

RURAL CHURCH SURVEY

COLLECTION

AR 694



Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

1990

Updated September, 2012

Rural Church Survey

Collection

AR 694

Summary

Main Entry: Rural Church Survey Collection

Date Span: 1922 – 1923

Abstract: Collection includes survey sheets from rural churches in two states – Louisiana and New Mexico. The survey sheets provide information on church membership, buildings, pastors, Sunday school, finances, woman's work, youth activities, and denominational cooperation. This information was reported to the 1924 Southern Baptist Convention meeting.

Size: .5 linear ft.

Collection #: AR 694

Historical Sketch

The 1922 Southern Baptist Convention in Jacksonville, Florida instructed the Enlistment Department of the Home Mission Board and the Sunday School Board, acting jointly and in "connection with the various State Boards, to make a careful and comprehensive survey and study of country church conditions and needs, for one year, and report the findings to the next Convention, together with recommendations looking toward the solution of this grave and distressing problem."

Eugene Perry Alldredge, Secretary of the Department of Survey, Statistics, and Information of the Sunday School Board, directed the project. The actual work of surveying 22,043 white Baptist rural churches in the South began in September, 1922. The results of the survey were based on 5,041 returned questionnaires, and the tabulation of information on other rural churches, for a total of 19,185. The survey was based on 300 points of information from each Southern Baptist church.

The results of the survey were manifested in several publications, and the summary information on the survey appeared in the Southern Baptist Handbook for 1923. The report included information on the number and sizes of rural churches, baptisms, data on pastors, buildings, educational programs, women's work, Sunday School, finances, and denominational cooperation. The report also evaluated the needs, problems, possibilities, and prospects for the rural Southern Baptist churches.

The collection includes the data sheets used in the survey for only two states – Louisiana and New Mexico. Survey sheets for the other states were apparently destroyed. Included is summary information on each state and data from the individual churches in the survey.

The material is divided into two sections – one on Louisiana material and the other on New Mexico churches. The survey sheets are further divided by the names of the associations. The folders in each section are arranged in alphabetical order by association name. The material is approximately 1/2 linear feet and is stored in one document box.

Arrangement

Divided by state (Louisiana and New Mexico) and arranged alphabetically by association name

Provenance

Preferred Citation

Rural Church Survey Collection, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

Access Restrictions

None

Subject Terms

Rural Churches

Baptists – Louisiana

Baptists – New Mexico

Surveys – Rural churches

Louisiana – Rural

New Mexico – Rural churches

Related Materials

Southern Baptist Convention *Handbook*, 1922-1924

Container List

Box 1

A. Louisiana Churches

- 1.1 Louisiana Rural Survey – Survey Information
- 1.2 Louisiana – Acadia
- 1.3 Louisiana – Amite River
- 1.4 Louisiana – Bayou Macon
- 1.5 Louisiana – Bethlehem
- 1.6 Louisiana – Big Creek
- 1.7 Louisiana – Carey
- 1.8 Louisiana – Central
- 1.9 Louisiana – Concord

- 1.10 Louisiana – Eastern Louisiana
- 1.11 Louisiana – Everett
- 1.12 Louisiana – Grand Cane
- 1.13 Louisiana – Judson
- 1.14 Louisiana – Liberty
- 1.15 Louisiana – Louisiana
- 1.16 Louisiana – Mount Olive
- 1.17 Louisiana – Mount Sabine
- 1.18 Louisiana – St. Tammany
- 1.19 Louisiana – Red River
- 1.20 Louisiana – Sabine
- 1.21 Louisiana – Shady Grove
- 1.22 Louisiana – Tangipahoa
- 1.23 Louisiana – Washington

B. New Mexico Churches

- 1.24 New Mexico – Rural Survey – Summary Information
- 1.25 New Mexico – Central
- 1.26 New Mexico – Lincoln
- 1.27 New Mexico – North Eastern
- 1.28 New Mexico – Pecos Valley
- 1.29 New Mexico – Portales
- 1.30 New Mexico – South Eastern
- 1.31 New Mexico – South Western
- 1.32 New Mexico – Tucumcari