

Plans, Size A

Lawrence T. Hess Architectural Drawings, 1954-1980

Biography

Lawrence T. Hess (1912-1991), architect and hotel owner, practiced architecture in Stowe and Eden, Vermont from the 1950s through the 1970s. He graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1936 and served in the Navy during World War II, achieving the rank of lieutenant commander.

Hess designed and built Stowehof, a ski lodge in Stowe; it opened in 1950. He operated it until 1967 when he sold it to the Mount Mansfield Co. Hess told an interviewer in 1951 about his architectural principles:

In building Stowehof, I didn't try to create what has come to be known as 'modern' or 'contemporary,' to the exclusion of all traditional style and ideas. It has always seemed to me pure effrontery to completely disregard tradition and the comfortable flavor of things proved good in the past. To me it is much more exciting to mix periods and styles with whatever sound innovations we can contribute from today.

At the Stowehof Hess placed trees indoors and used grass on the roof. The original oak door at the inn's entrance came from the St. Nicholas Dutch Reformed Church in New York City.

Hess's Vermont practice included many projects for the Mount Mansfield Co. and the Smuggler's Notch Development Corporation. He designed many ski lodges and buildings for the fledgling ski industry.

In 1974 he testified before the District 5 Environmental Commission in opposition to a proposed 95-unit development in Stowe known as Village on the Green. Hess opposed the sameness of the proposed buildings, the "crowded rubber stamp look of city suburbs," and the lack of surrounding green spaces, which he believed attracted tourists to Stowe.

Hess's Vermont drawings were given to the Vermont Historical Society by his daughter, Mandy Della Noce, following his death on May 22, 1991 (ms. acc. no. 91.12)

Related Collections

Photographs of some of the buildings which Hess designed may be found in the postcard (P) and photograph (F) collections under headings such as P(or F)-SP-Skiing and P(or F)-TO-Stowe (or another town).

Plans A
Hess Architectural Drawings
Page 2

Drawings of Hess's drawings for projects outside of Vermont were given to the Folsom Library, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, by Ms. Della Noce.

Photocopies of Hess's obituaries, his comments on the Village on the Green proposal, a picture postcard of the Stowehof, and a real estate sales brochure for his home in Eden can be found in Folder 1 with a copy of this inventory.

Organization of the Drawings

The drawings are arranged by project number in eight 48" x 36" folders. All blueprints have been separated and are in the eighth folder for conservation reasons. Hess assigned numbers to his projects chronologically so the arrangement is also chronological. Drawings without project numbers were matched to numbered projects in as much as was possible. Drawings for unnumbered projects are at the end of the numbered projects (folder 7) and were arbitrarily assigned sequential numbers preceded by the abbreviation "unnum." Very few projects are represented by a complete set of drawings.

An inventory of the folders follows. The right-hand column, "Inventory," lists the sheets for each project as numbered by the architect and indicates if additional sheets are located in folder 8 with other blueprints.

After the inventory are indexes by client name and by town.

Inventory by Folder

Folder	Project Number	Year	Project	Town	No. of Sheets	Inventory
1	1	1954	McClellan, R.A., residence	Stowe	9	Prelim. 2; 2, 10-15; one unnum. [3 sheets in folder 8]
	7	1954	Mt. Mansfield Co., Spruce Peak Chair Lift, base shelter	Stowe	4	1-4
	8	1954-55	Mt. Mansfield Co., Spruce Peak Chair Lift, base shelter	Stowe	4	1-4
2	12	1955	Boardman, I. Munn, residence	Burlington	10	Prelim. Plans 1, 3; 1-8 [three sheets in folder 8]

