

Thomas C. Gordon Jr. papersMSS.04.1

Thomas C. Gordon Jr. papers
circa 1965 - 1997



Title Statement

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Publication Statement

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Arthur J. Morris Law Library
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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID
MSS.04.1

Unit ID
[Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID
[Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID
[/repositories/4/resources/717](#)

Unit Date

circa 1965 - 1997

Language

English

Creator

Gordon, Thomas C., Jr., 1915-2003

Extent

3 Cubic Feet 3 archival boxes, 11 paintings

Repository

Arthur J. Morris Law Library Special Collections

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The papers of Justice Thomas C. Gordon were donated to the Special Collections Department of the Arthur J. Morris Law Library in March 2004 by the law firm of McGuire Woods.

Biographical / Historical

Thomas Christian Gordon Jr. was born in Richmond, Virginia, on 14 July 1915. His parents were Thomas Christian Gordon and Ruth Nelson (Robins). He attended the University of Virginia, receiving his BA in 1936 and his LLB from the Law School in 1938. Gordon was admitted to the Virginia Bar in 1937. From 1938-1940, he was an associate for the Richmond law firm of Parrish, Butcher & Parrish; from 1940-1965 and 1972-1983 he was an associate and partner of the law firm of McGuire, Woods and Battle, where his specialty was business law, and he was president of the Virginia Bar Association from 1963-1964. In 1965, he was nominated as an associate justice of what is now the Supreme Court of Virginia.

Justice Gordon was a lecturer at the University of Virginia Law School (1970-1972) and at the Marshall-Wythe School of Law (1979-1981). As a student at Virginia Law School, he was part of the editorial board of the *Virginia Law Review*. He was trustee and president of the Crippled Childrens Hospital of Richmond. He was part of the Fellow American Bar Foundation and a member of the American Bar Association. He retired from the law in 1981 and pursued his love to paint, took lessons at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, and became an accomplished artist. He died 17 May 2003.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains notebooks, memoranda, and correspondence between Judge Gordon and the University of Virginia School of Law, the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia, the *Virginia Law Review*, and the law firm of McGuire Woods. The use of language is a recurrent topic in this collection. There are extensive articles and newspaper clippings about the use of plain English and legal writing, as well as a collection of Gordon's speeches and lecture notes on legal writing.

The collection also includes eleven paintings.

Keywords

Law -- Language

Painting, American

Judges

Law -- Study and teaching

Gordon, Thomas C., Jr., 1915-2003

University of Virginia. School of Law

Description of Subordinate Components

Legal Writing. Associates Orientation Program, Fredericksburg, Va. [Handouts]

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76112

Unit Date 1986

Mixed Materials [35007008640538] 1 (box)

Legal Writing. Correspondence and Memoranda

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76113

Unit Date 1970-1981

Mixed Materials [35007008640538] 1 (box)

Legal Writing, Oral Writing and Opinion Writing. [Miscellaneous Articles]

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76114

Unit Date n.d.

Mixed Materials [35007008640538] 1 (box)

Magazine and T. V. Program Reviews. Correspondence

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76115

Unit Date 1968, 1979

Mixed Materials [35007008640538] 1 (box)

McGuire Woods LLP. Correspondence

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76116

Unit Date 1965, 1973

Mixed Materials [35007008640538] 1 (box)

Printed Materials with Gordon's Handwritten Notes [and some] Miscellaneous Funny Materials

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76117

Unit Date 1969 and n.d.

Mixed Materials [35007008640538] 1 (box)

Speeches and Notes. [black notebook]

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76118

Unit Date 1966-1974

Mixed Materials [35007008640538] 1 (box)

Sullivan and Other Acts re Plain Language

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76119

Unit Date 1978-1979, 1997

Mixed Materials [35007008640546] 2 (box)

Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia. Correspondence and Memorabilia

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76120

Unit Date 1965-1971, 1983, 1991

Mixed Materials [35007008640546] 2 (box)

Virginia Law Review. Correspondence

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76121

Unit Date 1969-1971

Mixed Materials [35007008640546] 2 (box)

University of Virginia School of Law. Correspondence

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76122

Unit Date 1965-1970, 1973

Mixed Materials [35007008640546] 2 (box)

University of Virginia School of Law Seminar. [black notebook with Gordon's teaching notes]

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76123

Unit Date 1970- 1971, 1973

Mixed Materials [35007008640546] 2 (box)

Writing - Correspondence. [Includes correspondence with Justice Lewis F. Powell, Edward Wood, Hardy C. Dillard, Emerson G. Spies]

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76124

Unit Date 1965, 1970-1980

Mixed Materials [35007008640546] 2 (box)

Writing - General. Miscellaneous articles and newspaper clippings

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76125

Unit Date 1973-1980

Mixed Materials [35007008640546] 2 (box)

Notebooks

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76126

Applied Lawyering Notebook. [William and Mary]

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76127

Unit Date 1980

Continuing Legal Education for Associates

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76128

Unit Date 1981

Intensive Writing Course. [William and Mary]

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76129

Unit Date 1979

Lectures on Legal Writing

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76130

Unit Date 1984-1991

Speeches

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76131

Unit Date 1965-1983

Paintings

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76132

Caravati

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76133

Unit Date 1986

General

This painting is located in WB 314.

The James at the Pony Pasture

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76134

Unit Date 7/1986

General

This painting is located in the Law School Library.

Mussing

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76135

General

This painting is located in the Law Library Art Closet.

White on Red

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76136

General

This painting is located in the Law School Library.

Japanese Garden

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76137

Unit Date 6/1986

General

This painting is located in the Law School Library.

Two Apples

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76138

Unit Date 10/1987

General

This painting is located in the Law School Library.

Edibles

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76139

Unit Date 11/1985

General

This painting is located in the Law School Library.

Autumn Scene at Virginia House

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76140

Unit Date 12/1989

General

This painting is located in the Law School Library.

Shedy in Black

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76141

General

This painting is located in the Law Library Art Closet.

Cloths, Lamp and Pottery

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76142

Unit Date 1989

General

This painting is located in the Law School Library.

Basket of Unknown Objects

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/76143

Unit Date 12/1989

General

This painting is located in the Law School Library.