

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY OF MOBILE'S MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT, 1814-1999

Once the capital of the vast French Louisiana Province, and later a strategic military outpost and commercial port for the British and Spanish colonial empires, Mobile became an American possession in 1813. As part of the Mississippi Territory, Mobile was incorporated as a town on January 20, 1814. Town government consisted of a board of seven commissioners, one of whom served as president.

When the general assembly of the newly formed State of Alabama met in 1819, one of its first actions was to grant a charter to the City of Mobile. The charter, dated December 17, 1819, provided for the election of a seven member board of aldermen to govern the city. The aldermen elected a mayor from among their ranks until 1826 when the charter was revised to allow for his popular election.

In the wake of the city's financial difficulties of 1837-1838, the general assembly amended the charter to provide for a board of common council. The amendment, adopted January 31, 1839, sought to put the city back on sound financial ground by granting the council the authority to approve or disapprove all ordinances and resolutions of the mayor and board of aldermen dealing with financial matters.

Large bond issues and mismanagement of municipal funds brought on another financial crisis for the city in the 1870s. As a result, on February 11, 1879, the legislature dissolved the corporation of the City of Mobile and established in its place the Port of Mobile. The executive and legislative functions of the port were vested in a police board. A three member board of port commissioners was appointed to settle all debts incurred by the city. The Port of Mobile functioned until March 1887 when it was replaced by the Mayor and General Council of the City of Mobile.

In June 1911, the citizens of Mobile elected to change to a commission form of government as authorized by a legislative act of April 8, 1911. The city was governed by a three member board of commissioners, elected at-large. The structure of commission government changed over the years to provide for a more formal organization of duties and departments. Beginning in the 1960s several attempts were made to change the form of city government. Finally in May 1985 Mobilians approved a referendum adopting a mayor-city council form of government. Elections for mayor and seven council members were held in July. They took office on October 7, 1985.

THE MOBILE MUNICIPAL ARCHIVES

The Mobile Municipal Archives was established as a separate city department on May 22, 1984. It began as a special project of the board of commissioners in November 1973 in an effort to gain control over the voluminous and deteriorating historical records of Mobile's municipal government. City officials were also concerned about the ever increasing amount of current records being produced and how to handle them. After successful completion of the project, which brought all non-current municipal records into

a central records facility, the Mobile Municipal Archives opened to the public in September 1983. Jay Higginbotham was, who had been serving as project director, was appointed city archivist.

The archives is the official repository for records of the City of Mobile, including all municipal departments and associated boards, committees, and commissions. It is administratively located under the City Clerk's Office. Its mandate is to accession, arrange, preserve, inventory, and make available to the public and to government officials all non-current records of the city. In pursuit of this, the archives has assembled one of the most complete collections of municipal records in the South.

Besides collecting and preserving the city's valuable historical records, the archives operates a records management program which handles the current records of municipal departments. Through this ongoing program, permanently valuable records are accessioned into the historical collection. Records of no long-term value are disposed of in accordance with approved retention schedules. The archives also maintains a microfilming program which films the most valuable and frequently used records in the collection for research and preservation purposes.

HOLDINGS OF THE ARCHIVES

The Mobile Municipal Archives contains the extant historical records of the City of Mobile. Most of this material was originally created or received by the executive and legislative branch, city departments, or associated boards and commissions. The collection totals 3,400 cubic feet and contains a variety of record types and media including letters, resolutions, ordinances, petitions, reports, financial records, minutes, legal documents, bound volumes, maps, drawings, audio tape, movie film, photographs, and published materials. Also included are 350 reels of microfilm. The collection dates 1815-1985, or roughly from the incorporation of the Town of Mobile by the Mississippi territorial legislature to the dissolution of the board of commissioners and the subsequent establishment of a mayor-city council form of government. While only two documents dated before 1819 have survived, the collection is fairly complete for records dating from the 1820s and later.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE

Certain records, notably police and personnel records are not available for public use, unless the records are at least seventy-five years old. Such restrictions are noted in the record descriptions. However, the city archivist reserves the right to limit or deny public access to any records of a sensitive or confidential nature.

SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE GUIDE

This guide describes the historical records held in the Mobile Municipal Archives dated 1815-1985. The records are arranged and described by record group and record series in accordance with accepted archival practice. In this guide, a record group is defined as a collection of organizationally or functionally related records, usually from a particular form of government, municipal department, board, or commission. A record series is a group of documents within a record group arranged in accordance with a particular filing system or maintained as a unit because they relate to a particular subject, function, or activity, or because they are a particular record type. Each record group, and series within groups, is numbered. A history of the administration and function of the department or form of government accompanies each record group description. This is followed by a brief summary of the record group's content and coverage. Series descriptions consist of a title, inclusive dates of records, volume, and arrangement, followed by a brief narrative description of the series' contents which outlines the major types of records contained, major subjects included, and the function of the records. Related records found in other record groups or series are noted, as is the availability of indexes or other finding aids.

Record group descriptions are arranged to reflect the hierarchical organization of municipal government. While this organizational structure has undergone several changes over the years, this guide is organized according to the departmental structure that existed in September 1985.

The first six record groups correspond to the executive and legislative branch of the six forms of municipal government instituted between 1814 and 1985. The records were created in the day-to-day operation of municipal government and were kept by the city clerk. They contain a great deal of material relating to the administration of municipal government and the activities of city departments. Record group seven contains a collection of office files from individual city commissioners. These records document the activities of the commissioners and the departments they supervised.

Record groups for city departments contain office files relating to the duties and functions of the departments. Until 1911, few departments existed. Much of the business of the city was carried on by standing and special committees composed of aldermen and councilmen. After the adoption of the commission form of government in 1911, the size and scope of municipal government increased greatly. As it grew, it became more formalized. Departments took the place of committees in overseeing specific functions of the city. Unfortunately not all the records of city departments are available. Some have been destroyed over the years. Some remain in the possession of the departments pending the availability of additional storage space in the archives building.

The final six record groups contain records of municipal boards and commissions that were established as advisory, regulatory, or administrative bodies. They usually reported directly to the governing officials of the city.

A selective bibliography of sources relating to the history of Mobile's municipal government and a list of presidents and mayors of Mobile are presented as appendices. A subject index is provided to assist in identifying appropriate record groups and series.

Abbreviations used in this guide are:

ca.	circa	lin. in.	linear inch(es)
c.f.	cubic feet	RG	record group
lin. ft.	linear feet	vol(s).	volume(s)

RECORDS OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS BEFORE 1985

RECORD GROUP 1 RECORDS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN OF MOBILE, 1814-1819

The Town of Mobile was incorporated by the Mississippi territorial legislature on January 20, 1814. Town government consisted of seven commissioners who were elected for one-year terms by the free white male landholders, freeholders, and householders of the town. One commissioner was elected as president by the others to preside over the commission meetings. The commissioners were given the power to levy taxes on property, stores, retailers of spirituous liquors, wheel-carriages, and billiard tables. The commissioners were also authorized to impose fines, to layout and establish roads, to appoint port wardens and other officials, and "to make such laws and regulations in writing as to them may appear expedient for the well regulation and good government of said town." A town treasurer, tax collector, and tax assessor were elected by popular vote and served one-year terms.

This record group consists of one series. To date, only two documents have been located for this series.

1. GENERAL FILES. 1815. 4 leaves.

Two handwritten copies of a lease for a wharf by the Town of Mobile to James Wilson dated June 2, 1815. The wharf was located at the end of Dauphin St. and ran sixty-five feet along Mobile River. The documents were signed by Lewis Judson, president of the board of commissioners, and attested by Michael McKinney, clerk.

RECORD GROUP 2
RECORDS OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN, 1819-1839

The General Assembly of the State of Alabama granted a charter to the City of Mobile on December 17, 1819. The charter called for the popular election of seven aldermen, one of whom was elected mayor by the others. All served one-year terms. The mayor and aldermen appointed a city clerk, treasurer, inspector of streets, police constables, tax assessor, tax collector, and city attorney. The tax collector, police constables, and city treasurer were required to post performance bonds before taking office. The mayor and aldermen were given the authority to pass laws and ordinances, levy taxes, regulate vessels, provide for the public health, establish night-watches and patrols, erect lamps, regulate business licensing, and regulate hackney carriages, wagons, carts, and drays. They also had the authority to regulate pawn-brokers, establish and regulate markets, lay-out and establish streets and bridges, establish and regulate fire companies, maintain burying grounds, regulate the assemblage of slaves, license bakers and regulate the price and weight of bread, license and regulate theaters and other public amusements, and establish hospitals, pest houses, jails, and other public buildings. The mayor acted as justice of the peace for the city and held Mayor's Court daily court for violations of city ordinances. Aldermen served without compensation. Only the mayor received a salary. The first election under this system was held in February 1820. Addin Lewis was elected as the city's first mayor. Subsequent elections were held on the first Monday in December of each year.

By an act of December 14, 1820, the city was given the power to lay-out and open new streets, lanes, and alleys provided that a jury of twelve freeholders assessed the damages sustained by property owners affected by the street work. The damages so assessed were paid by the city.

In January 1826, the charter was revised to allow for the election of the mayor by popular vote. The date of annual elections was changed to the fourth Monday in March. After the 1826 election, the city was divided into three wards. Thereafter, aldermen were elected by ward, two from each of the three wards. In 1833, the number of wards was increased to four and the number of aldermen to eight. The mayor was no longer allowed to vote on issues before the board of aldermen, except in the case of a tie and in the election of city officers.

The records in this group total approximately two cubic feet and date 1820-1839. Most of the documents are reports of city officials, departments, and committees. Resolutions, petitions, letters, and applications that were brought before the board of aldermen for consideration are also included. The records were kept in the City Clerk's Office.

1. General Files 1820-1839. 1.75 cubic feet

Arranged chronologically.

This series contains a variety of letters, reports, ordinances, resolutions, petitions, and other materials relating to the daily operations of city government. Included are: reports of city officials and departments, including police, market, city hospital, treasurer, and tax collector reports; reports of standing and special committees concerning street improvements, enlarging the cemetery, and the selling of the city water works; honesty bonds for city employees and performance bonds for city contractors; petitions, proposals, and letters dealing with street repairs, streetlights, taxes, and equipment for fire companies; applications for city offices; oaths office for harbor masters and port wardens; leases and deeds for city property; jury summons and verdicts on claims against the city for street improvements; resolutions and ordinances including a resolution regarding a committee to purchase slaves for use by the city, resolutions concerning the purchase of land for a new city hall, and a resolution to purchase stock in the Cedar Point Railroad Company; resolutions and letters concerning the financing of a military campaign against the Creek Indians; proceedings of board of aldermen meetings; election returns; bills, vouchers, receipts, canceled checks, and change bills; public dray licenses; bonds for the city loan of November 1, 1834 purchased by J.D. Beers; correspondence regarding the city bond issues of 1834 and 1836; bonds for the city loan of 1836; lists of unpaid city taxes; and a contract with Henry Hitchcock for the city water works.

An item level calendar listing of documents in this series is available.

BOUND VOLUMES

2. MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN. 1824-1832. 2 vols. 3 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of meetings of the board of aldermen listing members present, matters, discussed, reports received, and ordinances and resolutions passed.

3. INDEX TO THE MINUTE BOOKS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN. 1830-1838. 2 vols. 2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically by year and there under alphabetically.

An alphabetical index to the minutes of meetings of the board of aldermen.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS. 1833-1834. 1 vol. 1 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Reports of standing and special committees of the board of aldermen concerning a variety of special projects.

5. REGISTER OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS. 1835. 1 vol. 1/4 lin. in.

Arranged alphabetically.

Lists names of voters, dates ballots sent out, dates received, ward numbers, and local addresses.

**RECORD GROUP 3
RECORDS OF THE MAYOR, BOARD OF ALDERMEN, AND COMMON
COUNCIL, 1839-1879**

Due to the city's severe financial difficulties of 1837-1838, the charter was amended on January 31, 1839 to provide for a board of common council in addition to the already existing mayor and board of aldermen. The common council, composed of eight members elected at-large, had the authority to approve or disapprove all ordinances and resolutions of the mayor and board of aldermen dealing with the assessment of taxes, the payment or contract for payment of money, and performance bonds of city officers. The mayor presided over meetings of the council but did not have a vote in its decisions. Further revisions to the charter in February 1840 provided that all ordinances and resolutions could originate in either board but required a majority vote of both to become law. The election of fiscal officers, except those for the police, remained the responsibility of the council. The 1840 revision also authorized councilmen to elect a presiding officer from among their members.

An act of December 29, 1841 increased the number of election wards to seven and raised the number of aldermen to fourteen. The number of councilmen elected was reduced to seven. All ordinances passed by the boards of aldermen and common council were presented to the mayor for approval. If the mayor vetoed the ordinance, a two-thirds vote of each board was required for it to become law. The mayor no longer presided over the board of aldermen. Instead each board elected its own presiding officer. The mayor was given the authority to appoint watchmen to guard and protect the city. A city marshal, clerk of the corporation, and tax assessor were elected by popular vote. The board of aldermen was given the authority to elect a tax collector, collector of the market, and an inspector of weights and measures. Annual elections were held on the first Monday in November until 1844 when election day was changed to the first Monday in December.

Beginning with the December 1852 election, the terms of office for mayor, aldermen, and councilmen were increased to three years. The number of aldermen elected was raised to twenty-one, three from each ward. The terms of office for aldermen were staggered so that at each annual election one of the three aldermen from each ward was elected.

During the Civil War, municipal government in Mobile continued much as it had before. Mayor Robert H. Slough surrendered the city to Union forces on April 12, 1865. Mobile's city government was run by the same officials as during the war until August 1865 when Lewis Parsons, provisional governor of Alabama, appointed John Forsyth as mayor. Forsyth served until a general election was held in December 1865 when Jones M. Withers was elected mayor.

On February 2, 1866, the general assembly reincorporated the city, maintaining the mayor, board of aldermen, board of common council form of government. The act increased the number of wards to eight, ward six being divided into two parts. Subsequently, the total number of aldermen elected was raised to twenty-four, three from each ward. Eight councilmen, one from each ward, were elected for three-year terms.

On May 14, 1867, a political rally was held in front of the Mobile courthouse to hear a speech delivered by Pennsylvania Congressman William Darrah "Pig Iron" Kelley. During the speech, shots were fired and a large-scale riot ensued. Major General John Pope, commanding military officer of the Alabama district, placed the city under military rule. All municipal offices were declared vacant, the police force was suspended, and all public meetings were prohibited. Mayor Jones M. Withers was replaced by Gustavus Horton.

In July 1868, the Republican dominated Alabama legislature reorganized municipal government in Mobile. While the legislature did not change the form of government, it gave the governor the authority to appoint a mayor, twenty-four aldermen, and eight councilmen. Governor William H. Smith appointed Caleb Price as mayor. Governor Smith also appointed the prescribed number of aldermen and councilmen, who were to hold office until a general election could be held.

Price a conservative Republican, was distrusted by the more radical factions of the party in Mobile and in the state legislature. He was a former Democrat and had served for several years in political office. When Mayor Price challenged the appointment of Lewis E. Kennedy as alderman for the fifth ward, claiming that he actually resided in the sixth ward, Governor Smith appointed John Hurtel, a Democrat, in Kennedy's place. The Alabama legislature, not satisfied with the results of Governor Smith's appointments and fearing a Democratic take over in Mobile, declared all municipal offices vacant in December 1868. The governor was directed to appoint members to the board of aldermen and common council, irrespective of ward residency, who in joint convention would elect a mayor. Governor Smith again appointed the prescribed aldermen and councilmen, who, on January 8, 1869, jointly elected Caleb Price to again serve as mayor.

During its next session, the state legislature again declared all municipal offices vacant, except those of the tax assessor and city engineer. For the third time, the governor appointed members to the board of aldermen and common council. George F. Harrington was appointed mayor to serve until general elections could be held.

The first municipal elections in five years took place in December 1870 with Martin L. Horst being elected mayor. General elections were held each year thereafter until 1879 when the corporation of the City of Mobile was dissolved and replaced by the Port of Mobile.

The records in this group total approximately thirty cubic feet and generally date 1839-1879, although a few passenger lists are dated as early as 1838. Most of the documents are reports of city officials, departments, and committees. Resolutions, petitions, letters, and applications that were brought before the board of aldermen, common council, and joint convention meetings for consideration are also included. The records were kept in the city clerk's office

1. General Files. 1839-1879. 22.25 cubic feet

Arranged chronologically.

This series contains a variety of letters, reports, ordinances, resolutions, petitions, and other materials relating to the daily operations of city government. Included are: reports of city officials and departments, including police, city marshal, street inspector, city engineer, comptroller, city clerk, powder magazine, market, city hospital, treasurer and tax collector reports; reports from the committee on assessments which are accompanied by letters objecting to assessments; reports of standing and special committees, including the auditing committee, the street committee, the hospital committee, the market committee, the pump and well committee, the powder magazine committee, the joint gaslight committee, the police committee, and the fire engine committee; honesty bonds for city employees and performance bonds for city contractors; petitions, proposals, and letters, including a letter regarding the appointment of the officers of the Medical Society of Mobile as the Board of Health and petitions from volunteer fire companies for the purchase of new equipment or for the construction of new fire stations; proceedings of mayor and board of aldermen meetings, common council meetings, and joint convention meetings; election returns; applications for liquor licenses; applications for city offices; grand jury reports on the assembly of slaves and other matters; letters of resignation from aldermen and councilmen; bills, vouchers, receipts, warrants, and canceled checks; garnishments and check authorizations; receipts for retail and dray license fees; payrolls for city employees; ordinances and resolutions, including resolutions regarding slaves, resolutions concerning a contract with Albert Stein for the water works, a resolution to establish a joint street committee, a resolution to create the position of street inspector, and resolutions concerning visits to Mobile by Martin Van Buren, Daniel Webster, James K. Polk, and Henry Clay; reports concerning claims of the city against the federal government over moneys advanced to equip troops during the

Creek War; tax collector's certificates for property sold for unpaid taxes; oaths of office for city officials; jury verdicts on claims against the city for street improvements; auditor's warrants; bids and contracts for street and hospital improvements; lists of taxable property; bonds for city loans of 1839, 1840, 1855, and 1856; bonds for loans to the Mobile and Ohio Railroad Company issued in 1852; bonds for the city market debt; committee lists; election returns which include votes on city charter amendments and the purchasing of stock in the Mobile and Ohio Railroad; and deeds for cemetery lots. Also included are: records relating to the enlargement of Magnolia Cemetery and the establishment of a city gasworks; reports, letters, and resolutions regarding the operation and maintenance of City Hospital; letters concerning the appointment of Raphael Semmes as assistant counsel for the city; letters, resolutions, and reports regarding cases before the U.S. Supreme Court in which the city was represented by John Test and Daniel Webster; and documents concerning the Mobile and Spring Hill Plank and Shell Road Company. An item level calendar listing of documents in this series is available.

