

A Guide to the Richmond Comprehensive Planning Slide Collection, 1944, 1960s-1990s M 387

Richmond Comprehensive Planning Slide Collection
1944,1960-1999

Title Statement

A Guide to the Richmond Comprehensive Planning Slide Collection, 1944, 1960s-1990s M 387

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

M 387

Unit Date

1944,1960-1999

Unit Date

1960-1999

Language

English .

source

Richmond (Va.). Department of Community Development

Creator

Richmond (Va.). Planning and Preservation Division

Creator

Richmond (Va.). Department of Community Development

Creator

Richmond (Va.). Department of Planning and Development Review

Extent

10 Linear Feet 10 linear feet

Repository

VCU James Branch Cabell Library

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection open for research.

Preferred Citation

Richmond Comprehensive Planning Slide Collection, Collection Number M 387, Special Collections and Archives, James Branch Cabell Library, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Va.

Historical Information

In 1948 the City of Richmond created the Department of Planning following the adoption of its first master plan in 1946. The department staffed the Planning Commission, prepared community plans, and updated the city's Master Plan. Over the years, the city changed the department's name and some of its functions and responsibilities. For at least three decades the department was known as the Department of Community Development and focused on outreach to the community as a major component of the planning process. In 2010 the name of the department changed to the Department of Planning and Development Review. Headed by Rachel Flynn since 2006, the department currently oversees building permits and inspections, compliance with the property codes, long-range city planning, enforcement of zoning ordinances, and historic preservation.

The staff of the Department of Community Development began compiling an image library in the 1980s. The collection functioned as a pre-digital archives of planning imagery used for presentations to the public and community groups; Richmond Comprehensive Planning Slide Collection illustration of the Richmond Master and Downtown Plans, as well as neighborhood plan documents; and presentations to the Planning Commission and City Council.

David Sacks, a longtime city planner who headed the Comprehensive Planning Division for a number of years, shot a large number of slides in the collection. He developed the organizational scheme for the images and assigned many of the binder headings. Additional images came to the collection from various municipal departments, Richmond libraries, and other sister cities. With the advent of digital photography and online images libraries, the department no longer required a slide library. It was phased out in the 2000s and donated to Virginia Commonwealth University.

Scope and Contents

30 albums of color slides, dating from the 1960s through the 1990s. There are some 7,500 slides (30 albums of slides).

Scope and Contents

The Richmond Comprehensive Planning Slide Collection consists of 35mm slides of buildings, streets, aerial views, parks, people, events, and other images that captured life in Virginia's capital city. The images date primarily from the 1960s until 2000 when the Richmond Master Plan of 2000 was adopted. The bulk of the images are from the 1990s. The collection is an important resource for understanding the larger context of planning as practiced in Richmond during the second half of the twentieth century. The images document the changes in numerous Richmond neighborhoods, in the city's architecture and streetscape, and other various aspects of the built environment.

The approximately 8,125 slides are stored in 29 binders. All but five of the binders are labeled with subject headings assigned to them by Planning and Preservation Division department staff. The subject are: Aerials, Art and Entertainment Buildings, Commercial Buildings Encroachments, Environmental Plan, Fire and Police, Housing, Industrial Buildings, Monuments, Neighborhoods, Non-Richmond Slides, Office Buildings, Parks, Past Slide Presentations, People, Plans and Graphics, Plazas, Public Buildings Schools, Streetscapes, and Transportation. Twelve of the binders are labeled "Archived Slides."

Keywords

Richmond (Va.) -- Pictorial works -- History -- 20th century

Richmond (Va.) -- Pictorial works.

Richmond (Va.) -- Pictorial works -- Buildings, structures, etc.
City planning -- Virginia -- Richmond.
Richmond (Va.). Department of Community Development

Arrangement

The original order and organization of the slides has been maintained. The slide labels and notations were created by the Planning and Preservation staff.

Description of Subordinate Components

Past Slide Presentations - Aerials - Plans and Graphics

Graphic Materials 1 - Volume 1 (binder)

Transportation - Streetscapes

Graphic Materials 2 - Volume 2 (binder)

Commercial Buildings - Office Buildings - Institutional Buildings - Industrial Buildings

Graphic Materials 3 - Volume 3 (binder)

Housing - Neighborhoods

Graphic Materials 4 - Volume 4 (binder)

Public Buildings - Parks and Plazas - Monuments - Art and Entertainment Buildings

Graphic Materials 5 - Volume 5 (binder)

People - Non-Richmond Slides - Other

Graphic Materials 6 - Volume 6 (binder)

Archived Slides - Environmental Plan

Graphic Materials 7 (binder)

Archived Slides - Volume 1 [Archived 1]

Graphic Materials 8 (binder)

Archived Slides - [Archived 2]

Graphic Materials 9 (binder)

Archived Slides - [Archived 3]

Graphic Materials 10 (binder)

Archived Slides - [Archived 4]

Graphic Materials 11 (binder)

Archived Slides - [Archived 5]

Graphic Materials 12 (binder)

Archived Slides - [Archived 6]

Graphic Materials 13 (binder)

Archived Slides - [Archived 7]

Graphic Materials 14 (binder)

Archived Slides - [Archived 8]

Graphic Materials 15 (binder)

Archived Slides - [Archived 9]

Graphic Materials 16 (binder)

Archived Slides - [Archived 10]

Graphic Materials 17 (binder)

Archived Slides - [Archived 11]

Graphic Materials 18 (binder)

Archived Slides - [Archived 12]

Graphic Materials 19 (binder)

Fire & Police

Graphic Materials 20 (binder)

Encroachments

Graphic Materials 21 (binder)

Parks

Graphic Materials 22 (binder)

Schools

Graphic Materials 23 (binder)

Other

Graphic Materials 24 (binder)

[Unnamed 1]

Graphic Materials 25 (binder)

[Unnamed 2]

Graphic Materials 26 (binder)

[Unnamed 3]

Graphic Materials 27 (binder)

[Unnamed 4]

Graphic Materials 28 (binder)

[Unnamed 5]

Graphic Materials 29 (binder)