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The Law School Records at the University of Michigan: An online exhibit

The Bentley Historical Library holds 120 linear feet of records from the University of Michigan Law School. The records date from before the School's founding in 1859 until 1999, and include photographs of students, deans and facilities; correspondence files of deans after 1904; architectural records of the Law Quadrangle; and records from some of the law students' organizations. The records are fully described in the [Bentley Library Law School finding aid](#).

This exhibit was designed by Jennifer Jacobs, assistant archivist, University Archives and Records Program. The site became part of the Bentley Library exhibit collection in June 2001. The images used in the exhibit are from collections housed at the Bentley Library. Digital facsimiles of the photographs were made specifically for this exhibit. Access to the Law School digital images and other digital images from the Bentley Library see: The [Bentley Library Image Bank](#).¹³

THE LAW QUADRANGLE

The Law School moved to its new quarters in 1930. At the specifications of benefactor William W. Cook the Quadrangle was modeled on the architecture of Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Cook had earlier donated funds for construction of the Lawyers' Club and Martha Cook women's dormitory.

View more images of the [Law Quad](#)



[Law Quadrangle](#)

THE OLD LAW SCHOOL BUILDING

The first Law Building on campus was located on the northwest corner of the Diag. Built in 1863 at a cost of \$15,000, it was renovated and enlarged in 1893 and again in 1898. When the Law School moved to its new quarters the old Law Building was renamed Haven Hall after former UM President Erastus O. Haven. Haven Hall burned in 1950.



[University of Michigan photographs vertical file, UBImsD13. No. 195, Bentley Historical Library.](#)

View more images of the [Old Law Building](#)

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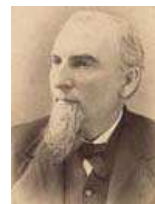
The Law School Deans



[James V. Campbell,](#)
[1859-1871](#)



[Thomas M. Cooley,](#)
[1871-1883](#)



[Charles A. Kent,](#)
[1883-1886](#)



[Henry Wade Rogers,](#)
[1886-1891](#)



[Jerome C. Knowlton,](#)
[1891-1895](#)



[Harry B. Hutchins,](#)
[1895-1910](#)



[Henry M. Bates,](#)
[1910-1939](#)



[E. Blythe Stason,](#)
[1939-1960](#)



[Allan F. Smith,](#)
[1960-1965](#)



[Charles W. Joiner,](#)
[\(acting\), 1965-1966](#)



[Francis Allen,](#)
[1966-1971](#)



[Theodore J. St.](#)
[Antoine, 1971-1978](#)



[Terrance Sandalow,](#)
[1978-1987](#)



[Lee C. Bollinger,](#)
[1987-1994](#)



[Jeffrey S. Lehman,](#)
[1994-2003](#)



[Evan H. Caminker,](#)

2003-

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The Law School Quad

THE LAW QUADRANGLE



[Campus Views. General Views. Aerial views, central campus and hospital area together](#)

William W. Cook's vision for the Law School was nearing realization in 1930 as the Quadrangle was completed with construction of the Legal Research Building.

WILLIAM W. COOK

William W. Cook was the benefactor who built the four buildings of the Law Quadrangle. A graduate of the Law School, Class of 1882, Cook amassed a fortune as a Wall Street lawyer. Though he followed the design and construction process with concern for the smallest detail, Cook died in 1930 without ever visiting Ann Arbor to see what his gift had wrought. This image is of a bust molded from his death mask, as he would not pose for photographs during his life.



[William W. Cook bust](#)

THE LAWYER'S CLUB



[Law School \("The Lawyer's Club"\)](#)

The Lawyers' Club--a dormitory and dining hall for law students--was the first building on the Law Quad.

THE LEGAL RESEARCH BUILDING

The reading room of the Legal Research Building.



Interior of library**THE LAW LIBRARY EXPANDS**

In the 1970s, when many of the books in the Law Library were inaccessible due to space constraints, it was not financially possible to build an addition in the ornate Gothic style of the extant Law Quad. Gunnar Birkerts, an architect from Birmingham, Michigan, was hired to solve the problem of integrating the new addition with the old Legal Research Building. Below are images from the construction of the underground addition, which is three floors deep, and lit by a large glass moat that brings light and reflections of the original Gothic structure to each level.