2. Passenger Lists. 1838-1863. 1 cubic foot

Arranged chronologically.

Lists of passengers on vessels arriving in Mobile. Most of the vessels were from American cities, although lists for vessels from England, France, and Brazil are also included. Names of passengers, their place of birth or nationality, age, occupation, and last place of residence are usually given on each passenger list. Masters of vessels arriving in Mobile were required to submit a passenger list to city officials and pay a head tax.

BOUND VOLUMES

3. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN. 1839-1847, 1850-1869, 1871-1879. 9 vols. 22.5 linear inches

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of meetings of the board of aldermen listing members present, matters discussed, reports received, and ordinances and resolutions passed.

4. INDEX TO MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN. 1840-1850, 1858-1861, 1875. 3 vols. 2 lin. in.

Arranged alphabetically.

Index to minutes of the meetings of the board of aldermen.

5. MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL. 1841-1849, 1853-1879. 7 vol. 20.5 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of meetings of the common council listing member's present, matters discussed, reports received, and ordinances and resolutions passed.

**6. INDEX MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL. 1839-1840, 1844-1850
2 vol. 3 lin. in.**

Arranged alphabetically.

Index to minutes of meetings of the common council.

**7. MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN AND COMMON
COUNCIL. 1839-1842. 1 vol. 3 lin. in.**

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of the meetings of the board of aldermen and common council listing members present, matters discussed, reports received, and ordinances and resolutions passed.

**8. INDEX TO MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN AND
COMMON COUNCIL. 1839-1850, 1855-1857. 4 vols. 5 lin. in.**

Arranged alphabetically.

Index to minutes of meetings of the board of aldermen and common council.

**9. NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN, COMMON
COUNCIL, AND JOINT CONVENTION MEETINGS. 1871-1879. 3 vols.
4 lin. in.**

Arranged chronologically.

Published accounts of the meetings of the board of aldermen, common council, and joint convention from local newspapers.

10. LIST OF STREET LAMPS ERECTED. 1872. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged by street name.

Lists names of streets and locations of lamps erected.

**11. LISTS OF REGISTERED VOTERS. 1840-1844, 1856-1857, 1874. 10 vols.
5.5 lin. in.**

Volumes arranged by ward and thereunder chronologically. Entries within volumes are arranged alphabetically.

Lists names of voters and occasionally their addresses, occupations, and ages.

12. POLL TAX BOOK. 1858. 1 vol. 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged alphabetically.

Names and addresses of persons who paid the \$2 poll tax.

13. REGISTER OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS. 1840. 1 vol. 1/4 lin. in.

Arranged alphabetically.

Lists names, dates ballots sent out, dates received, ward numbers, and local addresses.

14. RESOLUTIONS. 1871-1879. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Copies of resolutions passed by the board of aldermen and common council. Contains an alphabetical index.

15. ORDINANCES. 1854-1863, 1866, 1870-1879. 3 vols. 6 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Copies of ordinances passed by the board of aldermen and common council.

16. MINUTES OF THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE. 1867-1878. 2 vols. 2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Minute's meetings of the ways and means committee listing members present, matters discussed, and ordinances and resolutions passed. Also includes lists of bills and payrolls passed to payment.

17. MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TAX COMMISSIONERS. 1875. 1 vol. 1 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of the meetings of the board of tax commissioners. The board was created to consider regarding taxes. The volume also contains an alphabetical list of taxpayers which shows the amount of taxes owed, the amount paid, and the year assessed.

RECORD GROUP 4 RECORDS OF THE PORT OF MOBILE, 1879-1887

In the 1870s, the city again experienced financial difficulties that prompted the Alabama legislature to abolish the charter of the City of Mobile and provide for the settlement of its debts. A new charter, dated February 11, 1879, created in its place the Port of Mobile.

The executive and legislative functions of the port were vested in the police board, which consisted of eight members, one from each ward, who served two-year terms. The police board had the authority to propose and adopt by-laws and ordinances, levy taxes, exercise full police powers, provide for the public health, rent real estate, and establish and keep open sidewalks, drains, and sewers. Expenditures of the port were limited to \$100,000 per year. The board elected a president from among its members. Richard B. Owen served as president of the Port of Mobile throughout its existence.

The governor appointed a three member board of port commissioners which was charged with the responsibility of collecting all debts owed to, and paying all debts owed by, the city. The commissioners served two-year terms and continuously worked to decrease the city debt through litigation for back taxes, collecting rents on property owned by the city, and by refinancing the city's bonded indebtedness. The first three port commissioners were Lorenzo M. Wilson, James A. McCaw, and William J. Hearin. Commissioner Hearin resigned in August 1879 and was replaced by Stephens Croom. In 1883 the duties of the port commissioners were transferred to a port trustee. Lorenzo M. Wilson served as trustee until October 15, 1886. Z.M.P. Inge was appointed to replace him.

While the 1879 legislation established the police board and the port commission, it did not provide for the continuation of the offices after their initial two-year terms. Therefore, additional legislation was adopted in December 1880 to keep the current police board in office until general elections could be held. The legislation also provided for the three port commissioners to remain in office until 1883. General elections were held in March 1882 to elect a president and eight police board members, one from each ward, who served three-year terms.

The Port of Mobile was dissolved by an act of the state legislature dated December 10, 1886. In March 1887, the police board was replaced by a mayor-board of aldermen-common council form of government known as the Mayor and General Council of the City of Mobile.

The records of the Port of Mobile include correspondence of the police board and the port commissioners, minutes, petitions, departmental and committee reports, payrolls, acts, ordinances, vouchers, tax lists, and tax collector's certificates. The records concern the day-to-day operations of the police board and the efforts of the port commissioners to settle the city's debts. The records total seven and one- third cubic feet and date from March 15, 1879 to March 14, 1887. They were kept in the Port Clerk's Office. An alphabetical index to many of the records in this group is available on microfilm.

1. CORRESPONDENCE OF POLICE BOARD. 1879-1887. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Largely letters received by the police board or by the port clerk from the general public, the Board of Health, city bondholders, local businessmen, and port officers such as the police chief, the engineer, and the harbor master. Letters concern public health responsibilities, quarantine procedures, the port hospital, fire protection services, duties of city officials, bonds, street extensions, animals, railroad right-of-ways, and supply requests.

**2. CORRESPONDENCE OF PORT COMMISSIONERS. 1879-1881, 1884.
1/8 c f**

Arranged chronologically.

Letters sent and received by the board of port commissioners. Letters sent were generally to the police board concerning city property held in trust and rented out by the commissioners. Letters received were generally from the police board and the fire chief concerning bond payments and control of the fire alarm telegraph.

3. PETITIONS. 1879-1887. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Letters of petition received by the police board or by chairmen of standing committees. The majority of these are requests for tax abatements, reductions of assessments, or refunds of tax payments. Some petitions concern other matters such as paving or opening streets, purchasing lots in Magnolia Cemetery, granting railroad companies right-of-ways on port streets, increasing port officers' salaries, or requesting payment for damages allegedly caused by faulty or defective port property.

4. REPORTS OF PORT OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTS. 1879-1887. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Reports from the clerks of the Southern and Dauphin Street markets list names of individuals selling wares at the markets and the fees collected from them. Reports from the police captain list fines collected, individuals fined, the number of arrests for the month, reasons for the arrests, prisoner work days, and the number of stores found open by night duty officers. Tax collector's reports list the amount of taxes, license fees, and stall rents collected weekly. Financial reports show trial balances for the port and the amount of bonds, warrants, and port scrip issued. Also included are reports from the fire chief, the pound, and the quarantine doctor.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS. 1879-1887. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Reports to the police board from standing and special committees on issues referred to committees for study. There were three standing committees. Committee one, the committee of ways and means, reported on the monthly bills and payrolls of the port, market issues, tax assessment problems, the yearly license ordinance, the port pound, and on any other financial matters. Committee two reported on issues concerned with the Police Department, public grounds and cemeteries, the port hospital, and damage suits brought before the board. Committee three reported on the Fire Department, the Street Department, electric lighting, and drainage. Also included are minority (dissenting) reports from the committees, committee of the whole reports, and special committee reports on market repairs and the city's water supply.

6. RESOLUTIONS. 1879-1887. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Resolutions proposed to the police board by individual board members. Subjects include wharves, the commission of the tax collector, the operation of the port hospital by the faculty of the Mobile Medical College, election dates and times, standing committees, street drainage, the city debt, and the duties, salaries, and bonds of port officers.

7. PAYROLLS. 1879-1887. 3.4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Payrolls for the officers and employees of the Port of Mobile. Included are payrolls for the police force, street force, special police force, quarantine force, and payrolls for electric light employees. Payroll forms list the following information: names of employees, their rank, pay per annum, pay per day or hour, the total time worked, amount paid, and the total for each department.

8. ACTS AND ORDINANCES. 1879-1887. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Copies of acts including those concerning a new charter for the Port of Mobile, amendments to the act incorporating the Port of Mobile, and the 1886 act to incorporate the City of Mobile. Ordinances concern establishing port fire limits, defining the duties of the superintendent of the street force and the engineer of the port, securing public health, fire companies, the port pound, levying municipal taxes, a license ordinance, and the city's water supply.

9. VOUCHERS, BILLS, RECEIPTS, AND CANCELED CHECKS. 1879-1887. 1 1/3 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Consists mainly of vouchers for items purchased or services rendered the port. Many vouchers have bills from businesses or individuals attached to them. Also included are receipts from various individuals stating that they paid the port or that the port paid them, canceled checks from local banks drawn on port accounts, and account sheets listing port receipts and expenditures.

10. LISTS OF TAXABLE PROPERTY. 1879. 1/3 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Forms listing the names of property owners and a description and valuation of real estate owned by them. Valuations for vehicles, livestock, furniture, machinery, jewelry, and income values are also listed.

11. TAX COLLECTOR'S CERTIFICATES. 1879, 1883. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

These are certificates that state that property taxes for a particular year were due and unpaid, and that the tax collector sold the property to the City of Mobile. Properties were sold to the city prior to the creation of the port but were all redeemed during the years the port existed.

12. MISCELLANEOUS. 1879-1887. 1/3 c.f.

Arranged by type of material.

Included are: leases for areas in the municipal building, for lamp posts, and for port wharves; contracts to repair the bell tower, to take charge of pest house property, and to operate the port hospital; organizational minutes of police board meetings; applications for appointments to various positions; specifications for repairs to the municipal building and for the installation of a steam boiler at the water works; performance bonds for the port commissioners and the faculty of the Mobile Medical

College; court judgments and records for cases of interest to port officials; oaths of office; and legal documents such as affidavits.

BOUND VOLUMES

13. MINUTES OF THE POLICE BOARD. 1879-1887. 3 vols. 8 1/4 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of the meetings of the police board listing members present, matters discussed, reports received, and ordinances and resolutions passed.

14. NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS OF POLICE BOARD MEETINGS. 1879-1886. 1 vol. 1 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Published accounts from local papers of meetings of the police board. Also includes published official notices.

15. RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, AND COMMITTEE REPORTS. 1879-1887. 1 vol. 1 3/4 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Resolutions and ordinances passed by the police board. Also includes committee reports presented to the board. An index is contained in the volume.

16. MINUTES OF THE COURT OF ASSESSMENT. 1879. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Judgments of the court of assessment regarding petitions for reducing tax assessments. Includes names of petitioners, locations of properties, and judgments (taxes owed).

RECORD GROUP 5 RECORDS OF THE MAYOR AND GENERAL COUNCIL, 1887-1911

Beginning in March 1887, Mobile was again under a mayor-aldermen-common council form of government known as the Mayor and General Council of the City of Mobile. The general council consisted of the board of aldermen and the common council meeting together. All resolutions, measures, and ordinances were adopted by the general

council except those dealing with expenditures of revenue or to fill vacancies on the boards which were considered by the boards of aldermen and common council meeting separately.

The mayor presided over meetings of the general council but had no vote in its decisions, except in cases of a tie. He could veto the decision of any board, which could be overruled by a two-thirds vote.

At-large elections were held in March 1887 to fill seven aldermen seats. The eight member police board became the board of common council and the president of the police board became the mayor. Beginning in March 1888, and every three years thereafter, elections were held for seven aldermen, eight councilmen, a mayor, and a tax collector.

Officers elected by the general council included a city attorney, a city clerk, a city engineer, a city sexton, a clerk of the market, a keeper of the cemetery, a street commissioner, and a chief and assistant chief of the fire department. Each served three-year terms. Beginning in February 1895 the positions of city attorney, city clerk, and city engineer became popularly elected positions. Created the same year were the offices of committee clerk and license officer.

A new charter for Mobile was approved on February 6, 1897. It no longer provided for separate meetings of the board of aldermen and the board of common council. The mayor no longer presided over meetings of the general council. Instead the council elected a presiding officer from among its members.

Much of the work of municipal government was delegated to standing committees. There were three standing committees in 1888. By 1908 there were fourteen. The committees in 1908 were: 1. Finance, 2. Laws and Ordinances, 3. Streets and Street Franchises, 4. Fire Department, 5. Police Department, 6. Cemeteries and Public Grounds, 7. Markets and Municipal Buildings, 8. Hospitals, 9. Water Works System, 10. Sewer System, 11. City Lights, 12. Old City Debts and Wharves, 13. Revision of Journal, and 14. State Legislation. While most committees only served as advisory or review boards for the general council, some committees, the municipal buildings committee for example, supervised the departments assigned to them.

In June 1911, the citizens of Mobile elected to adopt the commission form of government. The board of commissioners took office in August of that year.

The records of the general council total twenty-seven cubic feet and date 1887-1911. They contain documents received or generated by council members or city officers in the performance of their duties. Most of the documents were brought before the general council meetings and were kept in the City Clerk's Office. An alphabetical index to some of the records in this group is available on microfilm.

1. CORRESPONDENCE. 1887-1911. 2 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Correspondence of the mayor, general council, city clerk, and committee chairmen with other municipal officials, businessmen, and the general public. The correspondence concern a variety of matters, including requests for information on tax rates and license fees, invitations to various events, activities of city departments, contracts with private businesses, and municipal finances.

2. PETITIONS. 1887-1911. 4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Petitions from the general public concerning the abatement of tax penalties, construction of buildings, installation of streetlights, street paving, and the passage or enforcement of city ordinances. Many are from municipal employees requesting leave, payment for time lost due to injuries, or reimbursement for equipment or clothing damaged while performing their duties.

3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTS. 1887-1911. 5 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Annual, monthly, and daily reports of various municipal officers and departments including the tax collector, treasurer, clerk of the market, city electrician, keeper of the powder magazine, chief of the fire department, and superintendent of sewers. Reports of the city clerk include records of revenues and expenditures. Reports of the chief of police give the number of arrests and amount of fines collected by the Police Department. Reports of the harbor master give the number, types, and tonnage of vessels entering the harbor. Annual reports of the mayor are also included.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS. 1887-1911. 1 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Reports of standing and special committees concerning the activities of the committees and recommendations to the general council. Reports often recommend petitions for approval or denial, passage of an ordinance or resolution, approval of payrolls, acceptance of departmental reports, or acceptance of bids. Special committee reports deal with specific problems, including the drafting of a bill for the Alabama General Assembly authorizing the city to finance and operate its own water works.

5. STENOGRAPHER'S REPORTS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL. 1898-1911. 1 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Stenographer's reports provide a word-by-word account of meetings of the general council. Also included are the minutes of a few committee meetings.

7. RESOLUTIONS. 1887-1911. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Resolutions considered by the general council. Included are resolutions concerning yellow fever quarantines, the water works, parks, and salaries of municipal employees, among others.

8. ORDINANCES. 1888-1911. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Copies of ordinances and drafts of ordinances considered by the general council. Included are ordinances concerning the operation of bicycles and automobiles, the issuance of water works bonds, business licenses, and prostitution.

8. PAYROLLS. 1887-1909. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically and thereunder by department.

Payrolls of municipal departments usually listing the names of employees, positions, time worked, rates of pay, and total paid. Most payrolls were issued monthly.

9. BIDS AND SPECIFICATIONS. 1887-1910. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Specifications describing work on projects funded by the city and bids from private business firms which outline the goods or services to be provided and their cost. Also includes specifications for a municipal electric power plant.

10. CONTRACTS, LEASES, AND AGREEMENTS. 1887-1911. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Contracts with private businesses and individuals for goods and services. Included are contracts for fire alarm systems, street paving work, fire protection, and an electric street lighting system. Leases for municipal property and other types of agreements are also included.

11. TAX BILLS. 1887-1910. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Bills issued for the payment of city taxes. Shown are the names of taxpayers, taxes due, and the value of property and possessions, including real estate, livestock, vehicles, machinery, tools, furniture, goods and merchandise, and various forms of capital.

12. APPLICATIONS FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICES. 1889, 1897-1909. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Letters requesting appointments to municipal offices. Includes applications for city printer, inspector of water works and sewers, scale inspector, building inspector, license officer, and keepers of cemeteries, among others

13. PERFORMANCE BONDS. 1887-1909. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Bonds furnished by city officials, which assured they would perform the duties of the office adequately. Bonds furnished by businesses contracted with the city to assure that appropriate goods and services were provided or to insure compliance with municipal ordinances.

