

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

A. L. Lewis Architectural Drawings, 1921-1975: A Guide to the Collection

Summary Information

Repository

Albany Institute of History & Art Library

Creator

Unidentified

Title

A.L. Lewis Architectural Drawings, 1921-1975

Identifier

MG 5

Date

1921-1975

Physical Description

1 linear foot; 12 folders containing 52 drawings

Physical Location

The materials are located onsite in the Museum

Language of the Material

English

Abstract

Abraham Lincoln Lewis worked as an architect in the Albany, New York area from 1934 until 1985. Lewis began his career in 1934 with the New York State Department of Public Works (NYSDPW). After leaving that position in 1966, he worked for himself, and eventually formed his own company, A.L. Lewis Associated Architects, in 1970. Following a brief retirement from 1974-1981, Lewis returned to work, this time an employee of Harris A. Sanders Associates, where he remained until retiring in 1986.

This collection contains architectural plans for Albany, New York area buildings, dating from 1954 to 1975. Materials are arranged by building name.

Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

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None

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Processing Information

Processed 1995. Finding aid updated April 2020.

Biographical/Historical

Abraham Lincoln Lewis worked as an architect in the Albany, New York area from 1934 until 1985. He resided in Albany, New York with his wife Marjorie at 54 Pinewood Avenue from 1934 until 1936 and then at 84 1/2 Sycamore Street until 1964 when they moved to Florida.

Lewis held a teaching certificate from the City of New York dated June 24, 1921 and a diploma from the Hebrew Technical Institute for instruction in Mechanic Arts from June 4, 1924. He began his career with the New York State Department of Public Works (NYSDPW) in 1934 as an assistant architect. In 1948 he became a senior architect. From 1953 until he left NYSDPW in 1966, he was an associate architect.

While working for NYSDPW, A.L. Lewis also designed independently. In February 1954, he designed a home for Dr. and Mrs. Irving S. Dribben in Loudonville, New York. He then designed a series of supermarkets called Empire Supermarket for Wappingers

Falls, Poughkeepsie, Rhinebeck, New Paltz, and Glens Falls, New York, from March 1954 until June 1956.

After leaving NYSDPW, Lewis became an independent architect in 1967 at 85 Watervliet Avenue, Albany, New York, and in 1969, joined forces to create Lewis & O'Connor, Architects. In 1970, he began his own company, A.L. Lewis Associated Architects, which he maintained until retiring in 1974.

During this time, Lewis also worked together on area projects with the architects Julius Tauss, O. Fuchs, Joseph T. Hammer, Peter W. Pagano and as Lewis & McGrath. Lewis contributed to the development of State Street and Washington Avenue (Albany, New York) and corporate buildings with his designs for Mechanic's Exchange Bank at 111 Washington Avenue. He collaborated on the building with the architect Julius Tauss from 1961-1962, and 1973. He began drawings in 1965 for a well-known Albany area shopping plaza, Stuyvesant Plaza. These drawings date from 1965-1967 and 1970. He and associate architect Peter W. Pagano were responsible for the development of the entire plaza and the nearby L'Ecole Restaurant. A large portion of the corporate drawings in the collection center around the design of a ten-story office building at 54 State Street for National Commercial Bank, now Key Bank. These drawings date from 1971-1973 and 1975. In 1973 he designed alterations for Urbach Kahn and Werlin at 66 State Street and for 70-72 State Street.

A.L. Lewis also contributed to the development of buildings for smaller area businesses in Albany, New York. These include an office building on Fuller Road for Glens Falls Insurance in 1964, The Albany Central Federation of Labor Temple at 890 Third Street, (1965-1966), West Albany Industrial Warehouse Development (1969 and 1972), Albany Public Market in Rensselaer (1972-73) and Wolberg Electric Warehouse (1967 and 1973 as Lewis & O'Connor).

Lewis retired in 1974 for a few years, and returned to work in 1981 as an employee of Harris A. Sanders Associates at 40 Colvin Avenue, Albany, New York, where he remained until his permanent retirement in 1986.

