

# Hugh Carr family and River View Farm

Hugh Carr family papers and River View Farm  
1843-1978

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## Title Statement

Hugh Carr family and River View Farm Hugh Carr family and River View Farm MSS 10176

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### Notes

Accretions MSS 10176,-a,-b,-c,-d have been combined. The related collection on Hugh Carr and the history of Ivy Creek Natural area- MSS 10770 is a deposit and is a separate collection. Need to update ARVAS.

## Profile Description

**Creation:** This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2026-03-05 17:43:23 +0000.

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

**Descriptive Rules:** Describing Archives: A Content Standard

## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

MSS 10176

### Unit ID

[Archival Resource Key](#)

### Unit ID

/repositories/3/resources/1446

### Unit Date

1843-1978

### Language

English

### Extent

1 Cubic Feet

### Repository

Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library

## Administrative Information

### **Conditions Governing Access**

The collection is open for research use.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

MSS 10176, The Hugh Carr family papers and River View Farm was a gift from Evangeline Greer Jones to the Small Special Collections Library at the University of Virginia Library 25 October, 1976.

### **Preferred Citation**

MSS 10176, Hugh Carr family papers and River View Farm, Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, University of Virginia Library.

## **Biographical / Historical**

During the Reconstruction period of Virginia history, Hugh Carr (1843-1914), who was formerly enslaved by Richard Wingfield, began the long process of purchasing various tracts of land that eventually made up the model farm along Ivy Creek known as "River View" in the Union Ridge Hydraulic Mills community.

He and his wife, Texie Mae Hawkins, (1865-1899) raised seven children at River View Farm: Mary Louise Carr Greer, (1884-1973), Fannie Carr Washington (1887-?), Peachie Carr Jackson (1889-1977), Emma Clorinda Carr (1892-1974), Virginia Carr Brown (1893-1935), Ann Hazel Carr (1895-?), and one son Marshall Hubert Carr (1886-1916). The farm continued to grow and by 1890 it was over 125 acres making Carr among the largest African American landowner in Albemarle County.

As Hugh Carr was deprived of any formal education, he placed an emphasis on education for his daughters and son, all of whom went to school. Many of his children earned college degrees, becoming teachers and community leaders.

His oldest, Mary Louise Carr became principal of Albemarle Training School and was an influential educator in the local community. Later, she was honored for her commitment to education with the naming of Greer Elementary School after her. In 1916, Mary Carr married Conly Greer, the first African American extension agent for Albemarle County and the last family member to farm at Riverview Farm. After his death in 1957, Mary Carr Greer continued to live there but the land was rented to local farmers to farm. When she died in 1973, she left the estate to her only child, Evangeline Greer Jones, who in turn sold it.

Following its sale, the farm was slated to become one of Charlottesville's newest subdivisions with a projected 200 homes. Elizabeth Conant, a biology teacher at the University of Virginia, realized that the land was ideal for a nature preserve. She contacted the Nature Conservancy who bought the farm and held it until the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County were able to buy the land. The Ivy Creek Foundation was incorporated on May 23, 1979, and the future management of the land lies with them. Paul Saunier, former University of Virginia administrator, was the first president of the Foundation.

The Ivy Creek Natural Area, which currently borders the South Rivanna Reservoir of the City of Charlottesville and consists of 215 acres of forest, field, and stream, was formed from several tracts of land. These include the original tract from the Mary Carr Greer Estate of eighty acres in 1975, a thirty-eight-acre tract from the City of Charlottesville in 1979, the James Fleming tract of eighty-acres in 1981, the Flamenco tract of sixteen acres in 1981, and four tenths of an acre from Bedford Moore in 1981. The Greer property was named the Rann Preserve when purchased by the Nature Conservancy and was renamed the Ivy Creek Natural Area. The organizers of the Ivy Creek Natural Area recognized the history of the Carr family and worked to save and preserve the land as well as the family documents that were found in the farmhouse.

