The Hennebique agency archive collection

Le fonds d'archives de l'agence Hennebique

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DOI: 10.4000/books.inha.12787
Publisher: Publications de l'Institut national d'histoire de l'art, Honoré Clair, InVisu (CNRS-INHA)
Place of publication: Arles
Year of publication: 2012
Published on OpenEdition Books: 2 March 2021
Serie: InVisu
Electronic ISBN: 9791097315016

http://books.openedition.org

Printed version
Date of publication: 1 January 2012

Electronic reference
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From 1967, the Hennebique archive collection was conserved at the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers (Paris). In 1989, it was deposited with the archives of the Institut Français d’Architecture.

Although incomplete (estimated at 50,000 files among the 150,000 dealt with by the agency between 1898 and 1967), this archive is nevertheless the largest collection of documents existing in France on the history of construction with reinforced concrete (with that of the Pelnard-Considère et Caquot design office conserved at the Archives Nationales du Monde du Travail in Roubaix). It consists of 400 linear meters of case files, 10 linear metres of agency documents, 6500 photographs, and almost every issue of the journal *Le Béton armé* (1898-1939).

The design files make up the main body of the collection and are spread over a period going from 1892 to 1939. Of varying size (in terms of volume and contents), each file was assigned an order number (*numéro d’affaire*) corresponding to that of the series in the main office. The files contain written documents (correspondence, calculations, quantity sheets, and “breakdown and use of bars” sheets (making it possible to order materials). In certain cases, there are