917 East Diamond	Mesa, AZ	1972-1973	13
33A	3	Church of the Palms, Landscape for the	71.6	14808 Boswell Boulevard	Sun City, AZ	1973	3
33A	1	Vanbuskirk Residence			Mesa, AZ	1973	4
	Oversize	Little Adobe House/Tolone Adobe House		5601 Palo Cristi Road	Paradise Valley, AZ	1976	5
33A	3	Small Residential Lot for USA Landscape Design Awards				1980	1
33A	3	Nickels Villa	81.1	Lot 271 Yavapai Hills	Prescott, AZ	1981	8

33A	3	Woodford Residence		1623 West Kiowa Avenue	Mesa, AZ	1984	3
33A	3	Daley Park Neighborhood			Tempe, AZ	1988	5
33A	4	Evanston Public Library Design Competition				1992	27
33A	5	St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Expansion Program for	2001	1431 West Magee Road	Tucson, AZ	2000-2001	31
33A	6	St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Expansion Program for	2001	1431 West Magee Road	Tucson, AZ	2001	54
33B	7	Church of the Palms, Maintenance Program for the	2002	14808 Boswell Boulevard	Sun City, AZ	2000	19
33B	7	Church of the Palms, Mechanical Equipment Maintenance for the	2102	14808 Boswell Boulevard	Sun City, AZ	2001	12
33B	7	Schnuelle and Grefe Residence, Additions and Alterations for	9907	828 Nevada Avenue	San Jose, CA	2001	19
33B	8	Aiken Residence, Additions and Alterations for	2008	1012 East El Freda Road	Tempe, AZ	2001	7

33B	8	Grace United Methodist Church, Modifications for	2201	2024 East University Drive	Mesa, AZ	2003	45
33B	9	Franks/Jacobson Residence, Additions and Alterations for	2301	2206 North 11th Avenue	Phoenix, AZ	2003	4
33B	9	Stone Residence, Additions and Alterations for	2304	1722 Parkside Drive	Tempe, AZ	2004	5
33B	10	Chalice Christian Church	2565	15303 South Gilbert Road	Gilbert, AZ	2005-2007	57
33B	11	Crane Residence, Additions and Alterations for	2506	153 West Myrna Lane	Tempe, AZ	2005	12
33B	11	Grace United Methodist Church, Parking Modifications for	2670	2024 East University Drive	Mesa, AZ	2007-2008	25
33B	11	Caster Residence, Additions and Alterations for	2671	7601 North Central Avenue Unit #6	Phoenix, AZ	2008	12
33B	12	Schnuelle and Grefe Residence, Backyard Development for	1.2013	828 Nevada Avenue	San Jose, CA	2013	2
33B	12	Nickels Residence		322 East Broadway Lane	Tempe, AZ	n.d.	17

33B	12	Coolwater Church, Julian Clark sketch		28181 North 56th Street	Scottsdale, AZ	n.d.	1
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Series II: Presentation Boards

Case	Folder	Project Name	Address	Location	Dates	Boards
33C	1	Office Complex Fifth Year Project			1963-1964	3
33C	1	Phoenix College Library Terminal Project		Phoenix, AZ	1964	3, 12 photostat copies
33C	2	Little Adobe House/Tolone Adobe House	5601 Palo Cristi Road	Paradise Valley, AZ	1976	2
33C	2	Small Residential Lot for USA Landscape Design Awards			1980	1
33D	1	University of California Art Museum Design Competition		Santa Barbara, CA	1983	3
33D	1	Abromovitz Medical Building		Phoenix, AZ	1984	1
33D	2	Evanston Public Library Design Competition			1992	3