

Gales', Melinda, African American church architecture collection

Melinda Gales' African American church architecture collection

1987-1999

Title Statement

Gales', Melinda, African American church architecture collection A Guide to the Melinda Gales' African American church architecture collection M 70

Subtitle: A collection in Special Collections and Archives, James Branch Cabell Library, M 70

Author: Keahi Adolpho

Publication Statement

Publisher: VCU James Branch Cabell Library

Special Collections and Archives 901 Park Avenue

Richmond, Virginia 23284

Business Number: (804) 828-1108

libsca@vcu.edu

URL: <https://www.library.vcu.edu/research-teaching/special-collections-and-archives/locations/#cabell>

2024. By Virginia Commonwealth University. All rights reserved.

Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2025-12-19 07:01:51 -0500.

Language Usage: Description is written in: English, Latin script.

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Revision Description

2024, Keahi Adolpho Photocopies present in the collection were deaccessioned and the physical collection was rehoused. Folder titles were revised as needed and folders were rearranged alphabetically. The biographical and scope and contents notes were revised to reflect changes in the collection. The original finding aid has been maintained and is available.

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

M 70

Unit ID

/repositories/5/resources/642

Unit Date

1987-1999

Mixed Materials [A11423637984]

1 (box)

Mixed Materials [A11423637942]

2 (box)

Language

English

Creator

Gales, Melinda D.

Extent

0.83 Linear Feet 2 letter document boxes Collection contains paper documents, black and white photographs, color photographs, negatives, and slides.

Repository

VCU James Branch Cabell Library

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Gift of Melinda D. Gales, May 1999.

Preferred Citation

Melinda Gales' African American church architecture collection, 1987-1999, Collection # M 70, Special Collections and Archives, James Branch Cabell Library, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

Biographical / Historical Information

Melinda Dawn Gales was born in Russellville, Arkansas in 1972. She earned a B.S. from Radford University in 1995 and an MA in Art History from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1999. In 1999, she completed her Master's thesis, "African-American Baptist Churches in Hanover County, Virginia, 1865-1900" in fulfillment of her degree requirements.

In the abstract of her thesis, she states that the purpose was "to examine rural African-American vernacular Baptist churches built in the years following the Civil War. The case study is centered around Hanover County, Virginia, because of the county's strategic location in relation to the capital of the Confederacy in Richmond."

Content Description

This collection consists of materials created or gathered by Melinda D. Gales in pursuance of her thesis research. The collection includes drafts of Melinda Gales's Master's thesis, "African American Baptist Churches in Hanover County, Virginia, 1865-1900"; research notes; photographs; slides; negatives; and several magazines or booklets dealing with African American Baptist church history and architecture in Richmond city and Hanover County, Virginia. Areas of research include date stones, distyle-in-muris, and portrait bust stained glass use in African American Baptist churches.

Churches included in this collection are:

Hanover County--Abner Baptist, Bethany Baptist, Chestnut Baptist, Ebenezer Baptist, First Union Baptist, Jerusalem Baptist, Mount Carmel Baptist, Providence Baptist, Second Union Baptist, Shiloh Baptist, and Union Baptist Church.

Richmond City--Ebenezer Baptist, Fifth Street Baptist, First African Baptist, Fountain Baptist, Fourth Baptist, Mt. Carmel Baptist, Mt. Tabor Baptist, Rising Mt. Zion, Second Baptist Church, Sharon Baptist, Sixth Mount Zion, Swansboro Baptist, First Baptist Church (Southside) and Second Baptist (Southside).

Keywords

African American churches -- History -- Virginia -- Hanover County

Baptist church buildings -- Virginia -- Hanover County

Church architecture -- Virginia -- Hanover County

African American churches -- History -- Virginia -- Richmond

Baptist church buildings -- Virginia -- Richmond

Church architecture -- Virginia -- Richmond

Photographs

drafts (documents)

Periodicals

Arrangement

Folders are arranged alphabetically.

Description of Subordinate Components

Correspondence

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76574

Unit Date 1997-1998

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Ebenezer Baptist Church (Richmond) slides

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76575

Unit Date 1998

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

First African Baptist Church (Richmond) photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76576

Unit Date March 1998

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Fourth African Baptist Church (Richmond) slides

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76577

Unit Date 1998

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

First Baptist Church (Richmond) photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76578

Unit Date Summer 1998

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Mount Carmel Baptist Church (Richmond) history

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76579

Unit Date October 27, 1996

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

New Bridge Baptist Church (Richmond) photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76580

Unit Date March 24, 1998

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Miscellaneous church photos, A-E

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76581

Unit Date 1998-1999

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Miscellaneous church photos, F-H

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76582

Unit Date 1998

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Miscellaneous church photos, L-R

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76583

Unit Date 1998

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Miscellaneous church photos, S-Z

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76584

Unit Date 1997-1998

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Miscellaneous church slides

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76585

Unit Date 1997-1998

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Miscellaneous Richmond magazines

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76586

Unit Date 1987 and 1998

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Scope and Contents

Magazines include: -E. Hatcher Crenshaw, Harry Davis Jr., and Edwin Slipek Jr., "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: Faith, Struggle and Growth in Richmond Since 1619," Jefferson Publishing: Richmond, 1987. - Metropolitan Business Guide, Volume 14, Number 4: Special Black History Issue -Virginia Cavalcade: The Quarterly Illustrated Magazine of Virginia History and Culture, Winter 1998

Negatives

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76587

Unit Date circa 1997-1999

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Second Union Baptist Church (Hanover County)

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76588

Unit Date 1996-1999

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

Second Union Baptist Church (Hanover County) photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76589

Unit Date 1997

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 17 (folder)

Second Union Baptist Church (Hanover County) slides

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76590

Unit Date 1997

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 18 (folder)

Shiloh Baptist Church (Hanover County) photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76591

Unit Date 1999

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 19 (folder)

Sixth Mount Zion Church (Richmond) photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76592

Unit Date Spring 1998

Mixed Materials [A11423637984] 1 (box)

Container 20 (folder)

Thesis draft

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76593

Unit Date 1999

Mixed Materials [A11423637942] 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Thesis, final version

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76594

Unit Date May 1999

Mixed Materials [A11423637942] 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Thesis log

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76595

Unit Date 1998

Mixed Materials [A11423637942] 2 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Thesis photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/76596

Unit Date circa 1997-1999

Mixed Materials [A11423637942] 2 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Union Baptist Church (Hanover County) photos**Unit ID** /repositories/5/archival_objects/76597**Unit Date** 1999**Mixed Materials [A11423637942]** 2 (box)**Container** 5 (folder)**Valentine Museum exhibit ephemera****Unit ID** /repositories/5/archival_objects/76598**Unit Date** 1998-1999**Mixed Materials [A11423637942]** 2 (box)**Container** 6 (folder)**Scope and Contents**

Exhibit titles include: -Jackson Ward: A Century of Community -In Bondage and Freedom -Jim Crow: Racism and Reaction in the New South -Second Street: Business and Entertainment in Jackson Ward, 1900-1965

VCU Architectural History Symposia**Unit ID** /repositories/5/archival_objects/76599**Unit Date** 1994, 1997, and 1998**Mixed Materials [A11423637942]** 2 (box)**Container** 7 (folder)**White churches, reference lists****Unit ID** /repositories/5/archival_objects/76600**Unit Date** 1998**Mixed Materials [A11423637942]** 2 (box)**Container** 8 (folder)