

A Guide to the Colonial Leesburg, Inc. Collection, ca. 1949-1954

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A Collection in the Thomas Balch Library SC 0029

Thomas Balch Library

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History

Processed by: Emily Hershman

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Profile Description

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29 May 2009 Corrected date errors in original description; added materials from 1995.0073X.

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Descriptive Summary

Collection number

SC 0029

Language

English

Abstract

Colonial Leesburg, Inc. Collection documents the establishment and accomplishments of Colonial Leesburg, Inc., a nonprofit organization founded to preserve Leesburg's colonial-style buildings.

Creator

Unknown, B. Powell Harrison

Extent

16 folders

Repository

Thomas Balch Library

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection open for research .

Use Restrictions

No physical characteristics affect use of this material.

Acquisition Information

B. Powell Harrison, Leesburg, VA; unknown

Processing Information

Processed by Emily Hershman, 12 December 2007. Updated by Stephanie Adams Hunter, 11 May 2009.

Preferred Citation

Colonial Leesburg, Inc (SC 0029), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

Accruals

2002.0013, 1995.0073X

Alternative Form Available

None

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

None

Bibliography

Colonial Leesburg, Inc (SC 0029), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA

Other Finding Aid

None

Technical Requirements

None

Historical Information

Historical Information

Colonial Leesburg, Inc. was founded in 1949 by B. Powell Harrison, Jr. (25 Aug 1911-1 Nov 2000) to preserve "early American" architecture in businesses in downtown Leesburg. Colonial Leesburg held numerous open houses and gatherings to encourage appreciation of Leesburg's historical landmarks. Much of modern Leesburg, including its brick sidewalks and colonial-style buildings, is a product of this nonprofit corporation's efforts.

Scope and Content

The Colonial Leesburg, Inc. Collection documents the establishment and accomplishments of Colonial Leesburg, Inc., a nonprofit organization founded to preserve Leesburg's colonial-style buildings. Elements of the collection (pamphlets, blueprints, press releases, and newspaper clippings) are in overall good condition but should be handled carefully.

The first item in the collection is a pamphlet entitled "Opportunity Leesburg and You." It emphasizes Leesburg's major sites, including Washington's Headquarters and the Janney House, and states that Colonial Leesburg seeks to "encourage and facilitate" building restoration, and to generate information about Leesburg's history and heritage throughout the community. The collection contains an annual report from November 1950, describing the first fiscal year as "successful" and listing architectural plans, consultations, and projects. Architectural notes and sketches for downtown Leesburg's renovation are also included. "Suggested Outline: Leesburg Open House" proposes plans for an organizational event that hopes to draw at least a thousand guests. Reports from various meetings, newspaper clippings discussing the organization's goals, and a press release documenting the success of the Open House are among the succeeding items. A transcript of the "Leesburg" pamphlet, written and distributed by the organization, notes Leesburg landmarks such as the Rust House, the Welbourn House and Garden, the Clerk's Office, and the Tally-Ho Theater. There are also reports from the organization's Sidewalk Committee, which worked with the town to promote the use of brick for sidewalks in the historic parts of Leesburg.

Contents List

Folder 1: "Opportunity Leesburg and You" Pamphlets n.d.

Folder 2: Annual Report: November 1950 November 1950

Folder 3: Architectural Plans for Downtown Leesburg n.d.

Folder 4: "Suggested Outline: Leesburg Open House" n.d.

Folder 5: Meeting minutes 1950-19511950-1951

Folder 6: Sidewalk Committee reports 1949, n.d. 1949, n.d.

Folder 7: Press Release May 2, 1950 2 May 1950

Folder 8: Correspondence 1950, 1954 1950, 1954

Folder 9: Committee Resolutions on Colonial Leesburg Week n.d.

Folder 10: "Leesburg" Pamphlets n.d.

Folder 11: Transcript of "Leesburg" Pamphlet n.d.

Folder 12: Picture of Colonial Downtown Leesburg n.d.

Folder 13: Newspaper Article: "A Date with Beauty" n.d.

Folder 14: Newspaper Article: "Leesburg Opens Fight to Restrain Modernism" n.d.

Folder 15: Picture of West Loudoun Street, late 1940s late 1940s

Folder 16: Newspaper Article: "Colonial Leesburg Gets Charter, Names Officers" n.d.