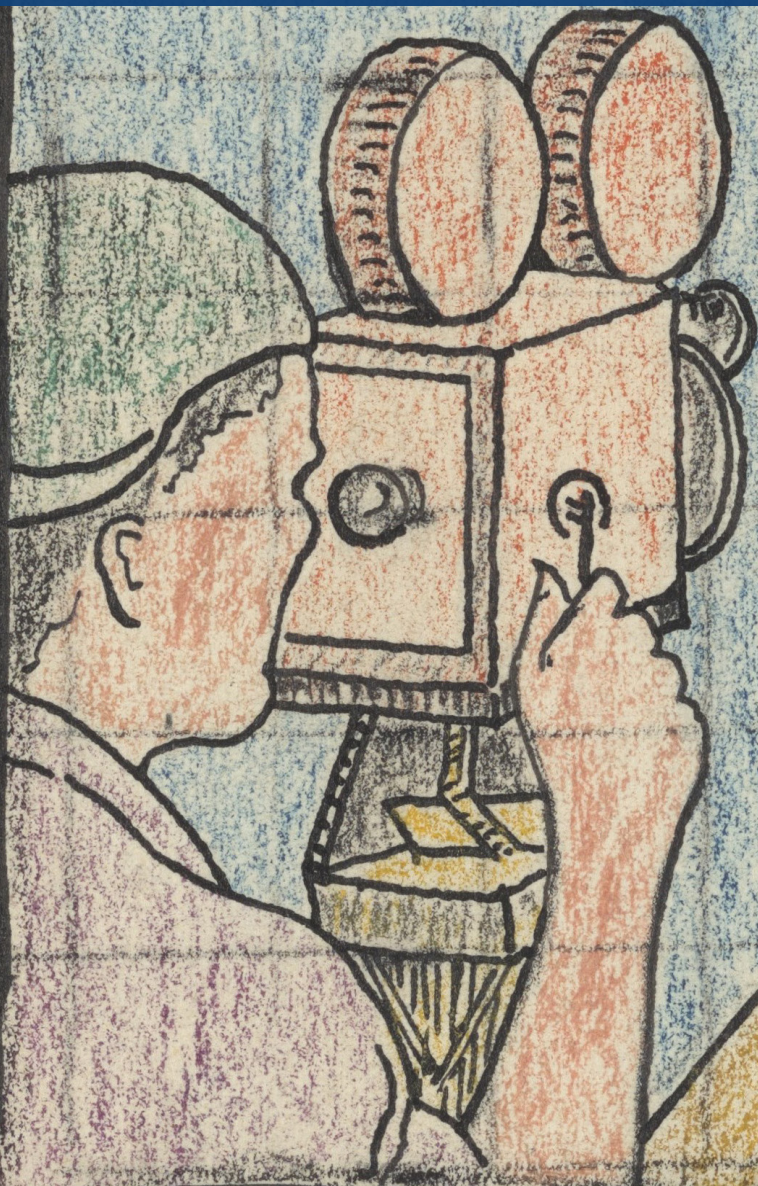
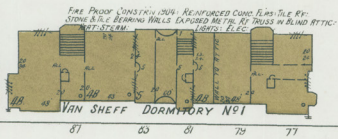