Plans A
Hess Architectural Drawings

Page 3

	13	1955	Smuggler's Notch Development Corp., residences	Stowe	7	1-4; three unnum. sheets
	16	1956-59	Tweedy, Gordon B., residence	Stowe	7	1-7
3	18	1956	Mt. Mansfield Co., Spruce Peak Alpine Lift, base shelter	Stowe	2	4, 8
	19	1955	Manor, Deson Hill, residence for owners and staff	Stowe	7	1-7
	20	1955	Eddy, Roger S., residence	Stowe	7	1-7
	21	1954, 1956	Larsen, Harry Irgens, residence	Stowe	5	1-4; Prelim. 2
	24	1955	Mt. Mansfield Co., Mansfield Sport Shop, alterations	Stowe	1	2
	27	1956	Gould, Frederick E., additions to residence	Burlington	1	1
	28	1956	Graham, Nancy & Marie Risso, Restaurant "Baggy Knees"	Stowe	2	1; one unnum. sheet
4	42	1958-59	Whiteman, H. Ralph, residence	Hyde Park	7	1-6; one unnum. sheet
	44	1959-62	Rock of Ages Corp., Tourist Center	Graniteville	15	1-6, 9-14, A; two unnum. sheets [ten sheets in folder 8]
5	47	1958	Watson, Thomas J., Jr., residence	Stowe	14	Prelim. 2; 1-12, 14 [two sheets in folder 8]
	48	1959	Lintilhac, Claire, residence	Stowe	4	7-8; A-B(Prelim.)
	50	1959	duBoullay, Michel, Ski Lodge	Stowe	5	1-4; A(Prelim.)
6	53	1960	Mt. Mansfield Co., Restaurant & Shelter at summit	Stowe	5	A(Prelim.); 20-21; two unnum. sheets
	54	1960	Larsen, Harry Irgens, addition to residence	Stowe	2	3; A(Prelim.)

Plans A
Hess Architectural Drawings

Page 4

	56	1960	Mt. Mansfield Co., The Octagon, additions and alterations	Stowe	2	7-8
	60	1961	Burden, W. Douglas, residence at High Pond	Brandon	1	A(Prelim.)
	62	1961	Mt. Mansfield Co., the lodge at Smuggler's Notch, alterations and additions	Stowe	3	three unnum. sheets
	63	1960	(The Mattehorn)		1	1
	66	1963	Cummings, Howard P., residence	Jeffersonville	12	1-6; Prelim. 2-3; C1, E1; two unnum. sheets
	69	1963	Perkins, Richard W., addition to residence	Waterbury	2	2-3
	71	1962	Whiteman, H. Ralph, interior additions to residence	Hyde Park	1	1
7	75	1963	Mt. Mansfield Co., New Bar and Dining Room, alteration to Spruce House	Stowe	4	1-3; one unnum. sheet
	79	1963	Rutledge, David J., Jr., residence	Stowe	1	A(Prelim.)
	89	1965	Watson, Thomas J., Jr., New Bath - Dressing Room	Stowe	2	1; one unnum. sheet
	90	1965	Wiessner, F.H., alterations to residence	Stowe	1	3
	102	1971	Swanson, Robert S., Jr., alterations and additions to residence	Stowe	3	6-8
	114	1973	Hess, Lawrence T., new residence and office	Johnson	1	Prelim. Study VI

Plans A
Hess Architectural Drawings

Page 5

	129	1977	Stowehof, alterations and additions	Stowe	1	3 [one sheet in folder 8]
	134	1977	Watson, Thomas J., Jr., alterations to residence		1	1
	140	1978	Baraw, Charles, residence	Stowe	2	1-2
	146	1980	Watson, Jane W., additions and alterations	Thetford Hill	3	4-5; Prelim. Perspective 4(different)
	150	1980	Watson, Jane W., addition to residence	Thetford Hill	1	Prelim. Perspective 2
	unnum. 1	1958	Unknown, motel	unknown	2	Two unnum.
	unnum. 2	1960	Cooke, J.N., Jr., custom furnishings	unknown	1	
	unnum. 3	1962	Stowe Country Club, proposed alterations and additions and Cupola for Pavillion	Stowe	2	[one sheet in folder 8]
	unnum. 4	1964	unknown, residence	unknown	1	
	unnum. 5	1967	Whiteman, Harriet and Ralph, table	Hyde Park	1	
8	1	1954	McClellan, R.A., residence	Stowe	3	E1, M1, M2
	12	1955	Boardman, I. Munn, residence	Burlington	3	three unnum. sheets
	44	1959-62	Rock of Ages Corp., Tourist Center	Graniteville	10	E1, M1, M2, M2A; 4000-60: 3, 4, 4a, 5, 5a, 6
	47	1958	Watson, Thomas J., Jr., residence	Stowe	2	13; E1
	129	1977	Stowehof, alterations and additions	Stowe	1	one unnum. sheet
	unnum. 3	1962	Stowe Country Club, proposed alterations and additions and Cupola for Pavillion	Stowe	1	

