

Culnan, Carol O'Neale Architectural Collection

Carol O'Neale Culnan Architectural Collection

1966-2016, undated



Title Statement

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2025.037

Unit Date

1966-2016, undated

Language

Materials are in English.

Abstract

The Carol O'Neale Culnan Architectural Collection contains a mixture of personal and business records related to Culnan's personal life and her architectural practice. Her papers include student work, fiber art and woven textiles, and photographs. Her project records span a variety of projects in the Baltimore/Washington metro area and southwest Virginia, primarily residential projects, and include original drawings and other files documenting jobs and clients spanning the years from 1966 to 2016.

Extent

5 Cubic Feet

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

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Source of Acquisition

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Processing Information

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Preferred Citation

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Biographical / Historical

Carol Ann O'Neale of Alexandria, Virginia, was born on June 14, 1947, to parents William Leroy O'Neale and Ada Esther Vandenberg. Attending Mount Vernon High School and later graduating from Fort Hunt High School in 1965, O'Neale participated in many extracurriculars, including art club, French club, class council, and majorettes. In 1970, she obtained a bachelor's degree from the College of Architecture at Virginia Tech. Shortly after graduation, on September 3, 1970, O'Neale married fellow Virginia Tech School of Architecture graduate Kenneth S. Culnan, and changed her name to Carol O'Neale Culnan.

In the early 1970s the couple moved into a row house on Swann Street NW near Dupont Circle in Washington, D.C., and performed a gut rehabilitation of the building. Carol Culnan's college roommate Kathleen Cruise got her a job working for Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill (SOM) on the Pennsylvania Avenue Commission, an urban renewal project based on Nathaniel Owings' proposed mixed-use development of the Avenue. Culnan worked for another firm (DNY&A) under contract with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to consult on architectural services for the Metrorail system then under construction (its first line would open in March 1976); she resigned from the firm in early 1975, citing lack of growth and variety in her work in her letter to her supervisors.

For the next nine years the Culnans continued to live in Washington, D.C.. Carol Culnan obtained her license in Washington, D.C., and Maryland, and she practiced architecture independently, working on a mixture of residential and commercial projects, both new build and rehabilitation. In 1984 the couple sold their row house and moved to a rural Virginia community in the Strasburg area, where they continued to practice architecture.

The Culnans were hobbyist antiquarians and collected antique tools, trains, and hurricane lamps. In 1996, Carol and Kenneth joined the Early American Industries Association, a society focused on the history of American tools, crafts, and trades. The couple remained active in the Association for the remainder of their lives. Additionally, Carol raised goats for a time, carded and dyed her own wool, and wove textiles; she also had a lifelong interest in photography. Carol O'Neale Culnan passed away on February 11th, 2025, nearly seven years after Kenneth, who died in April of 2018.

Scope and Content

This collection contains a mixture of personal and business records related to Carol O'Neale Culnan and her architectural practice. Her papers include student work, fiber art and woven textiles, and personal photographs. Project records span a variety of projects in the Baltimore/Washington metro area and southwest Virginia, primarily residential projects, and include original drawings and reproductions, client correspondence, notes, details, costing, and specifications. Her project documentation spans the period from 1975 to 2016, and some projects she collaborated on with her husband, Kenneth S. Culnan, under the practice named CONC. Also included is Kenneth Culnan's architectural license and he is featured as a subject in some of her photographic work.

Related Materials

"Space Structure Building Systems Applied to a Housing Complex and an Airport Terminal Facility," K. S. Culnan and C. A. O'Neale Typescript Book (undergraduate thesis), Ms1992-001, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Authored by Virginia Tech College of Architecture students K. S. [Kenneth S.] Culnan and C. A. [Carol A.] O'Neale, the book was presented on August 31, 1970, under the advisory of professors D. Ding, H. Elarth, and M. Sevely. The book consists of 14 leaves of text and 27 leaves of images.

Keywords

International Archive of Women in Architecture (IAWA)

Women architects -- Virginia

Architectural drawings (visual works)

Culnan, Kenneth S.

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged into the following series and sub-series:

I. Personal Papers

a. Student Work II. Professional Papers

III. Project Records

a. Files b. Drawings Within these groupings files are organized chronologically.

Description of Subordinate Components

Personal Papers

Student Work

Scope and Contents

Subjects vary for photography assignments: architectural and design problems (models), street photography, found objects, industrial, landscape. Some student work is possibly intermixed with early career work.

