

Cheek, Leslie Jr. College Papers

Leslie Cheek, Jr. College Papers
1936-1990



WILLIAM
& MARY

CHARTERED 1693

Title Statement

Cheek, Leslie Jr. College Papers Guide to the Leslie Cheek, Jr. College Papers UA 6.007

Author: Finding Aid Authors: Special Collections Staff.

Publication Statement

Publisher: Special Collections Research Center

William & Mary Special Collections Research Center

Earl Gregg Swem Library

400 Landrum Dr

Williamsburg, Virginia

Business Number: 757-221-3090

spcoll@wm.edu

URL: <https://libraries.wm.edu/libraries-spaces/special-collections>



WILLIAM
& MARY

CHARTERED 1693

2007-05-29

Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2025-05-15 12:45:17 -0400.

Language Usage: The collection description/finding aid is written in English

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

UA 6.007

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/5622

Unit Date

1936-1990

Unit Date

1936-1938

Language

English

Creator

Cheek, Leslie, 1908-1992

Extent

2.00 Linear Feet

Repository

Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access:

The collection is open to all researchers. Manuscript collections and archival records may contain materials with sensitive or confidential information that is protected under federal or state right to privacy laws and regulations, such as the Virginia Public Records Act (Code of Virginia, § 42.1-76-91); and the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (Code of Virginia § 2.2-3705.5). Confidential material may include, but is not limited to, educational, medical, and personnel records. If sensitive material is found in this collection, please contact a staff member immediately. The disclosure of personally identifiable information pertaining to a living individual may have legal consequences for which the College of William and Mary assumes no responsibility.

Conditions Governing Use:

Before reproducing or quoting from any materials, in whole or in part, permission must be obtained from the Special Collections Research Center, and the holder of the copyright, if not Swem Library.

Acquisition Information:

Acc. 1993.33 was received on 4/3/1998.

Preferred Citation:

Leslie Cheek, Jr. College Papers, Special Collections Research Center, William & Mary Libraries

Biographical Information:

Leslie Cheek was born in Nashville, TN in 1908. He studied art at Harvard University and architecture at Yale and Columbia. He headed the department of fine arts at the College of William and Mary 1937-39, where he was instrumental in getting an honorary award given to Georgia O'Keeffe by the college in 1938 and Frank Lloyd Wright.

In 1939, he married Mary Tyler Freeman (1917- 2005), the daughter of the Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer of George Washington, Douglas Southall Freeman. That same year he joined the Baltimore Museum of Fine Art as its director, where he found Adelyn Breeskin (q.v.) of its prints department already assembling an outstanding collection. Cheek worked actively with various Works Progress Administration (WPA) artist's projects. He resigned from the Museum in 1942 to join the army corps of engineers in World War II.

After the war, he succeeded Thomas C. Colt, Jr as the second director of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in 1948 (the museum itself was founded in 1936). During his tenure at Virginia, he persuaded the General Assembly to finance the Museum as the state's official art museum. In 1953, Cheek developed a "mobile art program" to bring exhibitions to more remote parts of Virginia. The project, Artmobile I, was a success. In 1955, the Virginia Museum Theater opened to integrate the performing arts with the gallery. He retired from the Museum in 1968. The following year the Cheeks began a mountaintop compound they named Skylark on a former farm along the Blue Ridge Parkway. In 1977, they donated it to Washington & Lee University which is today that university's conference center. Cheek suffered a series of strokes at his home in Richmond and died in 1992. His personal papers, 1981-1994, are held by the Museum of Modern Art, New York, and 1940-1983 by the Archives of American Art, Washington, DC. The Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Museum of Art, Nashville, TN, the ancestral home of Cheek, is now a public art museum, built upon the collection of the former Nashville Museum of Art.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains awards, publicity material, songs, articles, speeches, and photographs that once

belonged to College of William and Mary professor Leslie Cheek. The bulk of the material is from 1936 to 1938, and most of the material relates to the various exhibits put on by the Department of Fine Arts. The photographs are from theatre productions, dances, and exhibits at William and Mary.

Related Materials:

Leslie Cheek, Jr. Papers (Mss. 98 C41); University Archives Photograph Collection (UA 8); University Archives Poster Collection (UA 12); University Archives Oral History Collection (UA 43).

Cheek's personal papers, 1981-1994, are held by the Museum of Modern Art, New York, and 1940-1983 by the Archives of American Art, Washington, DC. The Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Museum of Art, Nashville, TN, the ancestral home of Cheek, is now a public art museum, built upon the collection of the former Nashville Museum of Art.

Keywords

Photographs

Speeches, addresses, etc.

Exhibitions

Universities and Colleges--Virginia--Faculty

College of William and Mary. Dept. of Fine Arts

Description of Subordinate Components

Box 1

Unit ID id65024

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255064

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Cheek Award

Unit ID id10866

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255066

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 1 (folder)

Architectural Record Article

Unit ID id10868

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255067

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 2 (folder)

Coolidge and Pittaway: Publicity

Unit ID id10871

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255068

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 3 (folder)

Duplicates

Unit ID id10873

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255069

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)
Container 4 (folder)

Festival Theatre Plans

Unit ID id10874
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255070
Unit Date undated
Mixed Materials 1 (Box)
Container 5 (folder)

Festival Theatre: Publicity

Unit ID id10876
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255071
Unit Date undated
Mixed Materials 1 (Box)
Container 6 (folder)

Great Waltz: Publicity

Unit ID id10878
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255072
Unit Date undated
Mixed Materials 1 (Box)
Container 7 (folder)

