



The New York Public Library  
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,  
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

**Preservation of the Black Religious Heritage Project surveys**

ca. 1989-1990

Sc MG 628

## Summary

**Title:** Preservation of the Black Religious Heritage Project surveys

**Date:** ca. 1989-1990

**Size:** 1.63 linear feet (3 boxes)

**Source:** Received in September 1997.

**Abstract:** This collection includes completed and incompleted survey responses from various religious institutions across the United States. It also includes lists of participating institutions and photocopied articles on the Works Progress AdministrationPA's historical records surveys.

**Preferred citation:** [Item], Preservation of the Black Religious Heritage Project surveys, Sc MG 628, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

**Language of the Material:** English

**Separated Materials:**

Transferred to the Art and Artifacts Division: 3 paintings

Transferred to the General Research and Reference Division: dissertations, microfilm, and microfiche

Transferred to the Moving Image and Recorded Sound Division: audio and moving image materials. For more information, please contact the division at [schomburgaudiovisual@nypl.org](mailto:schomburgaudiovisual@nypl.org) or 212-491-2270.

Transferred to the Photographs and Prints Division: photographs

**Related Materials:**

See also the following collections in the Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture:

African-American Pentecostal and Holiness collection, Sc MG 325

Andrew J. Chambers papers, Sc MG 443

Henry C. Bunton papers, Sc MG 291

James Alfred Smith, Sr. papers, Sc MG 366

Milton Galamison papers, Sc MG 394

Olivia Pearl Stokes, Sc MG 432

Preservation of the Black Religious Heritage miscellaneous collections, Sc MG 633

Tyrone Pitts/National Council of Churches papers, Sc MG 393

Will Herzfeld papers, Sc MG 323

## **Creator History**

The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture launched its Preservation of the Black Religious Heritage Project in January 1989 with a \$300,000 grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc. The second project grant of \$250,853 was awarded in October 1990. In undertaking this initiative, the Schomburg Center recognized the pivotal roles played by religious bodies in acting on social and economic concerns within the African American community, in addition to their spiritual functions. The goal of the project was to create a more comprehensive base of Black religious resources at the Schomburg Center and serve as a catalyst for preserving such resources in churches, religious bodies, and other repositories. The Schomburg Center wanted to develop collections that provided a strong foundation for the study of the spiritual aspects of the Black religious experience while documenting the role of the church in Black economic, political, and social life through survey answers. Additionally, the Schomburg Center sought to be the permanent home for these institutions' collections. A seven-member Scholars Advisory Council was organized, as well as an interdenominational National Advisory Board, along with project archivist Victor Smythe. Two major symposia brought together interdenominational and interfaith audiences composed of scholars, seminarians, clergy, and lay persons from across the country to address historical and contemporary concerns.

Surveys of historical records were completed in 70 churches in 12 cities across the country, encompassing 16 different denominations and faiths. Surveys were initiated in an additional 43 churches. Churches were recruited through mailings, direct contact by the project archivist and advisory committee members, newspaper articles, and radio interviews about the project.

## **Scope and Content Note**

This collection includes completed and incompletable survey responses from various religious institutions across the United States. It also includes lists of participating institutions and photocopied articles on the Works Progress Administration's historical records surveys.

## **Key Terms**

### **Subjects**

African American churches

African Americans -- Religion

## Container List

b. 1 f. 1 List of participating churches

Lists divided into two categories: complete and incomplete. Lists then divided into two additional categories: alphabetical by church and alphabetical by location (city, state).

Completed surveys

Arranged alphabetically by location (city, state).

b. 1 f. 2 Atlanta, GA: Shrine of the Black Madonna

b. 1 f. 3 Baltimore, MD: Sharp Street United Methodist Church  
Bronx, NY

b. 1 f. 4 Ethiopian Orthodox Church

b. 1 f. 5 Pentecostal Faith Church (Mt. Calvary)

b. 1 f. 6 St. John's Lutheran Church

Brooklyn, NY

b. 1 f. 7 Berean Baptist Church

b. 1 f. 8 Bridge Street AME Church

b. 1 f. 9 James United Methodist Church

b. 1 f. 10 Salem Missionary Baptist Church

b. 1 f. 11 St. Matthews Baptist Church

b. 1 f. 12 St. Paul Community Baptist Church

b. 1 f. 13 Upper Room Baptist Church

Charleston, SC

b. 1 f. 14 Trinity United Methodist Church

b. 1 f. 15 Zion-Olivet Presbyterian Church

Chicago, IL

b. 1 f. 16 Church of the Good Shepherd

b. 1 f. 17 Coppin Memorial AME Church

b. 1 f. 18 St. Stephen AME Church

b. 1 f. 19 Quinn Chapel AME Church

b. 1 f. 20 Evanston, IL: Ebenezer AME Church

b. 1 f. 21 Jamaica, NY: Bethesda Missionary Baptist Church

Los Angeles, CA

b. 1 f. 22 Second Baptist Church

b. 1 f. 23 Trinity Missionary Baptist Church

Memphis, TN

b. 1 f. 24 Olivet Baptist Church

b. 1 f. 25 Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church

Nashville, TN

b. 1 f. 26 Capers Memorial CME Church

b. 1 f. 27 Church of the Holy Trinity Episcopal

b. 1 f. 28 Gordon Memorial United Methodist Church

b. 1 f. 29 Payne Chapel AME Church

Completed surveys (cont.)