Photo book, student work

Unit Date c. 1965-1970

oversize 11 (folder)

Painted portrait, acrylic

Unit Date c. 1960s

oversize 11 (folder)

Small black-and-white photographic prints, architectural and design problems

Unit Date February 1966

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Black-and-white photography assignment, contact sheets and prints (1 of 2)

Unit Date c. 1970
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 2 (folder)

Black-and-white photography assignment, contact sheets and prints (2 of 2)
Unit Date c. 1970
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 3 (folder)

Black-and-white photography assignment, mounted photographs (1 of 4)
Unit Date c. 1970
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 4 (folder)

Black-and-white photography assignment, mounted photographs (2 of 4)
Unit Date c. 1970
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 5 (folder)

Black-and-white photography assignment, mounted photographs (3 of 4)
Unit Date c. 1970
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 6 (folder)

Black-and-white photography assignment, mounted photographs (4 of 4)
Unit Date c. 1970
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 7 (folder)

Photographic materials, negatives and prints, 1971-1973 (1 of 2)
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 8 (folder)

Photographic materials, negatives and prints, 1971-1973 (2 of 2)
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 9 (folder)

Commemorative Presidential Print of White House
Unit Date 1996
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 10 (folder)

Textile, fiber art, undated
box 3

Professional Papers

Customized pocket seal embosser, District of Columbia
Unit Date undated
artifact 1 (box)

Business cards [Carol O'Neale Culnan, Registered Architect], undated

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Color photographs, interiors

Unit Date March 1972

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Letter of resignation

Unit Date January 1975

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Architectural License for the District of Columbia [Carol O'Neale Culnan]

Unit Date March 1975

oversize 11 (folder)

Architectural License for the State of Maryland [Carol O'Neale Culnan]

Unit Date February 1976

oversize 11 (folder)

Architectural License for the District of Columbia [Kenneth Stuart Culnan]

Unit Date March 1976

oversize 11 (folder)

Project Records

Project lists, undated

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Files

Fligsten Residence (Kenneth and Ann), 522 Bay Hills Dr., Arnold, MD [#112-75]

Unit Date 1975-1976

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Alvarez Residence, Glen Oban, MD [#113-76]

Unit Date 1976-1977

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Hyde Remodel (William and Camille), 1760 Swann St. NW, Washington, DC [#115-77]

Unit Date 1977

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

7 Logan Circle, Washington, DC [#124-78]

Unit Date 1978

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Robert Dreifuss Renovation, 211 King St., Alexandria, VA [#130-78]

Unit Date 1978

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Hawthorne Hotel, 2134 G St. NW, Washington, DC [#133-79]

Unit Date 1979

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Columbia Inn, 1844 Columbia Rd. NW, Washington, DC [#135-79]

Unit Date 1979

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Tudor Hall, 926 Mass Ave. NW, Washington, DC [#139-80]

Unit Date 1980

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Carol Ridker Renovation, 1611 21st St. NW, Washington, DC [#142-80]

Unit Date 1980-1981

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Herbert Gerstenzang, 229 9th St. SE, Washington, DC [#145-81]

Unit Date 1981-1983

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Anne Kobor Addition and Remodel, 4107 23rd St., North Arlington, VA [#146-81]

Unit Date 1981

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Ida Lee Park, 314 W King St., Strasburg, VA

Unit Date 1988

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Christovich Residence (David and Cathy), Lot 42, Fairview Subdivision, Woodstock, VA [#156-91]

Unit Date 1991-1993

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Fairknoll Addition and Remodel [#160-93]

Unit Date 1993

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Mount Jackson Firehouse, 5930 Main St., Mt. Jackson, VA [#162-94]

Unit Date 1994-1995

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Birdwood Residence, 467 North Main St., Woodstock, VA

Unit Date 1995

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

McNamee Addition (Wally and Nikki), Deer Rapids, VA [#166-97]

Unit Date 1997

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

Reynolds Addition (Floyd and Julia), 329 Miller Rd., Edinburg, VA [#167-97]

Unit Date 1997

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 17 (folder)

Kevin Frankovich, Peach Orchard Rd., Strasburg, VA [#168-98]

Unit Date 1998

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 18 (folder)

Stein Remodel (Carol and Paul), 235 Mallard Dr., Bayse, VA [#169-98]

Unit Date 1998-1999

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 19 (folder)

Clara Stiff Carport, 2305 Londonderry Rd., Alexandria, VA

Unit Date 2006

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 20 (folder)

Notes, unidentified project, undated

Unit Date undated

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 21 (folder)

Drawings

Joseph Jordan Residence, 338 8th Street NE, Washington, DC

Unit Date 1975

oversize 1 (folder)

Fligsten Residence (Kenneth and Ann), 1758 Swann St. NW, Washington, DC [#112]

Unit Date 1976

oversize 1 (folder)

Alvarez Residence, Glen Oban, MD [#113-76]

Unit Date 1976

oversize 1 (folder)

Heim Residence, Washington, DC, Metro Area [#114]

