

# War Memorial Chapel, Records of

Records of War Memorial Chapel  
1949-1985, 2001, undated



## Title Statement

War Memorial Chapel, Records of Records of War Memorial Chapel, 1949-1985, 2001, undated RG.06.03.09

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## Profile Description

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## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

RG.06.03.09

### Unit Date

1949-1985, 2001, undated

### Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

### Abstract

The Records of War Memorial Chapel contain architectural records, posters, photographs, and prints pertaining to Virginia Tech's War Memorial Chapel - including the Memorial Court, pylons, and cenotaph - and its construction in the 1950s and early 1960s. There are also a few pamphlets detailing the dedication and commemoration of the chapel, as well as records from the chapel after it was opened.

### Creator

Virginia Polytechnic Institute (1944-1970)

### Creator

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (1970-)

### Extent

8.2 Cubic Feet 6 boxes, 2 oversize folders

### Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

# Administrative Information

## Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research. However, some documents are restricted for 75 years from date of creation in accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act and Virginia Tech Special Collections' policy regarding confidential information and privacy. Contact Special Collections for more information.

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## Source of Acquisition

The Records of War Memorial Chapel were transferred to Special Collections and University Archives prior to 1980. Additional materials were transferred in 1989 and 2019.

## Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Records of War Memorial Chapel collection was completed in November 2019.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Records of War Memorial Chapel, RG 6/3/9, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

# Historical Note

Construction on the War Memorial Chapel started in spring 1951 and completed in May 1960, with renovations undertaken in 2000 to 2001. Initial funding was raised by alumni to build a non-denominational religious building on campus and memorial to alumni who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. The sculpture inside was designed by Donald DeLue. It is a popular location for weddings and other events.

The Memorial Court on the chapel roof includes the iconic Pylons etched with the names of every Virginia Tech student and graduate who died in service, starting with World War I. The four left pylons - Brotherhood, Honor, Leadership, and Sacrifice - were designed by Henry Kries and the right pylons - Service, Loyalty, Duty, and Ut Prosim - by Charles Rudy. At the center of the Court, the cenotaph has the names of the Medal of Honor recipients who attended Virginia Tech.

The carillon purchased as part of the War Memorial Chapel fund was installed in Burruss Hall in 1957. An electronic carillon was donated by the Class of 1958 and installed in 1997.

Sources:

Young, Denise. "Hear ye, the bells of Burruss." In Virginia Tech magazine, Spring 2011. Accessed December 3, 2019. <https://www.vtmag.vt.edu/spring11/feature2.html>.

Virginia Tech. "Virginia Tech Buildings: War Memorial Chapel." VT.edu. Accessed December 3, 2019. <https://vt.edu/about/locations/buildings/war-memorial-chapel.html>.

# Scope and Content

The Records of War Memorial Chapel contain architectural records, posters, photographs, and prints pertaining to Virginia Tech's War Memorial Chapel - including the Memorial Court, pylons, and cenotaph - and its construction in the 1950s and early 1960s. There are also a few pamphlets detailing the dedication and commemoration of the chapel, as well as records from the chapel after it was opened. The collection is arranged into four series.

Series I: War Memorial Chapel Pictures and Sketches is made up of information from the construction of War Memorial Chapel, including the Memorial Court. There are small plan sheets, pictures of the sculpture models, newspaper clippings, and photographs of the construction process. Items also document when the Chapel was commemorated and dedicated and include prints of the Chapel and the Drillfield.

Series II: WWII Memorial VPI Blueprints includes reinforcing steel plans, chapel floor plans, elevation plans, and detail plans for the exterior opening, limestone bench, electrical details, and door and window openings. Most of the blueprints are dated January 14, 1950, but there are also some dated November 1, 1950, and February 19-20, 1951.

Series III: Oversize Sketches, Concept Prints, and Posters contains 3-D rendering concepts of War Memorial Court, a poster of photographs of the half-sized sculpture models for War Memorial Court, oversize photos of War Memorial Court, a folder of scale drawings for the memorial and oversize sketches of War Memorial Chapel.

Series IV: Chronological Files includes letters, reports, calendars, and other files from the chapel. Additionally, there are wedding applications and confidential documents, which are restricted.

## Related Materials

A model sculpture of Sacrifice, one of the Pylon statues, is in the Artifact Collection.

For architectural records of Virginia Tech buildings, see Virginia Tech Buildings Architectural Collection, RG 6/3/2e.