14. VOUCHERS, BILLS, RECEIPTS, CANCELED CHECKS, AND WARRANTS. 1887-1911. 4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Vouchers, bills, receipts, canceled checks, and warrants for payments of goods and services provided for the city.

15. MISCELLANEOUS. 1887-1910. 1 c.f.

Arranged by type of material.

Includes maps of streets, oaths of office for city officials and police officers, fire insurance policies, mittimus and other court documents, an audit of city finances dated 1909, a receipt book for moneys received from ambulance steward J.A. Dain, applications for building permits, and election records.

BOUND VOLUMES

16. MINUTES OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL. 1887-1911. 8 vols. 21 1/4 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of the meetings of the general council listing members present, matters discussed, reports received, and ordinances and resolutions passed.

17. NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS OF GENERAL COUNCIL MEETINGS. 1894-1903. 1 vol. 1 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Published accounts of meetings of the general council from local newspapers. Includes Council meeting details, legal notices and other articles relating to municipal government, especially the city's debt.

18. MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL. 1887-1897. 1 vol. 1 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of the meetings of the common council.

19. MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN. 1887-1896. 1 vol. 1 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of the meetings of the board of aldermen.

20. MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS. 1894-1911. 7 vols. 4 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged by committee and thereunder chronologically.

Minutes of the meetings of standing and special committees of the general council.

21. ORDINANCES. 1887-1911. 3 vols. 6 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Ordinances passed by the general council.

22. MINUTES OF THE POLICE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MOBILE. 1908-1911. 1 vol. 2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of the meetings of the police commission. The commission was created to supervise the activities of the police department. Its members were Mayor Pat J. Lyons, E.D. McGraw, and E.V. O'Connor.

- 23. RECORD OF ANIMALS IMPOUNDED AT THE CITY POUND. 1887-1891. 2 vols. 2 lin. in.**
Arranged chronologically.
Gives a description of animals impounded, where found, owners, and amounts paid by owners for release or sale of animals.
- 24. AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT REPORTS. 1909-1910. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.**
Arranged chronologically.
List of patients picked up by the ambulance steward

**RECORD GROUP 6
RECORDS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF
MOBILE, 1911-1985**

On June 5, 1911, the citizens of Mobile elected to change to a commission form of government as authorized by a legislative act of April 8, 1911. The act called for the establishment of a three member board of commissioners. Pat J. Lyons, the incumbent mayor, became one of the commissioners as authorized by the enabling act. Laz Schwarz and Harry Pillans were elected to the other two commission seats on August 7. They took office on August 14, 1911.

Commissioners were elected at-large and served staggered three-year terms so that an election was held each year to elect one commissioner. Voters marked first and second choices for commissioner on their ballots. A candidate for commissioner was elected by receiving the highest number of first choice votes, provided that he received a majority of the total number of ballots cast. If no candidate received a majority of votes cast, then the candidate receiving the highest total of first and second choice votes was declared the winner, provided that this number represented a majority of the total number of ballots cast. Elections were held in September of each year.

The mayor was elected annually by members of the board. Laz Schwarz was the first mayor elected under this system. He served as presiding officer but had no veto power. All ordinances required the affirmative vote of two commissioners to become law. The commissioners had the authority to divide the administrative duties and powers of the city among departments, with each department headed by one of the commissioners. They appointed officers to supervise the daily operations of the departments and could prescribe and change the duties of officers and department assignments at will. Meetings of the board of commissioners were held every Tuesday.

In 1915 the terms of the commissioners were extended to six years. Terms remained staggered with elections being held every two years. Beginning in 1945 the three commissioners were elected together and served four-year terms. The second choice feature was abolished so that each commissioner was elected by majority vote. Commission positions were assigned seat numbers. Candidates were required to run for place one, two, or three. In 1965 specific duties were assigned to each of the commission posts. The commissioner in place number one was given charge of the department of finance and administration, place number two was given charge of the department of public safety, and place number three was assigned the department of public works. All other departments were placed under the supervision of one of the commissioners. The act also provided for a rotating mayoralty, each commissioner serving as mayor for sixteen months. Beginning with the 1965 elections, the date of elections was changed to August.

In May 1985, Mobilians approved a referendum adopting a mayor-council form of government. Elections for mayor and seven council members were held in July 1985. The new government took office on October 7, 1985.

The records in this group were created or received by the board of commissioners and the city clerk. The record group is divided into ninety-three subject series. The first eighty-four series are subject files of the City Clerk's Office. Many of the series relate to city departments, committees, or boards. Most of the material consists of correspondence, although reports, petitions, publications, photographs, resolutions, ordinances, newspaper clippings, maps, and drawings are also included.

1. ACCIDENT REPORTS. 1960-1980. 7 c. f.

Arranged alphabetically by department.

Report forms for accidents involving city employees and/or city property.

Completed forms usually list name, age, sex, and race of person involved, description and location of the accident, witnesses, and nature of injury. Physician's reports, supervisor's reports, insurance forms, and requisitions for payment often accompany forms.

2. ADMINISTRATION. 1911-1984. 3 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, manuals, administrative orders, plans, and reports dealing with the administrative functions of the board of commissioners and city clerk. Major subjects include records retention, an archives building, city directories, municipal codes, commission meetings, emergencies, and visits of dignitaries. Also includes several organizational charts.

3. ADVERTISING RECORDS. 1960-1979. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Correspondence concerning city publicity, including legal notices and promotional ads. Also includes tear sheets, photographs, and layout sheets.

4. AIRPORT. 1919-1984. 27 c.f.

Arranged in two groups-- Brookley Industrial Complex and Airport (BICA) and Mobile Municipal Airport. Arranged alphabetically thereunder.

Brookley Industrial Complex and Airport: Correspondence, reports, resolutions, ordinances, contracts, leases, maps, plans, newspaper clippings, news releases, and memos regarding the acquisition operation, and maintenance of the Brookley Industrial Complex and Airport, also known as the Mobile Aerospace Industrial Complex and Airport. Prominent are reports on the acquisition of Brookley Air Force Base by the city, a master plan for the airport, leases for buildings, and correspondence and contracts on repairs and maintenance of facilities.

Mobile Municipal Airport: Correspondence of the city clerk, city commissioners, airport managers, and others concerning the operation the Mobile Municipal Airport. Also includes leases for land and facilities, contracts, insurance policies, newspaper clippings, photographs of the construction of the terminal building, and specifications for repairs, renovations, and expansion work. Some of the records concern Works Progress Administration projects at the airport.

5. ALABAMA, STATE OF. 1911-1984. 5 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, minutes, reports, studies, specifications, resolutions, maps, newspaper clippings, proposals, and other materials relating to state agencies and departments. Major topics include the Alabama Beverage Commission, the Coastal Area Board, the Alabama Highway Department, the National Guard, and the Alabama State Docks. Also included are photographs of the Interstate-10 tunnel, and the Interstate-10/Interstate-65 junction.

6. ANIMAL SHELTER. 1911-1977, 1980-1984. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Petitions, correspondence, resolutions, ordinances, and newspaper clippings. Most of this material consists of citizen complaints concerning loose animals or inquiries concerning various activities of the shelter, and copies of commissioners' responses. Other topics include funding, shelter construction, fees, and rabies control.

7. ANNEXATION. 1911-1984. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Petitions, correspondence, maps, legal documents, and newspaper clippings regarding attempts to annex or detach areas to/from the city. Legal briefs and arguments for court cases involving annexation are included. Many of the letters are declarations for or against the annexation of particular areas. Major areas represented are Chickasaw, Prichard, Crichton, Tillman's Corner, Beau Terra, Bayou Sara, Bearfork Road, Plateau, "Black Jack Area," and Battleship Park.

8. ANNUAL REPORTS OF CITY DEPARTMENTS. 1951-1971, 1983-1984. 1 1/2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by department.

Annual reports of the Animal Shelter, Bankhead Tunnel, Bates Field, Mobile County Civil Defense, the Electrical Department, the Fire Department, the Board of Health, the Mobile Housing Board, the Inspection Services Department, the Mobile Public Library, Municipal Court, the Mobile County Personnel Board, the Police Department, the Public Works Department, the Recreation Department, and Tax Collector's Office. Some departmental reports are filed together in annual report files of the city. Reports usually contain information on the year's activities and the financial condition of the department.

9. ARCHIVES. 1982-1984. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, mostly concerning the establishment of the Mobile Municipal Archives and the acquisition of a building for the department. Reports and memos concerning the administration and activities of the department are also included.

10. ASSOCIATIONS. 1913-1985. 13 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, resolutions, minutes, reports, pamphlets, newsletters, photographs, and newspaper clippings concerning various associations and organizations. These include business, charitable, professional, cultural, and recreational organizations. Organizations represented include: Boy Scouts of America, Mobile Chamber of Commerce, Mardi Gras societies, Salvation Army, Azalea Trail, Mississippi Valley Association, Mobile Opera Guild, Mobile Transit Authority, Historic Mobile Preservation Society, Pan American Union, U.S. Congress of Mayors, the Alabama League of Municipalities, and various others.

11. AUDIT. 1954-1969. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Annual budgets detailing anticipated revenues and expenditures by departments. Other materials include budget revisions and correspondence from departments explaining their budget requests. Reports which analyze the city's financial condition and make recommendations are also included. See also Series 16.

12. AUDITORIUM. 1912-1953, 1960-1985. 8 c.f.

Two groups, Construction and Operations, each arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, resolutions, brochures, contracts, specifications, work progress reports, memos, change orders, insurance policies, performance bonds, and bids concerning the construction and operation of a municipal auditorium. The first group contains material concerning the planning and construction of the Mobile Municipal Auditorium. Most of the records relate to bids, contracts, equipment, and property. Photographs of construction of the auditorium are included. Also included in this group are records concerning earlier efforts to build an auditorium and a public library. The second group contains material dated 1960-1985 concerning daily operations and maintenance of the Mobile Municipal Auditorium. Included are materials on insurance, advertising, bookings and rentals, concessions, and repairs.

13. BANKHEAD TUNNEL. 1938-1973. 5 c.f.

Records dating 1938-1948 are arranged chronologically. Records dating 1949-1973 are arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, proposals, bids, and specifications concerning the construction and operation of the tunnel. Also includes: resolutions and applications for loans from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for tunnel construction; maps and drawings of the tunnel; surveys, charts, and reports on traffic flow, camera surveillance, and toll collections; and newspaper clippings of articles and legal notices concerning the tunnel.

14. BIDS. 1969-1984. 26 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by project name.

Bids submitted by private contractors for city projects and services. Most of the bids consist of proposals, specifications, bonds, contracts, and insurance forms. Included are bids for work on streets, the water system, sewers, drainage, the airport, and other construction projects. Also included are bids for services such as ambulance and guard services.

15. BOARDS. 1911-1984. 21 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, minutes, ordinances, resolutions, reports, petitions, maps, plans, contracts, financial statements, legal documents, membership lists, photographs, and newspaper clippings concerning the creation, activities, and operation of advisory and directory boards of the city and county. Some of the records concern the board of commissioners. Most files contain the resolutions or ordinances creating the board, as well as correspondence concerning appointments, resignations, and activities. Prominent among the materials are records concerning the Board of Health and the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners.

16. BUDGET. 1916-1951, 1972-1976. 4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Annual and monthly budget reports of the city and city departments.

Correspondence from private citizens, department heads, and officials of other cities concerning budgets, budget making, and financial management. Also includes reports, pamphlets, minutes of commission meetings, payroll time reports, and booklets. See also Series 11.

17. BUILDING AND GROUNDS. 1973-1975, 1979-1984. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, memos, newspaper clippings, resolutions, contracts, bids, and reports concerning the maintenance and construction of municipal buildings and the operation of the Buildings and Grounds Department. Much of this material concerns damage to municipal buildings caused by Hurricane Frederic and subsequent repair work. Includes a map of the wind speeds of the hurricane as it passed through southern Alabama and Mississippi.

18. CITY CLERK . 1934-1984. 3 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, reports, and publications concerning the activities of the City Clerk's Office, the National Institute of Municipal Clerks, and the codification of city ordinances. Correspondence of assistant city clerk James Mason concerning the Mobile Municipal Archives, records retention, affirmative action, insurance, social security, and budgeting. Receipt books for money collected by the City Clerk's Office, mostly for

parade permits, legal advertising fees, copies of the city code, and charges for copies of city documents.

19. CITY HALL. 1920-1957, 1963-1967, 1978-1984. 1 1/2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, contracts, memos, resolutions, drawings, and reports concerning the maintenance, remodeling, and history of city hall. Some of the materials relate to plans for a new city hall complex, the designation of city hall as a national historic landmark, and the maintenance and renovation of the communications building. Also includes correspondence and newspaper clippings concerning the remodeling of city hall after Hurricane Frederic.

20. CIVIL DEFENSE. 1942-1946, 1950-1951. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, memos, resolutions, reports, booklets, ordinances, and maps concerning Mobile County Civil Defense. Additional records relate to military recruitment, scrap metal and clothing drives, and rationing during World War II. Most of the material consists of correspondence with various state, local, and federal agencies. Includes records concerning preparation for air raids, black-outs, nuclear attacks, and hurricanes. Also contains records concerning clean-up operations after Hurricane Camille.

21. COMMISSIONERS. 1915-1981. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by name of commissioner.

Correspondence of various city commissioners. Included are congratulatory letters and telegrams, thank you letters, and correspondence concerned with the daily operations of city government. Other materials include biographical sketches, resolutions, news releases, newspaper clippings, and speeches.

22. COMMISSIONER'S MEETING. 1965-1980. 20 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Reel-to-reel and audio cassette recording tapes of meetings of the board of commissioners, radio talk shows, news conferences, and other meetings. Some tapes deal with such topics as housing, rock bands, sewers, collective bargaining, and improvement ventures.

23. COMMISSION FILES. 1957-1985. 6 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, memos, petitions, resolutions, newspaper clippings, maps, and publications concerning various city commissions. Includes correspondence of the various commissions with the city commissioners and the general public regarding appointments and the work of the commissions. Also contains reports produced by various commissions.

24. COMMITTEE. 1953-1984. 3 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by committee.

Correspondence and resolutions concerning the creation and activities of various city committees, including materials related to committee appointments. Also contains minutes of committee meetings, lists of members, newspaper clippings, news releases, pamphlets, reports, and petitions. Includes files on the Brookley Planning and Steering Committee, the Hurricane Preparedness Committee, the Emergency Medical Services Committee, and numerous others.

25. COMMUNICATIONS. 1919-1938, 1952-1956, 1964-1985. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, memos, agreements, resolutions, and newspaper clippings concerning the acquisition of communication services for city government and the regulation of public communication services within the city. Includes materials on municipal telephone, telegraph, and radio services. Also includes records concerning a communications building for city government. Other materials cover public telephones, radio, and cable television. Much of the correspondence is with the Alabama Public Service Commission.

26. COMPOST PLANT. 1964-1971. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, memos, proposals, contracts, and resolutions concerning the construction and operation of the municipal compost plant.

27. CORRESPONDENCE - ALPHABETICAL FILES. 1960-1984. 3 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by correspondent or subject.

Correspondence concerning requests for information about city ordinances, the city's form of government, hotel reservations, job opportunities, special events, addresses of relatives, and many other subjects. Some letters request souvenirs or maps of the city.

Also included are thank you letters, letters of condolence, and letters welcoming conventions and new residents to the city.

28. CORRESPONDENCE - CHRONOLOGICAL FILES. 1912-1939, 1967-1984. 9 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Correspondence with city officials and private citizens on a variety of subjects related to the day-to-day activities of city government. Major subjects represented include employment, city ordinances, requests for city services such as street cleaning, and bids on city sponsored projects. Letters of commendation and complaints from local citizens are included, as well as occasional resolutions, ordinances, and applications for licenses accompany letters. Occasional resolutions, ordinances, and applications for licenses accompany letters.

29. CORRESPONDENCE - LETTERS SENT. 1980-1982. 3 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Letters sent by the city clerk and city commissioners, often to department heads, concerning the daily activities of city government.

30. CREDIT UNION . 1961-1979, 1982. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Contains correspondence concerning the Mobile County and City Employees' Credit Union. Reports of annual meetings are also included.

31. EDUCATION. 1955, 1960-1984. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, newspaper clippings, news releases, and resolutions concerning activities of local schools, colleges, and other educational organizations. Also includes: bids, specifications, and blueprints for the water system at Mobile College; contracts and agreements; and minutes of school board meetings, commissioner's delegation meetings and other meetings. Other topics include Bishop State Junior College, local technical colleges, the Mobile Area Foundation for Higher Public Education, the Municipal Training Program, the United States Sports Academy, appointments to the Mobile County School Board, psychological testing of police recruits, the University of South Alabama, and educational television.

32. ELECTION. 1912-1984. 7 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Correspondence concerning various aspects of municipal elections including the establishment of polling places. Also includes petitions, congratulatory letters to elected commissioners, resolutions concerning polling places, election results, ordinances concerning new ward boundaries and voting machines, lists of election officials, election notices, absentee ballot applications, election ballots, maps of wards and voting districts, and statements of candidacy.

33. ELECTRICAL. 1911-1984. 3 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence and memos, many of them with the Alabama Power Company and the Alabama Public Service Commission, concerning the use and regulation of electricity. Subjects include electric power rates, a municipal power plant, and streetlights. Also includes: contracts with power companies for street lighting; booklets; reports; materials from various organizations concerned with electric power, such as the American Public Utilities Bureau; proposals and contracts for the construction of the Electrical Department Building; and daily reports on the condition of street lighting, police signals, and fire alarm systems.

34. ENGINEERING. 1912-1984. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence concerning dredging of Mobile Bay and the port, drainage and sewer systems, and street paving. Many letters are citizen complaints regarding street, sewer, and drainage ventures. Some concern the development of new subdivisions. Also included are maps, blueprints, and photographs.

35. ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS. 1916-1977. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, petitions, resolutions, and newsletters concerning motion picture theaters, the Pixie Playhouse, the Joe Jefferson Players, the Ernest F. Ladd Memorial Stadium, the Mobile Baseball Association, and various entertainment and sports events. Other topics included are the Mobile Bears baseball team, censorship, licensing of motion pictures, golf courses, and the twilight baseball league.