'One Sound, Tested Method'
YALE LAW SCHOOL AT 200

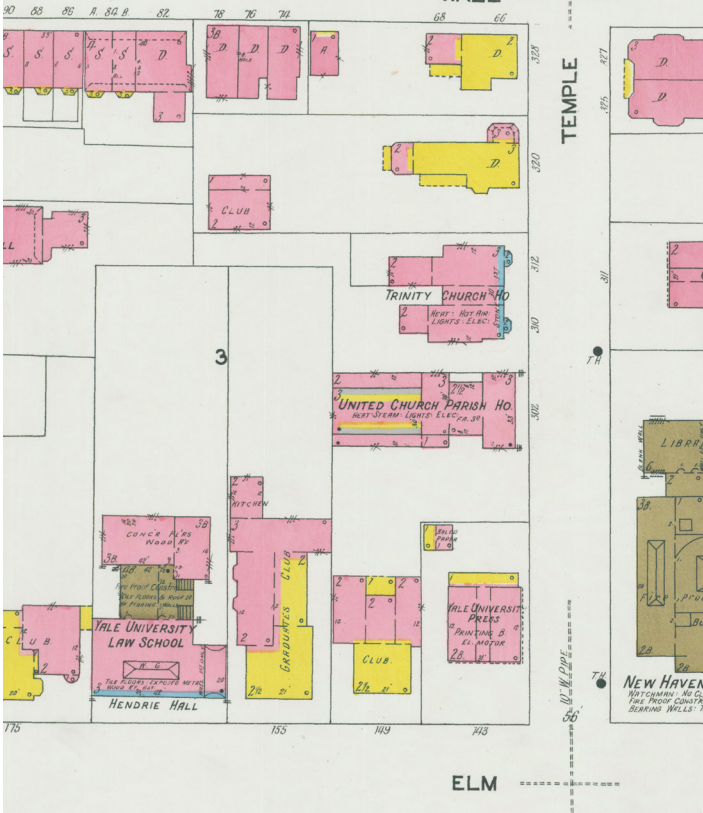


SHEFFIELD SCIENTIFIC SCHOOL OF YALE UNIVERSITY



WALL

TEMPLE



‘One Sound, Tested Method’ YALE LAW SCHOOL AT 200

An exhibition at the Lillian Goldman Law Library
Yale Law School
New Haven, Connecticut

AUGUST 15, 2024 - JANUARY 13, 2025

On November 11, 1824, Samuel Hitchcock, B.A. 1809, calculated the cost of wood, coal, oil, and candles for the two-room office he shared at the corner of Church and Court Street in New Haven. That same month, Yale College published the names of the fourteen students of the proprietary law school Hitchcock oversaw with its founder and his former teacher, Seth Perkins Staples, B.A. 1797. That list, of those students, marked one beginning of what would become the Yale Law School.

This exhibit celebrates the bicentennial anniversary of that fledgling law school. Drawing on the Lillian Goldman Law Library’s historical collections, the exhibit traces the characteristics discernible in the Yale Law School even at its outset: a small community of faculty and students and its library, situated within the communities of practice of New Haven, Connecticut, and an emergent American legal profession.

FACING: “Yale University Law School,” Hendrie Hall, Elm Street. Detail, Sanborn Map Company, *Insurance Maps of New Haven, Connecticut*, vol. 2 (New York, 1924). *Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University, 766 N46 1925*



MEETINGS & ADJACENCIES

In the Spring of 1940 or 1941, Joseph Iseman, LL.B. '41, took up his camera to document the annual *Law Journal* - Faculty baseball game. Fred Rodell, Roscoe Steffen, Myre S. McDougal, and others focus intently on the game, bundled into coats and sweaters. Caught in a moment's blurry snapshot, Arthur Corbin peers from the outfield towards his colleagues, baseball glove on hand.

From its earliest incarnation, the Yale Law School has been a community of faculty and students, intersecting with each other, sometimes transforming the trajectories of each other's lives. "I was outside looking in. Hillary was inside and walked outside," then presidential candidate Bill Clinton, J.D. '73, wrote of their first meeting, as students, at the threshold of the Yale Law School's library. The library itself captures many of those moments of intersection: Samuel Hitchcock signs his name in a book he had acquired from Seth Staples, and Simeon E. Baldwin can be found throughout the collection, acquiring, reassembling, and donating the books once owned by his colleagues.

In May 1966, years after that baseball game, *Life Magazine* published a story on the class of 1940, describing the careers of Gerald Ford, Byron White, Walter Lord, and others, and what happened next for many of Iseman's fellow students, as they moved forward out of the community of the Yale Law School.