Unit Date 1976

oversize 1 (folder)

Hyde Remodel (William and Camille), 1760 Swann St. NW, Washington, DC [#115-77]

Unit Date 1977

oversize 2 (folder)

Wallace Residence, 6130 32nd St. NW, Washington, DC [#116]

Unit Date 1977

oversize 2 (folder)

2232 12th Place NW, Washington, DC [#117]

Unit Date 1977

oversize 2 (folder)

2208 12th Place NW, Washington, DC [#117]

Unit Date 1977

oversize 2 (folder)

2234 12th Place NW, Washington, DC [#117]

Unit Date 1977

oversize 2 (folder)

Lawrence Mead, 1802 Kilbourne Place NW, Washington, DC [#118]

Unit Date 1977

oversize 2 (folder)

Robert Novel, Hair Salon, 2909 M Street, Georgetown, Washington, DC [#119]

Unit Date 1977

oversize 2 (folder)

2351 Ashmead Place NW, Washington, DC [#120]

Unit Date 1977

oversize 2 (folder)

Frances Jordan, 646 E. Street NE, Washington, DC [#121]

Unit Date 1977

oversize 2 (folder)

Hancock Residence, Screened Porch, unidentified location

Unit Date 1977

oversize 2 (folder)

Apartments, 1414 15th St. NW, Washington, DC [#122]

Unit Date 1978

oversize 3 (folder)

Ruby Poirel Remodel, 1843 Calvert St. NW, Washington, DC [#123]

Unit Date 1978

oversize 3 (folder)

7 Logan Circle, Washington, DC [#124-78]

Unit Date 1978

oversize 3 (folder)

Stearman Residence Addition and Remodel, Washington, DC [#125]

Unit Date 1978

oversize 3 (folder)

Johnson Residence, 2119 12th St. NW, Washington, DC [#126]

Unit Date 1978

oversize 3 (folder)

Krizek Remodel (Dr. and Mrs. George), 2111 Bancroft Place, NW, Washington, DC [#127]

Unit Date 1978

oversize 3 (folder)

Vermont Avenue Joint Venture, 1633 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, DC [#128]

Unit Date 1978

oversize 3 (folder)

Capital Development Limited Partnership, West Cross Street, Baltimore, MD [#129]

Unit Date 1978

oversize 3 (folder)

Roda Residence, Tappahannock, Essex County, VA

Unit Date 1978, 1990

oversize 4 (folder)

Phiel Residence, Glen Oban, MD [#131]

Unit Date 1979

oversize 3 (folder)

Carow Residence Addition, 4321 Chestnut Street, Bethesda, MD [#132]

Unit Date 1979

oversize 4 (folder)

Hawthorne Hotel, 2134 G St. NW. [#133-79]

Unit Date 1979

oversize 4 (folder)

Tschudy Residence, 4646 Greene Place NW, Washington, DC [#134-79]

Unit Date 1979

oversize 4 (folder)

Columbia Inn, 1844 Columbia Rd., Washington, DC [#135-79]

Unit Date 1979

oversize 4 (folder)

Apartments, 1842 15th St. NW, Washington, DC [#136-79]

Unit Date 1979

oversize 3 (folder)

Ruby Poirel Remodel, 1845 Calvert St. NW, Washington, DC [#138-80]

Unit Date 1980

oversize 4 (folder)

Tudor Hall Remodel, 926 Mass Ave. NW [#139-80]

Unit Date 1980

oversize 4 (folder)

Greenberger Residence [Dormer Expansion], 3903 Jenifer St. NW [#140-80]

Unit Date 1980

oversize 5 (folder)

Havens Residence [#141-80]

Unit Date 1980

oversize 5 (folder)

Carol Ridker Renovation, 1611 21st St. NW, Washington, DC [#142-80]

Unit Date 1980

oversize 5 (folder)

Herbert Gerstenzang, 229 9th St. SE, Washington, DC [#145-81]

Unit Date 1981

oversize 5 (folder)

Anne Kobor Addition and Remodel, 4107 23rd St., North Arlington, VA [#146-81]

Unit Date 1981

oversize 5 (folder)

George Tyler Residence (Addition and remodeling), 7500 Overlook Place, Annandale, VA [#148-83]

Unit Date 1983

oversize 6 (folder)

Aurand Residence, Route 690, Purcellville, VA [#150-83]

Unit Date 1985-1986

oversize 6 (folder)

Basement Apartment, 1919 Park Rd., NW, Washington, DC

Unit Date 1986

oversize 6 (folder)

Log Cabin, Meade Brown, Cedar Creek Valley, VA

Unit Date 1986

oversize 6 (folder)

Wallen Residence, unidentified location [#152-88]

Unit Date 1988, 1996

oversize 6 (folder)