Image Citation: Box 117, Folder: Photographs, Construction of Law Library Addition, Law School (University of Michigan) records, 1852-1994, Bentley Historical Library.

These two photographs are just a small sample from the Gunnar Birkerts collection. The Bentley Library is the repository for the architectural drawings, photographs, and papers of Mr. Birkerts.

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Student Life

LAW SCHOOL CLASS OF 1886



On verso, this image reads "*Papa's
graduating class - Ann Arbor -
Michigan University.*"

[Image Citation: Box 68,
Folder: Photographs,
Students, Class of 1886,
Law School \(University
of Michigan\) records,
\(b1003523\), Bentley
Historical Library.](#)

THE LAW SCHOOL DURING WORLD WAR II

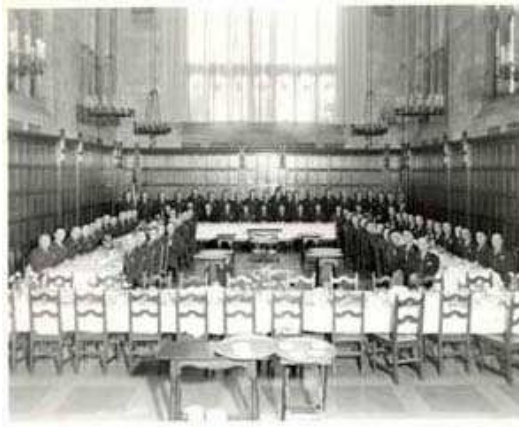
The Judge Advocate School was located at the Law School during the War.



[UM Judge Advocate General's School -
Classroom break](#)



Judge Advocate General's School drill with helmets in the Law Quadrangle



Judge Advocate General's School graduation banquet

THE 1970S



Two students--without helmets or shoes --rest in the Law Quadrangle, circa 1970.

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Law School Faculty History at the Bentley Historical Library

The Bentley Historical Library, archives of the University of Michigan, holds manuscript papers, oral history interviews, lectures, and related historical material including photographs for a number of Law School faculty. Manuscripts of some faculty relate to their teaching and research; in other collections, the papers concern the faculty's associated university activities, legal work, political activity, government service, or social and family life. The size of related material for an individual faculty member ranges from a few items to over thirty linear feet.

All faculty manuscript collections are cataloged in MIRLYN, the University of Michigan's online catalog. For most manuscript collections, there is at least a folder-level description, or "finding aid," available at the library. In addition, some manuscript collections have an online finding aid available as a link via MIRLYN. (MIRLYN will always indicate whether a finding aid is available, either online or at the library). Recent [oral history interviews](#) and [compiled lectures](#) of a century ago (1881-1919) are listed in separate finding aids. The list below indicates availability at the Bentley of manuscript papers [[finding aid](#)], or lecture per individual faculty member [[lec](#)].

[Administrative records](#) relating to the Law School are also preserved and made available through the Bentley Historical Library, with a finding aid updated regularly. The Bentley also holds copies of most [Law School publications](#) and records of the [Law Library](#).

1859-1874

- Campbell, James V. (1859-85) [[finding aid](#)]
- Cooley, Thomas M. (1859-84) [[finding aid](#)]
- Walker, Charles I. (1859-87) [[finding aid](#)]
- Kent, Charles A. (1868-86) [[finding aid](#)]
- Wells, William P. (1874-91) [[finding aid](#)]

1875-1899

- Felch, Alpheus (1879-83) [[finding aid](#)]
- Rogers, Henry W. (1883-90) [[finding aid](#)]
- Hutchins, Harry B. (1884-87, 1895-1910). [[finding aid](#)]
- Knowlton, Jerome C. (1885-1916) [[finding aid](#)]
- Griffin, Levi T. (1886-97) [[finding aid](#)]
- Conely, Edwin F. (1891-93) [[Law School lectures finding aid](#)]
- Angell, Alexis C. (1893-96) [[finding aid](#)]
- Wilgus, Horace F. (1895-1929) [[finding aid](#)]
- Johnson, Elias F. (1896-1901) [[finding aid](#)]
- Lane, Victor H. (1897-1928) [[finding aid](#)]

