James Freret Office Records

SOUTHEASTERN ARCHITECTURAL ARCHIVE
COLLECTION 147


SCOPE and CONTENTS

Project drawings, travel sketches, and tax receipts
1860s – 1890s
5 boxes

Collection 147/Rev. 03/09/2017/KW/1
The collection consists of project drawings, travel sketches, tax receipts, and miscellaneous correspondence associated with New Orleans architect James Freret (1838-1897), dating from 1826-1902. Architects who worked in Freret’s office include his son-in-law Charles Allen Favrot, Louis A. Livaudais, and Rob Roy Bayhi. Favrot and Livaudais went on to form their own architectural firm. See SEAA’s digitized Freret drawings—James Freret Architectural Drawings. Also see Freret residential plans in SEAA’s 2007 exhibit—Impressing the Client, 1868 – 1940

James Freret was born in New Orleans to James P. and Livie (D’Arensbourg) Freret. His father owned a cotton press, his uncle was William Freret who served as mayor of New Orleans, and his cousin was William A. Freret, also a prominent New Orleans architect. William A. and James collaborated on the completion of the cast iron constructed Moresque Building. The building was begun before the Civil War, and completed afterwards. Before the Civil War, James trained in the office of New Orleans architect George Purves. In the early 1860s, he studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. After the outbreak of the war, he returned to Louisiana to take a commission as an officer in the Confederate Army’s engineering corps. After being wounded in battle, he returned to New Orleans before the end of the war, to take up work as an architect. Freret designed many important institutional and commercial structures in New Orleans and Louisiana, but was most prolific as a residential architect. SEAA has many of his project drawings for residences, and representation for institutional structures in New Orleans includes buildings for Little Sisters of the Poor, Masonic Hall, and the Jewish Widows and Orphans Home. 1870 drawings for proposals for Temple Sinai are included in SEAA’s holdings for religious structures.

ACCESS

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INVENTORY

Project Drawings.
Arranged by sheet number, which is circled in pencil at the bottom left of each sheet. Some sheets have two projects, which are arranged with an A and B part. Current addresses are given if known.

Box 1. Residential.

2. Kearny, J. Watts, residence. Location unidentified. Before 1883. Same design as drawing Sheet 1, but with slightly different exterior decorative details.
7b. Leblanc, J., residence. Location unidentified. Undated.

16a. Prytania Street, 4200 block, New Orleans, LA. Tarleton, James, residence. 1890.

16b. Carondelet Street, 2040, New Orleans, LA. Leathers, C.C., residence. 1890.

17a. Marengo Street, New Orleans, LA. Lorenzen residence. 1890.

17b. St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA. Lorenzen residence. 1890.


19a. First Street, 1121, New Orleans, LA. Curtius, H., residence. 1890.

19b. Third Street, 1228, New Orleans, AL. Pickles, Thomas, residence. 1890.

20a. St. Claude Avenue, New Orleans, LA. Leblanc, Julius, residence. 1890.

20b. North Rampart Street, New Orleans, LA. Leblanc, Julius, residence. 1890.


23. Constance Street, 2340, New Orleans, LA. Freret, James, residence. Undated.


32b. Prytania Street and Jackson Avenue, New Orleans, LA. Teller, James, residence. Undated.
33. Miller, T.D. Location unidentified. 1880.
39b. Flower, W.C., double tenement residence. Location unidentified. 1877.
40a. Innerarity, alterations to residence. Location unidentified. Undated.
41. Esplanade Avenue, 1500 block, New Orleans, LA. DeGeorges, A., residence. 1879.
57. Residence. Client and location unidentified. 1871. First floor plans to Sheet 58.


63b. Residence. Client and location unidentified. 1876.


64b. Residence. Client and location unidentified. Undated.


72a. Residence. Client and location unidentified. 1875.

72b. Residence. Client and location unidentified. 1875.


79. Seven tenement residences. Client and location unidentified. 1865.


82. Residence. Client and location unidentified. 1865. Labeled, “A Villa on 300 Feet Square of Ground, Section”. Section to plan on Sheet 83.


85. Fort Adams, MS. Shepherd, R.B.H., fireplace mantle. 1870.

86. Fairfax, J.W., fireplace mantle. Location unidentified. 1874.

Box 2. Religious/Tombs and Monuments/Court Houses/Commercial.