Inventory by Client/Project

Plans A
Hess Architectural Drawings
Page 6

Project	Year	Town	Folder Number	Project Number
Baraw, Charles, residence	1978	Stowe	7	140
Boardman, I. Munn, residence	1955	Burlington	2	12
			8	12
Burden, W. Douglas, residence at High Pond	1961	Brandon	6	60
Cooke, J.N., Jr., custom furnishings	1960	unknown	7	unnum. 2
Cummings, Howard P., residence	1963	Jeffersonville	6	66
duBoullay, Michel, Ski Lodge	1959	Stowe	5	50
Eddy, Roger S., residence	1955	Stowe	3	20
Gould, Frederick E., additions to residence	1956	Burlington	3	27
Graham, Nancy & Marie Risso, Restaurant "Baggy Knees"	1956	Stowe	3	28
Hess, Lawrence T., new residence and office	1973	Johnson	7	114
Larsen, Harry Irgens, addition to residence	1960	Stowe	6	54
Larsen, Harry Irgens, residence	1954, 1956	Stowe	3	21
Lintilhac, Claire, residence	1959	Stowe	5	48
Manor, Deson Hill, residence for owners and staff	1955	Stowe	3	19
Mattehorn, The	1960		6	63
McClellan, R.A., residence	1954	Stowe	1	1
			8	1
Mt. Mansfield Co., Mansfield Sport Shop, alterations	1955	Stowe	3	24
Mt. Mansfield Co., New Bar and Dining Room, alteration to Spruce House	1963	Stowe	7	75
Mt. Mansfield Co., Restaurant & Shelter at summit	1960	Stowe	6	53
Mt. Mansfield Co., Spruce Peak Alpine Lift, base shelter	1956	Stowe	3	18
Mt. Mansfield Co., Spruce Peak Chair Lift, base shelter	1954	Stowe	1	7
	1954-55	Stowe	1	8
Mt. Mansfield Co., The Lodge at Smuggler's Notch, alterations and additions	1961	Stowe	6	62
Mt. Mansfield Co., The Octagon, additions and alterations	1960	Stowe	6	56
Perkins, Richard W., addition to residence	1963	Waterbury	6	69

Plans A
Hess Architectural Drawings

Page 7

Rock of Ages Corp., Tourist Center	1959-62	Graniteville	4	44
			8	44
Rutledge, David J., Jr., residence	1963	Stowe	7	79
Smuggler's Notch Development Corp., residences	1955	Stowe	2	13
Stowe Country Club, proposed alterations and additions and Cupola for Pavillion	1962	Stowe	7	unnum. 3
			8	unnum. 3
Stowehof, alterations and additions	1977	Stowe	7	129
			8	129
Swanson, Robert S., Jr., alterations and additions to residence	1971	Stowe	7	102
Tweedy, Gordon B., residence	1956-59	Stowe	2	16
Unknown, motel	1958	unknown	7	unnum. 1
Unknown, residence	1964	unknown	7	unnum. 4
Watson, Jane W., addition to residence	1980	Thetford Hill	7	150
Watson, Jane W., additions and alterations	1980	Thetford Hill	7	146
Watson, Thomas J., Jr., alterations to residence	1977		7	134
Watson, Thomas J., Jr., New Bath - Dressing Room	1965	Stowe	7	89
Watson, Thomas J., Jr., residence	1958	Stowe	5	47
			8	47
Whiteman, H. Ralph, interior additions to residence	1962	Hyde Park	6	71
Whiteman, H. Ralph, residence	1958-59	Hyde Park	4	42
Whiteman, Harriet and Ralph, table	1967	Hyde Park	7	unnum. 5
Wiessner, F.H., alterations to residence	1965	Stowe	7	90