FACING: Detail, Arthur Corbin (*bottom right*) and others, in Joseph Iseman, Photographs of the *Law Journal* - Faculty baseball game (Spring 1940 or 1941). *YL 176*

complacently. "But at when she's had her sell her the rest of that comes down. There's a person as to dwell es, and I made up my me to do everything I poor Mary, and I think

ave," replied the other, med nearly distracted table."

it to this, but not so cause she is not so ous sympathizer, the s upon distracting the rer by forcing all sorts s upon it. If it is be he comforter is a wo upon discussing the s and offering to run terns, or send in some bout the present mode low's veil. She dis l has an opinion upon d absolutely drags out s from the pale lips of plaintively but quite

ore in the least! Have s proper and use your

that isn't right, you the comforter. "You use yourself and take will care about all this and it is so much bet- thing right to begin

I could do it all my- ll," explains the com- to some one else pros- so much better that she poor dear!"

tormenting her. oother kind of sorrow. oman whose husband another woman. In licious sympathizer is so and offers of help in ing telegrams, seeing fewing reporters and useful and perhaps esservice, but with this thizer all made very nded continually with et of distracting the rer. One case of this aber was that of a dear une hunter had delib- in her father lost his her came to me full of

A WOMAN LAWYER.

Mrs. A. J. Blake Is the First Woman to Graduate From Yale College.

Mrs. Alice Jordan Blake of California and Washington enjoys the distinction of being the first woman graduate of Yale college. Mrs. Blake was Miss Alice R. Jordan, an Ohioan by birth, but educated in Michigan. At the high school in Coldwater she was considered a prodigy and entered the University of Michigan at the age of 16. After devoting four years to the literary course she entered the law department, and at the end of one year, before reaching the senior class, she passed a rigid exami-



MRS. ALICE JORDAN BLAKE.

nation and was admitted to practice in the Michigan courts. Still unsatisfied in her ambition, Miss Jordan asked admission to the law department of Columbia college, New York, but was refused solely on account of her sex, and she next turned to Harvard with the same result. Yale permitted her to study, but without the prospect of receiving a degree. At the close of her course, however, the corporation of the college met in special session and voted a degree, with full honors.

It was that which drew from Noah Porter on his retirement from the presidency of Yale the remark, "Would that I had never lived to be called upon to sign a Yale college degree granted to a woman."

Miss Jordan continued her legal studies in California, where she married a former classmate, George D. Blake,

sire of every heart, for in it can they hope for earthly Praying to the mountain spiri- shiping every hilltop is the e- ancestral reverence. Shrires e- are at every mountain pass, e- bow and make a trivial offer!

"YOU'LL HAVE TO ADMIT M ALICE RUFIE JORDAN, 1883

void. This decision is a hit and will cause a sensation country, for within the specif 500 divorces have been grante ritory by probate judges. A la of the persons so divorced h married. They came from ev the Union to take advantage ma's liberal divorce enactme now left in a queer predicam will at once appeal the cas preme court of the United S tempt to get the territorial su decision reversed. The deci affect the divorce law of the any way beyond the fact that must be granted by the distr

A Girl's Daring Feat

There are not many girls dare leap from a yacht under ocean, or, what was practical to a rocking bell buoy anchor from shore. But this was a performed by Miss Laura Warren not yet 20 years old and a She is not a very large girl, spirit, and when in a tone of



MISS WARWICK STANDING ON THE Mast of the Yacht, a member of the fleet of Atlantic, with whom sailing, dared her, she mount of the boat, and she went on

School Days

“A Woman Lawyer,” ran the *Marion Daily Star’s* 1894 headline on Alice Rufie Jordan Blake, LL.B. 1886, the first woman graduate of Yale College.

Having qualified to practice in Michigan, “Miss Jordan” applied to study law at Yale in 1885, after having been refused admission by Columbia and Harvard. Decades later, in 1923, Simeon E. Baldwin described Jordan’s subsequent encounter with the Yale College registrar: “You’ll have to admit me,’ the young woman put in grimly. ‘There isn’t a thing in your catalogue that bars women.”

