



ArchivesSpace

# **Finding Aid for the Harland Bartholomew architectural drawings and planning charts for the 1927 Grand Rapids, Michigan city plan Collection 115**

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on November 17, 2017.  
Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections  
Department

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Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

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URL: <http://www.grpl.org>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
<b>Creator:</b>	Bartholomew, Harland
<b>Title:</b>	Harland Bartholomew architectural drawings and planning charts for the 1927 Grand Rapids, Michigan city plan
<b>ID:</b>	Collection 115
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1927
<b>Physical Description:</b>	2.1 Linear Feet One box
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	Harland Bartholomew (1889-1989) was a city planning expert from St. Louis, Missouri during the early part of the 20th century. In 1926, he was contracted by Charles Garfield, head of the Grand Rapids City Planning Department, to survey Grand Rapids and prepare a growth plan for the city. He prepared numerous drawings and based from his findings the Planning Department produced a booklet titled, "Planning the Future of Your City: The Grand Rapids City Plan." Included in the collection are 35 oversized blackline architectural prints done by Bartholomew, with input from others, and used for the 1927 publication. The drawings that display dates range from 1921-1923.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Harland Bartholomew was an expert city planner from St. Louis, Missouri during the early part of the 20th century. In the 1920s, he was contracted by Charles Garfield, head of the Grand Rapids City Planning Department to survey Grand Rapids and prepare a growth plan for the city. He prepared numerous drawings and based from his finding the Planning Department produced a booklet titled, "Planning the Future of Your City: The Grand Rapids City Plan." The city had prepared several growth plans during the first decades of the 20th century and the Bartholomew Plan (as it came to be called) was the most extensive.

The material demonstrates the state of City Planning during the 1920s. In addition the charts present historical data on the growth of the physical city as well as documentation of the existing conditions in 1926-1927. This was the first modern city plan of significance for Grand Rapids, and has often been

referenced in subsequent plans, though most of the proposed changes were not made. It joins the class of numerous other such plans done for U.S. cities by Bartholomew during his professional career.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department

111 Library Street NE  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

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URL: <http://www.grpl.org>

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Anonymous, no accession number

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## Related Materials

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### Related Materials

Coll. 254, Grand Rapids Building Collection : Architects & Planners, Architecture & Planning, Historical Preservation, Landscape Architecture

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- government records
- City planning -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History

## Collection Inventory

### Series I. Bartholomew Drawings, 1918-1927

Title/Description	Instances	
"Planning the Future of Your City: The Grand Rapids City Plan," 1927	Box 1	
View of Future Grand Rapids, showing effect of improvements proposed in city plan / Harland Bartholomew, City Plan Engineer, St. Louis.	Box 1	Folder 1

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### Explanatory/Descriptive plates, 1927

Title/Description	Instances	
Existing Recreational Facilities / City Plan Commission, 1923; Bartholomew	Box 1	Folder 2

### Stages in the Growth of Grand Rapids

Title/Description	Instances	
Original town, 1850	Box 1	Folder 2
1857	Box 1	Folder 2
1861	Box 1	Folder 2
1891	Box 1	Folder 2
1916	Box 1	Folder 2
Street and Roadway Design	Box 1	Folder 2
Chart Showing a Classification of Population & Recreation Facilities. Jan. 10, 1922	Box 1	Folder 2
Elementary School Statistics arranged to show Playground needs.	Box 1	Folder 2
Suggested Cross-sections of Pleasure Drives, Grand Rapids, Michigan. 1922.	Box 1	Folder 2
Stages in the Growth of Grand Rapids, Michigan / Harland Bartholomew, City Plan Engineer, Saint Louis. 1925. Figures indicate year in which boundary was changed. These years are: 1850, 1857, 1861, 1891, 1916, 1925, Beyond 1925 [projections]	Box FF.IX.E	

