



# Smithsonian *Gardens*

Frederic H. Leibuscher garden  
portfolios, circa 1930-1996

2021

Archives of American Gardens  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Gardens
<b>Title:</b>	Frederic H. Leibuscher garden portfolios
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1930-1996
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAG.LEU
<b>Creator:</b>	Leibuscher, Frederic H., 1906-1995 (Landscape architect)
<b>Extent:</b>	1.34 Cubic feet (2 portfolios and 106 36mm slides (duplicates))
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The Frederic H. Leibuscher garden portfolios include images that document Leibuscher's professional landscape and garden design work. The collection includes photographs of awards received by Leibuscher for a number of garden show exhibits that he designed as well as photostatic copies of a booklet about artificial pools he wrote that was published by the Fels Engineering Corp. of Essex Fells, New Jersey.

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## Administrative Information

### Immediate Source of Acquisition Note

The portfolios were donated to the Archives of American Gardens in 2017 by the Sarah P. Duke Gardens, Durham, North Carolina. Duplicate 35mm slides of most of the images from the portfolios, in addition to a small number of unique 35mm slides, had been previously donated by Frederic Leibuscher's daughter to AAG in 2000.

### Available Formats

The two Leibuscher portfolios are accompanied by 106 35mm slides, most of which duplicate select garden images from the portfolios.

### Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution, Archives of American Gardens, Frederic H. Leibuscher garden portfolios.

### Restrictions

Access to original archival materials by appointment only. Researcher must submit request for appointment in writing. Certain items may be restricted and not available to researchers. Please direct reference inquiries to the Archives of American Gardens: [aag@si.edu](mailto:aag@si.edu).

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## Biographical Note

Landscape architect Frederic H. Leubuscher (1906-1995) studied civil and mechanical engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institution, but his interest in landscape design arose after he created an artificial pool and stream on his father's estate in Essex Fells, NJ. Leubuscher became well-known throughout New England, thanks to his many award-winning exhibits at the International Flower Show and his 6 gold medals from the American Rock Garden Society and the Garden Club of America. He retired from the practice of landscape design in 1945 and went on to design drafting tools for Keuffel and Esser Co.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Flower shows
- Gardens -- New Jersey
- Gardens -- New York
- Gardens -- North Carolina
- Gardens -- Rhode Island
- Gardens -- United States
- Landscape architecture

Types of Materials:

- Portfolios (groups of works)
- Slides (photographs)

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## Container Listing

### Gardens

#### New Jersey

Box 3; Box 1	NJ127: Essex Fells -- Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Bancroft Garden, circa 1930-1941 1 Photograph 1 Copy slide
Box 3; Box 1	NJ129: Essex Fells -- Mrs. Mary Case Garden, 1936 1 Photograph 1 Copy slide
Box 3; Box 1	NJ267: Essex Fells -- Dr. and Mrs. John DeVries Garden, 1939 4 Photographs 4 Copy slides
Box 2; Box 1	NJ268: Essex Fells -- Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Janes Garden, 1937 2 Photographs 2 Slides (photographs) 2 Copy slides
Box 2; Box 1	NJ269: Essex Fells -- Frederick C. Leubuscher Garden, 1931 1 Photograph 1 Slides (photographs) 1 Copy slide
Box 3; Box 1	NJ270: Essex Fells -- Dr. Ost Garden, circa 1930-1941 1 Photograph 1 Copy slide
Box 2; Box 1	NJ272: Montclair -- Mrs. Louise Glass Garden, circa 1930-1941 3 Photographs 3 Color slides 3 Copy slides Notes: The folder includes a worksheet. The garden house is the focal point of a garden of petunias in the summer. In the spring, the flower beds were planted with tulips in a serpentine pattern--thus imparting a dramatic statement. At the opposite end of the property is a sculpted lawn with flowerbeds and shrubs in a vista garden. Person(s) associated with the garden include Louise Glass (former owner). Louise Glass Home related holdings consist of 1 folder (6 35 mm. slides) Topic: Gardens -- New Jersey -- Montclair Place: Louise Glass Home (Montclair, New Jersey)

United States of America -- New Jersey -- Essex County --  
Montclair

NJ272001: [Mrs. Louise Glass Garden]: curvilinear bed of tulips in foreground of "vista" garden, [1940?]

1 Slide (col.; 35 mm.)

[Image\(s\): \[Louise Glass Home\]: curvilinear bed of tulips in foreground of "vista" garden.: \[1940?\]](#)

Photographer: Leubuscher, Frederic H., 1906-1995

Topic: Trees  
Flowering shrubs  
Gardens -- New Jersey -- Montclair  
Garden borders  
Outdoor furniture  
Lawns  
Walls, stone  
Tulips  
Chairs  
Garden houses  
Bulbs

Place: Louise Glass Home (Montclair, New Jersey)  
United States of America -- New Jersey -- Essex County  
-- Montclair

NJ272003: [Mrs. Louise Glass Garden]: straight tulip beds border lawn in front of garden house, [1940?]