36. EQUIPMENT. 1960-1984. 1 3/4 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, memos, agreements, and lists concerning the acquisition, maintenance, inventory control, and disposal of municipal equipment, principally office equipment. Topics include gasoline conservation for municipal vehicles and the auctioning of surplus equipment.

37. EXECUTIVE. 1911-1984. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Mainly correspondence relating to a variety of matters not associated with other series in this record group. Major subjects include administrative assistants, data processing, capital improvements, legislative contacts, policy issues, the inspector of weights and measures, markets, ceremonial events and promotions, and Muscle Shoals Development. A petition to retain the paramedic system as a municipal function and copies of court documents relating to a revenue sharing investigation are also included.

38. FEDERAL GRANT. 134-1943, 1969, 1972, 1975-1976. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by project.

Mostly correspondence with the Federal Works Administration and the Works Progress Administration (WPA) concerning the operation of various federally funded projects. Also includes resolutions authorizing applications for grants, pamphlets from various federal agencies such as the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and the Department of Labor, audits of grants from the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency to train and equip policemen, petitions, and various WPA forms. Types of projects represented include those for arts programs, beautification, paving, community centers, nursery schools, nursing homes, a veteran's hospital, the Azalea Trail, and tennis courts.

39. FINANCE. 1911-1984. 22 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence with bankers and lawyers concerning loans, bonds, and the condition of city finances. Some letters are from individuals concerning taxes. Additional materials include reports analyzing the city's financial needs and management practices, debt refinancing plans for 1933, 1936, and 1940, and appraisal reports, some with photographs, on lands involved in the Big Creek Lake project. Resolutions, ordinances, certificates, and other legal documents authorize the issuance of municipal bonds and warrants. Bills passed to payment, requisitions, and audits are also included.

40. FINANCIAL REPORTS. 1974-1984. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Bound annual and monthly financial reports of the city. Each report details actual expenditures by department and revenues received by source. Anticipated expenditures and revenues are also given.

41. FINE ARTS MUSEUM OF THE SOUTH. 1951-1952, 1960-1983. 1 c.f.

Arranged in two groups, Mobile Art Gallery and Fine Arts Museum and the South, and alphabetically thereunder.

Mostly correspondence concerning the Mobile Art Gallery and the Fine Arts Museum of the South. Major topics include bequests, new additions to the museum, air conditioning, security systems, and insurance. Additional materials include contracts and agreements, legal notices for bids, bid tabulations, lists of items owned or exhibited, audits, budgets, newspaper clippings, and insurance policies. Ordinances and resolutions, including the 1952 ordinance establishing the Mobile Art Gallery and the 1975 resolution changing its name to the Fine Arts Museum of the South, are also present.

42. FIRE DEPARTMENT. 1911-1984. 4 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Mostly correspondence regarding the Mobile Fire Department and its activities. Also included are: ordinances and resolutions concerned with fire prevention, the storage of fireworks, and leaf burning; contracts, bids, legal notices, specifications, plans, drawings, and bonds for the construction and renovation of fire stations and the purchase of fire fighting equipment; contracts and agreements for fire protection outside the city limits; and daily reports of the Fire Department. Other topics include private fire companies, emergency medical services, union activities, and insurance.

43. HISTORIC. 1927-1984. 4 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, proposals, bids, specifications, contracts, resolutions, reports, photographs, and books concerning the preservation of historic sites and the commemoration of historic events. Major topics include the establishment of historic preservation districts, Fort Morgan, the Mobile Historic Preservation Society, the old customs house, the Mobile Historic Preservation Commission, and the construction of Fort Conde and Spanish Plaza.

44. HOSPITALS AND CLINICS. 1913-1984. 4 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, contracts, specifications, bids, insurance policies, bills, and performance bonds concerning health care and health care facilities. Also includes resolutions, ordinances, newsletters, petitions, equipment inventories, reports, minutes of delegation meetings, newspaper clippings, financial documents, and photographs. Major subjects include abortion clinics, influenza epidemics, venereal disease, tuberculosis, health care improvements, and Federal Works Administration funded additions to Mobile Infirmary, Providence Hospital, and City Hospital.

45. HOUSING. 1954-1983. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence with federal, state, and local government agencies, including the Mobile Housing Board, concerning public housing projects and housing codes. Resolutions, reports, proposals, bids, and contracts relating to the construction of public housing, including the Josephine Allen Homes. A few photographs of the Thomas James Homes are also included.

46. INDUSTRIES. 1918-1982. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, newspaper clippings, news releases, reports, resolutions, ordinances, and drawings regarding efforts to attract new industries into the city. Also included are agreements between the city and various local businesses.

47. INSPECTION SERVICES. 1914-1978. 9 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Mainly correspondence with local government officials and members of the construction trade regarding activities of the Inspection Services Department and permits for building, electrical, and plumbing work. Petitions, ordinances, resolutions, contracts, bonds, and bids concerning the construction and demolition of buildings and motor vehicle inspection. A few photographs of various buildings scheduled for demolition are included. Minutes of the Board of Adjustment and reports from the building inspector are also included.

48. INSURANCE. 1914-1984. 2 1/2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Mostly correspondence of the city clerk, other city officials, and various insurance companies concerning the need for insurance, acquiring policies, and maintaining coverage for the city. Also contains lists of insurance agencies, schedules of insurance in force, reports, bills, bid applications, and insurance policies for city autos, buildings, employees, and equipment. Resolutions, ordinances, maps, newspaper clippings, and correspondence relating to flood insurance are also included.

49. INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS. 1973-1981. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence of the city clerk with the Office of Intergovernmental Relations concerning activities involving other governmental and non-governmental organizations. Types of organizations include art associations, community groups, commissions, civic groups, federal jobs programs, youth programs, and alcohol and drug abuse programs. Major subjects include disaster aid grants after Hurricane Frederic and the 1980 floods. Also contains reports of the Office of Intergovernmental Relations.

50. LAW AND LEGAL. 1913-1985. 22 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, resolutions, telegrams, and petitions regarding federal, state, and local legislation. Also includes legal opinions and correspondence of the city attorney, newspaper clippings of legal notices, legal claims and litigation against the city, and claim releases for flood damages.

51. LIBRARIES. 1924-1984. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, mostly with the Mobile Public Library and the Library Board, concerning the Mobile Public Library and library related issues. Major topics include facilities, space, funding, contributions of the library to the community, library property, branch libraries, and additions to the main branch. Also includes proposals, bids, and contracts to design, build, and maintain library buildings.

52. LICENSES TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. 1960-1984. 13 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Completed applications for liquor, wine, and beer licenses, letters of notification, police investigation reports, and petitions opposing approval of licenses. Police records of applicants often accompany applications.

Note: Access to these records is restricted.

53. MOBILE COUNTY. 1912-1984. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Mostly resolutions concerning appointments to the juvenile commission, boundaries, juvenile court, and taxes. Also includes correspondence, petitions, ordinances, leases, monthly and annual reports of the juvenile court and detention homes, and contracts with the Sheriff's Flotilla and CB Patrol.

54. MONTHLY REPORTS. 1951-1971. 4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Monthly reports of the board of commissioners and city departments. Reports usually contain general information on the city along with the names of commissioners and the departments they supervise. Until June 1966, selected resolutions and ordinances passed by the board were included. Departmental reports usually list revenues and expenditures of the departments and contains a brief narrative of their activities.

55. MUNICIPAL COURT. 1913-1946, 1962-1984. 1/2 cubic feet

Arranged chronologically.

Correspondence, mainly with the recorder, presiding judge, or chief clerk, concerning the activities of the court, including personnel matters, cases, and fines.

56. MUNICIPALITIES. 1950-1982. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, brochures, and newspaper clippings regarding various cities and towns, most in the Mobile area. The majority of this material is of a general informational nature or concerns cooperative efforts with the City of Mobile. Municipalities represented include Chickasaw, Mt. Vernon, Prichard, Saraland, Selma, Wilmer, Pensacola, and Chateau Thierry, France.

57. ORDINANCES. 1911-1965, 1980-1982. 2 c.f.

Ordinances dated 1962-1965 and 1980-1982 are arranged chronologically. All other ordinances are arranged alphabetically.

Copies of ordinances adopted by the city commission covering a wide range of topics and issues. Also included are letters and petitions regarding ordinances, certificates of publication, and legal notices. See also Series 90.

58. PARKS, RECREATION, AND CEMETERIES. 1913-1984. 11 1/2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence with state and federal officials and private citizens concerning the construction and maintenance of parks, fairgrounds, and cemeteries, and the administration of recreational programs. Also included are: requests to use park facilities for political rallies, concerts, weddings, and other events; letters and applications concerning Works Progress Administration and National Youth Administration recreational projects; proposals, bids, and contracts concerning the construction and maintenance of recreational facilities such as swimming pools, ball fields, and tennis courts; and reports and schedules of summer recreational programs. Some correspondence and resolutions concern cemetery property, appointments of city sextons, fairs, and use of the fairgrounds. A few photographs are also included.

59. PERMIT. 1916-1984. 3 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Letters and applications to the board of commissioners petitioning for permission to hold parades, to hunt on airport property, to close streets for block parties, to hold fundraising activities such as walk-a-thons, and for Mardi Gras concessions. These are usually accompanied by copies of permit forms granting or denying the request. Also included are resolutions, notices from the Corps of Engineers concerning work on navigable waterways, lists of various Mardi Gras society members, parade regulations, and newspaper clippings.

60. PERSONNEL. 1917-1985. 45 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence with the Mobile County Personnel Board, city employees, and department heads concerning employee hirings, suspensions, terminations, retirements, workmen's compensation, promotions, pay plans, charity drives, and personnel policies and procedures. Newspaper clippings related to the 1980 municipal employees strike and copies of pre-disciplinary notices sent to striking employees are included. This series also contains a set of index cards, which record the dates of hirings and terminations of employees before 1942.

NOTE: Access to these records is restricted.

61. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 1922-1984. 10 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Mostly ordinances regarding zoning and amendments to zoning ordinances. Accompanying the ordinances are resolutions, notices of public hearings, legal notices published in local newspapers, and certificates of publication. Also included are applications for zoning reclassification, petitions for and against zoning requests, maps and sketches of zoning districts, and an index of the zoning ordinance of 1973. Other materials deal with the Office of Community Services, the Office of Intergovernmental Relations, and the Neighborhood Improvement Council.

62. PLANNING COMMISSION. 1931, 1935, 1944-1963. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence and resolutions concerning appointments and resignations of the Mobile City Planning Commission and the Board of Adjustment, improvements to Bienville Square, refunding of zoning application fees, and the construction of Ladd Memorial Stadium.

63. POLICE. 1911-1984. 8 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence relating to the Mobile Police Department and its activities, covering such topics as crime control, officer reprimands and commendations, prisoners, jails, recorder's court, traffic tickets, police buildings, and equipment used by the department. Additional materials include monthly and daily reports of the chief of police, grand jury reports on the condition of the Police Department, copies of grant applications to the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, bills for medical treatment given to prisoners at Mobile General Hospital, and bids, specifications, and blueprints for work on police buildings. Also includes resolutions, ordinances, petitions, news releases, and newspaper clippings.

NOTE: Access to some of these records is restricted.

64. PROCLAMATIONS. 1915-1965. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Copies of proclamations passed by the city commission and related correspondence. Proclamations generally commemorate special occasions or activities, or express official sentiments. Examples include proclamations for Straw Hat Day, Maritime Day, Better Hearing Month, a policy of buying American made goods, and condolences expressed upon the death of Pope John XXIII.

65. PROJECTS ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING. 1959-1978. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Mostly correspondence with the Projects Architectural Engineering Department and the city attorney concerning construction projects, bids, departmental policies, and the use of municipal buildings. Also included are proposals, bids, contracts, and resolutions related to the construction and maintenance of municipal buildings, photographs of municipal buildings, and lists of city properties.

66. PROMOTION. 1919-1954, 1960-1985. 4 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, reports, photographs, pamphlets, booklets, and resolutions related to various promotional events and programs. Topics include America's Junior Miss Pageant, the Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo, the Azalea Trail, conventions, Mardi Gras, the Senior Bowl, the Sister Cities Program, and the USS Mobile.

67. PROPERTY. 1914-1985. 31 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Resolutions, correspondence, deeds, leases, ordinances, maps, drawings, and photographs concerning the acquisition, use, and disposition of municipal lands and buildings. The largest group of materials consists of resolutions and correspondence concerning deeds, easements, condemnations, street vacations, right-of-ways, and property purchases, exchanges, and sales. Also includes materials on delinquent assessments, lease agreements, quitclaims, timber sales, and property appraisals.

68. PUBLIC WORKS. 1916-1984. 3 c. f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, resolutions, ordinances, reports, newspaper clip pings, petitions, bid specifications, bid tabulations, and blueprints concerning weed nuisances, a municipal incinerator, bond issues, garbage collection, sanitation equipment, landfills, tree trimming, and lot cleaning.

69. PUBLICATIONS, STUDIES, AND REPORTS. 1962-1983. 3 1/2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by title.

Various publications and reports issued by the city, by city departments, or prepared for the city, including the Mobile Airports Master Planning Study, and the Six Flags Reporter. Also includes plans, manuals, grant applications, and publications issued by federal and state agencies.

70. PURCHASING. 1920-1984. 6 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, requisitions, check requests, and purchase orders relating to the Purchasing Department or to the purchasing of supplies and equipment for municipal departments. Also includes lists of supplies needed for annexation elections, commercial product catalogs, and bidder lists.

71. RESOLUTIONS. 1962-1965, 1978-1984. 5 c.f.

Records dated 1961-1965 and 1978-1981 are arranged chronologically. Records dated 1978-1984 are arranged by resolution number.

Resolutions passed by the board of commissioners. Some resolutions amend budgets, authorize contracts and agreements, accept completed improvement ventures, authorize change orders, approve sales and leases of city property, authorize public hearings on zoning and franchise ordinances, and authorize acceptance of right-of-way deeds. Several resolutions related to the enforcement of the city's weed laws and the demolition of buildings are also included.

72. REVENUE. 1912-1984. 14 c.f.

Arranged Alphabetically.

Correspondence, memos, petitions, ordinances, and resolutions relating to taxes, license fees, enforcement of tax and license laws, and the regulation of certain businesses. Included are records concerning business licenses, license applications, paving venture assessments, refunds, automobile tags, tax exemptions, property tax adjustments, charitable solicitation applications, gasoline taxes, alcoholic beverage license applications, bicycle licenses, dog licenses, and others. Also included are files on the licensing and regulation of pool halls and massage parlors. Some of these contain police records of applicants.

NOTE: Access to some of these records is restricted.

73. SAFETY DIRECTOR. 1974-1984. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence with the safety director and other city officials concerning employee injuries and accidents, safety programs, and safety policies. Reports of the safety director concerning accidents and injuries, and accident report forms are also included.

74. SERVICES. 1953-1985. 3 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence and memos with departments and private businesses concerning various contractual services and bidding policies. Also includes resolutions, ordinances, contracts, performance bonds, bid specifications, bids, and bid tabulations. Types of services represented include audits, ambulance services, pest control, property appraisals, and consultants.

75. STREETS AND ROADS. 1911-1984. 88 c.f.

Arranged in two groups. General Files date 1911-1950 and are arranged alphabetically. Project Files date 1937-1984 and are arranged alphabetically by category as follows: Acceptances, Improvement Ventures, Improvements, Joint Participation, Name Changes, Street Resurfacing, Subdivisions, and Vacations. Records within categories are arranged alphabetically with the exception of Improvement Ventures which are arranged by venture number and Street Resurfacing that is arranged by group number.

General Files: Correspondence and memos with the city engineer, city attorney, building inspector and other city officials concerning street vacations, acceptances, franchises, street numbering, street name changes, subdivision guidelines, improvement ventures, street paving, sidewalks, street widening, or electrical improvements.

Project Files: Acceptances. Consists mostly of resolutions accepting supervision and maintenance of streets. Correspondence, maps, and deeds are also included.

Improvement Ventures. Ordinances authorizing improvement ventures and bonds for ventures. Resolutions concerning contracts, property liens, and tax abatements. Also includes correspondence, and "Advertisement, Proposal, Specifications, and Contract Documents" for ventures.

Improvements. Resolutions authorizing improvement contracts to be executed or paid. Also includes "Advertisement, Proposal, Specifications, and Contract Documents" for improvement projects. Additional materials include correspondence, bids, bid tabulations, appraisal reports, blueprints, and newspaper clippings concerned with street paving, drainage, flood control, and other improvement projects.

Joint Participation. Resolutions, correspondence, and "Advertisement, Proposal, Specifications, and Contract Documents" for improvements, mainly street paving, involving the city and one or more parties, usually the county or the state, who shared the cost of the project.

Name Changes. Mostly resolutions changing street names. Also includes petitions and correspondence concerning street names and lists of streets.

Street Resurfacing. Correspondence concerned with street paving and cost sharing. Also includes ordinances, "Advertisement, Proposal, Specifications, and Contract Documents," and newspaper clippings.

Subdivisions. Correspondence with departments and subdivision residents concerning water lines, drainage, paving, gaslights, and subdivision regulations. Also includes resolutions and subdivision maps.

Vacations. Mostly resolutions consenting to vacate streets. Correspondence with the Engineering Department, Mobile City Planning Commission, Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners, Public Works Department, and public utility companies regarding street vacations. Also includes petitions for vacations and legal descriptions of property.

76. TRAFFIC ENGINEERING. 1913-1984. 5 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, ordinances, and resolutions concerning traffic control and parking. Some of the letters are complaints regarding traffic hazards, traffic lights and signs, and pedestrian cross-walks. Mobile Traffic Survey Reports analyze traffic and parking patterns. Some photographs, blueprints, and newspaper clippings which illustrate traffic hazards are also included.