Theatre Development

Unit ID id10880
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255073
Unit Date undated
Mixed Materials 1 (Box)
Container 8 (folder)

Cheek Medal/Award

Unit ID id10882
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255074
Unit Date 1986-1988
Mixed Materials 1 (Box)
Container 9 (folder)

Bassett, Florence K: Cheek Medal

Unit ID id10884
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255075
Unit Date 1988
Mixed Materials 1 (Box)
Container 10 (folder)

Georgia O'Keeffe Affair

Unit ID id10886
Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255076
Unit Date 1938
Mixed Materials 1 (Box)
Container 11 (folder)

Art Loan: Muscarelle Museum**Unit ID** id10887**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255077**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 12 (folder)**Competition Show: Publicity****Unit ID** id10888**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255078**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 13 (folder)**William and Mary****Unit ID** id10889**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255079**Unit Date** 1989-1990**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 14 (folder)**Frobenius, Leo: Publicity****Unit ID** id10891**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255080**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 15 (folder)**Scammon, Howard****Unit ID** id10893**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255081**Unit Date** 1989-1990**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 16 (folder)**Trinkle Hall Coat of Arms****Unit ID** id10895**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255082**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 17 (folder)**Carter's Grove****Unit ID** id10896**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255083**Unit Date** 1984**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 18 (folder)

William and Mary**Unit ID** id10897**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255084**Unit Date** 1983-1986**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 19 (folder)**William and Mary Art Museum****Unit ID** id10898**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255085**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 20 (folder)**Magazine Articles****Unit ID** id10899**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255086**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 21 (folder)**Washington D.C. Speech: 1938****Unit ID** id10900**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255087**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 22 (folder)**Williamsburg: Publicity****Unit ID** id10901**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255088**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 23 (folder)**Season Books****Unit ID** id10902**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255089**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 24 (folder)**Tom Sawyer Exhibition: Publicity****Unit ID** id10903**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255090**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 25 (folder)

Fine Arts Department Publicity**Unit ID** id10904**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255091**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 26 (folder)**Huntington, Anna H. Exhibit: Publicity****Unit ID** id10905**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255092**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 27 (Folder)**Daumier, Honore Exhibit: publicity****Unit ID** id10906**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255093**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 28 (folder)**19th Century Party****Unit ID** id10907**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255094**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 29 (folder)**Japanese Prints: Publicity****Unit ID** id10908**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255095**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 30 (folder)**William and Mary****Unit ID** id10909**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255096**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 31 (folder)**Lowry, Glenn: VA Museum****Unit ID** id10910**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255097**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 32 (folder)

Miscellaneous Papers

Unit ID id10911

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255098

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 33 (folder)

Production Photographs

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/578796

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 34 (Folder)

Scope and Contents

Photographs of productions with actors, props and stage.

Clippings, Notes, Correspondence, Brochures

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/578797

Unit Date 1936-1938

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 35 (Folder)

Scope and Contents

Postcard of early Duke of Gloucester Street; program for the American Federation of Arts Convention, 1938; Museum News, 1937; Department of Fine Arts Program, 1936-1937; photograph brochure of William & Mary; lecture notes; newspaper clippings of productions; correspondence about Georgia O'Keefe visit and theatre building plans.

Box 2

Unit ID id65025

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255065

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

"Cradle Song"

Unit ID id10919

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255099

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 1 (folder)

"Noah"

Unit ID id10920

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255100

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 2 (folder)

"Noah"

Unit ID id65022

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255101

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 3 (folder)

"Night of January 16th"

Unit ID id10923

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255102

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 4 (folder)

"First Lady"

Unit ID id10924

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255103

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 5 (folder)

"Death Takes a Holiday"

Unit ID id10925

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255104

Unit Date 1936

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 6 (folder)

"Mikado"

Unit ID id10926

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255105

Unit Date 1936

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 7 (folder)

"The Lying Valet"

Unit ID id10927

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255106

Unit Date 1936

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 8 (folder)

"Squaring the Circle"

Unit ID id10928

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255107

Unit Date 1936-1937

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 9 (folder)

"Lilion"

Unit ID id10929

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255108

Unit Date 1937

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 10 (folder)

"The Gondoliers"

Unit ID id10930

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255109

Unit Date 1937

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 11 (folder)

Miscellaneous Productions

Unit ID id10931

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255110

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 12 (folder)

Christmas Party

Unit ID id10932

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255111

Unit Date 1936

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 13 (folder)

19th Century Party

Unit ID id10933

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255112

Unit Date 1938

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 14 (folder)

Parties/Dances

Unit ID id10934

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255113

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 15 (folder)

Exhibits

Unit ID id10935

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255114

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 16 (folder)

Exhibits

Unit ID id65023

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/255115

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 17 (folder)

Fine Arts Building/Department**Unit ID** id10936**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255116**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 2 (Box)**Container** 18 (folder)**Rust Sculpture: Fine Arts Building****Unit ID** id10938**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255117**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 2 (Box)**Container** 19 (folder)**William and Mary Buildings****Unit ID** id10940**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255118**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 2 (Box)**Container** 20 (folder)**Rooms and Offices****Unit ID** id10941**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255119**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 2 (Box)**Container** 21 (folder)**Building Plans and Models****Unit ID** id10942**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255120**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 2 (Box)**Container** 22 (folder)**Negatives****Unit ID** id10943**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/255121**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials** 2 (Box)**Container** 23 (folder)**Drawings & Plans****Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/289723**Mixed Materials** 1 (Oversize_Folder)**Language** English**Drawings & Plans****Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/289724**Mixed Materials** 2 (Oversize_Folder)**Language** English