2. Temple Sinai. Design No.2. Location unidentified. 1870.
3. Temple Sinai. Design No.3. Location unidentified. 1870.
4. Temple Sinai. Design No.4. Location unidentified. 1870.
8a. Lobell’s Store, L.A. Protestant Episcopal Church. 1890.
8b. Court House. Client and location unidentified. 1890.
10. Augusta, GA. Church of the Immaculate Conception. Undated.
16b. Washington Artillery Monument, tomb. Location unidentified. ca. 1872.
17a. Washington Artillery Monument, tomb. Location unidentified. ca. 1872.
17b. Washington Artillery Monument, tomb. Location unidentified. ca. 1872.
18b. Tomb. Client and location unidentified. Undated
19. Louisiana Division: Army Tennessee, tomb. Location unidentified. Undated
20. Tombs. Clients and locations unidentified. Undated
21. Tomb. Client and location unidentified. Undated
22. Commemorative bier and funeral cart, possibly for Pope Pius IX. Ca. 1878.
23. Gazebos, five different designs. Client and location unidentified. 1884
24. Hotel. Client and location unidentified. 1865. Elevation to plans on Sheet 25
25. Hotel. Client and location unidentified. 1865. Plans to elevation on Sheet 24
27. Magazine and Common Streets, New Orleans, LA. Store, Two different elevations. Client unidentified. Undated
28. Camp Street, New Orleans, LA. Louisiana Savings Bank, alterations. Undated
29a. Wilson, C.A., Store. Location unidentified. Undated
29b. Store. Client and location unidentified. Undated
30. Canal Street, New Orleans, LA. Crescent City Railroad Company, block of buildings. Undated
31. Canal Street, New Orleans, LA. Crescent City Railroad Company, block of buildings. Undated
32. Canal Street, New Orleans, LA. Stores. Client unidentified. 1884
33. Store with two residences. Client and location unidentified. Undated
34. Store. Client and location unidentified. Undated
35. Constance, Aug. (or George?), building. Location unidentified. 1866
36. Lake, New (?), hotel and concert hall. Design No.1. Location unidentified. 1880
37. Lake, New (?), hotel and concert hall. Design No.2. Location unidentified. 1880
38. Reyes (?), E., advertising desk. Location unidentified. Undated

39. Reyes (?), E., advertising desk. Location unidentified. Undated. Same design as Sheet 37

40. Hotel or apartment building. Client and location unidentified. Undated

41. Floor framing. Client and location unidentified. Undated

42. Toilet building. Client and location unidentified. Undated. Plan of first floor to Sheet 43

43. Toilet building. Client and location unidentified. Undated. Plan of second floor to Sheet 42.

**Box 3. Travel Sketches.**

Pencil, ink, watercolor, and pastel drawings made while traveling Europe. Includes 71 loose drawings, and two small bound sketch books.

**Box. 4. Institutional.**

1. Grunewald Hall, location unidentified. 1872. Notation, “Could be adapted for Hibernia Hall”

2. Grunewald Hall, location unidentified. 1872. Notation, “Could be adapted for Hibernia Hall”


4. Masonic Hall, New Orleans, L.A. Location unidentified. 1867

5. Masonic Hall, New Orleans, L.A. Location unidentified. 1868

6. Masonic Hall, New Orleans, L.A. Location unidentified. 1871

7. Jewish Widows and Orphans, building. Location unidentified. 1868. Elevation to Sheet 8

8. Jewish Widows and Orphans, building. Location unidentified. 1868. Plans to sheet 7


12. Convent and school. Client and location unidentified. Undated


15. Jeannerette, LA. Sisters of Mercy, convent. 1891. Roof plan to Sheets 13 and 14


17. Prytania and Foucher Streets, New Orleans, LA. Little Sisters of the Poor, Convent of St. Mary, chapel. 1886. Framing details to Sheets 16–19

18. Prytania and Foucher Streets, New Orleans, LA. Little Sisters of the Poor, Convent of St. Mary, chapel. 1886. Foundation and first floor plan to Sheets 16–19

19. Prytania and Foucher Streets, New Orleans, LA. Little Sisters of the Poor, Convent of St. Mary, chapel. 1886. Elevation to Sheet 16–18

20. Prytania and Foucher Streets, New Orleans, LA. Little Sisters of the Poor, Convent of St. Mary, chapel. 1886. Details to Sheets 16–19

21. Prytania and Foucher Streets, New Orleans, LA. Little Sisters of the Poor, Convent of St. Mary, workshop building. Ca. 1886

22. Prytania and Foucher Streets, New Orleans, LA. Little Sisters of the Poor, Convent of St. Mary, laundry building. 1886.

**Box 5. Tax Receipts and Miscellaneous Correspondence.**