

Stories of Segregation in Bluefield, Virginia Oral History Collection

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2023



Title Statement

Stories of Segregation in Bluefield, Virginia Oral History Collection
Stories of Segregation in Bluefield, Virginia Oral History Collection, 2023 Ms.2024.076

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Publication Statement

Publisher: Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Special Collections and University Archives, University Libraries (0434)

560 Drillfield Drive

Newman Library, Virginia Tech

Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

Business Number: 540-231-6308

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URL: <http://spec.lib.vt.edu>



2024

Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2025-03-04 15:37:28 -0500.

Language Usage: English

Revision Description

2025-03-03 Ella Winterling added Existence and Location of Copies.

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2024.076

Unit Date

2023

Language

The material of this collection is in English.

Extent

0.1 Cubic Feet

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research, with the exception of some restricted materials that are not available to the public.

Use Restrictions

Permission to publish material from the Bluefield Oral History Project must be obtained from Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech.

Source of Acquisition

Interviews were acquired by Special Collections and University Archives in 2023. Additional oral histories will be added to the collection as they are conducted and processed.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Bluefield Oral History Project was completed in August 2024.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Stories of Segregation in Bluefield, Virginia, Ms2024-076, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

This collection began as a research project for how segregation changes over time in Bluefield, Virginia. Bluefield was established as a railway hub that served the Appalachian coalfields of southern West Virginia. The coal produced great wealth in the region, and Bluefield was the recipient. The railroad lines that served as its economic lifeline went down the middle of the valley with high mountains on both the north and south sides. The boundary of the railroad and mountain provided the physical limitations of the town, easing the establishment of segregated neighborhoods that faced each other across the valley.

Scope and Content

This collection was donated as a research project on the personal significance of the historically segregated neighborhoods of Bluefield, West Virginia, and Bluefield, Virginia. Gregory Galford, Vonnia Davis, Micaela Appelbaum, and Jessica Taylor interviewed residents and former residents of these segregated neighborhoods to reconstruct a previously unrecorded history of how segregated space in this regional hub has changed over time.

Keywords

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South
African Americans -- History

Existence and Location of Copies

Some of this collection has been digitized and is available online.

Description of Subordinate Components

Joseph Bundy

Unit Date 2023-05-04

William Connelly

Unit Date 2023-05-10

Tyrone Curtis

Unit Date 2023-06-21

Deloris French

Unit Date 2023-02-24

Alethia Gore

Unit Date 2023-02-24

Ray Hamlet

Unit Date 2023-02-24

Pamela and Cloyd Jeffries

Unit Date 2023-02-24

Harry Johnson

Unit Date 2023-06-21

Freddie Millner

Unit Date 2023-02-24

Tim Moore

Unit Date 2023-02-24

Cecilia Myers

Unit Date 2023-05-03

Anneka Perry

Unit Date 2023-06-06

Sarah Ponder

Unit Date 2023-02-24

James Robinson -- Restricted

Unit Date 2023-06-21

Vance Ross

Unit Date 2023-06-21

Sevealyn Smith

Unit Date 2023-05-03

Charles Thompson

Unit Date 2023-02-24

Angelia Whiting

Unit Date 2023-05-10