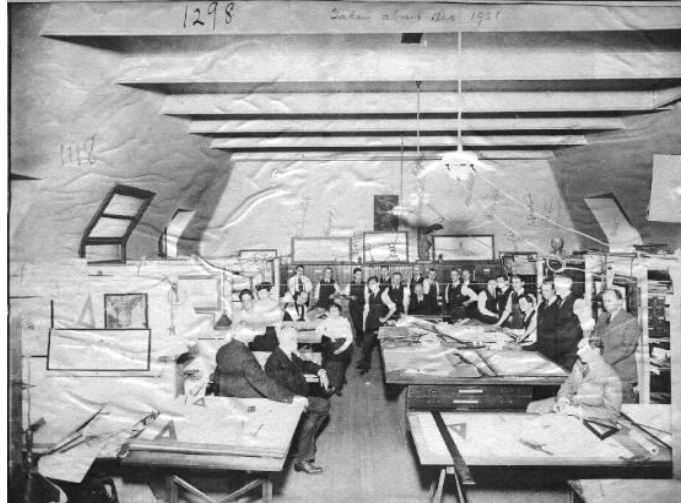




Architect: Klauder, Charles Zeller
Birth/Death Dates: 1872-1938
Practice Dates: 1887-1938
Firms: Wilson Bros., Cope & Stewardson, Frank Miles Day & Bro.,
Day & Klauder

Biographical Information

Practicing architecture in his Philadelphia-based office, Charles Z. Klauder invented the unique campus architectural language known as the “Colorado Style” for the University of Colorado, Boulder in 1918. This invention is unique and has become an established architectural identity for the Boulder campus, and all new campus buildings are required by the Campus Architect to emulate this language. Klauder is therefore responsible for having a major, and continuing, impact on the architecture of the State of Colorado.



1. Day & Klauder office, December 1921
(Klauder seated at the right front of photo.).
Day & Klauder Collection, Athenaeum of Philadelphia

Charles Z. Klauder was born in Philadelphia on February 9, 1872; the son of two immigrants from Germany. Unlike many of his eventual peer group architects, Klauder did not attend an ivy league college or the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, but instead trained at the School of Industrial Art in Philadelphia and at 15 years old, began working as an apprentice for the most prominent Philadelphia firms such as Cope & Stewardson and Horace Trumbauer. Klauder became very well known for his drafting skills, and in 1900, Klauder earned the position of chief draughtsman for the firm, Frank Miles Day & Brother. In 1911, Klauder was promoted to partner in the firm which was renamed Day & Klauder. Frank Miles Day died in 1918; Klauder continued to operate the firm under the name Day & Klauder.

The partnership of Day & Klauder was one of the most influential and prolific collegiate and campus design architecture firms in the country. Their list of clients included the following institutions: Princeton, Yale, Brown, Cornell, University of Delaware, Penn State University, Franklin & Marshall University, Wellesley, University of Pittsburgh, and their western-most clients, University of Colorado and University of Denver.

Klauder worked in a wide variety of architectural languages and tailored his designs to existing campus character and contexts. A majority of his work focused on the



execution of collegiate gothic language; one of the most notable architectural accomplishments in this genre is the 42 story Cathedral of Learning, dedicated in 1937, as the primary campus library at the University of Pittsburgh. The Commons Room in the Cathedral of Learning is considered a masterwork in the 15th century English perpendicular style.

Klauder and Herbert C. Wise, a partner at the firm Day & Klauder, authored a book titled "College Architecture in America" which was published in 1929. The book featured work from their own firm but also included work of competing firms, with instructions for important architectural features to be considered specifically in the design of campus buildings.