Scope and Contents

The A.L. Lewis Collection of Architectural Drawings, 1921-1975, predominantly consists of architectural plans for Albany, New York area building development from 1954 to 1975. Plans include corporate buildings such as National Commercial Bank, Mechanics Exchange Savings Bank and Stuyvesant Plaza. There are also drawings for smaller area business developments. In addition, the collection contains business papers outlining contract agreements from 1956 to 1958 for the building of Stuyvesant Plaza. Included are photos of renderings and realty brochures of completed buildings. Lewis' personal life is not covered in the collection. The Albany City Directory however, outlines a long map of his career as an Albany architect.

Contents List

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

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A) Parking Lot Specifications		
B) Bus Stop Canopy Drawing 1		
C) Bus Stop Canopy Drawing 2		
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A) Exterior Elevation Drawing		
B) Plot Plan Drawing		
C) Elevation Drawing		
D) Exterior Drawing Proposed Bank		
E) Trusses - Miscellaneous Drawing		
Stuyvesant Plaza		3
A) Plumbing Specifications Copy 1		
B) Plumbing Specifications Copy 2		
C) Site Plumbing and Drainage Office Copy		
D) Plumbing Specifications Building "D"		
E) Addendum for Plumbing		
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A) Electrical Specifications for Building "D"		
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A) Heating and Ventilating Specifications for Building "D"		
B) Letter from George J. Michon, Professional Engineer		
C) Heating, ventilating and air conditioning drawing, (two copies)		
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A) American Stores Co. Specifications for Manual of Standard Drawings		
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A) Original Construction Specifications for Labor and Materials		
B) Specifications for Painting		
C) Continued Specifications for Labor and Materials		
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A) Complete Manual of Construction Specifications		
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A) Complete Manual of Construction Specifications Revised		
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A) Architectural Outline Specifications for W.T. Grant Co.		
B) Outline Specifications for Proposed Building W.T. Grant Co. (manual)		
Realty Brochures		11

National Commercial Bank (1971-1972)

Drawer 9
Oversize Folder 1

- a) Ten-Story Office Building 54 State Street (Key Bank)
Architect: A.L. Lewis Associated Architects Complete plans - Drawings A-1 through A32, 6 December 1971
- b) Ten-Story Office Building 54 State Street Architect: A.L. Lewis Associated Architects Complete floor layout plans L1-L11, (basement through tenth floor). Also included are legend and partial first floor plan, 25 May 1972
- c) National Commercial Bank and Trust Co. and 54 State Street. Architect: A.L. Lewis Associated Architects
 - 1) Alterations to 60 State Street partial 1st floor plan, 29 November 1972, 12 December 1972
 - 2) Preliminary drawings for ramps for handicapped, undated
 - 3) Ten-story office building, 54 State Street first floor plan, 6 December 1971
 - 4) Entrance plaza details, 54 State Street, 6 December 1971

National Commercial Bank (1971-1973, 1975)

Oversize Folder 2

- a) National Commercial Bank and Trust Co., 54 State Street. Architect: A.L. Lewis Associated Architects
 - 1) Auditorium stage details, 1 November 1972
 - 2) Partial floor plan: ninth floor, 5 December 1972
 - 3) Partial floor plan: Fourth floor, 14 June 1972
- b) National Commercial Bank: The Bank Architect: A.L. Lewis Associated Architects
 - 1) Five Drawings for signs for 10-story office building, 9 March 1973
 - 2) Drawings for alterations, flagpoles on south wall, 8 March 1972
- c) National Commercial Bank and Trust Co. Architect: A.L. Lewis Associated Architects
 - Various plans include a legend for drawings L1-L14 and plans for waste processing area, special banking counters and elevations of second through fourth floors. One drawing untitled, 25 May 1972, 14 July 1972, 25 September 1972
- d) National Commercial Bank: Alterations to 60 State Street Architect: A.L. Lewis
 - 1) M-1 through M-3: 1st, 2nd and basement floor plans, 29 November 1972
 - 2) C-2 through C-11: details of various alterations, September-December 1972

