



*Special Collections/Archives Department
John B. Coleman Library
Prairie View A&M University*

MSS0016

Black Churches in Texas Collection

Compiled by Idalia Avezuela, February 2024

Black Churches in Texas Collection Finding aid

Collection Overview

Creator: Special Collections/Archives Department staff

Title: Black Churches in Texas Collection

Dates: 1999-2002

Bulk Date: 1999

Quantity: 1.5 Linear feet (3 boxes)

Abstract: Black Churches in Texas Collection contains the manuscripts of the book “Black Churches in Texas” by Clyde McQueen, as well as proof samples for the book cover, spine, and image plates. The collection also includes the maps used to delineate the regions studied in the book, a headshot of author Clyde McQueen, and correspondence between McQueen, Tammy Henry (Texas A&M Publications), and Frank Bruno (Prairie View A&M University’s former Director of Libraries).

Identification: MSS0016

Use Restrictions: Written permission must be obtained from the Special Collections/Archives Department and all relevant rights holders before publishing quotations, excerpts, or images from any materials in this collection.

Language: The materials are in English.

Repository: Prairie View A&M University

Biographical Note: In *Black Churches in Texas*, author Clyde McQueen catalogs 374 black congregations, each at least one hundred years old, in the parts of Texas where most blacks were likely to have settled—east of Interstate Highway 35 and from the Red River to the Gulf of Mexico. Ninety-nine counties are divided into five regions: Central Texas, East Texas, the Gulf Coast, North Texas, and South Texas. For each congregation, McQueen provides the year it was organized, the county and town where it is located, and an address or directions for finding it; any other history, lore, or facts available are also given. Information was gathered from interviews, church bulletins, special church programs, historical markers, and building cornerstones.

Clyde McQueen was born in Lily Island, Texas, on August 24, 1926, and passed away on May 13, 2020 in Temple, Texas. Mr. McQueen paused his high-school education to join the Navy, where he served as an apprentice seaman during WWII (1944-1946) and during the

Korean War (1951-1952), earning a Combat Infantry Badge and battle star. After his discharge from the Navy, he finished his high school education and then attended Prairie View A&M University (then Prairie View College), earning an Undergraduate and Master of Science in Education in 1957. He completed a Master of Urban Planning from Texas A&M University in 1970. From 1965 to 1972, he worked as a Soil Conservationist for the U.S.D.A. in Brazos, Burleson, and Waller counties, finishing his career in Tyler, Texas. McQueen retired on July 3, 1984, after 31 years of service to the federal government.

Mr. McQueen used his retirement to conduct independent research that produced two books, including the previously described *Black Churches in Texas: A Guide to Historic Congregations*. The Prairie View A&M University Special Collections and Archives Department houses the manuscripts and master copies of *Black Churches in Texas*, while the Cushing Memorial Library & Archives at Texas A&M University holds the related research collection.

Sources: Haukins, R. (2020, September, 11). Clyde McQueen: historian of black life and culture. *The Cushing Collective*. https://cushing.library.tamu.edu/thecollective/2020/09/Clyde_McQueen.html

Texas A&M University Press. (2000, February,1). *Black churches in Texas: a guide to historic congregations*. <https://www.tamupress.com/book/9780890969021/black-churches-in-texas/>

Scope and Contents Note: The collection is arranged chronologically in the order items were created. No series was needed since the items are all related to the book “Black Churches in Texas” by Clyde McQueen. Box one contains an early manuscript and two proof copies of the text (the proof copies were divided into four folders due to the extensive number of pages). In box two are maps of the study areas by county, early samples of the photo gallery, informational tables and appendices, and the first three reviews of the original master text. Box three contains drafts of the index and bibliography, typesetting proof of cover, first and second revisions of the master, and headshot of author Clyde McQueen. It also has correspondence between the author, Tammy Henry (Texas A&M University Press), and Frank Bruno (former Prairie View A&M University’s Director of Libraries).

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Black Churches in Texas Collection, MSS0016, Special Collections/Archives Department, John B. Coleman Library, Prairie View A&M University

Related Material: Inventory of the Clyde McQueen Papers, Cushing Memorial Library and Archives, Texas A&M University

Index Terms

African American churches--Texas, East--History.
African American churches--Gulf Coast--Texas--History.
African American churches--Texas, South--History.
African American churches--Texas, North--History.
African American churches--Texas, Central--History.

Inventory

Box #	Folder #	Title/Description	Date	Location
1	1	Preliminary draft of the text	Undated	R19/C3/R5
1	2	Proof Copy of "Black Churches in Texas" (First Half)	Undated	R19/C3/R5
1	3	Proof Copy of "Black Churches in Texas" (Second Half)	Undated	R19/C3/R5
1	4	Proof Copy of "Black Churches in Texas" with initial corrections (First Half).	Undated	R19/C3/R5
1	5	Proof Copy of "Black Churches in Texas" with initial corrections (Second Half).	1999	R19/C3/R5
2	1	Maps of study areas by county	Undated	R19/C3/R5
2	2	Early sample of photo gallery, with captions and corrections	08/09/1999	R19/C3/R5
2	3	Early typed versions of the information tables, divided by region.	Undated	R19/C3/R5
2	4	Early printed version of the informational tables with corrections	Undated	R19/C3/R5
2	5	Notes for the appendices	Undated	R19/C3/R5
2	6	Original master proof with extensive correction notes (first review)	09/24/1999	R19/C3/R5
2	7	Original master proof with extensive correction notes (second review)	10/11/1999	R19/C3/R5
2	8	Original master proof with extensive correction notes (third review)	10/21/1999	R19/C3/R5
3	1	First draft of the index	Undated	R19/C3/R5

3	2	Early version of the bibliography	Undated	R19/C3/R5
3	3	First revision of the master proof	11/09/1999	R19/C3/R5
3	4	First revision of master proof with corrections	11/11/1999	R19/C3/R5
3	5	Second revision of master proof with corrections and re-formatting.	11/15/1999	R19/C3/R5
3	6	First revision of index and verso	11/17/1999	R19/C3/R5
3	7	Draft of trimming and typesetting for the cover, spine, and jacket.	Undated	R19/C3/R5
3	8	Headshot of the Author, Clyde McQueen.	Undated	R19/C3/R5
3	9	First revision of index and verso with corrections	11/18/1999	R19/C3/R5
3	10	Trimming and typesetting proof of the cover and spine	11/18/1999	R19/C3/R5
3	11	Proof for paperback cover	Undated	R19/C3/R5
3	12	Correspondence between Clyde McQueen and Tammy Henry (TAMU Press)	02/26/2001	R19/C3/R5
3	13	Correspondence between Clyde McQueen and Frank Bruno (PVAMU Director of Libraries)	05/07/2002	R19/C3/R5