South-Central Georgia Folklife Project collection

AFC 1982/010

Guides to the Collections in the Archive of Folk Culture



American Folklife Center, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
April 1982

Contact information: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/folklife.contact

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/2010655308

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/eadafc.af014001

Prepared by Lucy M. Long

Finding aid encoded by Kate Stewart, March 2014
Revised July 2022

Collection Summary

Title: South-Central Georgia Folklife Project collection
Inclusive Dates: 1977-1982
Bulk Dates: bulk 1977
Call No.: AFC 1982/010
Creator: Archive of Folk Culture (Library of Congress), collector.
Creator: Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, sponsor.
Extent: 24,855 items.
Extent: 13 containers.
Extent: 6.5 linear feet.
Extent (manuscripts): 152 folders.
Extent (sound recordings): 179 sound tape reels : analog ; 7 in.
Extent (sound recordings): 1 sound tape reel : analog ; 5 in.
Extent (sound recordings): 196 sound cassettes : analog.
Extent (moving images): 8 videocassettes (U-Matic) : sound, color ; 3/4 in.
Extent (still images): circa 14,000 film negatives : black-and-white ; 35 mm and 2 1/4 in.
Extent (still images): circa 7400 slides and transparencies : color ; 35 mm and 2 1/4 in.
Extent (still images): 31 drawings : pen-and-ink ; various sizes.
Language: In English.
Location: Archive of Folk Culture, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/2010655308
Summary: Collection of documentary materials resulting from an ethnographic field research project conducted by the American Folklife Center in eight counties of south central Georgia, and at Mt. Zion, Georgia, in July and August 1977 in cooperation with the Arts Experiment Station of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. Topics of research were hymn singing, vernacular architecture, foodways, jokes, and stories from the region. Includes documentation of the exhibition "Folk Art and Folk Life," at the Library of Congress, and proposed publication projects to 1982.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People
Adler, Thomas A.
Blackmarr, Syd
Coelho, Dennis
Finster, Howard, 1916-2001.
Fleischhauer, Carl
Forester, Laura Pope, 1873-1953.
Hamrick, Raymond C.
Jabbour, Alan
Lightfoot, William E. (William Edwin), 1940-
Marshall, Howard W.
McGraw, Hugh.
Nyerere, Julius K., 1922-1999--Photographs.
Robinson, Beverly J.
St. EOM, 1908-1986--Photographs.
Stanley, David, 1942-

Organizations
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
American Folklife Center
Archive of Folk Culture (Library of Congress)
South Georgia Sacred Harp Singing Convention.

Subjects
African American children's games--Georgia.
African American quiltmakers--Georgia.
African Americans--Georgia--Music.
African Americans--Georgia--Social life and customs.
Agriculture--Georgia.
Baptist church buildings--Georgia.
Bluegrass music--1971-1980.
Boats--Georgia.
Cemeteries--Georgia.
Choral societies--Georgia.
Documentary photography--Georgia.
Fiddle tunes--Georgia.
Fishing--Georgia.
Folk music--Georgia.
Folklore--Georgia.
Food habits--Georgia.
Gopher tortoise--Georgia--Photographs.
Gospel music--Georgia.
Hymn festivals--Georgia.
Hymns, English--Georgia.
Methodist church buildings--Georgia.
Old-time music--Georgia.
Outsider art--Georgia.
Quilts--Georgia.
Sculpture--Georgia.
Shape-note singing--Georgia.
Singing games--Georgia.
Tales--Georgia.
Tobacco farms--Georgia.
Vernacular architecture--Georgia.
Worship programs.

Places
Ben Hill County (Ga.)--Social life and customs.
Berrien County (Ga.)--Social life and customs.
Colquitt County (Ga.)--Social life and customs.
Cook County (Ga.)--Social life and customs.
Georgia--Social life and customs--Pictorial works--Photographs.
Georgia--Social life and customs.
Grady County (Ga.)--Social life and customs.
Irwin County (Ga.)--Social life and customs.
Tift County (Ga.)--Social life and customs.
Turner County (Ga.)--Social life and customs.
Washington (D.C.) event place.
Worth County (Ga.)--Social life and customs.

Titles
Southern folk pottery: the Meaders family tradition

Form/Genre
Aerial photographs.
Bluegrass music.
Clippings.
Correspondence.

Drawings.
Essays.
Ethnography.
Field notes.
Gospel music.
Hymns.
Interviews.
Oral histories.
Photographs.
Programs.
Sermons.
Songs.
Sound recordings.
Videocassettes.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into the following series: I. Administration; II. Collected Publications and Ephemera; III. Documentation--Fieldnotes; IV. Dcoumentation--Suplemental Information; V. Documentation--Photographic--Black and White; VI. Documentation--Photographic--Color; VII. Documentation--Sound Recordings; VIII. Documentation--Videotapes; IX. Final Products; X. Photographic Exhibit; XI. Proposed Book.

