Frank Lloyd Wright and Cincinnati: Bibliography & Acknowledgements

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He went to Springfield, Illinois, in 1909, in 1914, 1925, 1926, and 1954-59, and in Wisconsin. In 1914, Wright's wife, Catherine, had left him. Wright's legal affairs were managed by his legal assistant, Valdemar Boulter, and newspapers highlighted the architect's debts.

In 1928, Herbert Hoover's alma mater, the University of Cincinnati, was informed of Wright's legal affairs. The university had assisted him with the construction of Taliesin West in 1914. However, Wright had not paid his bills to the university. The university then foreclosed on Taliesin West and brought Wright before the legal system. Wright was found guilty of criminal activity.

Wright's wife, Olgivanna, had had an adulterous affair with architect Taliesin, whom she had met in 1926, while working on Wright's commissions. Taliesin was in hiding.

Wright's former house, Taliesin, was seized by the government in 1928. The New York Times, July 15, 1928; ProQuest Historical Newspapers

The Chicago Daily Tribune, Aug 6, 1911; ProQuest Historical Newspapers

From this point on, Wright and his architect, Olgivanna, were under constant legal and public scrutiny. Wright's work was seen as unflattering to the city of Cincinnati, and he was often accused of debauchery. His wife, Olgivanna, pursued a divorce, and Wright lived with her until her death in 1945. In 1947, Wright and Olgivanna divorced. Wright's wife, Mamah, who was also his lover, was killed in a car crash. Wright's work was not always well-received in Cincinnati, and he once wrote to the riverfront that he was sentenced to 10 years' hard labor.