

June 16, 2009
REVISED

WESTERN HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION KANSAS CITY

KC Nelle E. Peters (1884-1974) Architectural Records
0041 1924-1930
 14 rolls of drawings

PROVENANCE:

This gift was received from Bertha A. Watson (deceased) through Dorothy Keplinger as accession 62kc on January 16, 1981. Ms. Watson obtained the records from her friend, Nelle E. Peters.

BIOGRAPHY:

Nelle E. Peters, one of Kansas City's most prolific architects, was born Nelle Nichols in Niagara, North Dakota, in 1884. She attended Buena Vista College at Storm Lake, Iowa, and have an innate interest and ability in drawing, she determined to become an architect. Though she lacked technical training, she persisted seeking employment in the architectural offices in Sioux City, Iowa, until Frank Colby, of Eisentraut, Colby, and Pottenger gave her a job on a bet with his partner. She became a 'draftslady' with the firm and stayed six years.

Nelle Nichols gained valuable on the job training, but also studies through correspondence schools, and was able to gain architectural licenses from several states. About 1907, Miss Nichols was sent by the firm to their Kansas City office, managed by Ernest O. Brostrom. In 1909, she left Eisentraut, Colby, and Pottenger to establish her own office.

In 1911, she married William H. Peters, a designer for the Kansas City Terminal Railroad. For ten years she was effectively in retirement, but after her divorce in 1923, Nelle Peters again worked actively in her profession. In the first five years of her renewed practice, she was the architect for nearly 1000 buildings. Her work included structures in Tulsa and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Columbia, Clinton, Boonville, and Jefferson City, Missouri; Nashville, North Carolina; Newark, New Jersey; and Columbus, Ohio. Except for two periods of illness, Ms. Peters remained an active architect until retirement in 1965.

Nelle Peters specialized in the design of apartment and hotels, though she also designed churches, residents, and commercial buildings. Frequent use of terra cotta ornamentation is a characteristic of her style. Many of her buildings in Kansas City still stand.

Ms. Peters spent her last years in a nursing home in Sedalia, Missouri where she died in 1974.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PAPERS:

The records contain original linen and tissue paper drawings of fourteen buildings designed by Nelle E. Peters. The plans are generally incomplete, being mainly the elevation sheets. They are for apartments and hotels in Kansas City, Jefferson City, Missouri, and Tulsa and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

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INVENTORY:

For the holdings of plans by Nelle E. Peters, see the Architectural Records Collection database. Additional works by Peters from other sources may also be found in that database.

Entries from Architectural Records Collection database (June 16, 2009)

TITLE	KNOWN AS	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	AUTHORITY	YEAR
Quality Builders, apartment kitchenette for			Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
J.N. Mehornay, apartment building for		na	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
J.N. Mehornay, apartment building for	Normandy Apartments	505 W. 11th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1928
J.N. Mehornay, apartment building for	Normandy Apartments	505 W. 11th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E. .	1928
H.A. Clinger, apartment hotel for	The Chimes Apartments	511 W. 11th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
H.A. Clinger, apartment hotel for	The Chimes Apartments	511 W. 11th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
Charles E. Phillips, apartment house for - plan 628		900 E. 28th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
Charles E. Phillips, apartment hotel for - plan 501		101-107 E. 40th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
Plaza Terrace Apartments		46th between Pennsylvania and Jefferson	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1948
Plaza Terrace Apartments		46th between Pennsylvania and Jefferson	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1948
Charles E. Phillips, apartment house for		403 W. 46th Terr.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1927
Charles E. Phillips, apartment house for		410 W. 47th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1925
C.E. McCoy, apartment and hotel for		414 W. 47th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1925
Charles E. Phillips, apartment building for	Cezanne	712 W. 48th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1928-1929
Charles E. Phillips, apartment building for	Cezanne	712 W. 48th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1928
Phillips Building Company, apartment building for	Eugene Field	807 W. 48th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E., Boillot and Lauck	1953
Midwest Mechanical Contractors		2815 E. 85th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1958
E.A. Wax, apartment building for - plan 679		3211 E. 8th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
R.S. Delano, apartment for		1310 Admiral Blvd.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
W.D. Snyder, apartment hotel for		220 E. Armour Blvd.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1929