“A Lady Law Student,” wrote the *Yale Daily News* that October, drily questioning whether the “forthcoming catalogue” would record her candidacy for the LL.B. Jordan’s mere presence received attention, as did the question of whether she would be awarded a degree. That January, the paper reported her departure, only to retract the statement in February.

Jordan did receive her degree from Yale that Spring, with honors. As the *Marion Daily Star* hinted, however, the university preferred to view Jordan’s admission as the exception to a continuing norm. She remained the only woman graduate of the Yale Law School until 1920.

FACING: Theo. Holland, “A Woman Lawyer,” *The Marion Daily Star* (Marion, OH, September 17, 1894), p. 2.

Catalogue of my law books &c

1794

Oct 21

Cyias Mull bought of
 Esqr Dwykinch Esq New York
 & paid in full as per bill -

£ s d
 price of the books

Blackstone's Commentaries	4	1	4	0
Powell on Mortgages	1	0	12	9
— on Devises	1	0	12	9

1795 March

paid in full

Powell on Contracts	1	0	12	6
Coke on Littleton	1	1	1	
Strange's Reports	2	1	10	0
Talbot's cases	1	0	10	6
Bacon's Abridg	5	6	0	0
Morgan's Essays	3	1	8	0
		£ 11	2	0

1796
 July 27
 do do

Espinasse of J. Casfield	1	0	10	6
Buller on trials p. 99. Selman	1	0	9	0
Cokes Entries of Court	1	0	12	0
		£ 1	11	6

1796
 July 27th
 paid

Swifts System for the post from Hartford	2	1	4	0
Postage on do		0	1	10

Oct 27th
 paid

Beers Esq & paid in full				
Cokes Reports	1 Fol	0	10	0
Crozier's Reports	3	1	76	0

CATALOGUE OF MY LAWBOOKS &C

In 1806, Barzillai Slosson, B.A. 1791, catalogued his personal library, noting the books he'd bought during his first ten years in practice in Kent, Connecticut. First on this list was a copy of William Blackstone's *Commentaries on the Laws of England*, bought in 1794. Several entries and two years later, Slosson added a copy of the first American legal treatise, *A System of the Laws of the State of Connecticut* (1796) by Zephaniah Swift, B.A. 1778.

It is no coincidence that Slosson's collection mirrors the holdings of the early Yale Law School's library. From the outset, its library was one of the school's most significant assets. Access to his collection of English law books was an incentive to the students who apprenticed with Staples in his office. When Staples left for New York in 1824, Samuel Hitchcock purchased books from his collection, building a personal library which would in turn be acquired for the Yale Law School after his death in 1845. It was for "tuition and use of library" that Yale College charged the \$75 fee listed in its 1826 description of the curriculum overseen by Hitchcock and David Daggett, B.A. 1783.

By 1873, as the school languished in its "dingy" office in the Leffingwell Building, it was the library that drew the New Haven Bar to invite the law school into the newly renovated New Haven County Courthouse. "Almost our first ray of sunshine," Dean Francis Wayland wrote in 1905 of that move.

FACING: Detail, Barzillai Slosson, "Catalogue of My lawbooks &c," Oct 24, 1794 - May 16, 1806. *MssA Sl55 no. 6 flat v. 1*

THE ATTORNEY WHO KNOCKED
OUT THE BALTIMORE SEGREGATION
ORDINANCE



WARNER T. MCGUINN

VITAL STATISTICS

“We are pleased to produce in this issue a cut of Attorney Warner T. McGuinn,” wrote the *Philadelphia Tribune* in December 1917, citing McGuinn’s recent case and the implications of its decision that the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling against segregation applied to Baltimore. McGuinn, LL.B. 1887, pasted the clipping into his archive, the copy of John Shaw Billings’ *Vital Statistics of the District of Columbia and Baltimore* (1890) which he used as a scrapbook.

McGuinn had worked his way through his first year at Yale Law School. As his obituary in Washington, D.C.’s *Afro-American* (July 17, 1937) records, he was elected President of the Kent Club, in which capacity he met a visiting speaker, Mark Twain, at the New Haven train station to escort him to the school. As the scholar Shelley Fisher Fishkin has described, Dean Francis Wayland encouraged Twain in his wish to provide financial support for McGuinn.