77. TRANSPORTATION. 1913-1984. 5 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, memos, newspaper clippings, maps, drawings, reports, grant applications, resolutions, and ordinances concerning the establishment and regulation of transportation services. Included are records concerning airlines, streetcars, railroads, jitneys, taxis, ferry service, and various waterways, including the Intercoastal Canal, the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway, the Warrior River, and the Coosa River. Some of the materials deal with bus services and the Mobile Transit Authority. Much of the correspondence is with transportation companies, labor unions, private citizens, and legislators concerning regulation of fares, Jim Crow laws, strikes, and the quality of transportation services.

78. UNEMPLOYMENT. 1920-1944. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Mostly correspondence with local, state, and federal agencies concerning unemployment and measures taken to provide additional jobs. Also includes ordinances, resolutions, reports, and pamphlets.

79. U.S. GOVERNMENT. 1917-1984. 11 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, resolutions, newspaper clippings, contracts, ordinances, leases, plans, and government publications concerning a variety of federally sponsored programs and projects. Included are records concerning dock, sewer, and water works construction projects sponsored by the Federal Works Administration and dredging projects involving the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Some of the materials concern Brookley Air Force Base and its conversion to an industrial complex. Other topics include World War I, the Commerce Department, the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Justice, the Marine Corps, the Open Space Program, Urban Development Action Grants, urban renewal, and the USS Mobile.

80. URBAN RENEWAL. 1954-1978. 5 c.f.

Arranged by project number.

Mostly correspondence concerning federally funded urban renewal projects, including R.V. Taylor Plaza, the Texas Street General Neighborhood Renewal Plan, and Church Street Area East. Also includes resolutions regarding contracts. Additional materials include blueprints, drawings, maps, bids, bid tabulations, specifications, contracts, bonds, deeds, petitions, and insurance policies.

81. UTILITIES. 1904-1984. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence with Alabama Power Company, Mobile Gas Company, the Alabama Public Service Commission, and various commercial firms regarding electricity and natural gas franchises. Also includes ordinances and resolutions regarding franchises and easements.

82. WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION PROJECTS. 1935-1940. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence with federal and state officials, mostly WPA officials, concerning local projects of the Works Progress Administration. Also includes cost estimates for projects and project proposals. Projects represented include work on streets, buildings, parks, a fish hatchery, a library, and Bates Field.

83. WEED ASSESSMENTS. 1913-1984. 7 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Resolutions requesting property owners to clear lots of weeds, authorizing municipal work crews to clear the lots if owners do not respond, and assessing the owners for costs of weed clearing. Also includes correspondence with city officials and private citizens concerning complaints about uncleared lots.

84. WHARVES. 1911-1984. 3 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, ordinances, resolutions, newspaper clippings, contracts, maps, drawings, and reports concerning Arlington Pier, the municipal wharves, and after 1923, the Alabama State Docks. Most of the material deals with the change of ownership of the municipal wharves to the state, repairs to the docks, wharf leases, services, and maintenance.

BOUND VOLUMES

85. MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS. 1911-1984. 39 vols. 0 1/3 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.

Record of the proceedings of the weekly board meetings.

86. INDEX TO THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS. 1951-1955, 1957-1958. 2 vols. 1/2 lin. in.

Entries within volumes arranged alphabetically.

Index to records in Series 85.

87. MINUTES OF CONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS. 1929-1985. 33 vols. 5 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of the weekly conference meetings of members of the board with heads of city departments.

88. INDEX TO MINUTES OF CONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS. 1958-1960. 1 vol. 1/4 lin. in.

Arranged alphabetically.

Index to records in Series 87.

89. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGARDING PERSONNEL. 1963-1985. 9 vols. 15 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of meetings of the board of commissioners to consider personnel actions referred from the Mobile County Personnel Board.

NOTE: Access to these records is restricted.

90. ORDINANCES. 1911-1925, 1927-1928. 2 vols. 5 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Ordinances passed by the board of commissioners. See also Series 57.

91. MINUTES OF THE MUNICIPAL EDUCATIONAL BOARD. 1978-1984. 1 vol. 2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of meetings of the Municipal Educational Board to review educational requests from city employees.

92. ANNUALS REPORTS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS. 1912-1955. 138 vols. 10 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.

Bound annual reports summarizing the activities of city departments. Financial and budgetary accounts are included. Monthly reports accompany many annual reports.

93. VISITOR'S REGISTER. 1928-1957. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Register of visitors to city hall. Includes the signatures, positions or organizations, and addresses of visitors.

**RECORD GROUP 7
ADMINISTRATIVE FILES OF CITY COMMISSIONERS**

For a history of the board of commissioners see Record Group 6, Records of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Mobile, 1911-1985.

This record group is a collection of office files from ten city commissioners who served from 1934-1985. Not all commissioners who served during the period are represented. The records were kept in the offices of the commissioners and reflect the duties and functions they performed. The series consist mainly of correspondence with city officials concerning the day-to-day operations of various departments. Records in this group total 247 cubic feet.

1. OFFICE FILES OF COMMISSIONER CHARLES A. BAUMHAUER. 1934-1953. 5 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Charles A. Baumhauer was elected to the city commission in September 1934 by a narrow margin over incumbent Harry T. Hartwell. Baumhauer served as commissioner for nineteen years. This series includes correspondence, applications and proposals for Defense Public Works projects, ordinances, reports, property appraisals, resolutions, newspaper clippings, hospital audits, tunnel financial records, blueprints, and drawings. Topics include the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway, revenue bonds, the Mobile Ferry, dock and river protection, city planning, city debt, and additions to City Hospital and city hall.

2. OFFICE FILES OF COMMISSIONER ERNEST M. MEGGINSON. 1940-1944, 1946-1953. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Ernest M. Megginson was elected in February 1940 to complete the unexpired term of Richard V. Taylor who died in December 1939. Megginson served until 1953 and was mayor four times. This series consists of correspondence between Megginson and city departments, city boards, and county offices including the Water Works, the Board of Health, the Tax Office, the Sewer Department, the Plumbing Department, and the Police Department. Subjects covered include the Municipal Airport, grand jury investigations of the Police Department, regulation of beauty culturists, and tunnel revenue bonds.

3. OFFICE FILES OF COMMISSIONER JOSEPH N. LANGAN. 1950, 1952-1969. 16 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Joseph N. Langan was elected to position number one on the city commission in September 1953. He served until 1969. Langan was mayor five times. From October 1965 through September 1969 he was the Commissioner of Finance and Administration. This series consists mainly of correspondence between Langan and city department heads. Also includes audits and budgets of the city and city departments, monthly and annual

departmental reports, maps and blueprints of the city and of city improvements, resolutions, and contract documents for construction of City Hospital and for urban renewal projects. Subjects covered include the Mobile Municipal Airport, the Municipal Auditorium, Bankhead Tunnel, Brookley Field, and the Mobile Commission on Human Relations.

4. OFFICE FILES OF COMMISSIONER GEORGE E. MCNALLY. 1961-1965. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

George E. McNally was elected to position number two on the board of commissioners in September 1961 and served until 1965. He was mayor from October 1961 to September 1962. This series consists of correspondence between McNally and various city officers, especially with the city engineer, the city attorney, the police and fire chiefs, the personnel director, and the director of the Projects Architectural Engineering Department. Subjects include auditorium construction, motor vehicle inspection, traffic engineering, and zoning. Also includes monthly reports of departments, maps of the city, blueprints of city improvements, and drawings of city traffic patterns.

5. OFFICE FILES OF COMMISSIONER CHARLES S. TRIMMER. 1961-1964. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Charles S. Trimmer served on the board of commissioners, place number three, from October 1961 to September 1965. He was mayor in 1962-1963 and 1964-1965. This series contains correspondence concerning airports, Bankhead Tunnel, the Electrical Department, the Inspection Services Department, legal matters, public buildings, public works, the Recreation Department, and traffic engineering. Occasional reports, tables, and charts accompany letters. Also included are aerial photographs of the Mobile causeway.

6. OFFICE FILES OF COMMISSIONER LAMBERT C. MIMS. 1955-1985. 95 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Lambert C. Mims was elected to seat three, Public Works Commissioner, in September 1965. Mims supervised the Projects Architectural Engineering Department, the Electrical Department, the Engineering Department, and the Public Works Department, as well as the Municipal Garage. He served on the board of commissioners for twenty years and was mayor for six years. The series consists largely of correspondence and memos concerning the activities of departments under Mims supervision. Some letters are from citizens and businesses concerning such topics as city

beautification, Mobile's sister cities, city personnel, and street work. Also includes city financial and departmental reports, news releases, copies of speeches, newspaper and magazine clippings, administrative orders, ordinances, blueprints, and maps. Other major topics include the American Public Works Association, the South Alabama Regional Planning Commission, Downtown Mobile Unlimited, collective bargaining, and streets and roads.

7. OFFICE FILES OF COMMISSIONER ARTHUR R. OUTLAW. 1965-1968. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Arthur R. Outlaw was elected to position two, Commissioner of Public Safety, in September 1965. He served a four year term during which he was mayor from February 1967 to June 1968. Outlaw did not seek reelection in 1969. He returned to city government in March 1985 when he was elected to serve out the unexpired term of Finance and Administration Commissioner Gary A. Greenough. In July 1985, he was elected to serve as mayor under the mayor-council government. This series contains mostly correspondence between Outlaw and other city commissioners and the airport manager, the fire chief, the Legal Department, and the Traffic Engineering Department. Topics include municipal airport improvements, transportation in Mobile, city personnel, and urban renewal. Other materials include reports from the city pound, police officer investigation reports, grand jury reports, ordinances, minutes from the Brookley Planning and Steering Committees, and proposals for city improvements.

8. OFFICE FILES OF COMMISSIONER JOSEPH A. BAILY. 1969-1973. 9 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Joseph A. Bailey was elected Commissioner of Finance and Administration place number one, in September 1969. Bailey entered office when the city had just acquired Brookley Industrial Complex and Airport (BICA). As the commissioner in charge of the complex, he was instrumental in its development. Commissioner Bailey lost his bid for reelection in September 1973. This series contains correspondence, memoranda, and telegrams between Bailey and city departments, boards, commissions, and committees managed by him. Topics include the Mobile Municipal Airport, Brookley Airport, Bankhead Tunnel, Brookley Industrial Complex, the Board of Health, the Dog Racing Commission, the Committee on Progress, and the city's parks. Also included are city financial statements, a hurricane plan, and recommendations for economic development in Mobile.

9. OFFICE FILES OF COMMISSIONER ROBERT B. DOYLE, JR. 1967-1984. 22 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Robert B. Doyle, Jr. was elected Public Safety Commissioner in 1969 and served until the demise of the commission form of government in 1985. He was in charge of the Police Department, the Fire Department, the Inspection Services Department, the Animal Shelter, and the Traffic Engineering Department as well as the Municipal Court. He served as mayor four times. This series consists mainly of correspondence, memos, reports, newspaper clippings, news releases, and copies of magazine articles concerning the airports, municipal boards and committees, collective bargaining, community development, flood control, legal issues, Mardi Gras, the Mobile Housing Board, the South Alabama Regional Planning Commission, the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA), the Fire Department, the Police Department, and municipal finances. This series also contains records relating to efforts to change the commission form of government, including the *Bolden v. The City of Mobile* case.

10. OFFICE FILES OF COMMISSIONER GARY A. GREENOUGH. 1967, 1970-1984. 95 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Gary A. Greenough was elected to position number one, Finance and Administration Commissioner, in September 1973. He was responsible for all fiscal departments, the Planning and Development Department, and the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Department. Greenough served as mayor for three terms. He resigned in January 1985. This series contains mostly correspondence and memos with city officials and departments. Also includes ordinances, resolutions, financial and departmental reports, pamphlets, journals, and economic studies of Mobile. Most of the materials concern the fiscal affairs of the city. Other major topics include airports, Mobile Municipal Auditorium, the Legal Department, the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce, the CETA program, parks and recreation, and the Coastal Area Board.

RECORDS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

**RECORD GROUP 29
RECORDS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

On May 14, 1985, by Alabama State Legislative Act No. 85-229, the citizens of the City of Mobile voted in a special election to change from a commissioners to mayor-council form of city government. This action resulted from the ten year debate over the

Bolden vs. City of Mobile voter dilution case, in which U.S. Senior District Judge Virgil Pittman found the city's at-large commission form of government unconstitutional, in violation of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. With this change the city was repropportioned into seven districts, three of which would be predominantly African-American in social composition, thus ensuring proportional representation in the city council for that segment of the community.

The duties and responsibilities of the new seven number council are outlined in Alabama Law. The council is charged with holding regular meetings open to the public, except at those times when on executive session is necessary to discuss matter concerning the good name and character of an individual. Further, special or called meetings are allowed if proper written notification is given or if a quorum of five council members is present. A quorum consisting of a minimum of five council members is necessary for the transaction of any city business.

All meetings of the city council are presided over by the council president, or in his/her absence by a temporary chairman elected by and from the council members present. In public meetings of the council, city business is introduced, debated, and resolved upon by the council members with special consideration to the opinions of the mayor and citizenry of the City of Mobile. The council has the power to: 1) Upon recommendation of the mayor, establish administrative departments and distribute the work of divisions; 2) Adopt the budget of the city- 3) Authorize the issuance of bonds or warrants; 4) Inquire into the conduct of any office, department or agency of the city and make investigations as to municipal affairs; 5) Appoint the members of all boards except the Planning Commission, Housing Board, Airport Authority, and the Industrial Development Authority- 6) Secede to all the powers, rights, and privileges conferred upon the former governing body of the city by statutes in effect at the time of adoption by the city of the mayor-council form of government and not in conflict with this act (No. 85229); 7) Levy property sales, license taxes, and local improvement assessments. There are a total of 38 cubic feet of materials in Record Group 34 covering the years 1985-1993. The vast number of subjects included in this collection reflect the numerous issues facing a district representative holding a position on the city council. The majority of these files contain correspondence between Council members, the Mayor, different municipal departments, and private citizens concerning various aspects of city business in area as diverse as Annexation, the Mobile Convention Center, City Budget, Municipal Finance, Revenue, and Zoning considerations. Additionally, Series 4 and 5 contain 10 cubic feet of City Council agendas whose inclusive dates cover the initial years of the City Council as a public institution. Further, Series 9 is made up of correspondence files containing complaints sent to individual council members by citizens in their constituency. The object of those complaints are generally over lot clearing, road maintenance, vacant buildings and storm water management.

1. OFFICE FILES OF JANE Q. BAXTER. 1985-1993. 10 c.f.

Arrange alphabetically by subject.

During her two terms of office as councilperson for district 6, Jane Baxter served as chairman of the Rules Committee, and as a member of the Public Safety Committee. The wide variety of subjects contained within this series reflect the many issues that filled Baxter's tenure as a councilperson. A sampling of those issues cover such subjects as Annexation, the Municipal Auditorium, the City Budget, Chamber of Commerce concern, the Convention Center, the 1-210 Highway Connector, the Keep America Beautiful Program, Public Safety matters, Strategic Planning, Tort Reform, and Zoning.

2. OFFICE FILES OF CHARLES E. CHAPMAN. 1985-1993. 7 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

This series contains files collected by the office of council President Charles Chapman during his first two terms as councilman for district 4. This series contains files on subjects as diverse as the Airport Authority, the Municipal Auditorium, City Budget and Finance, the Convention Center, the Parks and Recreation Department, Pornography controversies, Ordinances and Resolutions, and Zoning issues.

3. OFFICES FILES OF REGGIE COPELAND SR. 1983-1996. 6 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

This series contains the files of district 5 Councilman Copeland, accumulated over his first two terms in office. During this period he sat as chairman of the Public Works Committee, and as a member of the Finance Committee. The collection encompasses many subjects including the Municipal Auditorium, the Board of Adjustment, the Convention Center, City Finance, Minority Business, the Planning Commission, Public Works, City Revenue, the Sister Cities Program, Street Lighting, Traffic, and Mobile's Urban Redevelopment Plan.

4. OFFICE FILES OF CLINTON JOHNSON. 1985-1996. 5 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

This collection contains materials collected over a two term period by district 3 Councilman Johnson. During this period Johnson served as City Council Vice President, and as a member of the Public Works and Rules Committees. The majority of the materials contained within this series are City Council Agendas (3 c. f) and chronological files.

5. OFFICE FILES OF JOHN PEAVY. 1985-1993. 10 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Included in this collection are files accumulated over a two term period in which Peavy served as councilman of district 7. In addition to his regular duties Peavy served as chairman of the Finance Committee and held a seat on the Public Safety Commission. The materials contained in this series are miscellaneous office files, chronological files and 7 cubic feet of city council agendas.

6. OFFICE FILES OF CHARLES A. TUNSTALL. 1981-1989. 5 c.f.

Arranged chronologically by subject.

This series contains materials held by the office of district 2 Councilman C. A. Tunstall during his first and only term in office. Along with his spot on the council, Mr. Tunstall sat on the Finance and Rules Committees. The councilman's files cover many areas of city business to include: Annexation, the Municipal Auditorium, the Board of Adjustment, City Finance, Historic Development, the 1-2 1 0 Highway Connector, Liquor Zoning, the Mobile County Urban League, Revenue, Storm Water Management, and Waterfront Development.

7. OFFICE FILES OF IRMATEAN Y. WATSON. 1985-1993. 6 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Includes files accumulated by Councilman I. Y. Watson during her two terms in public office. Councilman Watson sat as chairman of the Public Safety Committee, and was a member of the Public Works Committee. Some of the subjects contained in this series concern Annexation, the Municipal Auditorium, the Chamber of Commerce, City Finance, the Mobile County Jail, Public Works, the Police Department, Public Safety, Long Range Planning, Strategic Planning, Traffic, and Tourism.

8. OFFICE FILES OF THOMAS SULLIVAN. 1989-1996. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Series includes records collected by district 2 Councilman T. Sullivan during his one term in office. Mr. Sullivan sat as chairman of the Public Safety Committee, and held positions on the Finance and Rules Committees. The records contained in this series consist of chronological correspondence with individuals and various city departments on subjects from education, and lot clearing, to zoning.

