

# Pulaski Theater Oral History Project

Pulaski Theater Oral History Project

2003-2004



## Title Statement

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## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

Ms.2004.007

### Unit Date

2003-2004

### Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

### Abstract

The Pulaski Theater Oral History Project contains 13 interview cassette tapes and 12 interview transcripts compiled by Dr. April Allen. In addition, the collection also includes the field notes and dissertation completed by Dr. Allen.

### Creator

Allen, April

### Extent

0.75 Cubic Feet 2 boxes

### Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

# Administrative Information

## Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research with the exception of tapes and transcripts for which there are no oral history release forms. Folder 7 in box one and tapes 5 & 8 in box two are restricted with no access because release forms are unavailable for these interviews.

## Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

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## Source of Acquisition

The Pulaski Theater Oral History Project was donated to Special Collections in 2004.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Pulaski Theater Oral History Project, Ms2004-007, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

# Administrative History

The Pulaski Theater Oral History Project focuses on personal recollections of the Pulaski Theater, which operated from 1937 to 1991. Built in 1911, the structure initially hosted concerts and vaudevillian-style entertainment. However, the theater was closed in 1922 and remained a dry goods store until its reopening as a movie theater in 1937 under its new name--The Pulaski concerts. The interviewees are residents or former residents of Pulaski, Virginia, with the memories of the building dating back to the original Elks Theater.

# Scope and Content

The Pulaski Theater Oral History Project contains materials from 2003 to 2004 with the bulk from 2003. The collection consists of interview cassette tapes and transcripts of oral history interviews conducted in 2003 by April Allen, a PhD. candidate in the Interior Design Program within the College of Architecture and Urban Studies at Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University. Interviewees include Ann King and Delores Brown, Betty Guynn, Marva Hickman, Edna Isbill, Lloyd Mathews, Bob and Sharon McKinney, George Penn, Wilmer and Ethel White. Transcripts available for all interviewees with the exception of Lloyd Mathews. The collection also includes Dr. Allen's field notes and her doctoral dissertation based on the Pulaski Theater located in Pulaski, Virginia.

# Keywords

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South  
Oral histories (literary works)  
Pulaski Theatre (Pulaski, Va.)

# Existence and Location of Copies

A copy of Dr. April Allen's dissertation: "The Social Importance of a Small-town Theater: A Case Study of the Pulaski Theatre, Pulaski, Virginia" is available online.

# Rights Statement for Archival Description

The guide to the Pulaski Theater Oral History Project by Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, is licensed under a CC0 (<https://creativecommons.org/share-your-work/public-domain/cc0/>).

# Arrangement

The collection is arranged alphabetically by interviewee. Box 1 contains transcripts, field notes, and Dr. Allen's dissertation. Box 2 contains cassette tapes.

## Description of Subordinate Components

### **Ann King and Delores Brown interview transcript**

**Unit Date** July 15, 2003

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

### **Betty Guynn interview transcript**

**Unit Date** June 19, 2003

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 2 (folder)

### **Marva Hickman interview transcript**

**Unit Date** June 18, 2003

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 3 (folder)

### **Edna Isbill interview transcript**

**Unit Date** July 15, 2003

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 4 (folder)

### **Sharon and Bob McKinney interview transcript**

**Unit Date** July 22, 2003

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 5 (folder)

### **George Penn interview transcript**

**Unit Date** July 08, 2003

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

### **Wilmer and Ethel Ryan interview transcript**

**Unit Date** n.d.

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 7 (folder)

### **Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Seagle interview transcript**

**Unit Date** June 11, 2003

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 8 (folder)

### **Pricilla Stith interview transcript**

**Unit Date** June 04, 2003

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 9 (folder)

**Keri Vass interview transcript**

**Unit Date** June 19, 2003

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 10 (folder)

**John White interview transcript**

**Unit Date** June 25, 2003

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 11 (folder)

**Walter White interview transcript**

**Unit Date** July 08, 2003

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 12 (folder)

**Interview field notes**

**Unit Date** n.d.

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 13 (folder)

**Dr. April Allen's dissertation: "The Social Importance of a Small-town Theater: A Case Study of the Pulaski Theatre, Pulaski, Virginia"**

**Unit Date** April 13, 2004

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 14 (folder)

**Existence and Location of Copies**

A copy of this dissertation is available online.

**Interview cassette tapes**

**Unit Date** n.d.

**box** 2

**Scope and Content**

Interview Cassette Tapes include the following: 1. Ann King and Delores Brown 2. Betty Guynn 3. Marva Hickman 4. Edna Isbill 5. Lloyd Mathews 6. Sharon and Bob McKinney 7. George Penn 8. Wilmer and Ethel Ryan 9. Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Seagle 10. Pricilla Stith 11. Keri Vass 12. John White 13. Walter White