McGuinn worked tirelessly as an attorney, city councilman, and civil rights activist in Baltimore, as his scrapbook attests. Thurgood Marshall later described his mentor as “one of the greatest lawyers who ever lived. If he had been white, he’d have been a judge.”

FACING: “The Attorney Who Knocked Out the Baltimore Segregation Ordinance,” *Philadelphia Tribune* (December 22, 1917). From a scrapbook of newspaper clippings kept by Warner Thornton McGuinn, 1901-1918. *Yale University Library, Manuscripts & Archives Department, MS 1258, no. 77*

①

THE WRITING OF A CASE NOTE

BY

KARL NICKERSON LLEWELLYN

Editor-in-Chief

1918—1919

transpose	- tr.
space	- #
close space	- C
insert	- ^
lower case	- l. c.

#/l/ "It is for us the living rather than
 the dead to be dedicated here to
 the task;
 great/ ^ tr/
 l.c./

YALE LAW JOURNAL

1920

BEGINNINGS & ENDINGS

In 1920, a year after serving as Editor-in-Chief of the *Yale Law Journal*, Karl Llewellyn, B.A. 1915, LL.B. 1918, J.D. 1920, published *The Writing of a Case Note*, a precursor of the *Bluebook*. The short pamphlet, in its blue cover, addresses itself to an inexperienced editor, leading them through a “method of investigation” of legal cases. Read twice, Llewellyn warns: look at multiple sources; never take an author at their word.

When Barzillai Slosson bought his copy of Blackstone in 1794, it was to mark his professional arrival: the completion of his apprenticeship and mastery of the “blackletter” texts necessary to be admitted to the Bar. Llewellyn addressed himself to a student of a different generation: one trained in an institutional law school, with access to a library of professional literature, in a field in which, increasingly, the case had become the primary unit of legal thinking.

For Llewellyn, as for Staples and the founders of the Yale Law School, students had above all to know how to read as lawyers. “Beyond all that,” Llewellyn wrote, “all that can be said of the following is: that it is **one sound, tested method** of reaching the result desired, which will serve to help a man to construct an approach of his own.”

FACING, BELOW & ABOVE: Karl Llewellyn, *The Writing of a Case Note* (New Haven: Yale Law Journal, 1920). Front cover and detail, p. 8, showing an excerpt from Abraham Lincoln, “Gettysburg Address,” as a copy-editing example. *Faculty Collection L77 Pamphlets no. 1*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This exhibition reflects the contributions of many colleagues, and I would particularly like to thank Caitlyn Lam and Tyler Lannigan, for their photographs of the collections. I would also like to acknowledge the painstaking scholarship on which this exhibit draws, including the work of Frederick C. Hicks, Yale Law Librarian; Laura Kalman, Distinguished Research Professor of History at the University of California, Santa Barbara; Julie Krishnaswami, Head of Instruction and Lecturer in Legal Research; John Langbein, Sterling Professor Emeritus of Law and Legal History and Professorial Lecturer in Law; Michael Morand, Director of Community Engagement, Beinecke Library, and New Haven City Historian; Judith Schiff, Chief Research Archivist, Yale University Library, and New Haven City Historian; and Fred Shapiro, Associate Director for Collections and Special Projects and Lecturer in Legal Research.

