

South Carolina Historical Repository Directory

Charleston

Avery Research Center for African American History & Culture

College of Charleston

Mailing and Facility Address

66 George St.
Charleston , SC 29424

Facility Address: 125 Bull St.
Charleston

Appointments: Not Needed

Telephone: 843-953-7608

Fax: 843-953-7607

www.cofc.edu/avery/

Scope: ca. 1800 to 2006

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 800

The collection focuses mostly on the African American experience in Charleston, the Lowcountry, and South Carolina, with a few collections and materials relating to Africa and other areas.

Collection Highlights:

Septima Poinsette Clark Papers; Holloway Family scrapbook; Harleston Funeral Home Collection; Mickey Funeral home collection; Bernice Robinson Papers; Cleveland Sellers Papers; Joseph A. Towles Collection; papers of African American churches and benevolent societies; Lucille Whipper Papers

Brith Sholom Beth Israel Synagogue Collection

Mailing and Facility Address

182 Rutledge Ave.
Charleston, SC 29403

Appointments: Required

Telephone: 843-953-8024

Fax: 843-953-8019

Scope: 1854 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 20.0

Includes the records of Brith Sholom (originally Berith Shalome), the oldest Orthodox synagogue in the South, and one of the oldest Ashkenazic congregations in the United States. Also includes the records of Beth Israel (founded in 1911), three cemeteries, the Chevra Kadisha Orthodox burial society, the annual Shabbaton retreat in Myrtle Beach, an active Sisterhood, the synagogue's governing board and committees, and the Charleston Hebrew Institute Day School, precursor of Addlestone Hebrew Academy. Typically consists of business ledgers, scrapbooks, organization papers, newspaper clippings, photographs, minutes, and newsletters. Older documents are in Yiddish.

South Carolina Historical Repository Directory

Charleston

Catholic Diocese of Charleston Archives

Alternative Name: Diocese of Charleston Archives Charleston Diocesan Archives

Mailing and Facility Address

PO Box 818
Charleston, SC 29402

Facility Address: 114 Broad St.
Charleston

Appointments: Required

Telephone: 843-724-8372

Fax: 843-724-6387

www.catholic-doc.org/archives

Scope: 1789 to Present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: ca. 800

Beginning in 1789, holdings include the papers of bishops, the administrative records of diocesan offices, and other materials representing various individuals, agencies, and programs that reflect the work and goals of the Church in the Diocese of Charleston (which includes the entire state of South Carolina). In addition, Archives contains annual reports of parishes, parish histories, property records, deed and construction files, some architectural drawings, cemetery records, photographs, and the United States Miscellany, The Catholic Banner, and the New Catholic Miscellany newspapers.

Charleston County Public Library, The Charleston Archive

Mailing and Facility Address

68 Calhoun St.
Charleston, SC 29401

Appointments: Recommended

Telephone: 843-805-6968

Fax: 843-727-6777

<http://www.ccpl.org/content.asp?catID=5402&parentID=5372>

Scope: 1790 to 1960

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 325

The Charleston County Public Library's Special Collections Department contains many historic public records and private papers. The bulk of the collection consists of materials transferred from the City of Charleston, including the extant records of antebellum and postbellum municipal bodies. Collections of Twentieth Century private papers include materials from Eola Willis, John Bennett, and Elias Ball Bull.

Collection Highlights:

Return of Births within the City of Charleston, 1877-1926. Return of Deaths within the City of Charleston, 1821-1926. Records of the Commissioners of the Charleston Orphan House, 1790-1952. Records of the Commissioners of the Charleston Alms House, 1800-1922.

South Carolina Historical Repository Directory

Charleston

Charleston Library Society

Mailing and Facility Address

164 King St.
Charleston, SC 29401

Appointments: Not Needed

Telephone: 843-723-9912

Fax: 843-723-3500

<http://www.charlestonlibrarysociety.org>

Scope: 1650 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 20.0

Southern history, particularly Lowcountry materials, and including maps, family papers, a few business records, the original manuscript to "Porgy and Bess," original letters from honorary member George Washington, scrapbooks of the 1888 Charleston earthquake, and other Caroliniana and Charlestoniana.