## Keywords

Blueprints (reprographic copies)

Posters

Sketches

University Archives

University History

Virginia Polytechnic Institute (1944-1970)

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (1970-)

## Rights Statement for Archival Description

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## Arrangement

This collection is arranged into four series:

- Series I: War Memorial Court and Chapel Pictures and Sketches
- Series II: WWII Memorial VPI Blueprints
- Series III: Oversize Sketches, Concept Prints, and Posters
- Series IV: Chronological Files

## Description of Subordinate Components

### Series I: Pictures and Sketches

**Unit Date** 1949-1950, 1952, 1955-1957, 1960, 1962, 2001, undated

#### War Memorial Plans and Pictures Summary

**Unit Date** undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

#### Chapel Plan Scheme 13

**Unit Date** 1949-04-21

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 2 (folder)

**Montague-Belts Company Material Sheets**

**Unit Date** 1950-10-09, 1950-11-27

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 3 (folder)

**War Memorial Court and Chapel Sketches**

**Unit Date** 1955-1956, undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 4 (folder)

**Photographs of Casts for War Memorial Chapel Sculptures**

**Unit Date** undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 5 (folder)

**Chapel Sculpture Models Photographs**

**Unit Date** undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

**Photographs of Half Size Sculpture Models for Upper Level - Small Posters**

**Unit Date** undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 7 (folder)

**Photographs of Half Sized Sculpture Models**

**Unit Date** 1950-11-21, undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 8 (folder)

**Sacrifice Prints**

**Unit Date** undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 9 (folder)

**Memorial Court Prints**

**Unit Date** undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 10 (folder)

**Small War Memorial Chapel Prints**

**Unit Date** undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 11 (folder)

**View of Drillfield and Burruss Prints**

**Unit Date** undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 12 (folder)

**Memorial Court Construction and Completed Small Photographs**

**Unit Date** 1954-1956, 1960

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 13 (folder)

**Memorial Court Construction and Completed Large Photographs**

**Unit Date** 1952, undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 14 (folder)

**Various Reports on War Memorial**

**Unit Date** 1952, 1977, 1997

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 15 (folder)

**War Memorial Newspaper Clippings**

**Unit Date** 1960, 1964, 1977

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 16 (folder)

**National Sculpture Review**

**Unit Date** 1953

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 17 (folder)

**Ad for War Memorial**

**Unit Date** undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 18 (folder)

**War Memorial Chapel Improvements**

**Unit Date** 1960, 1999, 2001

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 19 (folder)

**"Memorial Supplement" Booklets**

**Unit Date** undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 20 (folder)

**War Memorial Dedications**

**Unit Date** 1960-05-29,2001-08-2001-09

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 21 (folder)

**War Memorial Chapel Commemoration Booklets**

**Unit Date** 1962

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 22 (folder)

**War Memorial Chapel Order of Worship Booklets****Unit Date** 1962-12-06-1963-03-31**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 23 (folder)**War Memorial Planning and Financing Brochures****Unit Date** undated**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 24 (folder)**Booklets About War Memorial****Unit Date** undated**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 25 (folder)**Pylons Name Engravings****Unit Date** 1978-01**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 26 (folder)**Hammond's Printing and Litho Works Note****Unit Date** 1957-05-31**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 27 (folder)**Indiana Limestone Company Booklet****Unit Date** undated**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 28 (folder)**Roster of War Memorial Contributors Card Sketch****Unit Date** undated**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 29 (folder)**From Office of Publication VPI Bulletin****Unit Date** undated**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 30 (folder)**Series II: Blueprints****Unit Date** 1950-01-14-1951-02-20**VPI War Memorial Reinforcing Steel Plans****Unit Date** 1950-11-22**box** 2**Northwest Elevation and Partial Southeast Elevation (Sheet 6)****Unit Date** 1950-01-14**box** 3**Plot Plan (Sheet 1)**

