



# THE URBANA FREE LIBRARY

210 West Green Street, Urbana, IL 61801 • 217-367-4057 • [urbanafreelibrary.org](http://urbanafreelibrary.org)

Lachlan F. Blair  
Photograph Collection, 1942-1978

Collection 375

## Champaign County Historical Archives

**Compiled by:** Sherrie Bowser, November 2023

**Creator/Corporate Name:** Lachlan F. Blair

**Inclusive Dates:** 1942-1978, bulk 1976

**Physical Description:** 1 box, (0.25 linear ft.)

**Provenance:**

The Lachlan Blair photographs were donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives.

**Access:**

These records are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of The Urbana Free Library.

**Biographical Note:**

Lachlan Blair was born September 6, 1919 to Neil Ferguson Blair and Rebecca Henderson Gunn Blair in Lakewood, OH. He married Mary Novotny on December 12, 1942. Blair was a long-time urban planning professor at the University of Illinois (1966- 1988) and is credited with pioneering the urban planning field in the 1950s and founding the historic preservation movement in Champaign-Urbana. Locally, he was a member of the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission, the Champaign County Arts and Humanities Council, the Champaign County Design and Conservation Foundation. He was a founding member of the Champaign Urbana Mass Transit District, Champaign's Preservation and Conservation Association (PACA), and Urbana's Historic Preservation Commission. After his retirement from the University in 1988, he co-founded The Urbana Group a consultant firm in historic preservation.

Blair was known for his extensive slide collection of local buildings. In 1997 he donated his collection to PACA. He died August 5, 2001.

**Scope and Content Note:**

This collection contains a selection of prints from Blair's slide collection. These prints are of mostly unidentified houses and buildings. The majority of the prints have the date 2-76 (February 1976) written on the reverse. The photographs are arranged by slide number.

**Separated Material:**

Other Blair prints can be found in our Photograph Envelopes collection and can be discovered by searching for Lachlan Blair in Local History Online.

**Subject Terms:**

Architecture, Domestic  
Dwellings  
Photographs



# THE URBANA FREE LIBRARY

210 West Green Street, Urbana, IL 61801 • 217-367-4057 • urbanafreelibrary.org

Lachlan F. Blair

Collection 375

Photograph Collection, 1942-1978

## Container List

### Box 1

**Folder 1:** Blair Obituary, 2001

### Folder 2:

Slide number 2: Bonner Tool Factory Homes, [Champaign, IL]

Slide number 4: Lee House, Champaign, IL

Slide number 6: Bonner Tool Factory House, [Champaign, IL]

Slide number 35: [Factory with two red and white checked water towers]

Slide number 226: Apartments, west of Country Fair, Bloomington Road and Mattis, [Champaign, IL]

Slide number 295: University of Illinois Animal Science Lab, view east of Mumford Hall, lab under construction

Slide number 586: [Brick and timber house with fishscale and halfcove decorative shingles; same house as slide 1089]

Slide number 587: [White three-story house with dark roof and wrap around porch; same house as slide 1088]

Slide number 594: [Stucco house in snow]

Slide number 714: [Row of houses]

### Folder 3:

Slide number 733: [House number 616, close up of decorative emblem]

Slide number 1024: [White three-story house; house number 1018]

Slide number 1027: [Close up of gable; same house as slide 1030 and 1031]

Slide number 1028: [Row of houses]

Slide number 1029: [Shingled house with turret]

Slide number 1030: [White three-story house with awnings; same house as slide 1027 and 1031]

Slide number 1031: [White three-story house with awnings; same house as slide 1027 and 1030]

Slide number 1032: [Gray house three-story house with white trim]

Slide number 1033: [Brick house two-story house; house number 405]

Slide number 1034: [White three-story house with screened in porch and a wraparound porch]

### Folder 4:

Slide number 1035: [White three-story house with gray roof]

Slide number 1036: [Blue three-story wood sided house with decorative trim]

Slide number 1037: [White house with arched side windows and two-story porch]

Slide number 1038: [White house with green trim]

Slide number 1039: [Yellow house; close up of gable with decorative window]

Slide number 1040: [Yellow house; close up of decorative paneling and white gable vent]

Slide number 1083: [White two-story house with gingerbread trim]

Slide number 1084: [Teal one-story house]

Slide number 1088: [White three-story house with dark roof and wrap around porch; same house as slide 587]

Slide number 1089: [Brick and timber house with fishscale and halfcove decorative shingles; same house as slide 586]