

# TAWNY RYAN NELB

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Ms Nelb specializes in archival management and preservation of historical and vital records and has 40 years of archival experience including work at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and ten years with the Yale University Manuscripts and Archives Department before becoming an independent consultant in 1986. She conducts archival needs assessment analyses and surveys of historic records for museums, manuscript repositories, archives, library special collections, owners of historic homes, design firms, universities, religious, governmental and civic groups, and private individuals. She recommends methods to preserve and manage these materials more effectively for historical research or as vital records.



**40 Years  
Experience**

In the course of her consultations Ms Nelb:

- recommends the best methods for storage, arrangement, description, preservation, and proactive documentation;
- prepares processing plans; conducts research on preservation options for the archival community and lectures on archives topics;
- sets up archives and supervises and trains staff; designs archives and provides long term planning;
- arranges family papers and other historical collections;
- conducts oral histories, writes grants, and assembles exhibits;
- conducts historical research and writing for clients; and
- provides personal archivist services.

Although she works on all types of records she is nationally recognized for her expertise in architectural records.

## Consulting Experience

### Archival Needs Assessment Analyses and Feasibility Studies

Yale University Plan Room (New Haven, CT)  
Wade-Trim Edmand Engineering (Bay City, MI)  
City of Newburgh, NY  
Yale University Architectural and Engineering Services  
Gary Public Library (Gary, IN) [Gary Land Company]  
Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum (Univ. Center, MI)  
Houston Museum of Fine Arts  
Virginia State Library and Archives (Richmond, VA)  
[William Gillette Papers]  
Edsel and Eleanor Ford House (Grosse Pointe Shores, MI)  
Henry Ford House-Fair Lane (Dearborn, MI)  
New Jersey Department of Transportation (Trenton, NJ)  
Oberlin College Construction Office (Oberlin, OH)  
UCLA University Library Special Collections (Los Angeles, CA)  
[Richard Neutra, A. Quincy Jones, Lloyd Wright, Ayres and Fiege, Welton Becket and Associates, American Institute of Landscape Architects, S. Charles Lee, Frederick Monhoff, Edward Huntsman-Trout, Ralph Cornell, and Joseph Copp]  
Independence National Historical Park (Philadelphia, PA)

## Education:

Master of Arts  
American History  
Southern Ct St. Univ., 1983

Bachelor of Arts  
American Studies  
Univ. of Notre Dame,  
1975

## Professional Experience:

Nelb Archival  
Consulting, Inc.  
President, 1986-present

Yale University,  
Manuscripts and  
Archives, 1976-1986

Herbert Hoover  
Presidential Library,  
1975-1976

## Professional Associations:

Society of American  
Archivists

Michigan State Historical  
Records Advisory Board

SAA Publications Board

Historical Society of  
Michigan Board

**Archival Needs Assessment Analyses and Feasibility Studies**

The Gamble House-USC (Pasadena, CA)  
 [Charles and Henry Greene Papers]  
 Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens (Akron, OH)  
 Victor Saroki Architects Associates (Birmingham, MI)  
 Cal Poly Special Collections (San Luis Obispo, CA)  
 [Julia Morgan Papers]  
 Memorial Presbyterian Church (Midland, MI)  
 Archives of Michigan (Lansing, MI)  
 [Minoru Yamasaki Papers]

**Processing Projects/ Processing Plans and Oversight/Policies and Procedures/Staff or Volunteer Supervision**

Theatre Guild and Peanut Gallery (Midland, MI)  
 State Mutual Insurance Company (Lapeer, MI)  
 Rollin Gerstacker Foundation (Midland, MI)  
 Private Individual's Archives (17+ years)  
 Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum University Center, MI)  
 Aladdin Homes Company Project, Central Michigan University, (Mt. Pleasant, MI)  
 Alden Ball Dow Archives (Midland, MI)  
 Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Homestead Records Project  
 Trinity Episcopal Church Recommendations for Archives (Bay City, MI)  
 Post Street Archives (Midland, MI)  
 Bertha E. R. Strosacker Memorial Presbyterian Church (Midland, MI)  
 Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture and Lifeways (Mt. Pleasant, MI)

**Archival Preservation Workshops**

Society of American Archivists  
 Midwest Archival Conference/Society Ohio Archivists  
 Southwest Archivists  
 Society of Architectural Historians-Saarinen Chapter  
 Michigan Archival Association  
 New England Archivists  
 Midland (Michigan) County Historical Society  
 AIA-Michigan Regional Chapters  
 Historical Society of Michigan  
 Flint Public Library (Flint, MI)  
 Campbell Center for Historic Preservation Studies (Mount Carroll, IL)  
 Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts  
 Cranbrook Archives

**Archives Design and/or Building Program**

Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture and Lifeways Archives (Mt. Pleasant, MI)  
 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Archives (Cleveland, OH)  
 Battle Hall, University of Texas at Austin  
 Indiana State Archives ( Indianapolis, IN)

**Awards**

Voices: Extraordinary Women of Midland County Honoree, MCFTA and MCHS, 2011-2012  
 Waldo Gifford Leland Prize Society of Amer. Archivists 2007  
 AIA Michigan Honorary Award, 2007  
 Recognition Award Midland County Historical Society, 2006  
 Exemplary Service Award Historical Society of Michigan, 2000  
 Hale Award, New England Archivists, 1988

### **Historical or Archival Monographs**

*Mission Accomplished: Robert and Metta Silliman in the Philippines, 1924-1966*

*The Pines: 100 Years of the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Homestead, Orchards, and Gardens*

*Architectural Records: Managing Design and Construction Records*

Sidebars for 14<sup>th</sup> edition of *Architect's Handbook for Professional Practice* (Washington, DC)

*A Cultural Incubator: The Post Street Schoolhouse*

### **30+ Historical or Archival Journal Articles**

#### **Digital Archives**

Collaborative Greene and Greene Virtual Archives (Pasadena, CA)

<http://www.usc.edu/dept/architecture/greeneandgreene/>

#### **Grants**

Michigan Historical Center (Lansing, MI)

Collaborative Greene and Greene Virtual Archives Planning Project (Pasadena, CA)

Greene and Greene Virtual Archives Implementation (Pasadena, CA)

Midland County Historical Society (Michigan)

### **Lectures on Archival and Historical Topics (over 100 )**

Society of Industrial Archeology

Cambridge Massachusetts Historical Society

New England Archivists

American Institute of Architects Foundation

Society of Architectural Historians

Association of Records Managers and Administrators

Massachusetts COPAR

Society of American Archivists

Michigan Archival Association

American Institute of Architects—Michigan

Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation

National Historic Landmark Owners Conference

Boston Architectural Society

Society of Ohio Archivists

Midland County Historical Society

Midland Genealogical Society

Bertha E. R. Strosacker Memorial Presbyterian Church

Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifact

American Institute of Architects—Minnesota

Grace A. Dow Memorial Library

Church and Synagogue Libraries Association

Michigan Museum Association

Frank Lloyd Wright Conservancy

#### **Contact:**

**Nelb Archival Consulting**

**5610 Woodberry Ct.**

**Midland, MI 48640-6929**

**989-631-1011**

**[www.nelbarchival.com](http://www.nelbarchival.com)**

**[tawnynelb@gmail.com](mailto:tawnynelb@gmail.com)**

### **Oral History Interviews and/or Project Planning**

Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation (Midland, MI)

Midland Area Community Foundation (Midland, MI)

Memorial Presbyterian Church

Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation

Michigan Health and Hospital Association