- 3) Preliminary drawings for ramps for the handicapped, 7 October, 20 October 1974
 - e) National Commercial Bank & Trust Company Architect: A.L. Lewis
 - 1) Details of base and lighting for Lucite sculpture, January 1975
 - f) National Commercial Bank & Trust Co. Alterations to 70-72 State Street
 - 1) C-1: first floor and basement plan, 26 February 1973
 - 2) C-2: elevations and details, 26 February 1973
 - 3) C-3: front details, 26 February 1973
 - 4) M-1: first floor and basement plans, 26 February 1973
 - 5) Also included 3 drawings for fixture details and fixture floor plans by Wells and Coverly, undated
 - g) Signage Proposal for National Commercial Bank & Trust Co. (The Bank) Architect: Federal Sign Corp.
 - Outer elevations and plans for sign, 18 January 1971, 29 February 1972
 - h) Alterations to 70-72 State Street Architect: A.L. Lewis Associated Architects
 - First, second and third floor plans and details, 26 February 1973
- Mechanic's Exchange Bank and Office Building (1961-1962, 1973) Oversize
Folder 3
- a) Mechanics Exchange Bank and Office Building Architect: J. Tauss, (A.L. Lewis Associated Architects)
 - First, basement and 2nd-7th floor plans and details included.
 - b) Proposed Bank and Office Building for Picotte Bldg. Co. (Mechanic's Exchange) Architect: A.L. Lewis and O. Fuchs Associated Architects
 - Includes various non-specific drawings for proposed building, undated.
 - Also includes one elevation plan for Mechanic's Exchange Bank and Office Building Washington Avenue elevation. Architect: J. Tauss and A.L. Lewis Associated Architects, 6 September 1961
 - c) Office Building at 194 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY Architect: A.L. Lewis A.I.A. Architect
 - 1) Alterations to building relating to partitions Third floor plan (3 drawings), 24 August 1973
 - 2) Alterations to building related to partitions Fourth floor plan (3 drawings), 24 August 1973
 - d) Mechanic's Exchange Savings Bank Building, Albany, NY Architect: Julius Tauss & A.L. Lewis

Drawings for notes to D.A. Lanzetta Marble Co. Inc.
Drawings 1-4 of four elevations, 12 February 1962
e) Mechanic's Exchange Savings Bank 111 Washington
Avenue, Albany, NY Architect: Julius Tauss & A.L. Lewis
Package of shop drawings for building, February-April
1962. Drawings from: Otis Elevator Co.; Buffalo Cold
Spring Granite Co., Cold Spring, MN; Flour City
Architectural Metals Division, Minneapolis, MN; Cupples
Products Corp., St. Louis, MO; Pittsburgh Plate Glass
Co.; D.A. Lanzetta Marble Co., Albany, NY; James
McKinney & Son, Albany, NY; Pioneer Fireproof Door
Co., Mount Vernon, NY; Cutler Mail Chute Co.,
Rochester, NY; Construction Specialties, Inc., Cranford,
NJ; McManus, Longe, Brockwehl, Inc., Albany, NY;
George W. Clark - Architect, New York, NY
Empire Supermarkets (1954-1956)

Oversize
Folder 4

- a) Empire Supermarket Route 9 & New Hackensack Road
Village of Wappingers Falls, Dutchess Co., NY Architect:
A.L. Lewis, A.I.A. Architect
Plan Drawings 1-5, 21 March 1955
- b) Empire Supermarket, south side of 150 West Fowler
Avenue Town of Poughkeepsie, NY Architect: A.L. Lewis
A.I.A. Architect
Plan drawings 1-5 and plumbing & heating, 10 August
1954
- c) Empire Supermarket - Rhinebeck, NY Architect: A.L.
Lewis A.I.A.
Drawings P1 (plumbing and water supply) and drawings
1-4, 15 November 1955
- d) Empire Supermarket - Glens Falls, NY Architect: A.L.
Lewis A.I.A. Architect
Six drawings for building, one roof plan and one
plumbing plan, July 1955
- e) Empire Supermarket - Glens Falls, NY Architect: A.L.
Lewis, A.I.A.
 - 1) Plan 1: plot plan
 - 2) Plan 2: Foundation plan
 - 3) Plan 3: Floor plan
 - 4) Plan 4: roof plan
 - 5) Plan 5: elevations and sections
 - 6) Plan 6: exterior details
 - 7) Plan 7: exterior detailsAlso included are six untitled sketches for Empire
Supermarket. All plans undated.

f) Empire Supermarket - Glens Falls, NY Architect: A.L. Lewis, A.I.A.

