

**Louise Blanchard Bethune:
America's First Professional Woman Architect**



**Louise Blanchard Bethune
July 21, 1856 - December 18, 1913**

The following items can be seen in our library by appointment.
Links have been added where available.

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• **Books**

NA735 .B9 L68 1996

Wachadlo, Martin, comp.

Louise Blanchard Bethune and her office: Partial list of known works, 1883-1897...

[Blasdell, NY: Martin Wachadlo, 1996]

The addresses identified by Wachadlo have been incorporated into this spreadsheet:

<http://tinyurl.com/BECHS006>

NA737 .B48 B37 2006

Barbasch, Adriana

A tribute to the first professional woman architect admitted to the American Institute of Architects

[Buffalo, NY: American Institute of Architects, Buffalo/Western New York Chapter, 2006]

Induction of Louise Bethune, FAIA, to the Western New York Women's Hall of Fame, Rockwell Hall, Buffalo State College Thursday, March 9, 2006

NA737 .B48 H39 2007

Hays, Johanna A.

[Louise Blanchard Bethune: Architect extraordinaire and first American woman architect, practiced in Buffalo, New York \(1881-1905\)](#)

Auburn, AL: Auburn University [2007]

This dissertation describes and analyzes her training, commissions, clients, and her relationship to the professionalization of architecture in the context of the social, economic, and technological changes that transformed Buffalo, New York, as well as most American cities, between 1880 and 1905.

NA737 .B485 B53 2024

McAlonie, Kelly Hayes & others

[Bethune : every woman her own architect : University Archives of the University at Buffalo, March 2023-April 2024](#)

[Buffalo, NY] : University Archives of the University Libraries, University at Buffalo, The State University of New York, [2024]

This catalog was published in conjunction with the exhibit based on the book "Louise Blanchard Bethune: Every Woman Her Own Architect" by Kelly Hayes McAlonie; exhibit co-curated by Sarah Cogley and Marie Elia.

NA737 .B485 H39 2014

Hays, Johanna A.

Louise Blanchard Bethune: America's first female professional architect

Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, Inc. [2014]

Hays' dissertation, published in book form.

NA737 .B485 H385 2023

Hayes, Kelly McAlonie

[Louise Blanchard Bethune : every woman her own architect](#)

Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, [2023]

Full-length biography with photographs published for the first time

NA1997 .B53 2014

Blank, Carla and Martin, Tania

[Storming the Old Boys' Citadel: Two Pioneer Women Architects of Nineteenth Century North America](#)

Montreal, Quebec: Baraka Books, ©2014

Can be borrowed as an e-book for one hour from Archive.org. Dual biography of Bethune and Mother Joseph, considered the first woman architect in Canada.

NA1997 .T47 1988

"That exceptional one:" Women in American architecture, 1888-1988

Washington, DC: American Architectural Foundation, ©1988

A short exhibition catalog which features Bethune and other women architects

TX941 .L34 2014

Albarella, Jacqueline

The Hotel Lafayette: Restoring Louise Bethune's masterpiece

Buffalo, NY: Keller Bros. & Miller, ©2014

"After decades of neglect, the hotel has been meticulously restored in breathtaking architectural detail and has taken its place on the National Register of Historic Places. Local award-winning photographer, Jacqueline Albarella has captured this remarkable restoration in stunning, full-color combined with historical background information and first-hand insights from some of the dozens of craftsmen and artisans who worked on the project." -- From back cover

Rare TX941 .L34 L34

Lafayette Hotel, Buffalo, N.Y.

Buffalo, NY: Matthews-Northrup Works, date unknown

A promotional brochure illustrated with small interior photographs. A [Scholar Pass](#) is required to view this item.

● Manuscripts and Archival Material

Unfortunately, Bethune's business records, plans, and drawings do not survive. According to Madeleine B. Stern ([We the Women](#), 1963, p. 324), the Bethune office items were bequeathed by Robert A. Bethune, who died a few years after Louise, to William L. Fuchs, their business partner. Mr. Fuchs died in 1930. Margaret Fuchs, William's daughter, told Stern that the office records "have long since been disposed of."

A [Scholar Pass](#) is needed to view the following manuscript collections.

Mss. A00-605

Bethune, Louise

Deacon John Blanchard of Dunstable, his family and descendants

[Buffalo, NY: Louise Bethune, 1910]

A 13-page volume of newspaper clippings from the Boston Evening Transcript, with additional notes; mounted and bound.