1 Slide (col.; 35 mm.)

[Image\(s\): \[Louise Glass Home\]: straight tulip beds border lawn in front of garden house.: \[1940?\]](#)

Photographer: Leubuscher, Frederic H., 1906-1995

Topic: Trees  
Flowering shrubs  
Gardens -- New Jersey -- Montclair  
Garden borders  
Outdoor furniture  
Lawns  
Walls, stone  
Tulips  
Chairs  
Garden houses  
Bulbs

Place: Louise Glass Home (Montclair, New Jersey)  
United States of America -- New Jersey -- Essex County  
-- Montclair

Box 3; NJ273: Montclair -- Archie Lahead Garden, circa 1930-1941  
Box 1 1 Photograph  
1 Copy slide

Box 3; NJ274: Montclair -- Dr. Frank Paul Garden, circa 1930-1941

Box 1	3 Photographs 3 Copy slides
Box 3; Box 1	NJ275: Montclair -- Unidentified Garden(s), circa 1930-1941 4 Photographs 4 Copy slides
Box 2; Box 1	NJ280: Montclair (Upper Montclair) -- Mrs. Robbie Garden, circa 1930-1941 1 Photograph 1 Copy slide
Box 2; Box 1	NJ132: Montclair (Upper Montclair) -- Lydia Duff Hubbard Garden, 1930-1932 4 Photographs 4 Copy slides
Box 3; Box 1	NJ277: Morristown -- Mr. and Mrs. Alan P. Kirby, Fawn Hill Farm, circa 1930-1941 3 Photographs 3 Copy slides
Box 2; Box 1	NJ276: Morristown -- J. O. Hammitt Garden, circa 1930-1941 3 Photographs 3 Copy slides
Box 2; Box 1	NJ279: Summit -- J. Spencer Weed Garden, circa 1930-1941 2 Photographs 2 Copy slides
Box 3; Box 1	NJ278: Summit -- Unidentified Garden, circa 1930-1941 1 Photograph 1 Copy slide
Box 3; Box 1	NJ271: West Orange (Llewellyn Park) -- Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Scheerer Garden, circa 1930-1941 3 Photographs 1 Slides (photographs) 3 Copy slides

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## New York

Box 3; Box 1	NY406: Nedrow -- Willis H. Carrier Garden, 1938 4 Photographs 3 Color slides 4 Copy slides
Box 2;	NY498: New York -- Pach Studios, DePina Building, circa 1930-1941

Box 1  
1 Photograph  
1 Slides (photographs)  
1 Copy slide

Box 2;  
Box 1  
NY208: New York -- International Flower Show, 1935-1942  
16 Photographs  
2 Color slides  
16 Copy slides

Box 2;  
Box 3;  
Box 1  
NY570: Orangetown (Snedens Landing) -- Dorothy Willard Garden,  
1938-1939  
5 Photographs  
3 Color slides  
5 Copy slides

Landscape architect: Leubuscher, Frederic H., 1906-1995

Notes: The folder includes a worksheet.

Knowing he was going to construct a moraine here, F. H. Leubuscher first used bulky pieces of western New Jersey sandstone in the quarry garden at the 1939 International flower Show in Madison Square Garden, New York City, and then moved them here. The rocks were arranged to appear as if they had been dislodged from an underlying strata. A waterfall feeds the swimming hole. A concealed underground chamber house filters and recirculates the water. The entrance gate to the estate was brought from Europe with scattered motifs across it. These were regrouped into a coherent pattern by Leubuscher.

Person(s) associated with the garden include Dorothy Willard (former owner) and Frederic H. Leubuscher (landscape architect).

Miss Dorothy Willard Estate related holdings consist of 1 folder (8 35 mm. slides)

Garden featured in Fine Gardens (1940, 1941, 1942).

Topic: Gardens -- New York -- Sneedens Landing

Place: Miss Dorothy Willard Estate (Sneedens Landing, New York)  
United States of America -- New York -- Nassau County --  
Sands Point

NY570001: [Miss Dorothy Willard Estate]: driveway to gate with planted bank., 1939.

1 Slide (col.; 35 mm.)

Image(s): [Miss Dorothy Willard Estate] [slide]: driveway to gate with planted bank.