Charleston Museum

Mailing and Facility Address

360 Meeting St.
Charleston, SC 29403

Appointments: Required

Telephone: 843-722-2996, ext. 243

Fax: 843-722-1784

<http://charlestonmuseum.org>

Scope: ca. 1700 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 302.6

Includes original materials on the cultural and natural history of Charleston and the South Carolina Lowcountry; decorative arts; research and publications by premier naturalists of the 18th Century; works of the first American historiographers; 1500 pamphlets; early periodicals; 2500 examples of early sheet music; 6000 postcards; 2000 18th and 19th Century engravings, prints, and works of art on paper; and a large collection of illustrated newspapers. Operates primarily as a closed stack area to support research by Museum staff in the identification and cataloging of collections and the preparation of exhibits. Also makes concessions for other uses of the print collections, e.g., for exemplary bindings, historical association, rarity, intrinsic value, and for use in exhibition. Use of the Library collections is a museum membership benefit, and the Library is open to the public on a limited, by appointment basis for outside research.

South Carolina Historical Repository Directory

Charleston

Charleston Southern University Archives

L. Mendel Rivers Library

Mailing and Facility Address

PO Box 118087
Charleston, SC 29423

Facility Address: 9200 University Blvd.
Charleston

Appointments: Required

Telephone: 843-863-7940

Fax: 843-863-7947

<http://www.csuniv.edu/library>

Scope: 1975 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 600.0

Contains paper records, photographs, blueprints, maps, sound recordings, and videotapes on the development of the university from 1975 to present, local history on campus landowners, and other education archives related to the university.

City of Charleston Records Management Division

Mailing and Facility Address

PO Box 304
Charleston, SC 284020304

Facility Address: 1903 Savannah Hwy.
Charleston

Appointments: Required; Not open to the public

Telephone: 843-724-7301

Fax: 843-965-4188

<http://www.charlestoncityinfo/dept/content.aspx?nid=85>

Scope: 1890 to present

This division of the Clerk of Council Department is the repository for the City's municipal government records, including minutes of City Council, boards, commissions, and committees. The Records Management facility also provides storage for inactive administrative records of City departments. Most records at this site date from 1890. The bulk of the City's historical records were transferred on permanent loan to the Charleston County Public Library in 2001.

South Carolina Historical Repository Directory

Charleston

College of Charleston Jewish Heritage Collection

Special Collections, Robert Scott Small Library

Mailing and Facility Address

66 George St.
Charleston, SC 29424

Appointments: Not Needed

Telephone: 843-953-8028

Fax: 843-953-8019

<http://www.cofc.edu/~jhc/index.html>

Scope: 1840 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 101.3

Family papers, business and organizational records, photographs, documents, and artifacts relating to Jewish history and culture in South Carolina.

College of Charleston Special Collections

Addlestone Library

Alternative Name: Jewish Heritage Collection

Mailing and Facility Address

66 George St.
Charleston, SC 29424

Facility Address: 205 Calhoun St.
Charleston

Appointments: Not Needed

Telephone: 843-953-7428

Fax: 843-953-6319

www.cofc.edu/~speccoll/main.html

Scope: 1494 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 3500

College of Charleston archives; ornithology and natural history; Charleston and the surrounding area; South Carolina authors; Charleston imprints; Jewish archives; book arts; Nineteenth Century pamphlets; South Carolina history, culture, and architecture; Nineteenth Century British and American magazines and journals; South Carolina maps; World War I and II posters.

Collection Highlights:

John Henry Dick Ornithology Collection, Grimke collection of nineteenth century pamphlets, Jewish Archives, Spoleto Festival Archives, Burnet R. Maybank Papers, L. Mendel Rivers Papers

South Carolina Historical Repository Directory

Charleston

Congressional Medal of Honor Society Archives & Library

Congressional Medal of Honor Society

Mailing and Facility Address

40 Patriots Point Rd
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

Appointments: Recommended

Telephone: 843-884-8862

Fax:

<http://www.cmohs.org>

Scope: 1860 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 1000

Collections focus on the history of the Medal of Honor and its recipients from the Civil War through the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. This includes over 100 audio and/or videotaped oral histories with Medal of Honor recipients from the Boxer Rebellion through Vietnam. The library contains volumes on the Medal of Honor and general military history. Artifacts include Medals of Honor, uniforms, weapons, and other items from Medal of Honor recipients.

