



WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY ART COLLECTION

THE STORY OF DETROIT'S HISTORY TOLD THROUGH ARCHITECTURE AT WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

It is no surprise that Detroit's cultural history and Wayne State University's are deeply intertwined. It's programs and students have made a profound and lasting impact on the city and metropolitan area. However, one of the university's most notable historical and cultural contributions has been through the preservation efforts of notable historic buildings on and around campus. Many of these buildings are celebrated landmarks and trace the history of Detroit's important leaders, who built these homes. They include the houses of Charles Lang Freer, Colonel Frank J. Hecker, Frank Blackman Mackenzie, Max Jacob, George L. Beecher and David Mackenzie.

Art Activity Coloring Pages

Note: make two sided copies so corresponding explanation will be on back side of coloring page.

These coloring pages are created from work of art in the

Wayne State University Art Collection

A collection that is used to educate, inspire, foster creative thinking and promote the advancement of social & cultural leadership.

Founded in 1968, the collection has grown to over 6500 works of art that celebrate Detroit artists, and features the most comprehensive collection of Detroit's famed "Cass Corridor", a counter cultural art movement that flourished at and around the university during the mid 1960's to late 1970's.

Explore more of our art collection and find more activities:

artmuseum.wayne.edu/collections



Frank J. Hecker House, 1974-75

Artist: William A. Bostick

Hand-colored lithograph, 10 x 14 inches (plate)

Gift of the artist

Object Number: UAC285

Colonel Frank J. Hecker made his fortune, with his business partner and friend Charles Lang Freer, from the Peninsular Car Company making railroad supplies. Freer built his home next to the Hecker House on Ferry Street.

In 1888, the Hecker House was designed by Scott, Kamper & Scott. The 21,000 square foot home was inspired by French Chateau architecture, with turrets on each corner and a steep pitch roof.

The House is one of the few remaining grand mansions that once lined Woodward Avenue at the turn of the 19th century. It has 49 rooms and more than 12 fireplaces made from precious stones, with ornate carvings. The fine woodworking in the large oak-paneled hall, mahogany oval dining room and English oak lobby was created by the William Wright & Company of Detroit. Decorative motifs are found in each room carved in the plaster ceilings reflecting the room's theme. Carvings of food can be found in the dining room and musical instruments in the music room. The dining room is adorned with an ornate chandelier and a beautiful stained glass window is at the top of the stairs on the first floor.

In 1947, the mansion was sold to the Smiley Brothers Music Company and was used for sales and practice of musical instruments. In 1990, the building was sold to Charfoos & Christensen, P.C., who rehabilitated the mansion for use as a law offices until 2014. In September 2014, Wayne State University purchased the house to use as it's Alumni House.



Col. Frank J. Hecker House, 1888
Architect: Louis Kamper

5510 Woodward Avenue
Architectural Style: Chateausque

William Bostick (1913-2007) was a talented administrator (Detroit Institute of Arts), artist, calligrapher, ceramist, graphic designer and printmaker who exhibited his work extensively throughout his life and received numerous honors and awards. His paintings are in many public collections including the Detroit Institute of Arts.



Charles M. Freer House, 1974-75

William A. Bostick

Hand-colored lithograph, 10 x 14 inches (plate)

Gift of the artist

Object Number: UAC278

The home of the wealthy Industrialist, Charles Lange Freer, is located in the Ferry Street historical district. Freer was a self trained art connoisseur and amassed a collection of works purchased on his travel to Asia and Europe; and built the largest collection of works by famous American artist James McNeill Whistler, including the famous Peacock room.

This collection became the America's first museum dedicated to fine art, when the Freer Gallery of Art began the Smithsonian Museums in Washington, D.C. in 1923.

Freer's home was designed with the art collection in mind. It included exhibition spaces and a room in the carriage house to accommodate Whistler's famous Peacock room. Freer hired artists, to create paintings for the house and to advise him on wall surfaces that would complement the paintings. This beautiful and remarkable house remains a testament to Freer's genius, and is ranked as one of the most important historic buildings in the State of Michigan and is listed on the National, State and Local registers of historic places.

When Freer died in 1919, the estate of Lizzy Merrill-Palmer purchased the property. It was then used as a school for child and family development, the first such school in the United States. In 1981, the Merrill-Palmer institute became part of Wayne State University.



Charles Lange Freer House, 1892
Architect: Wilson Eyre

71 E. Ferry
Architectural Style: Shingle Style

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Central High School

(Commission -- Detroit Board of Education, circa 1890)

Artist: Emil Lorch

Watercolor, 51 x 71 inches

Object Number: UAC1535

Old Main was originally the home of Detroit's Central High School, until it became overcrowded and moved to new location. The building cost \$573,345.13, most of which was paid for by State of Michigan. There are over 103 classrooms, laboratories, offices and space for over 2,000 students.