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W.D. Snyder, apartment hotel for		220 E. Armour Blvd.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.; Von Unwerth, Hans (engineer)	1929
Belleclaire Apartments - Harry E. Fisher, apartment hotel for		Armour Blvd. and Gillham Rd.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
Charles E. Phillips, apartment hotel for - plan 618		Armour Blvd. and Tracy	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1925
Harry E. Fisher, business building for		Armour Blvd. and Troost	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E. .	1929
Charles E. Phillips, apartment hotel for	Westport Arms Apartments	300 W. Armour Blvd.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1927
Charles E. Phillips, apartment hotel for		Armour Blvd. and Central	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.; Middendorf, K.H. (engineer)	1926
Commonwealth Hotel - Quality Builders, apartment hotel for		1214-1216 Broadway	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.; Middendorf, K.H. (engineer)	1924; 1925
Hurley-Park Inventory Company, owners, apartment hotel for		13th and Broadway	Oklahoma City	OK	Peters, Nelle E.	1929
Quality Builders, apartment hotel for		3552 Broadway	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1924
Ambassador Hotel - apartment house for Quality Builders		3552 Broadway	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.; Middendorf, K.H. (engineer)	1924
Charles E. Phillips, apartment hotel for - plan 709	Valentine Hotel	3724 Broadway	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.; Middendorf, K.H. (engineer)	1927
Charles E. Phillips, apartment house for		4620 Broadway	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1926
Charles E. Phillips, apartment house for		s.w. cor. Broadway and Krauthoff Ct.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
Harry E. Fisher, apartment hotel for	Melbourne Apartments	303-305 E. Brush Creek Blvd.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E. .	1927
Charles E. Phillips, apartment house for - plan 627		2751 Campbell	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
Korphage Realty Company, business building for		31st and Campbell	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1917
John Mayer and Charles E. Phillips, apartment hotel for		14th and Central	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
Louis Grangel, business building for		n.w. cor. 31st and Charlotte	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1926

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Thomas J. Luzier Special Formula Laboratory, manufacturing building		Gillham Rd. Extension	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1928
Hillcrest Market, addition		31st and Harrison	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	na
Shelburne Apartment Hotel plan 648		47th and Harrison	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
Harry E. Fisher, apartment building for		45th and Holly	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
W.B. Weaver, apartment house for		Independence Ave. and Maple	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
R.J. Delano, apartment building for		47th and Jefferson	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E., Boillot and Lauck	1929
R.J. Delano, apartment building for		47th and Jefferson	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E., Boillot and Lauck	1929
Harry E. Fisher, apartment hotel for		1212 Linwood Blvd.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1928
Harry E. Fisher, apartment building for		1212 Linwood Blvd.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.; Middendorf, K.H. (engineer)	1928
Ambassador apartment hotel for Hurley Park Inventory Company		14th and Main	Tulsa	OK	Peters, Nelle E.	1928
Southside Hospital		3007 Main	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E. .	nd
Bellevue Apartment Company, apartment building for		Capitol Ave. and Marshall	Jefferson City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1927
M.A. Hess, apartments for		12th and Monroe	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1926
Princeton Motel		33rd and Paseo	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
J.N. Mehornay, hotel building for		11th and Pennsylvania	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
R.J. Delano, apartment building for		13th and Pennsylvania	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1925
Charles E. Phillips, apartment building for		4610 Pennsylvania	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1930
Charles E. Phillips, eight apartment buildings for		4610 Pennsylvania	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1930
Phillips Building Company, apartment building for		4801 Roanoke Pkwy.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E., Boillot and Lauck	nd
Charles E. Phillips, apartment building for		n.w. cor. 48th and Roanoke Pkwy.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1928
Charles E. Phillips, apartment building for		n.w. cor. 48th and Roanoke Pkwy.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E. .	1928

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W.L. Elson, apartment for		n.e. cor. 37th and Summit	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E. .	nd
Gilbert L. Worley, apartment building for		4726-4728 Summit	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
Charles E. Phillips, apartment building for - plan 657		3507 Tracy	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
E.P. Haworth and Company, apartment building for - plan 641		s.w. cor. 30th and Walnut	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	nd
Charles E. Phillips, apartment building for	Thomas Carlyle	700 Ward Pkwy.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E., Boillot and Lauck	nd
Charles E. Phillips, apartment building for	James Russell Lowell	722 Ward Pkwy.	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.; Middendorf, K.H. (engineer)	1929
J.N. Mehornay, apartment building for		s.e. cor. 11th and Washington	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E.	1929
Apartment building for J.N. Mehornay		12th and Penn Ave (514 W 12th)	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	1927
Apartments		1113-1118 W 45th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	na
Apartment building for Harry E. Fisher		1101 W 45th	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	nd
Apartment for H.R. Ostrom		406 W 46th St	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	1927
Apartment building		415 W 46th Ter	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	nd
Apartment building for Charles E. Phillips		720 W 48th St	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	1929
Apartment building for E.A. Wax		3211 (3219-3221) E 8th St	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	nd
Apartment for Josephine T Berry		2928 Forest Ave	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	nd
Apartments for Gus Agee		105-107 N Gladstone	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	nd
Apartments		4540-4546 Jarboe	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	na
Apartment for Charles E. Phillips		408 Kranthoff Ct	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	nd
Hotel for E.K. Rodford		915 Linwood	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	nd
Residence for EW Zenot		4301 Paseo	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	nd
Apartment building for Harry E. Fisher		4507 Roanoke	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	nd
Office for Bert Olson		7912 Wornall Rd	Kansas City	MO	Peters, Nelle E	1954