



Montclair History Center

Guide to the *Dudley Van Antwerp Materials*

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Summary

This collection contains photographs, postcards, and other images documenting the life and career of Montclair architect, Dudley Van Antwerp (1867-1934).

Creator(s): Van Antwerp, Dudley; Fenn, Hilda Van Antwerp; Fenn, Harry; Walters, Dorothy

Dates: Early twentieth century

Location: Library, 3rd Floor

Quantity: 2 boxes

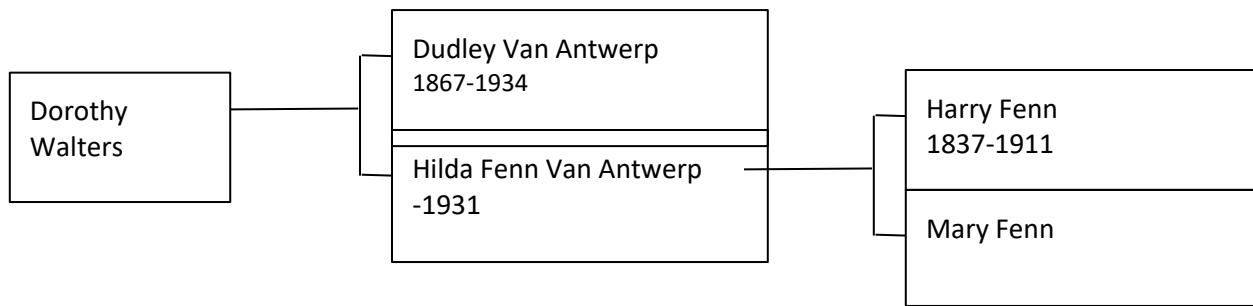
Biographical Note

Dudley Strickland Van Antwerp was born August 27, 1867, in Huntington, Indiana and moved with his family to Montclair in 1880. According to the *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects*, Van Antwerp studied architecture in New York and worked as a draftsman with several notable firms, including that of William B. Tuthill, the architect of Carnegie Hall (1891) in New York. Early in the 1900s, after practicing architecture in a New York partnership, Van Antwerp opened an office in Montclair, where he had an independent practice for more than twenty-five years. He died on January 17, 1934; a member of the American Institute of Architects, his obituary in the *Montclair Times* states that he designed 500 houses, indicating a prolific practice.

Hilda Fenn Van Antwerp (d. 1931), an interior decorator and painter who worked as an associate with her husband, was the daughter of Harry Fenn (1838-1911), one of America's foremost watercolor artists and illustrators in the latter part of the nineteenth century. Mrs. Van Antwerp was born in England and came to the United States in 1889; she married Van Antwerp in 1901. Her father was Harry Fenn, a leading member of Montclair's renowned artistic community of the 1870's - 1890s.¹

Harry Fenn (1837 - April 22, 1911), an English born illustrator, engraver, and painter, came to Montclair around 1865. Fenn contributed illustrations to John Greenleaf Whittier's *Snow-Bound* as well as a popular series called *Picturesque America* edited by William Cullen Bryant. Fenn also produced watercolors, some of which are reproduced in this collection. The Cedars wherethe Fenn family lived (208 North Mountain Avenue-1884) was designed by H. Edwards Ficken. Dudley Van Antwerp designed the residence Fenn lived in in his late years, at 284 Park Street, in 1906.

¹ Submitted by Majda Kallab Whitaker, Cultural and Design Historian, for use by the Montclair Historical Society.



Scope and Content

Photographs and postcards of homes designed by Dudley Van Antwerp make up the majority of this collection. Most of these images capture an exterior view of the homes, though some interior shots are available. Other photographs depict members of the Fenn and Van Antwerp families (see family tree above). Some written documents are also included, such as obituaries, written histories of Van Antwerp buildings, deeds, and wills.

Arrangement Note

The internal order of the photographic albums that make up most of this collection has been maintained. To the best of our knowledge, the larger order of the collection has been preserved as it was received with a few exceptions. A new folder was added to box 2 with materials received from the present owners of *The Cedars* in 2016.

Subject and Name Headings

Subjects:

- Architecture
- Arts and crafts movement--United States
- Art, American--New Jersey--Montclair

Names (authorized):

- Fenn, Harry, 1838-1911

Names (unauthorized):

- Van Antwerp, Dudley
- Van Antwerp, Hilda Fenn
- Walters, Dorothy

Points of Interest

31 Fairfield Street, Montclair, NJ - residence of Dudley and Hilda Van Antwerp

208 N Mountain Road, Montclair, NJ - The Cedars - residence of Harry and Mary Fenn

40 Chestnut Street, Montclair, NJ - Van Antwerp Office & Studio

Container List

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER/ALBUM	CONTENTS
1	Photo album 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Photographs of Harry Fenn and family ● Photographs of Van Antwerp family ● Photographs of <i>The Cedars</i> ● Biography of Harry Fenn ● Obituaries for Dudley Van Antwerp, Hilda Fenn Van Antwerp, Dorothy Walters ● Original illustration by Harry Fenn ● Photographs of framed water colors by Harry Fenn ● History of 'Union Congregational Church' by Dorothy Walters
	---	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Whitaker, Majda Kallab. "All in the Family: Arts & Crafts, Dudley Van Antwerp and his creative relations." <i>Nineteenth Century</i>, Vol. 36, No. 1, p. 3-13.
2	Folder 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Photographs of Dudley Van Antwerp's home (31 Fairfield St, Montclair, NJ) ● Photographs of Watchung Congregational Church ● Photographs of Van Antwerp Family: Dudley, Hilda, and children, Donald and Dorothy ● Proposed additions to Upper Montclair Country Club ● Photographs of Van Antwerp Office/Studio (140 Chestnut St, Montclair, NJ)
	Photo album 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Photographs of Watchung Congregational Church ● Photographs of homes designed by Dudley Van Antwerp--interiors and exteriors--many unidentified
	Photo album 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Photographs and postcards of homes designed by Dudley Van Antwerp; in Montclair, Glen ridge, Verona, and other locations; many with street level addresses
	Photo album 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Photographs and postcards of homes designed by Dudley Van Antwerp; in Montclair, Glen ridge, Verona, and other locations; many with street level addresses
3	Folder 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Family papers (Walters, Van Antwerp), including deeds, wills, mortgages, and titles.
	Folder 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 31 Fairfield Street
	Folder 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 31 Fairfield Street
	Folder 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dudley Van Antwerp family
	Folder 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dudley Van Antwerp / Hilda Fenn Antwerp
	Folder 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Houses