In 1933, the Board of Education combined its six individual colleges — liberal arts, education, pharmacy, engineering, medicine and a graduate school — into one university. The name Wayne University was officially adopted in 1934. That name is still chiseled over the building's arched doorways.

In 1973, the university made plans to demolish the old building and replace it with newer facilities. However, a student group called Preservation Wayne organized in 1975 successfully stopped the demolition of Old Main and other historic buildings on campus.

The building currently houses the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts departments of music, communication, the Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance and the James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History, the Elaine L. Jacob Gallery and Schaver Music Recital Hall. It is also the location of the dean's office of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Department of Geology, the Museum of Anthropology, the university's planetarium and general classrooms.



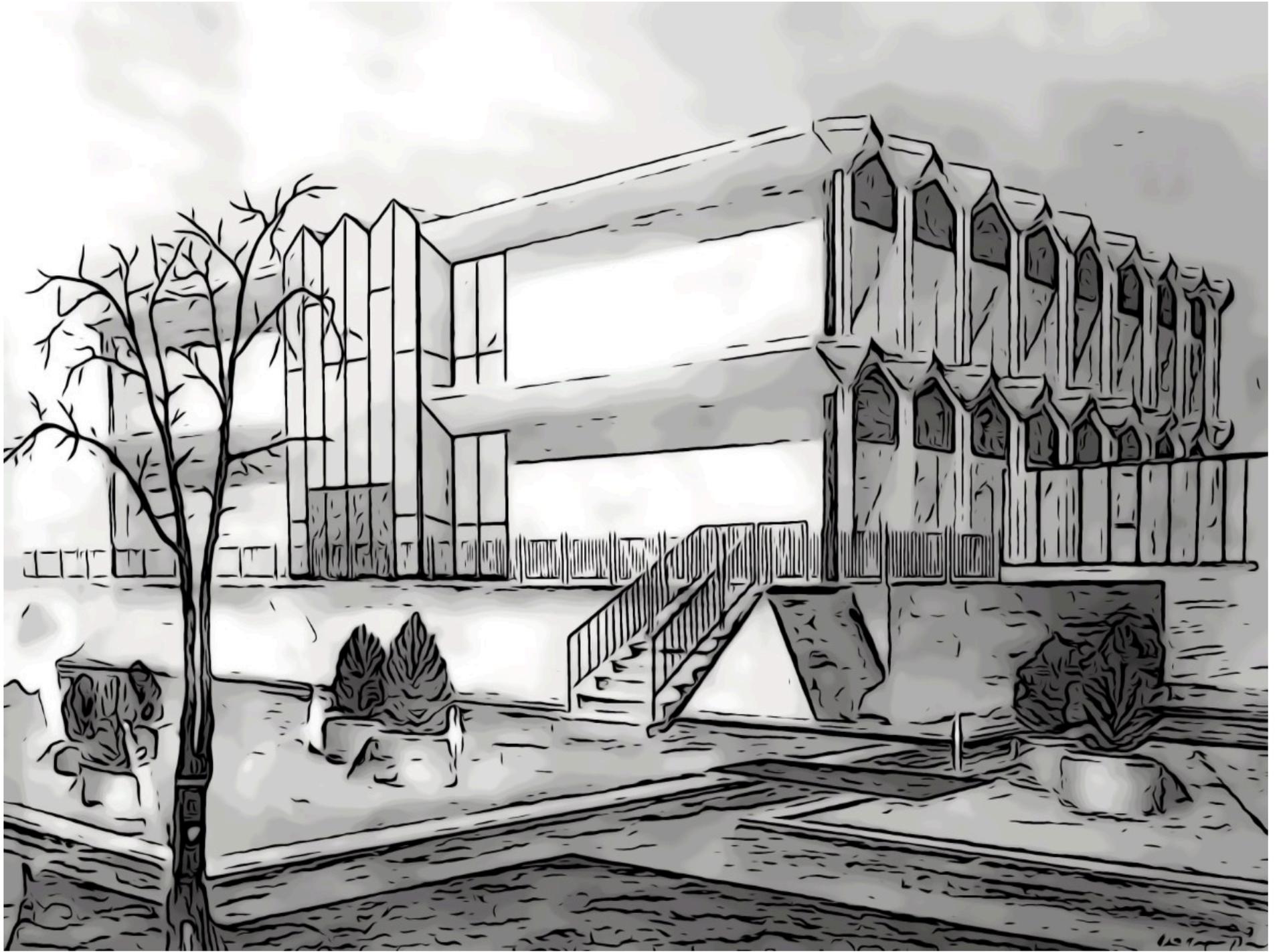
Old Main, 1895

Architect: Malcomson & Higginbotham

4841 Cass Avenue

Architectural Style: Queen Anne Style/
Romanesque Revival

Emil Lorch was born in Detroit, Michigan. He attended the Detroit School of Art and he studied architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Lorch was extremely active in the city's art scene and was named a member of the Detroit Art Commission in 1898.