Sources: Ivy Creek Foundation, Accessed 1/27/2023 <https://ivycreekfoundation.org/cultural-history>

## **Scope and Contents**

This collection consists of the history of Hugh Carr, an African American born in enslavement in 1843 and his family who lived on a tract of land (River View Farm) that Carr and his wife Texie Mae Hawkins bought in 1870 after emancipation. He became one of the largest African American landowners in Albemarle County, where he raised several generations of his family in the Union Ridge Hydraulic Mills community, until his death in 1914.

The papers show that Carr highly valued education for his daughters as well as his son. His eldest daughter, Mary Louise Carr Greer became a well-known educator and principal of Albemarle Training School. Her family continued to live on the farm until 1978 when it became the Ivy Creek Natural Area with the support of the Nature Conservancy.

There are documents, newspaper clippings, photographs pertaining to the history of this prominent African American family.

Included is the original receipt for the purchase of land for the farm by Hugh Carr in 1870 in the amount of \$100 and contracts for when Carr worked as a farm manager for Richard Wingfield and A. A. Southerland.

There are legal and financial papers of Conly Greer (1883-1956) and correspondence of Mary Carr Greer and her husband, Conly Greer. Included is a letter written for Hugh Carr giving Conly approval to marry his daughter. (Hugh Carr could not read and write but he would sign his name with an X). There is also correspondence of their daughter, Evangeline Greer Jones while courting her husband, Hinton C. Jones.

## Related Materials

This collection MSS 10176 is related to the Ivy Creek Natural Area MSS 10770, about the history of River View farm and Hugh Carr family which is now the Ivy Creek Natural Area. MSS 10770 is a deposit. It also contains the history of Ivy Creek Natural Area and how it was purchased by the local government to preserve the land and history.

## Keywords

Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877)  
Charlottesville (Va.) -- History -- 19th Century  
African American families  
Dwellings -- Virginia -- Albemarle County.

## Conservation

Some items in this collection sustained damage from pests and/or mold prior to coming to the Library. Preservation staff has frozen and stabilized the items to prevent further damage from pests or mold and cleaned the items to facilitate handling.

## Description of Subordinate Components

### Series 1. Business papers, receipts, and history of the land

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243605

#### **Hugh Carr's purchase of Riverview Farm**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243606

**Unit Date** 1870 September 20; 1872-1874

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Digital Archival Object**

Hugh Carr's purchase of Riverview Farm , 1870 September 20; 1872-1874

#### **Hugh Carr work contracts (John Wingfield and A. A. Southerland)**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243607

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 2 (folder)

**Digital Archival Object**

Hugh Carr work contracts (John Wingfield and A. A. Southerland)

## **Hugh Carr receipts for farm and family supplies**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243608

**Unit Date** 1874-1908; 1922

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 3 (Folder)

**Digital Archival Object**

Hugh Carr receipts for farm and family supplies, 1874-1908; 1922

## **History of land titles and county records**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243629

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 4 (folder)

**Digital Archival Object**

History of land titles and county records

## **Series 2. Correspondence**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243714

**Unit Date** 1911-1961

### **Correspondence Mary Carr Greer and Conly Greer**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243715

**Unit Date** 1911-1933

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 5 (folder)

**Digital Archival Object**

Correspondence Mary Carr Greer and Conly Greer, 1911-1933

### **Letter written for Hugh Carr to Conly Greer (giving permission for Conly to marry his daughter Mary)**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243716

**Unit Date** 1913 December 2

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 6 (Folder)

**Digital Archival Object**

Letter written for Hugh Carr to Conly Greer (giving permission for Conly to marry his daughter Mary), 1913 December 2

### **Carr, Greer, and Jones family correspondence**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243717

**Unit Date** 1911-1914; 1961

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 7 (Folder)

### **Digital Archival Object**

Carr, Greer, and Jones family correspondence, 1911-1914; 1961

### **Correspondence to Conly and Mary Greer**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243718

**Unit Date** 1911-1933

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 8 (folder)

#### **Digital Archival Object**

Correspondence to Conly and Mary Greer, 1911-1933

### **Correspondence Hinton C. Jones to Evangeline Greer Jones (including one letter from Evangeline to her mother Mary Greer)**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243719

**Unit Date** 1922; 1932-1934

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 9 (folder)