Klauder was hired by University President Livingston Farrand to create a new campus masterplan for the University of Colorado it's expected expansion, and Klauder first visited Boulder in early July 1917. At the outbreak of World War I, Farrand received a war-related assignment in Paris which left George Norlin to serve as acting University President, and primary client contact for Klauder. Day & Klauder



2. Charles Z. Klauder photo, Plate 4
Lowell, Guy, "Smaller Italian Villas and Farmhouses," 1922

submitted a comprehensive campus plan titled "A Preliminary Report Upon the Architectural Development of the University of Colorado" on November 2, 1917. Day & Klauder also submitted an overall campus model to the Board of Regents illustrating the plan for the campus and its anticipated growth. Of the fifteen existing campus buildings,

Klauder proposed that only Macky Auditorium and Hale Science remain, and that all other buildings be demolished to achieve the new campus plan. This model still exists and is stored in the University of Colorado archives.



3. Baker Hall. U of Colorado Boulder Photo: M.



4. Sewell Hall, U of Colorado Boulder photo: M.



Klauder advocated for a consistent style of architectural language to be used on all future campus buildings. As a response to the context of the Colorado Front Range foothills, Klauder was inspired by Tuscan hill town architecture as a suitable and appropriate architectural reference and inspiration.

As a reference to the materials of rural Tuscan architecture, Klauder incorporated red clay roof tiles, locally quarried Lyons sandstone as the main exterior wall material and the use of carved Indiana limestone for Renaissance (neo-Classical) designs at the entry doors and window surrounds, and various trim articulations. His first building on the campus was a general arts and sciences building (now Hellems Arts & Sciences) built in 1921. Between 1921 and 1939, Klauder designed fifteen buildings on the Boulder campus (a few buildings were completed posthumously). Five buildings attributed to Klauder: Hellems Arts and Sciences (1921), Buckingham Library addition (1923), Ekeley Laboratory wings (1925), Mckenna Languages (1937), and Norlin Library (1939) are listed in the Inventory of Buildings Contributing to the Character of the Norlin Quadrangle Historic District, established by the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.

During his tenure working on the University of Colorado Boulder campus, Klauder was also commissioned to design a building at University of Denver. Margery Reed Hall was completed in 1929 and contains a theater proscenium arch mural by the Colorado early modernist painter, John Edward Thompson.

Charles Klauder died at the age of 66 on October 30, 1938; and is interred at the West Laurel Hill Cemetery in Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania on the Main Line just outside Philadelphia.



5. Aerial Photo of Sewell Hall, approx. 1930,
Photo: AA Paddock Collection, Rare and Distinctive Collections at the University of Colorado Boulder Library



Credited Buildings (partial list)

Building Name	Location	Site No.	Date	Status
Liberal Arts (Hellems Arts & Sciences)	University of Boulder – Colorado		1921	Norlin Quadrangle Historic District (NQHD) Contributing building
Buckingham Library stacks wing addition (University Theatre)	University of Boulder – Colorado		1923	NQHD Contributing building
Men’s Gymnasium (Carlson Gym)	University of Boulder – Colorado		1924	
Ekeley Laboratoires, East & West Wings	University of Boulder – Colorado		1926	
Women’s Gymnasium (Clare Small Arts & Sciences)	University of Boulder – Colorado		1928	
Margery Reed Hall	University of Denver 2306 East Evans Ave. Denver, Colorado 80208		1929	
Memorial Student Union (Economics)	University of Boulder – Colorado		1930	
Women’s Residence Hall (Sewall Hall)	University of Boulder – Colorado		1934	
Field House (Balch Field House)	University of Boulder – Colorado		1936	
Men’s Residence Hall (Baker Hall)	University of Boulder – Colorado		1937	
Natural History Museum (Henderson Hall)	University of Boulder – Colorado		1937	
Women’s Club (McKenna Languages)	University of Boulder – Colorado		1937	NQHD Contributing building
Hellems East & West Wing additions	University of Boulder – Colorado		1938	NQHD Contributing building
Ketchum Engineering (Ketchum Arts & Sciences)	University of Boulder – Colorado		1938	
Norlin Library	University of Boulder – Colorado		1939*	NQHD Contributing building
University Faculty Club (University Club)	University of Boulder – Colorado		1939*	
McKenna Addition	University of Boulder – Colorado		1947**	NQHD Contributing building

* Construction completed posthumously

** Collaboration with Harold Stuart Jones & James M. Hunter



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