



Nate Kelley &lt;nmkelley@asu.edu&gt;

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**[\_\_\_Distinctive Collections & Archives] ASU Polytechnic Water Tower (Formerly Williams Field Water Tower)**

4 messages

**ASU Ask an Archivist** <archives@asu.libanswers.com>

Wed, Aug 28, 2019 at 1:40 PM

To: Nate Kelley &lt;nmkelley@asu.edu&gt;

Cc: Shannon Walker &lt;swalke24@asu.edu&gt;, Rob Spindler &lt;spindler@asu.edu&gt;

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--# Type your reply above this line #--

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**Matthew Messbarger**

Aug 28 2019, 01:40pm via System

Hi Nate,

Thank you for your question. I am transferring your ticket to Assistant University Archivist Shannon Walker, who will respond when she is able.

Sincerely,

Matt Messbarger

Reference Coordinator

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**Original Question**

Aug 28 2019, 12:53pm via System

ASU Polytechnic Water Tower (Formerly Williams Field Water Tower)

I am doing research for a class project in which I need to learn as much as possible about the ASU water tower at the polytechnic campus. Does the university have any blueprints or photos of the water tower from it's being built in 1941 to now?

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Thank you for using Ask a Librarian.

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**ASU Ask an Archivist** <archives@asu.libanswers.com>

Wed, Aug 28, 2019 at 2:12 PM

To: Nate Kelley &lt;nmkelley@asu.edu&gt;

Cc: Rob Spindler &lt;spindler@asu.edu&gt;

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--# Type your reply above this line #--

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**Rob Spindler**

Aug 28 2019, 02:12pm via System

Hi Nate: Photos of Williams AFB for 1941-1996 would typically be found at the National Archives, or might be found at ASU's Greater Arizona Collection. I've copied curator Renee James into this message so she may assist you with the Arizona Collection.

Regarding 1996-2002 you'll want to search the Media Relations Photograph Collection [http://www.azarchivesonline.org/xtf/view?docId=ead/asu/mediarelationsphotos\\_acc.xml;query=media%20relations;brand=default](http://www.azarchivesonline.org/xtf/view?docId=ead/asu/mediarelationsphotos_acc.xml;query=media%20relations;brand=default) and if you find anything cite Accession Number **2008-04221** and the relevant box number in your request to Ask An Archivist. You'll probably have to search under ASU East as well as Polytechnic campus and things may be found under general headings or the names of nearby buildings rather than "water tower".

For 2002 to present Shannon Walker (also copied here) will need to assist you with the Tom Story photographs since these are not publicly described and behind firewall. I was able to find a couple of recent student photos that depict the tower in the last two images of this collection <https://repository.asu.edu/items/34979> These are born digital images and so the images files you see are the highest quality available.

Architectural drawings if they have survived are likely at the National Archives. I hope this is helpful to you. Rob

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**ASU Ask an Archivist** <archives@asu.libanswers.com>  
To: Nate Kelley <nmkelley@asu.edu>  
Cc: Rob Spindler <spindler@asu.edu>

Thu, Aug 29, 2019 at 10:31 AM

--# Type your reply above this line #--

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## Shannon Walker

Aug 29 2019, 10:31am via System

Hi Nate,

In addition to Rob's recommendations, I would suggest you take a look at the City of Chandler's archives:

[http://chandlerpedia.org/Browse\\_Chandlerpedia/Places/Williams\\_Air\\_Force\\_Base](http://chandlerpedia.org/Browse_Chandlerpedia/Places/Williams_Air_Force_Base)

There are a lot of photos here. I did not get a chance to browse them but hopefully, you will find the water tower in there somewhere.

I will take a second look at ASU's materials to see what else I can find.

Shannon Walker, *Assistant University Archivist*

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**ASU Ask an Archivist** <archives@asu.libanswers.com>

Thu, Aug 29, 2019 at 3:05 PM

To: Nate Kelley <nmkelley@asu.edu>

Cc: Rob Spindler <spindler@asu.edu>, Matthew Messbarger <mmessbar@asu.edu>

--# Type your reply above this line #--

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## Shannon Walker

Aug 29 2019, 03:05pm via System

Hi Nate,

I did not find anything in ASU's collections beyond the previous suggestions. So it looks like your best sources are going to be:

- Preliminary Inventory of the Media Relations and Public Information Records and Photographs, 1965-2002 (#2008-04221): [http://www.azarchivesonline.org/xtf/view?query=asu+east&docId=ead%2Fasu%2Fmediarelationsphotos\\_acc.xml&chunk.id=0](http://www.azarchivesonline.org/xtf/view?query=asu+east&docId=ead%2Fasu%2Fmediarelationsphotos_acc.xml&chunk.id=0)
- Student Photographs of Polytechnic Campus: <https://repository.asu.edu/items/34979>

(Note Rob's direction above that the Polytechnic campus was first called "ASU East" when it opened in 1996, so when you are searching for materials during, use that phrase).

I searched the catalog for the Tom Story (campus photographer) photograph collection and there are quite a few possible photographs. **I will get back to you about these photographs.**

The previous link I sent you to the City of Chandler will help with the early history. In addition, the US Air Force website had good information about the airfield including its transition to a civilian site: <https://www.afcec.af.mil/Home/BRAC/Williams/History.aspx>

The US Air Force may be a good source for you to reach out to for more early history information (perhaps photographs and blueprints) as well. To reach them just click on the "Contact Us" link at the bottom of their page and your request will be routed to the appropriate person.

Good luck with these resources! I will get back to you about the born-digital images from the Tom Story collection.

*Shannon Walker, Assistant University Archivist*

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## Shannon Walker

Aug 29 2019, 10:31am via System

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