- 1) Plan 1: plot plan
- 2) Plan 2: foundation plan
- 3) Plan 3: floor plan
- 4) Plan 4: roof plan
- 5) Plan 5: elevations and sections
- 6) Plan 6: exterior details
- 7) Plan 7: plan revisions, May 1956

g) Empire Supermarket - New Paltz, NY Architect: A.L. Lewis, A.I.A. Architect

- 1) Foundation plan
- 2) Floor plan
- 3) Roof plan
- 4) North and South elevations
- 5) Additional floor plan, November 1955

Stuyvesant Plaza and Restaurant (1965-1967, 1970)

Oversize
Folder 5

a) Proposed Restaurant (L'Ecole Rest.) 44 Fuller Road
Architect: A.L. Lewis Associate Architects

- 1) Preliminary plan, 17 August 1966, Revised 3 January 1967 and 23 January 1967
- 2) Interior elevations, 3 October 1967
- 3) Location plan proposed additions to Stuyvesant Plaza, 22 October 1967
- 4) Air-conditioning plans, 21 September 1967
- 5) Covered-entry plans and details, 2 October 1967
- 6) Floor plans and details, 15 September 1967
- 7) Elevation from Executive Row, undated

b) Stuyvesant Plaza Guilderland, NY Architect: A.L. Lewis Architect

Proposed additions to existing stores, 17 October 1961

c) L'Ecole Restaurant Lessee Architect: A.L. Lewis Associated Architects

Six drawings including one floor plan and five elevation views, 21 October 1967, 6 June, 18 June 1970

d) Stuyvesant Plaza Building Complex Development
Architect: A.L. Lewis, Architect

- 1) Scheme drawings for office building in Executive Park South, February 1966
- 2) Proposed office building for SBC Corp., May 1965
- 3) Proposed Restaurant, 13 December 1965
- 4) Proposed office building for Executive Park, 13 May 1966

e) Hellman Theatre, Stuyvesant Plaza, Albany Architect: Einhorn and Sanders Associated Architects

1) First floor plan, 27 October 1965
Drawings for Homes (1949, 1954, 1973-1974)

Oversize
Folder 6

- a) Two Family Residence for Joan Frisbee Architect: James S. Shattuck, (G.L. Van Auken Assoc.), 14 May 1949
- b) Addition to Residence at 34 Cherry Tree Road, Loudonville, NY Architect: A.L. Lewis Architect
 - 1) Addition to residence drawing, 26 June 1973
 - 2) Preliminary drawing (2 copies), 24 October 1974
- c) House for Dr. and Mrs. Irving S. Dribben, Loudonville, NY Architect: A.L. Lewis, A.I.A.
Includes construction drawings numbers 1/10 and blueprints numbers 1-4, 1 February 1954

Various State Street Drawings (1973)

- a) Untitled and Undated Plans Possible Insurance building of State Street or Picotte Building
Eight pages of building views and survey map of property at 244-248 State Street Surveyor: Ben B. Hershberg Date of survey 23 May 1949. All other pages unsigned and undated
- b) Office Building for Picotte Realty Co. Developer Architect: Lewis & McGrath Associated Architects
 - 1) Three scheme drawings of floor plans and elevations, 18 June 1973
 - 2) First floor plan and typical floor plan
 - 3) State Street Elevation
 - 4) Typical level plan
 - 5) Cross section view, 18 June 1973
- c) Twelve Story Building for Picotte Realty Co. Architect: Lewis & McGrath - Associated Architects
One page including first floor plan and typical floor plan for 5th floor and above, 18 June 1973