9. OFFICE FILES OF BESS RICH. 1993-1995. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Correspondence files of Councilman Bess Rich, District 6, who has been elected to two terms. She is the chairman of the Rules committee, on the Public Services Committee, chair of the Economic Culture and Community Development, and a member of the Sign Committee.

10. OFFICE FILES OF VIVIAN DAVIS FIGURES 1993-1997. 8 c.f.

Arranged by subject.

Councilman Vivian Davis Figures, District 1, was elected to one term but left when she was elected for Senate, District 33, in 1997. These are her office files which include Hank Aaron Stadium, reports on various parks in her district, the City budget, and constituent letters.

11. COUNCIL OFFICE FILES. 1992-1993. 3/4 c.f.

Arranged by city district.

Series includes correspondence, in the form of complaints, sent to council members by citizens in their constituency. The majority of these complaints deal with lot clearing, road paving, vacant buildings, and storm water management.

**RECORD GROUP 30
RECORDS OF THE MAYOR**

On May 14, 1985, by Alabama State Legislative Act No. 85-229, the citizens of the City of Mobile voted in a special election to change from a commissioner to mayor-council form of city government. This action resulted from the ten-year debate over the Bolden vs. City of Mobile voter dilution case, in which senior U.S. District Judge Virgil Pittman found the city's at-large commission form of government unconstitutional, in violation of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. With this change the city was repropotioned into seven districts (three of which would be predominantly African-American in social composition) in which residents would vote for a district council representative, and for a city mayor.

Under Alabama Law all executive powers of the city are vested in the mayor who heads the executive and administrative branches of city government. The mayor is responsible for the proper administration of all city affairs. The mayor has the authority and responsibility to: 1) Enforce all laws and ordinances, 2) When necessity requires, to appoint or remove all city officers and employees except those appointed by the council, 3) Appoint Airport, and Industrial Development Authority, 4) Exercise administrative authority over all departments created by Alabama Act 85-229, (except those given independent status) by law, or those created by the city council, 5) Keep the council fully advised as to the financial conditions and needs of the city; prepare and submit the budget annually to the council and be responsible for its administration after its adoption; prepare and submit, as of the fiscal year, a complete report on the financial and administrative activities of the city for such year, 6) Recommend to the council such actions as he may deem desirable, 7) Prepare and submit to the council such reports as may be required of

him, 8) Perform the other miscellaneous duties required by Act No. 85-229, 9) Fix the salaries or compensation of all city officers and employees appointable by the mayor, subject to applicable city merit law.

There are a total of 44 cubic feet of mayoral office records with inclusive dates of 1985-1995. The majority of the documents are correspondence between the Mayor's Office and various municipal departments or private sector business or individuals concerning a variety of subjects. As a whole the records reflect the numerous issues that the mayor had to be knowledgeable of and involved in. Of particular interest are those subjects which may be termed the Auditorium/Civic Center, the Mobile Convention and Visitors Corporation, the Mobile Convention Center, and United States Navy Homeport.

1. OFFICE FILES OF ARTHUR I;L OUTLAW. 1985-1988. 18 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

This series contains files on numerous subjects collected by the Mayor's office during his first and only term in office. The majority of these records consist of correspondence between the mayor's office and either various municipal departments or private business and/or individuals. Included are files on subjects such as the Airport Authority, the Auditorium/Civic Center, City Budget, Chamber of Commerce, Community Development, Economic Development, Fort Conde, Internal Auditing, the Keep Mobile Beautiful Program, Legal Department, Minorities, the Mayor's Budget, the Mobile Convention and Visitors Corporation, the Police Department, Personnel, Parks and Recreation, Pornography, Public Works, Public Safety, Revenue, and the U.S. Navy Homeport Impact Studies.

2. OFFICE FILES OF MICHAEL C. DOW. 1987-1995. 26 c.f.

Arranged by subject.

Includes files accumulated by Mayor Dow during his first two terms in office. Series contains City and Civic Center Monthly Budget/Financial Reports; Check Requests; Mobile Convention Center Correspondence; Mobile Convention Center and Visitor Corporation Files; Job Training Partnership Program Correspondence, Minutes and Regulations; Municipal Department Subject Files; and Municipal Department Personnel Files.

**RECORD GROUP 31
EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

Between the years 1911-1985 local government in the City of Mobile was of a commission form (see Record Group 6 for a history of the Board of Commissioners). In 1965 each of the three commission posts were assigned specific administrative duties over

one of three municipal divisions. Subsequently, in Mobile's at-large municipal elections, candidates ran for office seeking to be elected as either the Executive Director of Public Works, the Executive Director of Public Safety, or the Executive Director of Finance. Each of these divisions, headed by a commissioner, was made up of various municipal departments whose functions were the administrative responsibility of the individual division's executive director.

With the May 14, 1985 change of city government to a mayor-council form of representation, the seventy-four year old position of city commissioner was abolished. Remaining however, were the Public Works, Public Safety, and Finance divisions, as well as the title and responsibilities of executive director. However, these were no longer elected positions but were now filled by persons appointed by the Mayor.

Following the 1992 retirement of the Executive Director of Public Works (Thomas K. Peavy), the administrative responsibilities of that division were divided among three executive positions. These positions were the Executive Director of Public Works (Lee Wilson), the Deputy Director of Public Works (Robert Vogtner), and the Director of Transportation and Planning (Victor McSwain). In 1994 the authority and responsibilities of those offices were re-consolidated under a single title, once again the Executive Director of Public Works.

In addition, 1994 saw two new divisions and Executive Director positions created. Following the resignation of the Executive Director of Public Safety (Reuben Greenberg) the various municipal departments, for reasons of management efficiency, were evaluated and reassigned to five organizational divisions. These were: The Public Safety Division, the Public Works Division, the Financial Services Division, the Administrative Services Division, and the Economic, Cultural and Community Development Division. Each division was headed by an administrator titled Executive Director.

Record Group 30 contains 133 cubic feet of records collected by several Executive Directors of Public Works, Public Safety and Finance between the years of 1970-1993. Files in the collection contain correspondence, memos, reports and printed materials covering subjects such as fire and police protection, personnel, budget and finance, road and sidewalk maintenance, storm water management, Engineering, Building maintenance, Parks and Recreation, the Policeman's and Fireman's Pension and Relief Fund, Revenue collection, and Zoning.

1. OFFICE FILES OF ROBERT B. DOYLE, JR. 1983-1989. 12 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

This series contains files accumulated during Doyle's term as Executive Director of Public Safety. In addition to his duties as director, he served on the Mobile Water Board, the Mobile Planning Commission, and the Mobile County Emergency Management Agency. Included, for the most part in correspondence and reports, are materials

concerning the Animal Shelter, Finance and Budget, the Fire Department, Inspection Service, the South Alabama Regional Planning Commission, Municipal audits, visitors surveys, legal correspondence and claims, Bankhead Tunnel accident, employee benefits, Fort Conde and the Municipal Court.

2. OFFICE FILES OF THOMAS K. PEAVY. 1972-1991. 67 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

This series contains files accumulated by Peavy's office between 1985-1992 following his appointment to the post of Executive Director of Public Works by mayor Arthur R. Outlaw. As Executive Director of Public Works, Peavy collected numerous files on a variety of subjects consisting for the most part of correspondence, reports, contracts, resolutions, bound materials, some maps, a few audio cassettes and a telephone log book. A few of the subjects represented in the collection are Auditorium Renovation, Bridge Maintenance and Replacement, Bates Field, Brookley Complex, the Building and Grounds Department, the City Budget, Community Development, City Equipment Landfill and Solid Waste Disposal, Public Works Personnel, Park, Public Improvement Ventures, Road Paving, Storm Water Management, Three Mile Creek, Streets and Subdivisions.

The records contained in boxes one through twenty-three were originally held in the Executive Director's office in City Hall South. The remaining records, boxes twenty-four through sixty-seven were held in the offices of the Engineering Department also in City Hall South.

3. OFFICE FILES OF LEE M. WILSON. 1987-1992. 26 c.f.

Arranged by subject.

This series contains files accumulated by Lee M. Wilson's office during his term as Executive Director of Public Works before his August of 1993 retirement from public service. Correspondence, reports, purchase orders, some printed and bound materials cover many subjects including: the Airport Authority; City Finance; Inspection Services; Municipal Information Systems; Telecommunications; Permits; Planning; Real Estate owned by the city; Tourism; Traffic Engineering; Public Works Personnel; Budget; Purchasing; Parks; Solid Waste Disposal; Special Events; Strategic Plans for Downtown Revitalization; Urban Forestry- Public Works Audits; the Airport Boulevard Corridor; Mobile Convention Center; Mobile Civic Center; the Municipal Garage; Telecommunications- and Zoning.

6. OFFICE FILES OF BARBARA MALKOVE. 1989-1993. 28 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

This series contains files accumulated by Barbara Malkove during her first years as Executive Director of Finance. Check requests from various municipal offices, correspondence, and reports are included in series 6 on subjects as diverse as the Alabama Administrators Organization, Municipal Audits, Budget and Finance, Business License, Buildings and Grounds, Capital Improvements, the City Council, City Drug and Alcohol Policy, Employee Benefits, the Fire Department, Housing and Urban Development, City Insurance, Inventory Control and Management, the City Landfill, the Legal Department, the Mayor's Office, the Mobile Tennis Center, Municipal Parks, the Payroll, Public Works, Purchasing, City Personnel, the Police Department, the Policeman's and Fireman's Pension and Relief Fund, the Recreation Department, Revenue, and Taxes.

RECORD GROUP 32 RECORDS OF THE CITY CLERK

The City Clerk is the chief administrative officer of the City of Mobile. The city clerk serves as the executive director for the council, the city clerk's office, overhead staff and the archives division. The city clerk is responsible for the signing of check requests and requisitions, and for giving notice of special or called meetings of the city council. Further responsibilities include the compilation and keeping of the minutes of that council, and for the preparation of ordinances and resolutions which appears on the agenda of the weekly council meetings.

Under the commission form of city government the position of city clerk was filled by a merit system employee appointed by the board of commissioners. Following the 1985 switch to a mayor-council form of local government, the city council became the appointing authority in filling a vacancy in the office of city clerk

Record Group 35 contains records accumulated by the city clerk's office between 1984-1992. Files in the collection contain correspondence, accident reports, personnel records, contracts, check requests, revenue reports, and resolutions and ordinances concerning subjects such as: the Archives, Annexation, Education, Finance and Accounting, Inspection Services, the Fire and Police Department, Auditorium Renovation, Lot cleaning projects, and various revenue raising taxes. Records in this group total 45 cubic feet, and were originally kept in the city clerk's office.

1. OFFICE FILES. 1984-1992. 45 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject

This series contains office files accumulated by the city clerk's office between 1984-1992. Files in this collection contain correspondence, contracts, check requests, personnel records, purchase orders, requisitions, licenses and license codes, revenue reports, and resolutions and ordinances. These materials reflect the numerous responsibilities of the city clerk's office as they cover many subjects to include: the

Municipal Airport, Archives, Annexation, the Animal Shelter, Buildings and Grounds, the City Cafeteria, Education, the Fire Department, Finance and Accounting, Election files, Inspection Services, Housing, Legal Claims, Municipal Auditorium Renovation, Parks and Cemeteries, Police Department, Planning and Development, Public Works, Revenue, and Zoning.

RECORD GROUP 11 RECORDS OF THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT

An attorney for the city was appointed by the mayor and board of aldermen as early as 1819. His responsibilities included the handling of all court cases for the city and providing legal advice and opinions to city officials. He defended all suits brought against the city and prosecuted violations of city ordinances before the mayor's court. All contracts involving the city were either written by the city attorney or approved by him.

Beginning in 1895 the position of city attorney was made an elective office. With the adoption of the commission form of government in 1911, the board of commissioners was given the authority to appoint persons to the office.

The Legal Department was organized in 1962 when a full-time assistant city attorney was hired. Today the department consists of the city attorney who serves part-time, two full-time assistant city attorneys, and two part-time assistant attorneys. The department prosecutes cases in municipal court and appellate cases in circuit court. It handles all claims, litigation, leases, and contracts involving the city. The department is also responsible for rendering legal opinions to city officials.

The records of the Legal Department consist of approximately 101 cubic feet and date 1910-1978. They include case files related to suits against the city, copies of leases and other contracts, correspondence, legal opinions, and other materials related to legal matters of the city and the operation of the legal department.

NOTE: Access to some of these records is restricted.

1. GENERAL FILES. 1926-1976. 15 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Mainly correspondence concerning legal matters of the city. Major subjects represented include accidents involving municipal vehicles or property, claims, ordinances, and zoning. Also includes accident report forms, resolutions, legal opinions, and photographs of accident scenes. Some files concern the operation and management of the Legal Department and include materials on budgets and payrolls.

2. LETTERS SENT. 1963-1973. 3 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by name of sender or receiver.

Carbon copies of letters sent to commissioners, department heads, claimants, and other attorneys. Subjects covered include ordinances of other cities, an election qualifying fee, property condemnations, and claims against the city. Also included are copies of resolutions, leases, quarterly reports of the Legal Department, and legal documents such as pleas, motions, demurrers, and notices of appeal.

3. CASE FILES. 1926-1977. 66 c.f.

Arranged by file number.

Files contain a variety of legal documents including affidavits, depositions, motions, briefs, demurrers, and appeals, as well as correspondence. Most cases concern claims against the city, property transactions, construction projects, issuance of bonds, tax assessments, proposed ordinances, or elections. Other types of material included are election returns, reports, newsletters, newspaper clippings, copies of speeches, copies of legislative bills, and legal opinions.

4. FILES OF PETER J. PALUGHI, ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY. 1962-1966. 5 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Mostly correspondence concerning claims by, or against, the city. Usually accompanying correspondence about claims are police investigation reports, motor vehicle accident reports, diagrams and photographs of accident scenes, claims releases, and receipts and requisitions for settled claims. In addition to claims, records on urban renewal properties, amendments to the municipal code, and drafts of ordinances are included.

5. LEASES FOR BROOKLEY INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX AND AIRPORT. 1966-1978. 5 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Consists mainly of lease documents for buildings at the Brookley Industrial Complex and Airport. Also includes ordinances, resolutions, and correspondence concerning the purchase of Brookley Air Force Base by the City of Mobile and the leasing of buildings. Some materials relate to claims against tenants.

6. CONTRACTS AND LEASES. 1910-1942. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Leases for buildings and property owned by the city.

Many of the leases specify how the property was to be used, such as for the establishment of playgrounds and concession stands. Included are leases of Mobile Municipal Airport facilities to airlines and oil companies and leases of wharves to railroads. Contracts frequently concern services for the city, including the management of City Hospital and tourist camps.

7. CONTRACTS AND LEASES WITH ALABAMA POWER COMPANY. 1941- 1970. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Leases granted to Alabama Power Company for easements to city property, usually for the erection of power lines. Resolutions authorizing the leases and occasional maps accompany the leases. Leases granting other property rights, permits, and contracts concerning power rates are also included.

8. TITLE ABSTRACTS. 1926-1947. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Title abstracts for property considered for purchase by the city. Abstracts give a condensed history of previous titles to the property and summarize past conveyances. Several deeds and letters from title abstracting companies are also included.

9. RECORDS CONCERNING OBSCENITY AND PORNOGRAPHY. 1966-1977. 1 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Records created in court cases and in other efforts to control obscenity in Mobile. Materials from court cases include legal briefs, motions, proposed findings of facts, court orders, court exhibits, and legal pads containing notes. Judge's opinions in local cases and in obscenity cases from around the country, bulletins reviewing court decisions, and drafts of laws from other cities and states are included. Also included are correspondence, newspaper clippings, photocopies of magazines articles, and newsletters.

10. IMPROVEMENT VENTURE FILES. 1963-1971. 1 c.f.

Arranged by venture number.

Correspondence, resolutions, and ordinances regarding sidewalk ventures, paving ventures, and other improvement ventures.

11. RECORDS RELATING TO BANKHEAD TUNNEL. 1939-1949, 1954-1966. 3 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Correspondence with lawyers, bankers, engineers, government officials, and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC) concerning the financing of Bankhead Tunnel through bond issues and through grants from RFC. Correspondence also concern the administration of the tunnel, construction, leases and contracts, ferry operations, legal services, the construction of Interstate-10, and claims filed for property damages due to tunnel construction. Also included are requisitions for RFC funds, petitions, legal briefs and various legal documents, financial reports of the tunnel, newspaper clippings, and engineering drawings of the tunnel.

12. AGREEMENTS CONCERNING STREETLIGHTING. 1928. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged by file number.

Agreements between the City of Mobile and property owners affected by the erection of a street lighting system on St. Joseph Street. Property owners agreed to reimburse the city for installing the system.

13. "FORMS OF ADVERTISEMENT, ESTIMATE, PROPOSAL, SPECIFICATIONS, AND BOND." 1927-1930. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged by venture number.

Contract documents for paving and sewer work. The forms contain advertisements for bids, city engineer's estimates of work, proposal forms, material and work specifications, and bond forms.

RECORDS OF CITY DEPARTMENTS

DEPARTMENTS OF THE FINANCE DIVISION

RECORD GROUP 8

RECORDS OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Mobile has had a financial officer in charge of keeping the city's accounts since 1814. This function has been the responsibility of the city treasurer, comptroller, or auditor, with the exception of twenty-nine years from 1879 to 1908 when the duties were performed by the city clerk.

In October 1912 the Office of City Treasurer was abolished by city ordinance and the Office of City Auditor was created in its place. The auditor was charged with keeping accurate city accounts, receiving moneys, issuing receipts, and depositing all moneys collected daily into designated bank accounts.

The Office of the City Auditor was replaced in 1929 by the Office of City Comptroller. The comptroller kept the city's accounts, served as the ex-officio treasurer, and received, preserved, examined, and audited all financial books and papers of the city. He was also responsible for signing all checks and approving payrolls and requisitions. The duties and responsibilities of the comptroller increased over the years. In 1931 the Public Improvement Department was created and placed under his supervision. The License Department was added in 1951.