Acquisition

Accessioned; 1982.

Processing History

The collection was processed by Lucy M. Long in 1982.

Related Material

Additional materials related to the exhibition of Howard Finster's work at the Library of Congress in 1978 are found in the Howard Finster collection (AFC 1984/016).

Separated Material

The hymnbooks were separated from the collection.

Copyright Status

Duplication of the collection materials may be governed by copyright and other restrictions.

Access and Restrictions

The collection is open for research use; access is restricted, some or all materials are stored offsite. To request materials, please contact the Folklife Reading Room at http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/folklife.contact

Preferred Citation

South-Central Georgia Folklife Project collection (AFC 1982/010), Archive of Folk Culture, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Bibliography

Selected photographs from this collection are published in *Sketches of South Georgia folklife*, edited by Carl Fleischhauer and Howard W. Marshall (Washington, D.C. : Library of Congress, 1977).

Administrative History

The South-Central Georgia Folklife Project was a joint undertaking of the American Folklife Center, Library of Congress and the Arts Experiment Station of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, Georgia conducted during six weeks in the summer of 1977. The eight-county area chosen for the study is in the center of the "Wiregrass" region of Georgia. The research team based in Tifton included six fieldworkers from the American Folklife Center, and the director, Alan Jabbour; as well as Syd Blackmarr, director of the Arts Experiment Station, and Dennis Coelho who later served as folklorist-in-residence at the Arts Experiment Station.

Scope and Content

Collection of documentary materials resulting from an ethnographic field research project conducted by the American Folklife Center in eight counties of south central Georgia, and at Mt. Zion, Georgia, in July and August 1977 in cooperation with the Arts Experiment Station of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. Topics of research were hymn singing, vernacular architecture, foodways, jokes, and stories from the region. Subjects of photographs include people interviewed for the project; copies of their family photographs; vernacular houses, barns, and outbuildings, including log buildings; tools, furniture, birdhouses, and yard art; wells; tobacco curing, harvesting, warehouses, auctions, farms, and tobacco workers; peanut, cotton, soybean, corn, and wheat fields; crop dusting; churches; religious services, including baptisms; prayers, sermons, hymn singing, tent revivals; church suppers; barbecue cooking; breakfasts; quilts, crochet, and basket work; woodcarving; vernacular boats, boat repair, and boat building; fishing; graveyards, gravesites and markers; grocery stores, restaurants, dry goods stores, a barber shop, business and roadside signs; a piano repair shop; aerial photographs; gathering wild herbs; trees, landscapes; swamps, rivers; box turtles, catfish, cattle, and dogs. A focus of the fieldwork was hymn singing conventions and gospel singing of white and black residents. The collection includes photographs and sound recordings of Hugh McGraw, Raymond Hamrick, J. C. Cooper, and others leading sacred harp singing; other congregational and gospel singing groups; African American children's games, singing games, handclapping, hambone; fiddle, guitar, piano, and banjo players. Includes photographs of sculpture, paintings, and gardens at Pope's Museum, Pelham, Georgia, featuring the sculpture and artwork of Laura Pope Forrester who died in 1953. Includes photographs of President Nyerere of Tanzania visiting Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, August 9, 1977. Also Includes photographs of the reception held for the exhibition "Folk Art and Folk Life," at the Library of Congress, with Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Boorstin; Rosalynn Carter, Amy Carter, Mrs. Mary Beth Busbee, J. Michael Carrigan, Jr., Don Yoder, and Rev. Howard Finster, January 26, 1978, and photographs of the exhibition, February, 1978. Includes additional photographs of a seminar held in the Whittall Pavilion, Library of Congress, March 17, 1978, titled "Southern Folk Pottery: The Meaders Family Tradition," with Lanier Meaders, Mrs. Cheever Meaders, John Burrison, and Ralph Rinzler. More photographs of south Georgia cemeteries were taken by Dennis Coelho, Georgia state folklorist, in the summer of 1979. 31 pen-and-ink drawings of buildings and floor plans were made by Howard Marshall. Includes documentation of the exhibition, and proposed publication projects to 1982.

Description of Series

Container	Series
	PDF Inventory, April 1982
	See PDF inventory.

Container List

Container	Contents
	PDF Inventory, April 1982 See PDF inventory.

Container List

See PDF inventory of the collection materials, prepared in April 1982.