Mss. A00-606
Bethune, Louise, 1856-1913
Blanchard Family Records

Typescript genealogy compiled by Bethune sometime around 1912. Part I: Men descended from Thomas Blanchard of Charlestown. Part II: Women descended from Thomas Blanchard of Charlestown. Part III: Men and women whose Blanchard ancestry is uncertain.

Mss. A2011-05
Bethune, Bethune & Fuchs
Bethune, Bethune & Fuchs frame dwelling drawings, April 1902

Consists of 6 photocopies (30 x 32 cm.) of architectural drawings of a frame dwelling for Mr. H.J. Girvin at 85 1/2 Seventeenth St., Buffalo, NY, designed by in April 1902 by Bethune, Bethune & Fuchs. Copied from originals in a private collection.

Mss. B2013-02
Lafayette Hotel Business Records, 1900-1975
2 boxes + 1 oversize ledger.

*Collection does not include architectural plans or drawings or guest registers. The only Bethune material appears below **in bold**.*

Box one includes: *Record book, including by-laws of the corporation, June 11, 1900, articles of incorporation, and record of stockholders meetings, June 11 - November 5, 1900; Letter from Duparquet Huot & Moneuse Co., New York to C.R. Eldrige, Lafayette Hotel dated April 6, 1910, re specifications and estimate for installing cooking apparatus; Letter from City Trust Co. to Lafayette Hotel Company dated March 2, 1917, re bond coupons; Proxies for 1942 annual meeting; notice of 1943 annual meeting; List of Officers from 1948; List of stockholders, undated; minutes of executive committee and report of the secretary from 1948; Proposals for laundry equipment from the Troy Laundry Machinery co. and the American Laundry Machinery Manufacturing Co., dated 1910; **Specifications for cooking apparatus and equipment by Bethune, Bethune & Fuchs**, dated March 15 and April 12, 1910; Specifications by Esenwein & Johnson for plumbing in old part of building, dated November 24, 1915 and for the new ball room dated January 1, 1916; Contract between Dark & Company and Charles H. Everitt for two separate lines of new bathrooms dated December 17, 1917; Sheet of bond coupons from 1912 and assignment of mortgage bonds by Mary D. Yates from 1948; Volume of stock certificates, June 3, 1904-June 7, 1937; and a Stock book for June 3, 1904 - January 4, 1920.*

Box two includes: *a general ledger including income, rooms, restaurant, bar, barber shop, tailor shop, laundry, general expenses, heat, light & power, maintenance, miscellaneous and fixed charges; and a journal of financial transactions, December 2, 1939 - December 31, 1942.*

• Photographs & Postcards

General Subject Collection: Persons – Bethune, Louise

Has the one published photograph of Bethune, taken as a young adult.

[A high-resolution download of this image can be purchased for publication.](#)

General Subject Collection: Buildings – Residences – Hotels – Lafayette

Interior and exterior pictures of the Lafayette Hotel

[A few images are now available for purchase as prints, merchandise, or high-resolution downloads](#)

Postcard Collection: Buildings – Residences – Hotels – Lafayette

Includes color postcards of the interior and exterior

• Ready Reference

These are folders of clippings and articles, We'll get them out for you.

Bethune, Louise

A folder of mostly contemporary brochures, newspaper and magazine articles, and published essays, including her obituary and short biographies from encyclopedias.

Hotels - Lafayette

A folder with a few vintage and mostly contemporary newspaper articles

• Online Sources

Buffalo's Bethune

www.slideshare.net/BuffaloHistory/buffalos-bethune-americas-first-woman-architect-43522151

Panel designs from a Buffalo History Museum exhibit held from 2011-2012 on Louise Bethune.

Some objects displayed on the panels were not available for online use. Brian McAlonie and Kelly Hayes McAlonie co-curated this exhibit.

List of Building Designed by Bethune, Bethune & Fuchs

<https://research.lib.buffalo.edu/Bethune/list-of-buildings>

Compiled by the University at Buffalo Libraries, 2024

Map of Buildings Designed by Bethune, Bethune & Fuchs

<https://research.lib.buffalo.edu/Bethune/map-of-buildings>

Compiled by the University at Buffalo Libraries, 2024

Zina Bethune Collection on Louise Bethune

<https://digital.lib.buffalo.edu/items/browse?collection=185>

Previously unpublished family photographs of Louise and relatives, courtesy of her granddaughter Zina Bethune (1945-2012) and the University at Buffalo.

This document is online at <http://tinyurl.com/TBHM-Bethune>

[Return to Buffalo History Museum Research Library Website](#)