Curated and designed by
Kathryn James, Rare Book Librarian
Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School

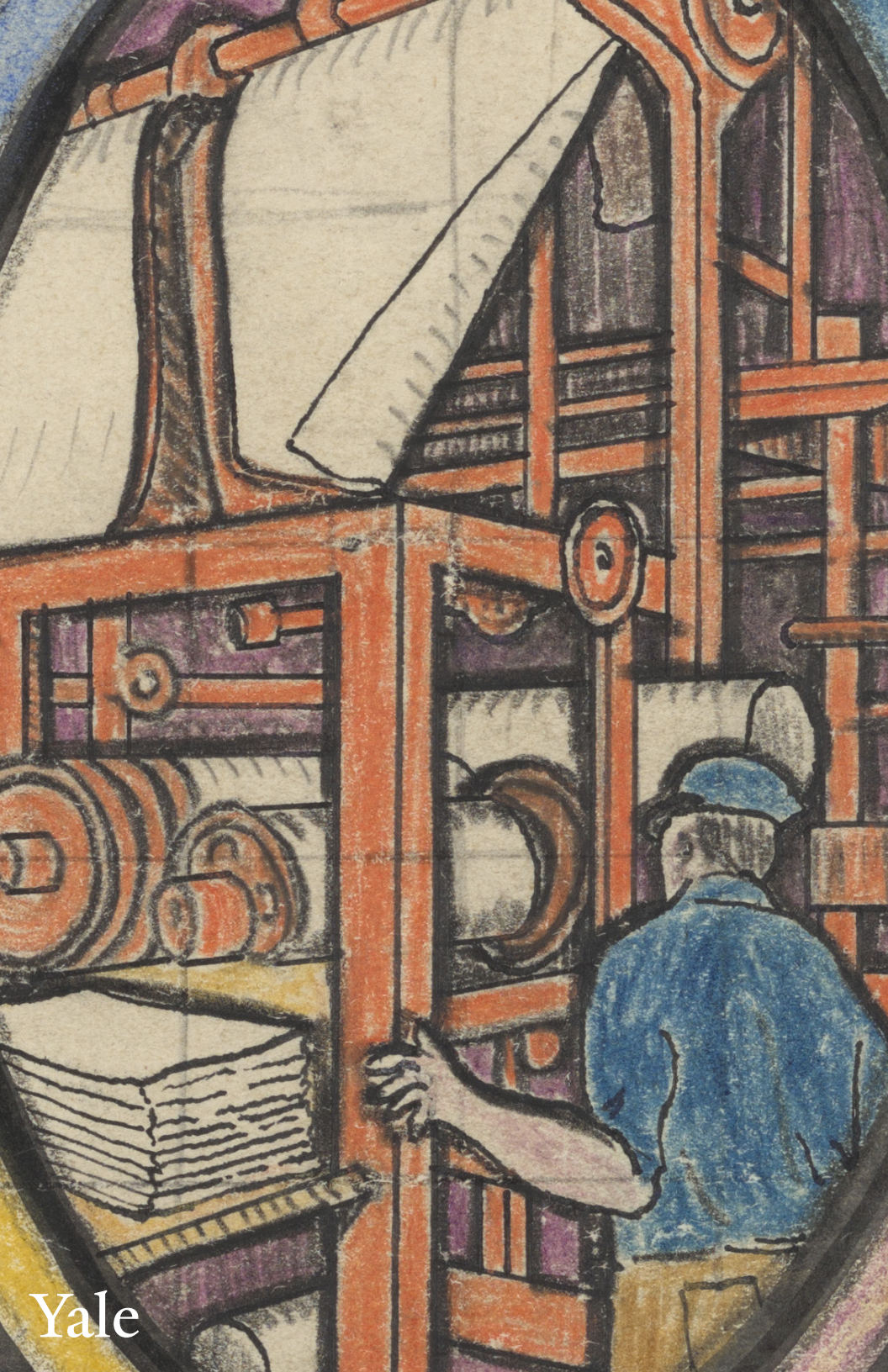
Printed by GHP in West Haven, Connecticut

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FACING: Yale Law School, at its location in the New Haven County Courthouse. Detail, A.B. Hill, *City of New Haven, Connecticut* (Boston: Geo. H. Walker, 1893). *Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, 776 N46 1893J*

FRONT AND REAR COVER: Details, “Moving picture machine” and “Modern printing press.” From a collection of construction drawings for stained glass in the Sterling Law Buildings. New York: Henderson Brothers, ca. 1930. *YL 17 H383 flat*





Yale