McGregor Memorial, n.d.

Ruth Merigian Adams

Pastel, 54 x 76 in.

Object Number: UAC3911

The McGregor Memorial Conference Center was a gift to Wayne State University by the McGregor Foundation, in memory of Tracy and Katherine McGregor, to be used as a community conference center that would be used to help others. It cost \$1,279,000 to build. The building's design received an honorable award from the American Institute of Architects when it was built, and is now listed on the National Register of Historic places.

There are 11 meeting rooms, a 600 seat auditorium, reception and exhibition spaces. It is a two story, symmetrical building with floor to ceiling windows that fills the spaces with sunlight. The building serves as a gateway to the north end of the campus and its beautiful exterior surroundings welcome visitors. Adjacent to the building is a L shaped sunken garden and reflecting pool with a beautiful sculpture court, shown in this artwork.

The McGregor Conference Center was the first of four buildings designed by Yamasaki for Wayne State University along with his "Master Plan" that transformed Second Avenue into a tree lined pedestrian mall.

Minoru Yamasaki (1912-1986) was one of the most important architects of the 20th century, best known for his design of the World Trade Center in New York City, which was built in 1962. Yamasaki studied architecture at University of Washington and NYU. He taught Architecture at Columbia University before moving to Detroit in 1945 to work at the prestigious architectural firm Smith Hinchman & Grylls (SHG). In 1949 he began Minoru Yamasaki & Associates.



McGregor Memorial Conference Center, 1958
Architect: Minoru Yamasaki

495 Gilmore Mall
Architectural New Formalism Style

Ruth Merigian Adams (19__-2007), Wayne State University Alumni 71' 74', gifted this drawing in 2003.



Linsell House in the Fall, n.d.

artist: Robin Ward

watercolor on paper, 11.5x13 inches

UAC6521

The Linsell House was built for Frederick and Rosa Linsell in 1904. Frederick Linsell was the Secretary Treasurer of the William Wright and Company of Detroit, a local firm that provided specialty furniture and home decorations for the growing wealthy population in Detroit. This beautiful house is filled with fine woodworking done by skilled craftsman, and includes a secret room that can be accessed through the oak panels in the dining room. The cost to build this house was \$9,000.00. This architectural treasure provides a glimpse into Detroit's rich history in the early 20th century.



Built at the corner of Second and Putnam, as part of the Old Cass Farm subdivision, it is one of two surviving houses from that era. In 1944 the entire block was scheduled to be torn down for the Detroit Board of Education, however, the deed for this block was given to Wayne State University. Since that time Linsell House has been home to the Women's Student League, the Business School and Biology department, and is currently the home to the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts.

The Architect John C. Stahl, Jr. was 28 years old when he built this house. He graduated from Central High School (Old Main) just seven years early. Stahl had a long career and designed many important homes and churches throughout Detroit.

Frederick Linsell House, 1904

5104 Gullen Mall

Architect: John C. Stahl, Jr.

Architectural Style: Early 20th C Colonial Revival Style

Robin Ward is the Program Director and Assistant Professor of Graphic Design at Madonna University. She earned a BFA in Graphic Design at College for Creative Studies (1986) and MTA, Educational Technologies from Madonna University(2015). Ward is also an illustrator known for the use of whimsical visual imagery. The artist website is: <https://robinwardillustration.com/>



Mackenzie House

Artist: unknown

Media: lithograph

UAC 6528

This house was originally built for Frank H. Blackman, a Detroit banker. In 1906, David Mackenzie purchased the home where he lived until his death in 1926. Mackenzie was the principal of Detroit's Central High School, located on the next block in Old Main, and he was the founder the College of the City of Detroit (now Wayne State University).

The Queen Anne Style revival houses features a round tower with a conical turret on one corner and circular windows. It has a slate roof with gables and a porch that wraps around the front of the house.

The house was purchased by Wayne State University in 1935 when Ester Mackenzie, David's wife, passed away. However, like so many of these historic homes, it was slated for demolition in the 1970s. It was saved by a group of Wayne State students who banded together to form Preservation Wayne (now called Preservation Detroit), an organization whose mission was to save historic buildings in Detroit. These students not only saved the building but raised \$220,000.00 to rehab the building, where their offices were located for many years.

During the 1980, Wayne State University and Preservation Detroit designated East Ferry Avenue as a historic district. This important historical and culturally significant district is the location of the Hecker House and Freer House.



Mackenzie House , 1895

4735 Cass Avenue (until April, 2019 move to Corner of Forest and Second Avenue)

Architect:
Malcolmson & Higginbotham

Architectural Style:
Queen Anne Revival

In April of 2019, the house was moved to the corner of Second Avenue and Forest to make way for the new Hilberie Gateway, performing arts center, expansion project.

You can watch the move at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VtQUMsKAICA>