Carroll Estep Residence, unidentified location

Unit Date 1989

oversize 6 (folder)

Apartment Building, Acton Place, Strasburg, VA [#154-89]

Unit Date 1989

oversize 6 (folder)

O'Neale Residence at Wildwood on Lake Anna, VA

Unit Date 1989

oversize 6 (folder)

Sager Associates, Stephens City Branch, Office Building, Route 647, Frederick Co., VA [#156-90]

Unit Date 1990

oversize 6 (folder)

Carl Heishman Residence, Garage Addition, Lebanon Church, VA [#157-90]

Unit Date 1990

oversize 7 (folder)

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Wardensville, WV

Unit Date 1992

oversize 7 (folder)

Lugar Residence Remodel, unidentified location [#158-92|159-93]

Unit Date 1992-1993

oversize 7 (folder)

Christovich Residence (David and Cathy), Lot 42, Fairview Subdivision, Woodstock, VA [#158-93]

Unit Date 1993

oversize 7 (folder)

Fairknoll Addition and Remodel [#160-93]

Unit Date 1993

oversize 7 (folder)

Himelright Residence, Lot 2, Section 2, Farm Hill Estates [#161-94]

Unit Date 1994

oversize 8 (folder)

Mount Jackson Firehouse, 5930 Main St., Mt. Jackson, VA [#162-94]

Unit Date 1994

oversize 8 (folder)

Sager Residence Addition, 320 Hollingsworth Rd., Woodstock, VA [#163-95]

Unit Date 1995

oversize 8 (folder)

Davis Residence Remodel (Jim and Mary), Stephenson, VA

Unit Date 1995

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 22 (folder)

Ramsey Residence Addition, 671 Ramsey Rd., Fort Valley, VA [#164-95]

Unit Date 1995

oversize 8 (folder)

Landon Furlong Addition, Old Factory Rd., Oranda, VA [#165-95]

Unit Date 1995

oversize 8 (folder)

Proposed Shenandoah Neuro-Rehabilitation Center

Unit Date 1995

oversize 8 (folder)

House-to-Apartment Conversion, 155 N Fort Street, unidentified city

Unit Date 1996

oversize 8 (folder)

McNamee Addition (Wally and Nikki), 1486 Deer Rapids, VA [#166-97]

Unit Date 1997

oversize 8 (folder)

Reynolds Addition (Floyd and Julia), 329 Miller Rd., Edinburg, VA [#167-97]

Unit Date 1997

oversize 9 (folder)

Kevin Frankovich, Peach Orchard Rd., Strasburg, VA [#168-98]

Unit Date 1998

oversize 9 (folder)

Frances Keegan Accessibility Ramp, 402 W Locust St., Woodstock, VA

Unit Date 1998

oversize 9 (folder)

Stein Remodel (Carol and Paul), 235 Mallard Dr., Bayse, VA [#169-98]

Unit Date 1998-1999

oversize 10 (folder)

Nancy Slye, Goat Barn (Tralfamadore Farm), 13050 North Mountain Rd., Broadway, VA
Unit Date 1998
oversize 9 (folder)

Kleinschmidt Residence Additions, 763 Fairview Circle, Woodstock, VA [#171-99]
Unit Date 1999
oversize 9 (folder)

Sager-Racey Residence, Strasburg, VA
Unit Date 2000
oversize 10 (folder)

Clara Stiff Carport, 2305 Londonderry Rd., Alexandria, VA
Unit Date 2006
oversize 9 (folder)

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Strasburg, VA
Unit Date 2013
oversize 7 (folder)

Martin Residence, unidentified location
Unit Date 2016
oversize 10 (folder)

Rhodes Residence, unidentified location
Unit Date undated
oversize 10 (folder)

Interior wall, decor design, unidentified
Unit Date undated
oversize 10 (folder)

400 K Street NE, Washington, DC
Unit Date undated
oversize 10 (folder)

Greeff Residence, unidentified location
Unit Date undated
oversize 10 (folder)

1014 and 1016 10th Street NW, Washington, DC
Unit Date undated
oversize 10 (folder)

Strasburg United Methodist Church, 114 West Washington St., Strasburg, VA
Unit Date undated
oversize 7 (folder)

Vogel Residence, 1706 S Street NW, Washington, DC
Unit Date undated
oversize 10 (folder)

1206 R St NW, Washington, DC

Unit Date undated

oversize 10 (folder)

Mount Jackson Post Office Apartment Conversion, 6000 Main St., Mt. Jackson, VA

Unit Date undated

oversize 10 (folder)

219 Sharpe St., unidentified location

Unit Date undated

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 23 (folder)

446 Orchard St., unidentified location

Unit Date undated

oversize 9 (folder)