Collection Highlights:

John W. Finn Collection; Hartwell Compson Collection; Raymond Collins Research Collection; Donald and Helen Ross Oral History Collection

Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina Archives

Mailing and Facility Address

PO Box 20127
Charleston, SC 29403

Facility Address: 126 Coming St.
Charleston

Appointments: Required

Telephone: 843-722-4075

Fax: 843-723-7628

www.dioceseofsc.org

Scope: 17th Century to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 80

Historical information from 17th Century to present. Permanent records on ordinations, confirmations, council and committees minutes, photographs, diocesan newspapers, current (20th Century) clergy files.

South Carolina Historical Repository Directory

Charleston

First Scots Presbyterian Church Archives

Mailing and Facility Address

53 Meeting St.
Charleston, SC 29401

Facility Address: 2nd Floor, Library Area

Appointments: Required

Telephone: 843-722-8882

Fax: 843-805-6621

http://www.first-scots.org/church_history.htm

Scope: 1843 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 50.0

Records include the Session minutes; Diaconate minutes; Women of the Church history, scrapbooks, minutes, and financial records; minutes of the Congregational meetings; manuscript sermons by previous pastors; Men of the Church service records and social organization minutes; Sunday School records. Includes paper records, photographs, blueprints, and maps.

Gibbes Museum of Art

Mailing and Facility Address

135 Meeting St.
Charleston, SC 29401

Appointments: Required

Telephone: 843-722-2706

Fax: 843-720-1682

www.gibbesmuseum.org

Scope: 1780 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 350

The archive houses non-current records of permanent value to the Carolina Art Association and the Gibbes Museum of Art, and the art history of the greater metropolitan area of Charleston, South Carolina. 350 linear feet, including 3200 photographic items.

South Carolina Historical Repository Directory

Charleston

Huguenot Society of South Carolina

Mailing and Facility Address

138 Logan St.
Charleston, SC 29401

Appointments: Recommended

Telephone: 843-723-3235

Fax: 843-853-8476

www.huguenotsociety.org

Scope: 1600 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 150

The library of the Huguenot Society of South Carolina contains about 4,000 volumes, plus vertical files and membership files on the history of the Huguenots.

Collection Highlights:

The Quarto volumes of the Huguenot Society of London. Genealogical files on various Huguenot families

Margaretta Childs Archives

Historic Charleston Foundation

Mailing and Facility Address

PO Box 1120
Charleston, SC 29402

Facility Address: 40 East Bay St.
Charleston

Appointments: Required

Telephone: 843-724-8490

Fax: 843-577-2067

http://www.historiccharleston.org/preservation/archives_margaretta_childs.html

Scope: 1900s to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 170

Focuses on recorded information created or received by Historic Charleston Foundation as part of its overall mission to preserve and protect the historical, architectural, and cultural character of Charleston and its historic environs, and to educate the public about the benefits that are derived from preservation. Archival collection consists mostly of property files, photographs, architectural drawings, and maps that provide historical background, ownership information, and architectural information on many of the buildings in Charleston's historic district and area plantations; extensive information about the Nathaniel Russell House and the Aiken-Rhett House, both of which are owned and operated as museum houses by HCF; documentation of the Cooper River Historic District; critical preservation issues files; an architectural damage assessment compiled after Hurricane Hugo in 1989; institutional records of Historic Charleston Foundation, including correspondence, minutes, scrapbooks, and documentation of early preservation and neighborhood revitalization efforts. Its small research library contains almost 2,000 books (some rare) and technical reports on Charleston and South Carolina history, architecture, historic preservation, archaeology, building arts, and decorative arts.

