

**WILLIAM ASA HARRELL, JR.
COLLECTION, 1926 – 1970**

AR 795-306



Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

Updated March, 2012

William Asa Harrell, Jr. Collection

AR 795-306

Summary

Main Entry: William Asa Harrell, Jr. Collection

Date Span: 1926 – 1970

Abstract: William Asa Harrell, Jr. was a Southern Baptist denominational leader and Director of the Church Architecture Department of the Southern Baptist Convention Sunday School Board from 1940 – 1971. Collection reflects the career of Harrell, including information on associational work (1930's, 1940's), Baptist Training Union and BYPY work, biographical information, book reviews, Church Architecture Department information, and Sunday school material.

Size: 2.5 linear ft.

Collection #: AR 795-306

Biographical Sketch

William Asa Harrell, Jr. was born in Johnson County, Texas, March 14, 1903. He attended Baylor University and George Peabody College. He served as Director of the Baptist Young People's Union in the Alvarado Baptist Association, in Texas, from 1923 to 1924, and as Associate Secretary for the Sunday School Department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, from 1924 to 1926.

In December, 1926, Harrell was employed by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention as Associate in the Sunday School Young People and Adult Department. From 1933 to 1940, he served as Associate in the Training Union Department, and, from 1940 to 1971, he was Secretary of the Church Architecture Department. Harrell was the first Secretary (head) of the Church Architecture Department. He died February 28, 1971, just prior to his scheduled retirement from the Sunday School Board.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of material that reflected Harrell's work in Texas and with the Sunday School Board. Most of the material is related to Sunday school, Baptist Young People's Union, Training Union, and Church architecture. The collection includes 2.5 linear feet of material that covers the years 1926 – 1970 and is mainly related to (1) associational work in the 1930's and 1940's; (2) Baptist Training Union and Baptist Young People's Union work in the 1930's and 1940's; (3) Biographical information; (4) Book reviews that illustrate his wide interest in reading; (5) Church architecture department information and materials; (6) Programs from church building dedications, conference center events, Baptist Young People's Union, and Sunday school conferences, 1927 – 1936; and (7) Sunday school material. Photographs are also included in the collection.

The collection also includes some significant items, such as B. W. Spilman correspondence and copies of Spilman's "Teaching a Sunday School lesson," I. J. VanNess's "Fellowship," W. F. Powell's "The teacher and the Bible," and Carter Helms Jones "Personality."

The collection is arranged in alphabetical order by folder title. The collection was donated to the Sunday School Board and the Dargan-Carver Library, in 1971, and transferred to the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives in 1993.

Arrangement

Arranged in alphabetical order by folder title

Provenance

Donated to the Sunday School Board and Dargan-Carver Library in 1971. Transferred to the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives in 1993

Preferred Citation

William Asa Harrell, Jr. Collection, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

Access Restrictions

None

Subject Terms

Southern Baptist Convention. Sunday School Board. Church Architecture Department
Baptist Training Union
Baptist Young People's Union
Church architecture
Sunday Schools

Related Materials

Southern Baptist Convention. Sunday School Board. Church Architecture Department Collection. AR795-568. Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives.

Southern Baptist Convention. Sunday School Board. Executive Office. James Lenox Sullivan Papers. AR795-354. Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives.

Container list

Box 1

- 1.1 Age-group philosophy, Nursery Department, 1962
- 1.2 Age-group philosophy, Primary Department, 1962
- 1.3 Age-group philosophy, Junior Department, 1962
- 1.4 Age-group philosophy, Intermediate Department, 1965
- 1.5 Age-group philosophy, Young People's Department, 1960, 1965
- 1.6 Age-group philosophy, Adult Department, 1960
- 1.7 All-church training schools, including First Baptist Church, Nashville, TN, 1940 – 1944

- 1.8 Articles, general
- 1.9 Associational Baptist Training Union and Baptist Young People's Union
- 1.10 Associational Baptist Training Union and Baptist Young People's Union Associational manual by Henry Rogers.
- 1.11 Associational Baptist Training Union and Baptist Young People's Union
- 1.12 Associational four-year program for Baptist Training Union and Sunday School, 1942
- 1.13 Baptist Training Service (Texas) standard of excellence and calendar of Activities, 1934
- 1.14 Baptist Training Union five-year promotional program, Jan. 1, 1936 – Jan. 1, 1941
- 1.15 Baptist Training Union – Senior Baptist Young People's Union. Some forms ca. 1935.
- 1.16 Baptist Training Union – department program material