**Plot Plan (Sheet 2)**

**Unit Date** 1950-01-14

**box** 3

**Chapel Plans (Sheet M-2)**

**Unit Date** 1950-01-14

**box** 3

**Northeast Elevation (Sheet 5)**

**Unit Date** 1950-01-14

**box** 3

**Southwest Elevation (Sheet 7)**

**Unit Date** 1950-01-14

**box** 3

**Chapel Floor Plan, Memorial Court Plan, and Details (Sheet E-2)**

**Unit Date** 1950-01-14

**box** 4

**Structural Plans and Details (Sheet S1)**

**Unit Date** 1950-01-14

**box** 4

**Details of Branch Steam Tunnel (Sheet M4)**

**Unit Date** 1950-01-14

**box** 4

**Transverse Sections (Sheet 3)**

**Unit Date** 1950-01-14

**box** 4

**Longitudinal Section (Sheet 4)**

**Unit Date** 1950-01-14

**box** 4

**Plot Plan and Electrical Details (Sheet ME-1)**

**Unit Date** 1950-01-14

**box** 5

**Details (Sheet M-3)**

**Unit Date** 1950-01-14

**box** 5

**Details of Exterior Opening (Sheet 10)**

**Unit Date** 1951-02-19

**box** 6

**Details at Steps No. 1 (Sheet 8)**

**Unit Date** 1950-11-01

**box** 6

**Limestone Bench Details/Roofing and Flashing Details (Sheet 13)**

**Unit Date** 1951-02-19

**box** 6

**Limestone Details (Sheet 14)**

**Unit Date** 1951-02-20

**box** 6

**Full Size Details of Door Opening 14 and Adjacent Window (Sheet 11)**

**Unit Date** 1951-02-19

**box** 6

**Full Size Details of Door Opening 13 (Sheet 12)**

**Unit Date** 1951-02-19

**box** 6

**Concrete Details (Sheet 9)**

**Unit Date** 1950-11-01

**box** 6

**Series III: Oversize Sketches, Concept Prints, and Posters**

**Unit Date** undated

**Oversize 3-D Rendering Concepts of War Memorial Court**

**Unit Date** undated

**oversize** 1 (folder)

**Photographs of Half-Sized Sculpture Models for Upper Level - Big Poster**

**Unit Date** undated

**oversize** 1 (folder)

**Oversize Photos of War Memorial Court**

**Unit Date** undated

**oversize** 2 (folder)

**Folder of Scale Drawings for the Memorial**

**Unit Date** undated

**oversize** 2 (folder)

**Oversize Sketches of War Memorial Chapel**

**Unit Date** undated

**oversize** 2 (folder)

**Series IV: Chronological Files**

**Unit Date** 1960-1985

**War Memorial Chapel Records**

**Unit Date** 1960-1967

**box-folder** 7 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**War Memorial Chapel Correspondence****Unit Date** 1973-1974**box-folder** 7 (box)**Container** 2 (folder)**War Memorial Chapel Information****Unit Date** 1973-1974, 1977**box-folder** 7 (box)**Container** 3 (folder)**War Memorial Chapel Records****Unit Date** 1979-01**box-folder** 7 (box)**Container** 4 (folder)**War Memorial Chapel Records****Unit Date** 1979-02**box-folder** 7 (box)**Container** 5 (folder)**War Memorial Chapel Records****Unit Date** 1979-03**box-folder** 7 (box)**Container** 6 (folder)**War Memorial Chapel Records****Unit Date** 1979-04**box-folder** 7 (box)**Container** 7 (folder)**War Memorial Chapel Records****Unit Date** 1979-05**box-folder** 7 (box)**Container** 8 (folder)**War Memorial Chapel Records****Unit Date** 1979-06**box-folder** 7 (box)**Container** 9 (folder)**War Memorial Chapel Records****Unit Date** 1979-07**box-folder** 7 (box)**Container** 10 (folder)**War Memorial Chapel Records****Unit Date** 1979-08**box-folder** 7 (box)**Container** 11 (folder)

**War Memorial Chapel Records****Unit Date** 1979**box-folder** 7 (box)**Container** 12 (folder)**War Memorial Chapel Records****Unit Date** 1981**box-folder** 7 (box)**Container** 13 (folder)**War Memorial Chapel Records****Unit Date** 1982**box-folder** 7 (box)**Container** 14 (folder)**Weddings in War Memorial Chapel****Unit Date** 1985**box-folder** 7 (box)**Container** 15 (folder)**Restricted documents****War Memorial Chapel Records****Unit Date** 1960-1967**box-folder** 8 (box)**Container** 1 (folder)**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date

**Wedding Application Forms****Unit Date** 1968**box-folder** 8 (box)**Container** 2 (folder)**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date

**Wedding Application Forms****Unit Date** 1969**box-folder** 8 (box)**Container** 3 (folder)**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Wedding Application Forms****Unit Date** 1970**box-folder** 8 (box)**Container** 4 (folder)**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Wedding Application Forms**

**Unit Date** 1970-1971

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 5 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Wedding Application Forms**

**Unit Date** 1971

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Wedding Application Forms**

**Unit Date** 1972

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 7 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Wedding Application Forms**

**Unit Date** 1973

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 8 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Wedding Application Forms**

**Unit Date** 1974

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 9 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Wedding Application Forms**

**Unit Date** 1975

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 10 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Wedding Application Forms**

**Unit Date** 1976

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 11 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Wedding Application Forms**

**Unit Date** 1977

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 12 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Wedding Application Forms**

**Unit Date** 1976-1978

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 13 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Wedding Application Forms**

**Unit Date** 1977-1978

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 14 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Wedding Application Forms**

**Unit Date** 1978

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 15-16 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Wedding Application Forms**

**Unit Date** 1978-1979

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 17 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**War Memorial Chapel Records**

**Unit Date** 1979-01

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 18 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**War Memorial Chapel Records**

**Unit Date** 1979-02

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**Container** 19 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**War Memorial Chapel Records**

**Unit Date** 1979-03

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**Container** 20 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**War Memorial Chapel Records**

**Unit Date** 1979-04

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 21 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**War Memorial Chapel Records**

**Unit Date** 1979-05

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 22 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**War Memorial Chapel Records**

**Unit Date** 1979-06

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 23 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**War Memorial Chapel Records**

**Unit Date** 1979-07

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 24 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**War Memorial Chapel Records**

**Unit Date** 1979-08

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 25 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**War Memorial Chapel Records**

**Unit Date** 1979

**box-folder** 8 (box)

**Container** 26 (folder)

**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**War Memorial Chapel Records****Unit Date** 1981**box-folder** 8 (box)**Container** 27 (folder)**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**War Memorial Chapel Records****Unit Date** 1982**box-folder** 8 (box)**Container** 28 (folder)**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Wedding Application Forms****Unit Date** 1981, 1983-1984**box-folder** 8 (box)**Container** 29 (folder)**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.

**Weddings in War Memorial Chapel****Unit Date** 1985**box-folder** 8 (box)**Container** 30 (folder)**Access Restrictions**

Restricted 75 years from date.