#### **Digital Archival Object**

Correspondence Hinton C. Jones to Evangeline Greer Jones (including one letter from Evangeline to her mother Mary Greer), 1922; 1932-1934

### **Correspondence Hinton C. Jones to Evangeline Greer Jones**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243720

**Unit Date** 1934-1935

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 10 (Folder)

#### **Digital Archival Object**

Correspondence Hinton C. Jones to Evangeline Greer Jones, 1934-1935

### **Correspondence: invitations and cards (including one with an aerial view of Riverview Farm)**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243721

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 11 (folder)

#### **Digital Archival Object**

Correspondence: invitations and cards (including one with an aerial view of Riverview Farm)

## **Series 3. Ephemera**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243722

**Unit Date** 1908-1921

## **Cookbooks, programs, and advertisements**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243723

**Unit Date** 1908-1921

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 12 (Folder)

**Digital Archival Object**

Cookbooks, programs, and advertisements, 1908-1921

## **Series 4. African American Organizations**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243724

**Unit Date** 1922-1961

**Programs, classes, or By-laws from the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, Virginia State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, and the Southeastern Federation of Colored Women's Clubs**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243725

**Unit Date** 1922-1961

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 13 (folder)

**Digital Archival Object**

Programs, classes, or By-laws from the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, Virginia State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, and the Southeastern Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, 1922-1961

## **Series 5. Newspaper clippings and photograph**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243726

### **Miscellaneous newspaper clippings**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243727

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 14 (Folder)

**Digital Archival Object**

Miscellaneous newspaper clippings

### **Photograph of Marshall Hubert Carr (brother of Mary Greer and son of Hugh Carr)**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243728

**Mixed Materials [X004930052]** 1 (box)

**Container** 15 (Folder)

**Digital Archival Object**

Photograph of Marshall Hubert Carr (brother of Mary Greer and son of Hugh Carr)

## Series 6. School records and papers

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243729

### Mary Carr Greer school essays

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243730

Unit Date 1922

Mixed Materials [X004930052] 1 (box)

Container 16 (Folder)

Digital Archival Object

Mary Carr Greer school essays, 1922

### School records: Report card for Manfred Jones (grandson of Mary Greer through Evangeline and Hinton C. Jones)

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243731

Unit Date 1958-1959

Mixed Materials [X004930052] 1 (box)

Container 17 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

School records: Report card for Manfred Jones (grandson of Mary Greer through Evangeline and Hinton C. Jones), 1958-1959

### Conly Greer school notebooks (music and rhetoric)

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243732

Mixed Materials [X004930052] 1 (box)

Container 18 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Conly Greer school notebooks (music and rhetoric)

### Newspaper clippings-Carr family

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival\_objects/247405

Mixed Materials [X004930052] 1 (box)

Container 19 (folder)

### Albemarle Training School Yearbook

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243774

Unit Date 1948

Mixed Materials [X004930051] 2 (box)

Container 1 (Folder)

Digital Archival Object

Albemarle Training School Yearbook, 1948

**Interview transcriptions with former students (Mrs. Oneida Smith and Mrs. Frances Walker Hill) of Mary Carr Greer (tapes of interviews with a-v in stacks) T-575 and T-679**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243777

**Unit Date** 1977 February 17 and 1978 November 15

**Mixed Materials [X004930051]** 2 (box)

**Container** 2 (folder)

**Digital Archival Object**

Interview transcriptions with former students (Mrs. Oneida Smith and Mrs. Frances Walker Hill) of Mary Carr Greer (tapes of interviews with a-v in stacks) T-575 and T-679, 1977 February 17 and 1978 November 15

**Series 7. Certificates and Programs**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243776

**Unit Date** 1962-1970

**Certificates for Mary Greer from African American Women's Clubs and Mary Greer's funeral program**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/243778

**Unit Date** 1962-1970

**Mixed Materials [X004930051]** 2 (box)

**Container** 3 (folder)

**Digital Archival Object**

Certificates for Mary Greer from African American Women's Clubs and Mary Greer's funeral program, 1962-1970