A. L. Lewis Untitled Plans (1953)

- a) A.L. Lewis Untitled Plans Architect: A.L. Lewis
Three drawings: A Convalescent home, a motor hotel and an apartment, undated
- b) Six or Seven Stores to be erected on the North Side of Albany Avenue East of Masonic Club, Kingston, NY Architect: A.L. Lewis A.I.A. Architect
 - 1) Plans for seven stores pages 1-5, 20 July 1953
 - 2) Plans for six stores pages 1-6, 24 June 1953

Temple Beth Emeth, Albany, NY

Drawer Oversize
10 Folder 7

- a) Temple Beth Emeth, Albany, NY Architect: Percival Goodman, Architect

- 1) Complete blue-print plans A-1 through A-13, 20 September 1954
- 2) Blue-print plans 1-5 electrical, 20 September 1954
- 3) Blue-print plans 1-8 plumbing, 20 September 1954
- 4) Blue-print plans 1-5 heating and ventilating, 20 September 1954

Urbach, Kahn and Werlin (1973)

Oversize
Folder 8

a) Sixty-six State Street Alterations for Urbach, Kahn and Werlin Architect: A.L. Lewis Associated Architects

First, second, and third floor plans and details, 5 March 1973

b) Sixty-six State Street Alterations to Urbach, Kahn and Werlin and Alterations to 60 State Street Architect: A.L. Lewis Associated Architects

- 1) C-1: first floor and second floor plans
- 2) C-2: third floor
- 3) C-3: door and frame schedule and interior finish schedule.
- 4) C-4: details
- 5) C-5: partial front elevation details, 3 May 1973

Alterations to 60 State Street

- 6) C-2: partial first floor plan
- 7) C-3: first floor plan and details
- 8) C-4: alterations to third floor
- 9) C-5: alterations to existing vestibule
- 10) C-8: Norton Street (south) alterations
- 11) C-11: alterations
- 12) M-1: basement floor plan
- 13) M-2: first floor plan
- 14) M-3: third floor plan, 29 November 1972, 12 December 1972

Albany Public Market (1972-1973)

a) Albany Public Market, Inc. Architect: A.L. Lewis Associated Architects

Floor plan, March 1973

b) Albany Public Market Alterations to Rensselaer, NY Architect: A.L. Lewis Associated Architects

- 1) Floor plan, April 1973
- 2) Elevations and details, 29 March 1973
- 3) Elevations, 14 November 1972

Albany Central Federation of Labor Temple 890 Third Street, Albany, NY (1965-1966)

a) Albany Central Federation of Labor Temple 890 Third Street, Albany, NY Architect: A.L. Lewis, Architect

- 1) Heating and Plumbing, 19 February 1966

- 2) Preliminary drawing, 3 October 1965
- 3) First floor plan, foundation plans and details, 17 January 1966
- 4) Elevations, building sections and framing plans, 17 January 1966

Charter Supply Corp., Philmont, NY

a) Charter Supply Corp., Philmont, NY Architect: Harris Sanders, Architect

- 1) Plot plan, 14 June 1963
- 2) First floor plan and door schedule, 22 April 1963
- 3) Elevations and sections, 22 April 1963, revised 14 June 1963

Wolberg Electric Warehouse (1967, 1973)

Oversize
Folder 9

a) Warehouse for Wolberg Electric Supply Co. Architect: Lewis & O'Connor, Architects

- 1) Plan 1: site plan
- 2) Plan 2: foundation and details
- 3) Plan 3: floor plan and finish schedule
- 4) Plan 4: partial 1/8 floor plan
- 5) Plan 5: elevations
- 6) Plan 6: section and exterior details
- 7) Plan 7: details
- 8) Plan 8: reflected ceiling plan

Also included are a general site plan, plans for plumbing and plans for alterations, March-April 1967, August-September 1967, and June 1973

b) Warehouse for Wolberg Electric Supply Industrial Park Road, Albany, NY Architect: Lewis & O'Connor Architects

- 1) Heating plans and details (2 drawings), 24 April 1967
- 2) Office and warehouse floor plan and sprinkler plan, 20 May 1967
- 3) Additions and alterations to warehouse area (2 drawings), 15 June 1973

Also included are sketches for Wolberg Electric signs.