Collection Highlights:

(1) Property files (historic district and area plantations) (2) Nathaniel Russell House and Aiken-Rhett House records (3) Early institutional records

South Carolina Historical Repository Directory

Charleston

Medical University of South Carolina, Waring Historical Library

Mailing and Facility Address

PO Box 250403
Charleston, SC 29425

Facility Address: 175 Ashley Ave.
Charleston

Appointments: Recommended

Telephone: 843-792-2289

Fax: 843-792-8619

<http://waring.library.musc.edu/page.php?id=692>

Scope: 1750 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 1300

Personal papers, records, and archival holdings documenting the history of the health professions in South Carolina. Biographical and professional material about SC physicians; records about the development and evolution of medical education in SC; the history of MUSC and other SC hospitals; materials by or about early botanists or other natural scientists; medical equipment.

Collection Highlights:

Records of the Medical Society of South Carolina; records of the Medical College/University of South Carolina, including minutes of the faculty and trustees; records of Roper Hospital.

South Carolina Historical Society

Mailing and Facility Address

100 Meeting St.
Charleston, SC 29401

Appointments: Not Needed

Telephone: 843-723-3225

Fax: 843-723-8584

www.schistory.org

Scope: 1670 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 5,000

Collections primarily consist of the private and personal papers of individuals, families, organizations, churches and businesses from counties across South Carolina, with a strong focus on the Lowcountry. The bulk of the collections are manuscripts related to agriculture, arts, architecture, business, slavery, state and local history, military records from the Revolutionary War, Civil War and World Wars, politics, religion, social service, transportation, communication, and women. Also, a sizeable collection of books, pamphlets, and vertical files and nearly 40,000 photographs and other visual images related to the people, places, and events in South Carolina's history.

South Carolina Historical Repository Directory

Charleston

St. John's Lutheran Church Archives

Mailing and Facility Address

5 Clifford St.
Charleston, SC 29401

Appointments: Required

Telephone: 843-762-0916

Fax: 843-577-2543

<http://www.stjohnscharleston.org/history.html>

Scope: 1755 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 33

Congregational minutes (1755-1845, 1865-present); parish registers (1755-1787, 1865-present); pastors' sermons; records of organization; financial records; miscellaneous pamphlets, brochures, bulletins; paintings and photographs of pastors, original church, and present church; plats of graveyard (1919, 1940).

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church Archives

Alternative Name: Archives & History Committee

Mailing and Facility Address

405 King St.
Charleston, SC 29403

Appointments: Required

Telephone: 843-723-1611

Fax: 843-579-0470

http://www.smlccharleston.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=208&Itemid=133

Scope: 1840 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 60

Information on the founding of a German-speaking congregation in 1840 and its growth to the present day. Church registers; congregational minutes; financial records; cemetery records; records of church-sponsored organizations; photographs.

South Carolina Historical Repository Directory

Charleston

St. Philips Episcopal Church Archives

Mailing and Facility Address

142 Church Street
Charleston, SC 29401

Appointments: Recommended

Telephone: 722-7734

Fax:

www.stphilipchurchsc.org

Scope: 1732 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 34

Vestry minutes, financial records, portraits, oils, architectural drawings, and photographs pertaining to the parish of St. Philips Church.

Collection Highlights:

Sermons of Bishop Smith (approximately 250); Vestry minutes 1732- present

The Citadel Archives & Museum

Mailing and Facility Address

171 Moultrie St.
Charleston, SC 29409

Appointments: Required

Telephone: 843-953-6846

Fax: 843-953-6956

<http://www.citadel.edu/museum/>

Scope: 1842 to present

Estimated Overall Linear Feet: 2,500

The Citadel Archives & Museum is the repository for historic material pertaining to The Citadel as an institution. The military papers of World War II General Mark W. Clark are a notable collection in the repository. Holdings include personal papers, letters, diaries, reports, minutes, speeches, Citadel publications, photographs, post cards, engravings, films, videotapes, cadet uniforms and arms.

Collection Highlights:

General Mark W. Clark Papers Brigadier General Ellison Capers papers
