CHANGING THE LANDSCAPE:
EXPOSING THE LEGACY OF MODERNIST ARCHITECTS & LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

EMILY WALTERS
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER
NCSU LIBRARIES
2-year, CLIR-funded project to arrange, describe, and make available six modernist architect & landscape architect collections

Matthew Nowicki’s Dorton Arena, Raleigh, North Carolina
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Dean Kamphoefner

Images from Historical State
40,000 original drawings + project files
Approximately 1,200 linear feet
• Process previously unavailable materials for our users
• Conduct a cost analysis
• Refine our architectural processing procedures for maximum efficiency
• Try to reach traditional and non-traditional users
GOALS

NCSU students examining drawings

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DESIGN OUTREACH EVENTS

The Monthly Special

Feeling uninspired? Tired of the same old clip art? Enjoy looking at cool old stuff?

Herein lies the answer to your tribulations.

The NCSU Libraries Special Collections Research Center is a veritable trove of rare and unique materials to inspire and enhance your design projects.

Each month, we will bring a hand-picked selection of our most stimulating materials straight to you! You won’t even have to leave the comfort of your own College!

Where? The Design Library
When? Last Wednesday of the Month
11:30 am to 1:30 pm
January 26, February 23, March 30, April 27

3 out of 4 professors agree:
“Students who use primary source materials from Special Collections in their projects are 73% more likely to earn my respect and admiration.”

*This statistic was fabricated for the purpose of illustrating how truly impressive and awesome it is to have special collections.

Special Collections Pop-Up Library

Tuesday, February 28
Wednesday, February 29
11 AM - 3 PM
Design Library
DESIGN OUTREACH EVENTS

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4 events
8 hours
75 visitors
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DESIGN OUTREACH EVENTS

2 days

12 hours

60 visitors
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DESIGN OUTREACH EVENTS

2 days
8 hours
24 visitors (+ a class of 34 visitors)
Dorton Arena

Architect: Dietrick, William (Read the biography in North Carolina Architects and Builders.) Nowicki, Matthew (Read the biography in North Carolina Architects and Builders.)

Built: 1952

Geographic Location: Raleigh (N.C.)

Architectural note: Its design features a steel cable supported saddle-shaped roof in tension, held up by parabolic concrete arches in compression. The arches cross about 20 feet above ground level and continue underground, where the ends of the arches are held together by more steel cables in tension. The outer walls of the arena support Next to no weight at all.

The J.S. Dorton Arena (known to its architect as the Paraboleum) is a 7,610-seat multi-purpose arena in Raleigh, North Carolina, on the grounds of the North Carolina State Fair.

It was opened in 1952. Architect Matthew Nowicki was killed in an airplane crash before the construction phase, and local architect William Henry Dietrick supervised the completion of the arena using Nowicki's innovative design. Incorporating an unusual elliptical design by Matthew Nowicki, the North Carolina State University Department of Architecture, the arena was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on April 11, 1973. Originally named the "State Fair Arena", it was dedicated to Dr. J. S. Dorton, former North Carolina State Fair manager, in 1961. It is currently the home of the Carolina RailRiders (WTDA). In the past, it has served as the home of numerous sports teams. The longest serving tenant was the Raleigh IceCaps (ECHL) ice hockey team from 1991-1998. The American Basketball Association's Carolina Cougars also played some games there from 1969-74. Besides hosting sporting events, the arena is also used for concerts during the North Carolina State Fair. Various conventions and fairs also use floorspace of the arena as an exhibition space, often in conjunction with the neighboring Jim Graham building. The arena was also the site of a 2010 FIRST FRC regional robotics competition and was the first space to hold a regional in the state.

Map

Community: Raleigh
Street: 1025 Blue Ridge Road
Zip: 27607
Lat: 35.79005
Lng: -78.70676

Directions:

- = Known location.
= Approximate location, usually to the town.
= Building has been demolished.

Front and half end elevations and door and window details

Door elevations and door hardware details
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OUTREACH TO DONORS
INTERNAL OUTREACH

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Student, Edric Jazmin
OUTREACH TO FACULTY

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Read all about it!
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Changing the Landscape is a project to arrange & describe archival collections of 6 modernist architects & landscape architects who influenced modernism.

http://news.lib.ncsu.edu/changinglandscape/
Questions?

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