The Finance Department was created in May 1967 when the comptroller was designated finance director in charge of all fiscal departments of the city. The finance director supervises the major financial functions of the city including auditing, accounting, budgeting, data processing, payrolls, purchasing, tax collection, and licensing.

The records of the Finance Department consist of 218 cubic feet of materials dated 1827-1982. They document the financial transactions of the city, payroll and personnel actions, and budgets. The record group includes ledger books, computer printouts, contracts, and correspondence concerning city finances, funding of improvement ventures and capital projects, and personnel information used to compute payrolls.

1. GENERAL FILES. 1962-1982. 6 c. f

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence concerning the activities of the department and financial matters of the city, including revenue sharing, equipment purchases, payrolls, and street lighting. Also included are ordinances concerning taxicab fares and traffic codes, resolutions concerning contracts, purchase orders from the Mobile City Planning Commission, requisitions, capital improvement plans, an assessment book for improvement venture number eight, and receipts for moneys received by the comptroller.

**2. CORRESPONDENCE FILES OF THE COMPTROLLER. 1930-1967.
2 c. f.**

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence with employees, local businessmen, and banks. Major topics include employee inquiries about payroll deductions and pension funds, payments to local businesses, and questions from local banks concerning the handling of municipal funds, including bonds.

3. JOURNAL ENTRY FORMS. 1973-1978. 2 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Forms used to enter credit and debit information into the city's automated accounting system. Completed journal entry forms contain the name of the department or business completing the transaction, reason for the transaction, and fund, department, and general ledger numbers.

4. GENERAL LEDGERS. 1964-1978. 12 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Computer produced printouts of moneys received and disbursed. Lists assets, liabilities, credits, debits, and revenue. See also Series 25.

5. DISBURSEMENTS, EXPENDITURES, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. 1964-1972. 1 c. f.

Arranged by type of record.

Computer produced printouts of disbursements, expenditures, and financial statements. Disbursement records list monthly bank transactions. Expenditure records list the net amount of expenditures by department. Financial statements list monthly revenues, expenditures and balances for all funds.

6. GENERAL ACCOUNTING DOCUMENT REGISTERS. 1971-1972. 2 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Computer produced printouts of financial transactions.

7. ENCUMBRANCES. 1971-1972, 1977-1978. 1 c. f

Arranged chronologically.

Computer produced printouts of funds encumbered through purchase orders.

8. BANK STATEMENTS AND CASH SUPPLEMENTS. 1971-1975. 2 c. f

Arranged by type of record and thereunder chronologically.
Monthly bank statements for municipal accounts in various local banks. Cash supplements include receipts for moneys deposited in local banks.

9. BUDGET STATEMENTS. 1929-1950, 1958-1981. 5 c. f

Arranged chronologically.
Budget statements for anticipated revenues and expenditures by departments. Letters, memos, and resolutions related to the budget and budgeting procedures are also included.

10. AUDITS OF THE CITY OF MOBILE AND ASSOCIATED AGENCIES. 911, 1913, 1924-1973. 3 c. f.

Arranged alphabetically.
Audits performed by certified public accountants which examine revenues and expenditures of the city and of associated departments and agencies, including Bankhead Tunnel, City Hospital, and the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners.

11. PERSONNEL FILES. 1939-1978. 16 c. f

Arranged alphabetically by department.
Correspondence with municipal departments regarding employee hirings, terminations, suspensions, overtime pay, leave requests, and the creation of new positions. Also includes requests for leave, return to duty reports, physical examination records, and medical history records. The finance director received copies of all correspondence between the Mobile County Personnel Board and municipal departments, which affected payroll expenditures.

NOTE: Access to these records is restricted.

12. EMPLOYEE EARNINGS RECORDS. 1964-1965. 1 c. f.

Arranged alphabetically by name of employee.
Record of employees' gross pay and withholdings.
NOTE: Access to these records is restricted.

13. PAYROLL RECORDS. 1925-1965. 55 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Records of the names of employees, positions, time worked, amounts paid, departments, accounts charged, and pay periods.

NOTE: Access to these records is restricted.

14. RECORDS RELATED TO THE ISSUING OF BONDS AND WARRANTS. 1931-1981. 4 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Resolutions, ordinances, and contracts related to the issuance of bonds and warrants to finance capital improvement projects, including Bankhead Tunnel, the Municipal Auditorium, and City Hospital. Correspondence with financial institutions regarding the issuance and maintenance of bonds. Also includes newspaper clippings of advertisements for bids.

15. RECORDS CONCERNING THE FINANCING, CONSTRUCTION, AND OPERATION OF BANKHEAD TUNNEL. 1936-1969. 3 c. f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, the Public Works Administration, financial institutions, and lawyers concerning the financing, construction and operation of Bankhead Tunnel. Many letters deal with the issuance of bonds. Additional materials include contracts and agreements, resolutions, receipts, invoices, payroll sheets, and sample bonds. Reports from consulting engineers Palmer and Baker regarding the operation of the tunnel are also included.

16. IMPROVEMENT VENTURES AND CAPITAL PROJECTS. 1934-1976. 32 c. f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Ordinances and resolutions which authorize ventures and assessments, award contracts, accept completed work, and authorize payments. Also includes specifications, contracts and agreements, proposals, legal notices, bid tabulations, change orders, insurance certificates, bills, drawings, deeds, progress reports, requisitions, timesheets, payroll lists, and some correspondence concerning projects. Types of projects undertaken include public building restoration, Bankhead Tunnel, Mobile Municipal Airport, and paving, sewer, water, sidewalk, and drainage ventures.

17. WEED RESOLUTIONS. 1962-1973. 2 1/2 c. f.

Arranged in two groups, Assessments and Declarations, and chronologically within each group.

Resolutions which declare property a nuisance or which assess property owners a fee for lot cleaning. Bills for lot cleaning usually accompany assessment resolutions. A few letters concerning assessments are also included.

18. CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, AND LEASES. 1904-1973. 11 c. f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Contracts and agreements with individuals or businesses for specified services including sidewalk ventures, street improvements, a sewer treatment plant, window cleaning, pest control, equipment maintenance, operation of City Hospital, and work on the Mobile Public Library. Resolutions, bids, estimates, invoices, bills, receipts, letters, and performance bonds usually accompany contracts and agreements. Also includes leases for city owned buildings and property.

19. FEDERAL GRANTS. 1973-1977. 2 c. f

Arranged alphabetically.

Records concerning the application for, and implementation of, federal grant funded projects. Consists of grant applications to federal agencies, requests for funds, check authorizations, purchase orders, and expense statements for grant funded projects. Types of projects include police training, housing, urban development, and recreational facilities and activities. Also includes project audits, activity reports, accounting records, purchase agreements, and budgets.

20. INSURANCE POLICIES. 1952-1971. 1 c. f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Insurance policies for municipal property, automobiles, public buildings, and Bankhead Tunnel.

21. RECORDS RELATING TO LAND CONDEMNATION CASES. 1961-1970. 1 c. f.

Arranged by court and thereunder by case number.

Records relating to land condemnation cases from the circuit court, probate court, and district court. Consists mainly of sworn statements of the tax collector claiming or disclaiming any city interest in condemned property based on outstanding ad valorem or improvement taxes. Also included are subpoenas, letters of the city attorney and tax collector concerning cases, amendments to court rules and claims, descriptions of condemned lands, notices of appeal, and trial dockets.

22. RECORDS RELATING TO WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION PROJECTS. 1938-1939. 1/2 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Records documenting expenditures on Works Progress Administration projects by the city as a sponsoring agency. Includes receiving reports, certificates of sponsor's expenditures, invoices, and payrolls.

23. CANCELED CHECKS DRAWN ON MOBILE TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION FUNDS. 1939-1942. 1/2 c. f.

Arranged by check number.

Canceled checks drawn on various tunnel funds for the construction of Bankhead Tunnel. Most checks are accompanied by requisitions or bills for goods and services.

58. YEAR END AUDITS. 1923-1982. 3 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Independent public accountants reports on the fiscal year just ending.

59. MEETING MINUTES. 1975-1979. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Photocopies of the City Commissioners meetings concerning personnel business.

60. FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE. 1954-1976. 1 c.f.

Arranged by subject.

Departmental correspondence on daily business.

61. PAYROLL REGISTERS. 1975-1976. 3 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Bi-weekly computer printout of all city employees showing their pay and deductions for the pay period.

BOUND VOLUMES

24. JOURNALS. 1827-1833, 1837-1866, 1887-1897, 1914-1970. 23 vols.

6 1/3 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.
Daily record of receipts and expenditures.

- 25. LEDGERS. 1827-1833, 1837-1843, 1846-1878, 1880-1954. 31 vols.
5 3/4 lin. ft**

Arranged chronologically.
Summaries of debits and credits for the year. Many of the ledgers contain indexes.
See also Series 4.

- 26. CAPITAL FUNDS CASH BOOKS. 1926-1963. 15 vols. 16 lin. in.**

Arranged chronologically.
A daily record of receipts and expenditures of capital funds.

- 27. RECORDS OF AUDITED VOUCHERS - CAPITAL FUNDS. 1926-1966. 9
vols. 9 lin. in**

Arranged chronologically.
Records of vouchers for expenditures of capital funds.

- 28. GENERAL FUND CASH BOOKS. 1894-1946. 20 vols. 3 lin. ft**

Arranged chronologically.
Daily record of receipts and expenditures of general funds.

- 29. GENERAL FUND CASH RECEIPTS. 1946-1964. 6 vols. 9 lin. in**

Arranged chronologically.
Daily record of cash receipts listed by source.

- 30. GENERAL FUND CASH DISBURSEMENTS. 1946-1965. 8 vols. 14 lin.
in.**

Arranged chronologically.
Daily record of cash disbursements.

31. EXPENDITURES FOR FISCAL YEAR 1965-1966. 1965-1966. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Computer produced printout summarizing city expenditures by department.

32. AUDITOR'S RECORDS. 1872-1874. 1 vol. 1/2 lin. in

Arranged alphabetically and thereunder by month.
Auditor's accounts of city disbursements.

33. RECORD OF AUDITED VOUCHERS - GENERAL FUNDS. 1924-1964. 40 vols. 6 1/2 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.
Record of disbursements of general funds.

34. BILLS AND CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY OF MOBILE. 1891-1896, 1900-1905, 1908-1929. 11 vols. 2 1/3 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.
Lists names of payees, accounts, items purchased, and amounts.

35. REGISTER OF CITY ORDERS. 1838-1843. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Lists order numbers, to whom payable, accounts, department numbers, and amounts paid.

36. BILLS AND CLAIMS AGAINST THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS. 1901-1912. 4 vols. 4 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Record of services or materials purchased by the Board of Public Works, usually for street paving projects.

37. PAYROLLS. 1837-1843. 2 vols. 3 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Payrolls for laborers, city guards, rented carts and horses, mechanics, and fire companies.

38. PAYROLL REGISTERS. 1956-1966. 14 vols. 3 2/3 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.
Lists names of employees, gross earnings, amounts of checks, deductions, and balance to date.

39. PAYROLLS AND EXPENSES OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. 1888-1903. 2 vols. 2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Payrolls list names of fire companies, names of employees, their rank, number of days worked, pay per month, and total payroll. Records of expenses list items purchased, from whom, and amounts paid.

40. PAYROLLS FOR THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS. 1910-1911. 1 vol. 1 lin. in

Arranged chronologically.
Lists names of employees of the Board of Public Works and the amounts they were paid monthly.

41. ROSTER OF CARTS, MECHANICS, AND LABORERS. 1838-1841. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Lists names of cart owners, mechanics, and laborers and the number of days they worked during the month.

42. AUDITORIUM LEDGERS. 1969-1970. 3 vols. 5 1/4 lin. in

Arranged chronologically.
Record of accounts of businesses, organizations, schools, and clubs which used the Mobile Municipal Auditorium facilities.

43. AUDITORIUM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. 1967-1970. 3 vols. 4 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Computer produced printouts of receipts and disbursements for the Mobile Municipal Auditorium.

44. CHECK RECEIPTS - MOBILE TUNNEL REVENUE FUND. 1971-1973. 1 vol. 1 1/2 lin. in

Arranged chronologically.
Record of checks drawn on the Mobile (Bankhead) Tunnel Revenue Fund.

45. CHECK REGISTER FOR THE MOBILE TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION FUND AND THE CITY WATER WORKS. 1939-1943, 1945-1959. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Record of checks drawn on the Mobile (Bankhead) Tunnel construction fund and the City Water Works account.

46. JOURNAL OF THE MOBILE WATER WORKS. 1903-1908. 1 vol. 2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Record of receipts and expenditures of the Mobile Water Works.

47. WHARVES LEDGER. 1873-1877. 4 vols. 7 lin. in.

Arranged by account.
Record of municipal wharfage accounts listing the commodities handled and the wharfage charged.

48. CITY DOCKS AND WHARVES ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE. 1958-1965. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Monthly list of accounts receivable and amounts owed. Payments on the account are recorded in the City Wharves Department cash book.

- 49. CITY WHARVES DEPARTMENT CASH BOOK. 1961-1965. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.**

Arranged chronologically.

Monthly list of cash received for payments on wharfage accounts.

- 50. COMMERCE STREET PAVING ACCOUNTS LEDGER. 1894-1896. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.**

Arranged alphabetically.

Record of assessment accounts for property owners affected by the paving of Commerce Street. Also included in the same volume are appraisals of city property and a list of city bondholders.

- 51. TREASURER'S DAYBOOK. 1833-1837. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.**

Arranged chronologically.

Daily record of receipts and expenditures.

- 52. TREASURER'S RECEIPT BOOK. 1859-1861, 1866-1869. 2 vols. 3 lin. in.**

Arranged chronologically.

Receipts for moneys received from the city treasurer. Each handwritten receipt is signed by the person receiving moneys and lists the amount received and the services rendered.

- 53. TREASURER'S CASH BLOTTER. 1910-1911. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.**

Arranged chronologically.

Daily record of cash received and bank deposits.

- 54. FRANCHISE CASH BOOK. 1897-1913. 1 vol. 1/2 lin. in.**

Arranged chronologically.

Lists names of companies, purpose of franchises, amounts owed per year, and amounts paid.

- 55. CASH BOOKS. 1831-1836, 1861-1969. 74 vols. 16 2/3 lin. ft.**

Arranged chronologically.
Daily record of receipts and expenditures.

56. CASH BOOKS FOR CITY MARKETS. 1865-1866, 1894-1895, 1899-1921. 4 vols. 5 1/4 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Record of rents and huckster ticket fees paid by vendors at the city markets.

57. MARKET RECEIPTS FOR STALL RENTS. 1903-1904, 1908-1942. 13 vols. 7 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Carbon copies of receipts issued for stall rents collected.

RECORD GROUP 9 RECORDS OF THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT

The Revenue Department was created in May 1967 when the offices of license officer, public improvement officer, tax assessor, and tax collector were merged. License officer Jesse F. Hogan became the city's first revenue officer. The department is responsible for issuing all business licenses, reporting all persons required to have a license to the finance director, keeping a register of all licenses issued, collecting all delinquent improvement assessments, assisting with assessments, and collecting all city taxes. All moneys collected are reported to the finance director and turned over to the treasury department.

Prior to 1895, all licenses were issued by the city tax collector. Although the city's first license officer was appointed in 1895, the tax collector continued to issue business licenses until 1951. The license officer was responsible for ascertaining and reporting to the tax collector all persons, corporations, or agents liable to pay license fees. The license officer was also responsible for keeping a register of each transaction and depositing all fees he collected with the tax collector.

The Public Improvement Department was created by city ordinance in December 1931 and was placed under the jurisdiction of the city comptroller. It was the duty of the public improvement officer to collect all delinquent public improvement assessments as

well as all current assessments when they came due. On May 12, 1959 the Public Improvement Department and the Tax Department were combined under the supervision of the tax collector.

The position of tax assessor was created in 1814 to determine the amount of taxes due from each citizen based on real and personal property owned. The assessor functioned until 1879 when the duties were assigned to the city tax collector and later to the county tax assessor.

The tax collector is responsible for collecting taxes. For many years he also collected license fees. Until 1951 the tax collector and the license officer composed the Tax and License Department with the tax collector acting as department head. In May 1951 the License Department was placed under the supervision of the city comptroller.

The records of the Revenue Department total 275 cubic feet and date 1829 to 1980. The materials document the duties performed by the tax collector, the public improvement officer, and the license officer. They also document the types of fees and taxes collected by the department and the regulation of businesses in the city.

1 ADMINISTRATIVE FILES. 1953, 1963, 1967-1980. 4 c. f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence with municipal departments and local businessmen mainly regarding tax and license regulations. Also includes applications for business licenses, monthly departmental reports, equipment catalogs, and records related to the daily management of the department.

2. LETTERS RECEIVED. 1966-1976. 1 c. f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Letters from local businesses regarding tax and license matters. Delinquent notices, tax bills, and checks often accompany letters. Many of the letters are related to the licensing of dental labs.

3. CORRESPONDENCE OF THE TAX COLLECTOR AND LICENSE OFFICER. 1934-1937, 1941-1951. 2 c. f.

Arranged chronologically and thereunder alphabetically.

Correspondence with taxpayers, the board of commissioners, and municipal departments concerning property assessments, back taxes, license fees, and bankruptcies of local businesses. Also included are resolutions authorizing refunds of taxes or exempting property from taxation.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE FILES OF THE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT OFFICER. 1941-1974. 2 c. f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, resolutions, and promissory notes related to improvement venture assessments and lot cleaning assessments. Also includes depositions concerning ad valorem taxes from property condemnation cases, resolutions granting tax exemptions to local businesses, and correspondence and personnel records relating to the administration of the Public Improvement Department.

5. CORRESPONDENCE OF THE TAX COLLECTOR. 1934-1940, 1942-1951, 1957, 1962. 4 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Correspondence with property owners and municipal departments concerning taxes owed, tax refunds, lowering of assessments, and requests for information on business license requirements. Also includes resolutions authorizing tax refunds and a few ordinances levying tax fees and finalizing assessments.