### Subject Plates, 1927

Title/Description	Instances	
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Undeveloped Areas Within the City, 1921	Box 1	Folder 3
Existing Neighborhood Parks and Population, 1921	Box 1	Folder 3
Distribution of Population, 1921	Box 1	Folder 3
School Populations, Schools and existing Playgrounds, 1921	Box 1	Folder 3
Map showing distribution of all recreation facilities	Box 1	Folder 3
Dwellings Erected in Past Five Years, 1921. Indicating dwellings erected 1918-1922	Box 1	Folder 3

## Streets, 1927

Title/Description	Instances	
Paved Streets and Areas Served by Water & Sewer, 1921	Box 1	Folder 4
Streets 66 Feet Wide and Over, 1921	Box 1	Folder 4
Map showing street endings and jogs, 1921	Box 1	Folder 4
Major Streets Within City, 1921	Box 1	Folder 4
Topographical map of Grand Rapids and surrounding region showing outline of a proposed pleasure drive system, 1923. Topography from U.S. Geological Survey.	Box 1	Folder 4

## Urban Mass Transit, 1927

Title/Description	Instances	
Present Street Car Lines, 1921	Box 1	Folder 5
Plan showing present street car lines and time zones, 1921.	Box 1	Folder 5
Showing development of Street Railway Lines, 1865-1896, 1921	Box 1	Folder 5
Proposed Enlarged Transit System	Box 1	Folder 5
Present routing of transit lines in Business District / Proposed routing of transit lines in Business District	Box 1	Folder 5
Present arrangement of track and areas served / Possible rearrangement of present track and additional areas served	Box 1	Folder 5

## Railroads, 1927

Title/Description	Instances	
Railroad Properties, 1921	Box 1	Folder 6
Proposed Rearrangement of Transportation Facilities	Box 1	Folder 6
Freight & Passenger Terminals, Oct. 1923. Shows streets from Straight to the West, Division to the East, California to the North, and (Chestnut) Rumsey, or Graham to the South.	Box 1	Folder 6
Improvements proposed in Central Section of Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1923. Includes a proposed stadium for Reservoir Park	Box 1	Folder 6

## Traffic Flows / Land Usage, 1927

Title/Description	Instances	
A Diagram showing traffic Flow in Business Section	Box 1	Folder 7
Existing Transit Lines Traffic Flow for typical day, 1921	Box 1	Folder 7
Proposed Major Street System outside of City, 1921	Box 1	Folder 7
Chart showing characteristics of Central Section of Grand Rapids	Box 1	Folder 7
Map of the City of Grand Rapids, Mich., showing districts for Height and Area Regulations, 1922	Box 1	Folder 7
Map of the City of Grand Rapids, Mich., showing districts for Use Regulations, 1922	Box 1	Folder 7
Diagram showing Property Values in the Business District / City Plan Commission. Includes Fulton to Michigan and Campau to Division.	Box 1	Folder 7

## Proposed Designs, 1927

Title/Description	Instances	
Sketch Plan, Wilcox Park / designed by E. V. Goebel, Supt. Of Parks.	Box 1	Folder 8
Street Improvements and Traffic Flows : diagram showing street improvements proposed in the Central Section of Grand Rapids and the simplified and distributed traffic movement that will result. 1923	Box 1	Folder 8
A Suggested Memorial Scheme for Grand Rapids : based on the proposed extension of State Street. Includes a rendering and plan. Includes Library to State and Division to Jefferson.	Box 1	Folder 8
Proposed Connection of Fourth & Bridge Streets, showing adaptation of streets to topography.	Box 1	Folder 8
Proposed Connection of Division to Ionia Ave. / Proposed Connection of Pearl & Fountain Streets	Box 1	Folder 8
Proposed Bond Avenue Improvements & the North-South thoroughfare system. [Bird's eye perspective by Fred Graf 1923 shows a view to the South from the Belknap area.	Box 1	Folder 8
Proposed Crescent Street Development & Campau Avenue Improvements. Renderings and plan. Plan has the extended Campau Ave. to Bostwick as Crescent Park and Lyon to Michigan.	Box 1	Folder 8