1900-1924

- Goddard, Edwin C. (1900-35) [[finding aid](#)]
- Sunderland, Edson R. (1901-18) [[finding aid](#)]
- Bates, Henry M. (1903-39) [[finding aid](#)]
- Holbrook, Evans (1907-32) [[finding aid](#)]
- Aigler, Ralph (1910-54) [[finding aid](#)]
- Waite, John B. (1912-51) [[finding aid](#)]
- Shartel, Burke W. (1920-68) [[finding aid](#)]
- Stason, E. Blythe (1924-72) [[finding aid](#)]

1925-1949

- Blume, William W. (1926-66) [[finding aid](#)]
- Niehuss, Marvin L. (1933-2003) [[finding aid](#)]
- Kauper, Paul G. (1936-74) [[finding aid](#)]
- Plant, Marcus L. (1946-85) [[finding aid](#)]
- Palmer, George E. (1946-94) [[finding aid](#)]
- Joiner, Charles W. (1947-88) [[finding aid](#)]

- Bishop, William W. (1948-87) [[finding aid](#)]
- Reed, John W. (1949-64, 1968-) [[finding aid](#)]

1950-1974

- Brown, Elizabeth G. (1951-1968) [[finding aid](#)]
- Pierce, William J. (1951-) [[finding aid](#)]
- Conard, Alfred F. (1954-) [no online finding aid]
- Stein, Eric (1955-) [[finding aid](#)]
- Proffitt, Roy F. (1956-) [no online finding aid]
- Polasky, Alan N. (1957-76) [[finding aid](#)]
- Harris, Robert J. (1959-74) [[finding aid](#)]
- Watson, Andrew S. (1959-98) [[finding aid](#)]
- Kennedy, Frank R. (1961-) [[finding aid](#)]
- Kamisar, Yale (1965-) [[finding aid](#)]
- St. Antoine, Theodore J. (1965-) [[finding aid](#)]
- Sax, Joseph L. (1966-86) [[finding aid](#)]
- Sandalow, Terrance (1966-) [no online finding aid]
- Fleming, Robben W. (1968-) [no online finding aid]
- Edwards, Harry T. (1970-76, 1977-80) [[finding aid](#)]

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Law School Class Photographs, 1873-1966

Beginning in 1873, composite class photographs of each Law School graduating class were created. The practice was discontinued in 1966. Some photos include identifications directly under the individual images, in others the images are numbered with legend at the bottom or side of the composite. The Bentley Historical Library and the Law Library combined their collections to digitize the 85 known composite photos. No composite photos have been found for 1874, 1876, 1944, 1945, 1959 and 1965.

Class of 1873	Class of 1901	Class of 1926	Class of 1954
Class of 1875	Class of 1902	Class of 1927	Class of 1955
Class of 1877	Class of 1903	Class of 1928	Class of 1956
Class of 1879	Class of 1904	Class of 1929	Class of 1957
Class of 1880	Class of 1905	Class of 1930	Class of 1958
Class of 1881	Class of 1906	Class of 1931	Class of 1960
Class of 1882	Class of 1907	Class of 1932	Class of 1961
Class of 1883	Class of 1908	Class of 1933	Class of 1962
Class of 1884	Class of 1909	Class of 1934	Class of 1963
Class of 1885	Class of 1910	Class of 1935	Class of 1964
Class of 1886	Class of 1911	Class of 1936	Class of 1966
Class of 1887	Class of 1912	Class of 1937	
Class of 1888	Class of 1913	Class of 1938	
Class of 1889	Class of 1914	Class of 1939	
Class of 1890	Class of 1915	Class of 1940	
Class of 1891	Class of 1916	Class of 1941	
Class of 1892	Class of 1917	Class of 1942	
Class of 1893	Class of 1918	Class of 1943	
Class of 1894	Class of 1919	Class of 1946	
Class of 1895	Class of 1920	Class of 1948	
Class of 1896	Class of 1921	Class of 1949	
Class of 1897	Class of 1922	Class of 1950	
Class of 1898	Class of 1923	Class of 1951	
Class of 1899	Class of 1924	Class of 1952	
Class of 1900	Class of 1925	Class of 1953	

[Browse all Class Photographs](#)

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