Photographer: Leubuscher, Frederic H., 1906-1995

Topic: Trees  
Shrubs  
Driveways  
Gates  
Retaining walls

Place: United States of America -- New York -- Rockland County  
-- Orange -- Palisades



NY570002: [Miss Dorothy Willard Estate]: rock garden with stream on sloped lawn., 1939.

1 Slide (col.; 35 mm.)

[Image\(s\): \[Miss Dorothy Willard Estate\] \[slide\]: rock garden with stream on sloped lawn.](#)

Photographer: Leubuscher, Frederic H., 1906-1995

Topic: Rock gardens

Lawns

Streams

Rocks

Place: United States of America -- New York -- Rockland County  
-- Orange -- Palisades

Box 2; NY389: Queens -- 1939 New York World's Fair (General Cigar Company  
Box 1 exhibit), circa 1930-1941  
1 Photograph  
1 Copy slide

Box 2; NY548: Sands Point -- Louis Rabinowitz Estate, 1940-1941  
Box 1 4 Photographs  
1 Color slide  
4 Copy slides

Landscape architect: Leubuscher, Frederic H., 1906-1995

Notes: The folder includes a worksheet.

F. H. Leubuscher considered rock gardens an outcropping in an alpine garden. The rock ledges are built of New Jersey limestone. A stream drips from the ledge. The buried limestone gives the effect of a buried ledge. The pool was a later project, but was one of several pools done for clients. The shelter had two changing rooms.

Person(s) associated with the garden include Louis Rabinowitz (former owner) and Frederic H. Leubuscher (landscape architect).

Louis Rabinowitz Estate related holdings consist of 1 folder (5 35 mm. slides)

Garden featured in Fine Gardens (1940, 1941, 1942).

Topic: Gardens -- New York -- Sands Point

Place: Louis Rabinowitz Estate (Sands Point, New York)  
United States of America -- New York -- Nassau County --  
Sands Point

NY548001: [Louis Rabinowitz Estate]: alpine garden with limestone ledges at pond., 1940.

1 Slide (col.; 35 mm.)

[Image\(s\): \[Louis Rabinowitz Estate\] \[slide\]: alpine garden with limestone ledges at pond.](#)

Photographer: Leubuscher, Frederic H., 1906-1995

Topic: Trees

Lawns

Japanese maple

	Stones Rock gardens Evergreens Perennials Ponds Alpine gardens Gardens -- New York -- Sands Point Louis Rabinowitz Estate (Sands Point, New York) United States of America -- New York -- Nassau County -- Sands Point
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Box 2; NY789: White Plains -- Westchester Flower Show, 1934  
 Box 1 2 Photographs  
 2 Copy slides

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## North Carolina

Box 3; NC019: Durham -- Sarah P. Duke Gardens, 1939-1996  
 Box 1 5 Photographs  
 5 Slides (photographs)  
 4 Copy slides

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## Rhode Island

Box 1 RI156: Newport -- Unidentified Garden (plan), circa 1930-1941  
 1 Slide

Box 2; RI155: Newport -- Newport Flower Show, 1934  
 Box 1 1 Photograph  
 1 Copy slide

Box 3; RI032: Newport -- Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Gilbert, Four Acres, 1935-1936  
 Box 1 1 Photograph  
 1 Copy slide

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## Unidentified Location

Box 3; LEU001: Unidentified Location -- Harry Derby Garden, 1937  
 Box 1 1 Photograph  
 1 Copy slide

Box 3; LEU002: Unidentified Location -- Unidentified Garden(s), circa 1930-1941  
 Box 1 4 Photographs  
 1 Copy slide

Box 2; LEU003: Unidentified Location -- Unidentified Garden [Mrs. Louise Glass?],  
 Box 1 circa 1930-1941

1 Photograph  
1 Copy slide

Box 1

LEU004: Unidentified Location -- Unidentified Garden(s), circa 1930-1941  
3 Slides

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## Awards

Box 2	Boston Spring Show, 1933 1 Photograph
Box 2	NY208: International Flower Show, 1936-1942 2 Photographs
Box 2	The Garden Club of America, 1942 1 Photograph
Box 2	The Horticultural Society of New York, circa 1930-1942 1 Photograph
Box 2	Atlantic City Flower Garden Pageant, circa 1930-1942 1 Photograph

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## Publications

Box 2

Lead-Lined Artificial Pools, 1932

8 Photocopies

Author: Leubuscher, Frederic H., 1906-1995

Publisher: Fels Engineering Corp. (Essex Fells, New Jersey)

Box 3

Fine Gardens by Frederic H. Leubuscher, circa 1930-1945

1 Booklet

Landscape architect: Leubuscher, Frederic H., 1906-1995

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## Video

Box 3

Landscape Designs of Frederic H. Leubuscher, 1930-1944, 2011  
1 DVD

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