Box 2

- 2.1 Baptist Young People's Union, First Baptist Church, Nashville, TN, 1933 – 1942
- 2.2 Baptist Young People's Union and Baptist Training Union – First Southwide Conference materials, 1930 (1 of 2)
- 2.3 Baptist Young People's Union and Baptist Training Union – First Southwide Conference materials, 1930 (2 of 2)
- 2.4 Baptist Young People's Union and Baptist Training Union – Southwide Conference materials (2nd, 3rd and 4th), 1932, 1933, 1936
- 2.5 Baptist Young People's Union and Baptist Training Union report forms
- 2.6 Baptist Young People's Union secretaries, conferences, 1931, 1940, 1941 – 1942. Includes statement regarding the literature of the SSB by C. J. Allen
- 2.7 Biographical information – William Harrell, P.E. Burroughs, Doherty
- 2.8 Book reviews
- 2.9 Book reviews
- 2.10 Book reviews – "The Broadman Network" of Broadman Press, 1942 – 1943
- 2.11 Christmas and old furniture

Box 3

- 3.1 Church architecture materials – drawing of 1962 display for SBC – Sermon by H. E. Ingraham to Conference, 1960 – Church Architecture issue of Church Administration magazine, August, 1968 – questionnaires
- 3.2 Church architecture, articles, and booklets
- 3.3 Booklet revision of "how to furnish the Sunday School building," 1940
- 3.4 Church architecture department – architect's conference, 1966
- 3.5 Church architecture department bulletin inserts, 1966 – 1969
- 3.6 Church architecture department channeling, 1969 – 1970
- 3.7 Church architecture department – church buildings in the 70s with film strip and slides
- 3.8 Church architecture department – churches served, 1940 – 1941
- 3.9 Church architecture department – conference during Sunday School and Baptist Training Union assemblies, 1940 – 1941
- 3.10 Church architectural data sheets, ca. 1965
- 3.11 Church architecture department staff minutes, 1965
- 3.12 Church architecture department forms and services, 1965 – 1966
- 3.13 Church architecture department conference – Glorieta, 1967

- 3.14 Church architecture department – long-range planning committee, 1969 – Haywood Hills Baptist Church, Nashville, TN
- 3.15 Church architecture department planning and survey committees suggested guide and reports of two church committees.

Box 4

- 4.1 Church architecture research projects – reports and evaluation, 1962 – 1966
- 4.2 Church architecture – Ridgecrest program, 1967
- 4.3 Church architecture seminar – Planning and leading a church building program, Jan., 1967
- 4.4 Church architecture – Texas competition photos, 1967
- 4.5 Church buildings – addresses by W. A. Harrell for conferences
- 4.6 Church buildings – addresses by Harrell and others, 1941 – Church architecture department report
- 4.7 Church buildings – dedication programs
- 4.8 “Hints and helps” of the old Educational department of Sunday School Board – scattered copies, 1928 – 1929 – “Monthly bulletin” of the Department of Sunday School Administration, June, 1940.
- 4.9 “News and Views” of Sales and Advertising department of SSB, April and July, 1941
- 4.10 Pastors’ homes, 1941

Box 5

- 5.1 Personal – clippings, poems, etc.
- 5.2 Photographs
- 5.3 Programs of Ridgecrest and State Sunday School and Training Union, 1927 – 1938 (scattered) – report of Committee on order of business for SBC, 1927, 1933 – Field Workers’ association, 1930 – 1938
- 5.4 Quotations
- 5.5 Schedule of engagements, 1929 – 1935
- 5.6 Southern Baptist Convention bulletins, 1929 – 1936
- 5.7 Sunday School Associational meetings, 1941 – 1943
- 5.8 Sunday School conferences – Southern Baptist first – fifth programs, 1927 – 1935
- 5.9. Sunday School meetings, 1933 – Spilman correspondence and address – teaching a Sunday school lesson – “Fellowship,” by I. J. VanNess – “The teacher and his Bible,” by W. F. Powell – “Personality,” by Carter Helm Jones
- 5.10 Training Union lab for general officers and pastors, 1936 – 38, 1940 – Ridgecrest.
- 5.11 Young People’s and Adult department materials, 1926 – 1932