Glens Falls Insurance, Fuller Rd. (1964)

a) Proposed Office Building for Glens Falls Insurance Agency, Fuller Road, Albany, NY Architect: A.L. Lewis, Architect

- 1) Proposed Office Building for Glens Falls Ins. Co., 19 June 1964
- 2) Proposed office building for Fuller Road, Albany, 19 December 1964
- 3) Fuller Road elevation (3 drawings)
- 4) First floor plan, 24 December 1964
- 5) Second floor plan, 24 December 1964

Related Documents from A.L. Lewis

- a) Abraham Lewis, Teaching Certificate from City of New York, 24 June 1921
- b) Abraham Lewis, Diploma for Hebrew Technical Institute, 4 June 1924

Proposed Sign 28 Essex Street (1969)

- a) Proposed Sign for 28 Essex Street (NYS DOH) Architect: Lewis & O'Connor
Drawing and Notes, 3 February 1969

Albany Felt Company Corporate Engineering, Albany, NY

- a) Albany Felt Co., Albany, NY Architect: F. Bilewski
Six drawings for equipment, April, September, October 1964 and April 1966

West Albany Industrial Warehouse Development (1969, 1972)

Oversize
Folder 10

- a) West Albany Industrial Park Warehouse Development
W.L.C. Industries Architect: A.L. Lewis Associated
Architects

- 1) Plot Plan, 2 January 1969
- 2) Three site plans, 17 October 1972
- 3) Ten pages site and floor plans and details, November 1972

Also included survey map by H.S. Distributors of Albany, NY, 22 November 1972

Additions to Saratoga Grade School (1951)

- a) Additions and Alterations to Grade School, Saratoga Co., NY Architect: Joseph T. Hammer A.I.A. and A.L. Lewis
A.I.A. Associated Architects
 - 1) Plot Plan - misc. details
 - 2) Basement and first floor
 - 3) Elevations and sections
 - 4) Window details
 - 5) Roof plan and exterior details
 - 6) Foundations plan and heating
 - 7) First floor plan heating
 - 8) Basement and first floor plans electric
 - 9) Preliminary Drawings 1 & 2, 28 September 1951

Pyramid Mall, Saratoga

- a) Pyramid Mall, Saratoga Architect: Architectural Design Assoc. Bruce A. Kenan, A.I.A. and Edward W. Benjamin, A.I.A.
 - 1) Site plan
 - 2) Building #5 foundation and details
 - 3) Floor plans and elevations
 - 4) Wall sections (3 pages)
 - 5) Reflected ceiling plan

- 6) Toilet room plans and elevations and details
- 7) Roof plans and details
- 8) Door details and misc. details
- 9) Entrance door and window details
- 10) Door schedule
- 11) Room finish schedule, November and December 1972

Display Boards for The Bank, Northway Mall, Albany, NY

Oversize
Folder 11

a) Display boards for office furnishings Architect: A.L.
Lewis Associated Architects

- 1) Five display boards for The Bank, Northway Mall
Office

Photographs of Renderings of Buildings and Display Boards for
The Bank, Northway Mall, Albany, NY

Oversize
Folder 12

a) Photos of Renderings of Buildings and Display Boards for
The Bank

- 1) Center for the Disabled
- 2) Mechanics Exchange Savings Bank, 111 Washington
Avenue, Albany, NY Architect: A.L. Lewis
- 3) Executive Tower, Stuyvesant Plaza, Inc. Owners
Architect: Lewis & O'Connor Architects
- 4) Mechanics Exchange Savings Bank, 111 Washington
Avenue, Albany, NY Architects: J. Tauss & A.L. Lewis
Associated Architects
- 5) Holland Avenue Development Plan - Picotte Mgmt.
Corp. (rendering)
- 6) Rendering of office interior
- 7) Three display boards for The Bank interiors