Inventory by Vermont Town

Town	Project	Year	Folder Number	Project Number
	Cooke, J.N., Jr., custom furnishings	1960	7	unnum. 2
	Mattehorn, The	1960	6	63
	Unknown, motel	1958	7	unnum. 1
	Unknown, residence	1964	7	unnum. 4
	Watson, Thomas J., Jr., alterations to residence	1977	7	134
Brandon	Burden, W. Douglas, residence at High Pond	1961	6	60
Burlington	Boardman, I. Munn, residence	1955	2	12

Plans A
Hess Architectural Drawings

Page 8

			8	12
	Gould, Frederick E., additions to residence	1956	3	27
Graniteville	Rock of Ages Corp., Tourist Center	1959-62	4	44
			8	44
Hyde Park	Whiteman, H. Ralph, interior additions to residence	1962	6	71
	Whiteman, H. Ralph, residence	1958-59	4	42
	Whiteman, Harriet and Ralph, table	1967	7	unnum. 5
Jeffersonville	Cummings, Howard P., residence	1963	6	66
Johnson	Hess, Lawrence T., new residence and office	1973	7	114
Stowe	Baraw, Charles, residence	1978	7	140
	duBoullay, Michel, Ski Lodge	1959	5	50
	Eddy, Roger S., residence	1955	3	20
	Graham, Nancy & Marie Risso, Restaurant "Baggy Knees"	1956	3	28
	Larsen, Harry Irgens, addition to residence	1960	6	54
	Larsen, Harry Irgens, residence	1954, 1956	3	21
	Lintilhac, Claire, residence	1959	5	48
	Manor, Deson Hill, residence for owners and staff	1955	3	19
	McClellan, R.A., residence	1954	1	1
			8	1
	Mt. Mansfield Co., Mansfield Sport Shop, alterations	1955	3	24
	Mt. Mansfield Co., New Bar and Dining Room, alteration to Spruce House	1963	7	75
	Mt. Mansfield Co., Restaurant & Shelter at summit	1960	6	53
	Mt. Mansfield Co., Spruce Peak Alpine Lift, base shelter	1956	3	18
	Mt. Mansfield Co., Spruce Peak Chair Lift, base shelter	1954	1	7
		1954-55	1	8
	Mt. Mansfield Co., The Lodge at Smuggler's Notch, alterations and additions	1961	6	62
	Mt. Mansfield Co., The Octagon, additions and alterations	1960	6	56
	Rutledge, David J., Jr., residence	1963	7	79
	Smuggler's Notch Development Corp., residences	1955	2	13

Plans A
Hess Architectural Drawings

Page 9

	Stowe Country Club, proposed alterations and additions and Cupola for Pavillion	1962	7	unnum. 3
			8	unnum. 3
	Stowehof, alterations and additions	1977	7	129
			8	129
	Swanson, Robert S., Jr., alterations and additions to residence	1971	7	102
	Tweedy, Gordon B., residence	1956-59	2	16
	Watson, Thomas J., Jr., New Bath - Dressing Room	1965	7	89
	Watson, Thomas J., Jr., residence	1958	5	47
			8	47
	Wiessner, F.H., alterations to residence	1965	7	90
Thetford Hill	Watson, Jane W., addition to residence	1980	7	150
	Watson, Jane W., additions and alterations	1980	7	146
Waterbury	Perkins, Richard W., addition to residence	1963	6	69

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