New York, NY

- b. 1 f. 30 Antioch Baptist Church
- b. 1 f. 31 Church of the Crucifixion
- b. 1 f. 32 Church of the Intercession
- b. 1 f. 33 Church of the Master
- b. 1 f. 34 Congregational Church of North NY
- b. 1 f. 35 Convent Avenue Baptist Church
- b. 1 f. 36 First Corinthian Baptist Church
- b. 1 f. 37 Friendship Baptist Church
- b. 1 f. 38 Memorial Baptist Church, Inc
- b. 1 f. 39 Mount Olivet Baptist Church
- b. 1 f. 40 Mt. Morris Presbyterian Church
- b. 1 f. 41 Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Christ
- b. 1 f. 42 Resurrection Catholic Church
- b. 1 f. 43 Salem United Methodist Church
- b. 1 f. 44 Southern Baptist Church
- b. 1 f. 45 St. James Presbyterian Church
- b. 1 f. 46 St. Marks United Methodist Church
- b. 1 f. 47 St. Paul Community Church (Non-Den.)
- b. 1 f. 48 Transfiguration Lutheran Church
- b. 1 f. 49 Union Congregational Church
- b. 1 f. 50 Victory Tabernacle Seventh Day Christian Church
- b. 1 f. 51 Oakland, CA: Allen Temple Baptist Church

Philadelphia, PA

- b. 1 f. 52 First African Presbyterian Church
- b. 1 f. 53 St. Paul's Baptist Church
- b. 1 f. 54 Monumental Baptist Church
- b. 1 f. 55 Zoar United Methodist Church
- b. 1 f. 56 Queens, NY: Allen AME Church
- b. 1 f. 57 Queens Village, NY: New Covenant Church of Christ (Baptist)

Richmond, VA

- b. 1 f. 58 First Baptist Church of South Richmond
- b. 1 f. 59 Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church

Savannah, GA

- b. 1 f. 60 First African Baptist Church
- b. 1 f. 61 Second African Baptist Church
- b. 1 f. 62 Springfield Gardens, NY: St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Staten Island, NY

- b. 1 f. 63 Shiloh AME Zion Church
- b. 1 f. 64 Stapleton Union American Methodist Episcopal Church

Washington, DC

Completed surveys (cont.)

Washington, DC (cont.)

- b. 1 f. 65 Asbury United Methodist Church
- b. 1 f. 66 Ebenezer United Methodist Church
- b. 1 f. 67 Mount Zion United Methodist Church
- b. 1 f. 68 Plymouth Congregational UCC
- b. 1 f. 69 Saint Mary Episcopal Church
- b. 1 f. 70 Shiloh Baptist Church
- b. 1 f. 71 Zion Baptist Church
- b. 1 f. 72-73 Works Progress Administration historical records survey
- b. 2 f. 1 Includes articles on the survey as well.

Incomplete surveys

Arranged alphabetically by location (city, state).

Bronx, NY

- b. 2 f. 2 Butler Memorial Methodist Church
- b. 2 f. 3 Day Star Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 4 Brooklyn, NY: The House of the Lord Church
- b. 2 f. 5 Charleston, SC: Emanuel AME Church

Chicago, IL

- b. 2 f. 6 First Baptist Congregational Church
- b. 2 f. 7 Grant Memorial AME Church
- b. 2 f. 8 Greater St. John AME Church
- b. 2 f. 9 Olivet Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 10 Trinity United Church of Christ

Kansas City, MO

- b. 2 f. 11 Paseo Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 12 Second Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 13 St. Stephens Baptist Church

Los Angeles, CA

- b. 2 f. 14 Crenshaw Christian Center
- b. 2 f. 15 First AME Church
- b. 2 f. 16 Memphis, TN: Full Gospel Tabernacle Church

Nashville, TN

- b. 2 f. 17 Hillcrest Seventh Day Adventist Church
- b. 2 f. 18 Mt. Zion Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 19 Pilgrim Emanuel Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 20 Pleasant Green Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 21 New Rochelle, NY: Bethesda Baptist Church

New York, NY

- b. 2 f. 22 Abyssinian Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 23 Bethany Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 24 Ephesus Seventh Day Adventist Church
- b. 2 f. 25 Mother A.M.E. Zion Church
- b. 2 f. 26 St. John's Baptist Church

Incomplete surveys (cont.)

New York, NY (cont.)

- b. 2 f. 27 Southern Baptist Church
  - b. 2 f. 28 Union Baptist Church
- Philadelphia, PA
- b. 2 f. 29 Haven Methodist Church
  - b. 2 f. 30 St. Peter Claver Roman Catholic Church

Richmond, VA

- b. 2 f. 31 Ebenezer Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 32 First African Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 33 Fourth Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 34 Riverview Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 35 Third Street Bethel AME Church

Savannah, GA

- b. 2 f. 36 Beth Eden Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 37 Fairlawn Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 38 First Bryan Baptist Church
- b. 2 f. 39 New Salem Community Fellowship Church
- b. 2 f. 40 St. John Baptist Church

Washington, DC

- b. 2 f. 41 Third Street Church of God
- b. 2 f. 42 Union Wesleyan AME Zion Church
- b. 2 f. 43 Wesleyan Memorial Methodist Church

Completed surveys by state

Includes typed surveys.

Alphabetized by state.

- b. 3 f. 1 California
- b. 3 f. 2 District of Columbia (Washington, D.C.)
- b. 3 f. 3 Georgia
- b. 3 f. 4 Illinois
- b. 3 f. 5 New York
- b. 3 f. 6 Pennsylvania
- b. 3 f. 7 South Carolina
- b. 3 f. 8 Tennessee
- b. 3 f. 9 Virginia