6. CORRESPONDENCE OF THE LICENSE OFFICER. 1928-1970. 4 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Correspondence with local businessmen, the board of commissioners, the city attorney, and others regarding business licenses, license taxes, sales taxes, complaints concerning license violations, refund requests, and requests for tax exemptions. Also included are business tax reporting forms, license ordinances, and statements from insurance companies listing the amount of premiums collected in Mobile and the amount of tax due.

7. READING FILE OF THE CITY LICENSE OFFICER. 1965-1969. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Carbon copies of letters sent by the city license officer, later revenue officer, to city officials and local businessmen concerning tax and license matters and the management of the department.

8. STATEMENTS OF GROSS ANNUAL BUSINESS, GROSS ANNUAL RECEIPTS, OR NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES. 1959-1966, 1978. 20 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

"Statement of Gross Annual Business, Gross Annual Receipts or Number of Employees of Persons, Firms and Corporations During the Preceding Year" form used to calculate license fees. Forms are occasionally accompanied by letters.

9. BUSINESS LICENSE NOTICES. 1938-1946, 1949. 3 1/2 c. f.

Arranged alphabetically by name of business or owner.

Returned bills for license fees due. Occasional letters accompany notices.

10. RECORDS RELATING TO THE PAYMENT OF BUSINESS LICENSE TAXES. 1969-1971. 3/4 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Includes license notices, statements of gross annual business receipts, checks for license fees, copies of receipts for taxes paid, and correspondence concerning licenses.

11. STATEMENTS OF HOTELS, MOTELS, TOURIST COURTS, TOURIST CABINS, LODGING HOUSES, AND ROOMING HOUSES. 1956, 1958-1963. 2 1/2 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Forms used to calculate the amount of taxes due.

12. RETURNS OF TAX ADMISSIONS AND STATEMENTS OF GROSS ADMISSION OR REWARDS CHARGED. 1948, 1955-1958. 1 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Statements of taxes owed on admissions collected at nightclubs, theaters, and other entertainment establishments.

13. "GROSS RECEIPTS, PRIVILEGE, OR LICENSE TAX RETURNS." 1966. 1/4 c. f.

Arranged by return number.

Forms used to calculate gross sales tax due.

14. BILLS FOR BACK TAXES AND REDEMPTION OF PROPERTY FORMS. 1920-1952. 1956. 1/2 c. f.

Arranged alphabetically by name of taxpayer.

Bills for back taxes show the amount of taxes paid on property and the amount due. If the property was sold for taxes, a "Redemption of Property" form indicated the amount required to redeem the property.

15. LICENSE TAXES FROM INSURANCE COMPANIES. 1930-1967. 11 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Includes completed forms used to calculate the amount of tax due from insurance companies. Lists gross premiums received, types of insurance sold, and taxes due from insurance companies operating in the city.

16. LETTERS REGARDING TAX BILLS. 1934-1946, 1950-1954. 5 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Letters to the tax collector requesting bills for taxes due or requesting information about real and personal property tax bills.

17. CITY OF MOBILE BONDS. 1907-1977. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Redeemed bonds issued to finance a variety of municipal projects or to raise general revenue funds.

18. MONTHLY REPORTS OF BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR SALES. 1947, 1961-1963, 1965-1968. 16 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Forms used to report the total sales of beer, wine, and liquor by retailers, hotels, restaurants, nightclubs, jobbers, wholesalers, and distributors. Calculations of taxes due based on total sales are given.

19. SOLICITOR'S APPLICATIONS. 1956-1966, 1969-1970, 1972. 4 c. f.

Arranged chronologically.

Applications for licenses to solicit sales of merchandise in the city. Application forms give name, address, telephone number, physical description, and driver's license number of the applicant. The type of business, goods to be sold, vehicle description, name

and address of employer, length of time required to conduct business, and any police record are also included. Applications required the approval of the license officer and the chief of police.

NOTE: Access to these records is restricted.

**20. APPLICATIONS FOR TAXICAB DRIVER'S LICENSES. 1946-1972.
13 c. f.**

Arranged chronologically.

Applications and renewal application forms for taxicab driver's licenses. Each application gives the name, address, citizenship and age of applicant, physical examination records, and police records.

NOTE: Access to these records is restricted.

**21. CHAUFFEUR'S LICENSES FOR TAXICAB DRIVERS. 1949, 1977, 1979.
1 c. f.**

Arranged chronologically.

5" x 7" cards which have a photograph of the license holder, his/her name, address, physical description, name of cab company, and badge number.

**22. STATEMENTS OF SALES FROM DISTRIBUTORS OR SELLERS OF
MOTOR FUELS. 1934-1937, 1957-1958, 1960-1963. 8 c. f.**

Arranged chronologically.

Completed forms used to report the total sales of motor fuels and lubricating oils, including the number of gallons of gasoline, diesel oil, or other fuels sold, shipped, transported, or delivered. The amount of tax due is also given.

23. APPLICATIONS FOR FARMER'S PERMITS. 1933-1939. 1/4 c. f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Permits were issued, at no charge, to farmers who wished to sell their own produce in the city. Applications list name, address, age, and height of applicant, farm produce to be sold, location of land cultivated, description of vehicle, and the names of two references.

BOUND VOLUMES

24. TAX LEDGERS. 1928-1977. 13 vols. 19 1/2 lin. in.

Volumes arranged chronologically. Entries within volumes arranged by type of tax.

Ledger of taxes paid for gasoline, liquor and beer, amusements, rooms, dogs, vehicles, penalties, building permits, pension funds, sales, and rentals. Lists names of taxpayers and amounts paid.

25. WEED CUTTING/LOT CLEANING LEDGERS. 1947-1973. 12 vols. 5 lin. ft.

Volumes arranged chronologically. Entries within volumes arranged alphabetically by name of property owner.

Ledger of weed assessment taxes paid. Lists names and addresses of property owners, dates of weed assessment resolutions, and amounts paid.

26. PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT ASSESSMENT LEDGERS - PAVING. 1903-1932. 20 vols. 8 1/3 lin. ft.

Arranged by improvement venture number.

Ledgers for assessment taxes paid on improvement venture numbers 1-27A for street paving.

27. PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT ASSESSMENT LEDGERS - SIDEWALKS. 1908-1930. 1 vol. 5 lin. in.

Arranged by improvement venture number.

Ledger for assessment taxes paid on improvement venture numbers 7-32 for sidewalks.

28. PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT ASSESSMENT LEDGERS - WHITEWAYS. 1928, 1930. 2 vols. 10 lin. in.

Arranged by improvement venture number.

Ledgers for assessment taxes paid on improvement ventures 1-GH and St. Joseph Street.

29. RECEIPTS FOR BUILDING PERMITS. 1952-1955. 31 vols. 2 1/2 lin. ft

Arranged chronologically.

Copies of receipts issued by the license officer for building permit fees.

30. RECEIPTS FOR STREET TAXES. 1928-1930. 51 vols. 4 1/4 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.

Copies of receipts for annual \$5.00 street tax which exempted payer from further street duty for the year. Receipts are signed by Herve Charest, Street Tax Collector.

**31. RECEIPTS FOR GENERAL BUSINESS LICENSES. 1906-1955. 257 vols.
85 3/4 lin. ft.**

Arranged chronologically.

Lists names of proprietors or companies, nature of businesses, amounts of license fees, locations of businesses, and license numbers.

**32. INDEX TO GENERAL BUSINESS LICENSES. 1875-1877, 1893-1913.
19 vols. 2 lin. ft.**

Volumes arranged chronologically by year. Entries within volumes arranged alphabetically.

An alphabetical index of general business licenses issued. Lists license number, to whom issued, location of business, nature of business, and amount of license fee paid.

**33. RECEIPTS FOR MISCELLANEOUS LICENSES. 1906-1955. 51 vols.
8 1/2 lin. ft.**

Arranged chronologically.

Receipts for licenses issued to street vendors and for the sale of food, soft drinks, and merchandise.

34. BANKHEAD TUNNEL LEDGER. 1972. 1 vol. 1 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Lists amounts of tolls collected by each toll collector and from what type of vehicles (cars, buses, motorcycles, etc.).

35. TRUSTEE'S DEED BOOKS. 1881-1907. 25 vols. 6 1/2 lin. ft

Arranged chronologically.

Deeds to property sold to the city trustee for delinquent taxes. The deeds describe the property and show the names of the property owners, the amount of taxes due, and the prices paid by the trustee.

36. LIST OF PROPERTY SOLD TO THE TRUSTEE. 1884. 1 vol. 3/4 lin. in

Arranged alphabetically.

List of properties sold to L.M. Wilson, port trustee, for back taxes.

**37. DEEDS FOR PROPERTY SOLD BY THE TRUSTEE. 1884. 1 vol.
1 1/2 lin. in.**

Arranged alphabetically.

Copies of deeds for properties sold by L.M. Wilson, port trustee. The property was purchased by the city for 1881 back taxes.

38. DELINQUENT TAX SALES LIST. 1901-1906. 7 vols. 21 lin. in.

Volumes arranged chronologically. Entries within volumes arranged alphabetically.
Lists of property sold by the trustee for back taxes.

**39. PROPERTY PURCHASED BY THE CITY FOR TAXES DUE. 1867-1872,
1876. 2 vols. 4 lin. in.**

Arranged alphabetically.

List of properties purchased by the city for back taxes.

**40. RECORD OF PROPERTY PURCHASED BY THE CITY AT CHANCERY
COURT SALES. 1912-1954. 4 vols. 14 lin. in.**

Arranged chronologically.

List of properties purchased by the city for back taxes.

**41. CERTIFICATES OF REDEMPTION. 1883-1908, 1941-1955. 20 vols.
2 1/3 lin. ft.**

Arranged chronologically.

Receipt stubs for certificates issued by the tax collector when property purchased by the city for back taxes was redeemed by the previous owners.

42. DEEDS FOR REDEEMED PROPERTY. 1914-1919. 5 vols. 7 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically and by deed number.

Copies of deeds for properties redeemed by the previous owners.

43. TAX COLLECTOR'S CERTIFICATES. 1874. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically and by certificate number.

Receipt stubs for certificates issued by the tax collector for property sold to the city for unpaid taxes.

44. CITY AND SPECIAL BACK TAXES DUE ON REAL ESTATE. 1881-1954. 3 vols. 11 1/2 lin. in.

Volumes arranged chronologically. Entries within volumes arranged alphabetically. Lists of property owners who owed back taxes to the city for the years listed above.

45. BACK TAXES ON REALTY. 1879-1902. 1 vol. 1 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged alphabetically by name of taxpayer.

Record of back taxes paid on real estate.

46. LIST OF BACK TAXES DUE AND BACK TAXES PAID. 1878-1882. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged alphabetically.

The record of taxes due on September 1, 1880 includes the names of the taxpayers, the years for which back taxes were owed, and the total amounts owed. The record of taxes paid lists the names of taxpayers, the amounts paid, and whether it was paid in city money or U.S. currency.

47. BACK TAX RECEIPT BOOKS. 1902, 1905-1908, 1934-1953. 47 vols. 4 1/4 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.
Copies of receipts issued for payments of back taxes.

48. TAX RECEIPT BOOKS. 1906-1907, 1947-1948. 102 vols. 5 3/4 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically and by receipt number.
Copies of receipts issued for taxes paid.

49. TAX BOOKS. 1829-1954. 340 vols. 8 1/3 lin. ft.

Volumes arranged chronologically by year. Entries within volumes are arranged alphabetically by names of taxpayers.

Lists names of taxpayers, the kinds and value of properties owned, and the amounts paid.

50. PORT OF MOBILE TAXES FOR 1879. 1879-1894. 1 vol. 1 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Lists names of taxpayers and amounts of back taxes paid.

**51. TAX ASSESSMENT BOOKS. 1838-1860, 1900-1908. 41 vols.
4 1/2 lin. ft.**

Volumes arranged chronologically. Entries within volumes arranged alphabetically.
Lists the names of property owners, the kinds of property owned, and its assessed value.

**52. CITY TAX CASH BOOKS. 1857-1898, 1902, 1905-1908. 40 vols.
5 1/2 lin. ft.**

Arranged chronologically.
Lists the names of the taxpayers, the types of taxes paid, and the total tax bill.

**53. SPECIAL CITY TAXES CASH BOOKS. 1881-1904, 1906-1908. 27 vols.
3 1/2 lin. ft.**

Arranged chronologically.
Lists the names of the taxpayers, the value of real estate owned, the amount of special taxes assessed, and the amounts paid.

54. CITY TAX OFFICE CASH BOOK. 1923-1942. 1 vol. 2 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

A daily record of various kinds of taxes and fees collected, including property taxes, penalties, back taxes, back penalties, tax fees, license fees, cemetery fees, special taxes, back special taxes, and street paving and sidewalk assessments, among others.

55. LISTS OF MOBILE COUNTY TAXPAYERS. 1939-1941. 2 vols. 3 lin. in.

Volumes arranged chronologically. Entries within volumes arranged alphabetically. Lists the names of individuals and corporations, their addresses, and the value of their real estate and personal property.

56. ROOM LICENSE TAX RECEIPT BOOKS. 1961-1966. 6 vols. 5 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Lists the names of individuals or hotels, their income from renting rooms, rate of tax, and taxes paid.

57. CITY VEHICLE LICENSE TAX BOOKS. 1907-1909, 1917-1928, 1962- 1966. 20 vols. 2 3/4 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.

Record of license taxes paid on vehicles for public use.

58. AUTOMOBILE IDENTIFICATION TAGS. 1907, 1909. 2 vols. 1 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically and by license number.

Receipt stubs for automobile identification tags required on vehicles for public use.

59. AUTO CHAUFFEUR'S BADGE RECEIPT BOOKS. 1963. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Record of license taxes paid for auto chauffeur's badges. Badges were required for taxicab drivers and ambulance drivers.

60. BICYCLE LICENSE TAX RECEIPT BOOKS. 1962, 1968. 5 vols. 4 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Record of bicycle licenses issued.

**61. RECORD OF RETAIL LIQUOR LICENSES ISSUED. 1906-1908. 2 vols.
6 lin. in.**

Arranged chronologically.
Receipt stubs for retail liquor and beer licenses issued.

62. RECORD OF BONDS ISSUED. 1830-1884. 2 vols. 4 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.
Record of the types of bonds issued, including city debt, wharf, and railroad bonds, their amounts, rates of interest, names of purchasers, the dates they were issued and redeemed, and the dates they were destroyed.

**RECORD GROUP 10
RECORDS OF THE BUDGET OFFICE**

The Budget Office was created on July 18, 1963. It is responsible for preparing annual operating and capital improvement budgets, administering approved budgets, collecting fiscal data and preparing fiscal plans, and managing the city's insurance matters.

The records of the Budget Office comprise one and one-half cubic feet of reports and studies concerned with revenue collections, economic development, and the financial condition of Mobile and the surrounding area.

1. FEASIBILITY STUDIES AND FORECASTS. 1956-1980. 1 1/2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.
This series contains studies, reports, and booklets regarding the fiscal management of the city and economic conditions in Mobile and southern Alabama. Included are annual city reports, estimated future revenue reports, land use surveys, departmental reports, a museum personnel study, a city zoo feasibility study, and a social security study.

**RECORD GROUP 12
RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

The responsibilities of the Office of Community Services were originally vested in the Office of Intergovernmental Relations which was created in March 1974. The chief function of the Office of Intergovernmental Relations was to develop better working relationships between the city and various other governmental bodies, including federal and state agencies, other municipalities, independent research centers, and regional planning agencies. The development of these relationships was designed to increase the city's research, planning, and grant procuring capabilities. Other activities included monitoring and reporting on grant funded programs, developing performance contracts with organizations seeking city funding, and developing methods of increasing citizen participation in planning city services. In 1981, the department was reorganized as the Office of Community Services under the Department of Planning and Development.

The records in this group comprise eleven cubic feet and date 1962-1981. They relate mainly to the activities of the Office of Intergovernmental Relations before it was renamed the Office of Community Services. Records dated before 1974 originally belonged to the Mobile City Planning Commission but were moved to the Office of Intergovernmental Relations upon its creation. This material consists of grant applications with accompanying correspondence as well as other materials related to the city's attempt to provide community services.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE FILES. 1973-1981. 6 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Correspondence between city officials and officials of federal, state, or local private organizations. Major subjects represented include grants, the CETA program, and the Community Development Advisory Group (CDAG). Completed grant applications and contracts provide details about grant funded city activities in areas such as law enforcement, social services, and recreation. Memos, requisitions, completed budget forms, and payroll reports document costs involved in administering the department and fiscal policies and procedures the department was required to follow. Newsletters, pamphlets, and booklets about available grant programs and community development activities are also included.

2. PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING SERVICES TO THE CITY. 1974-1979. 4 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically by fiscal year and thereunder alphabetically by organization.

Performance contracts between the city and various organizations for special projects. The contracts state the amount of financial support the city provided in return for specified services. Correspondence between city officials and organizations accompany most contracts. Also included are reports from the organizations on their activities.

Organizations represented include America's Junior Miss Pageant, the South Alabama Regional Planning Commission, and the Sheriff's Flotilla.

**3. RECORDS RELATED TO OPEN SPACE PROGRAM GRANTS. 1962- 1976.
3/4 c.f.**

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Completed contracts specifying conditions for the use of grant moneys acquired through the Open Space Program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. These funds were used to develop parks in the Mobile area. Also included are correspondence between local and federal officials, drawings of proposed facilities, and proposed budgets. Many of these records were kept by the Mobile City Planning Commission until the creation of the Office of Intergovernmental Relations in 1974.

**RECORD GROUP 13
RECORDS OF THE BANKHEAD TUNNEL DEPARTMENT**

Construction began on a vehicular tunnel running under Mobile River on December 29, 1938. It was dedicated on September 16, 1939 and named in honor of John Hollis Bankhead, Sr. (1842-1920) who served as a U.S. Congressman and Senator. The tunnel was financed by a \$1,500,000 Public Works Administration grant and by a \$2,500,000 loan from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, secured by four percent 30-year revenue bonds. The tunnel was opened to toll traffic on February 20, 1941.

When the tunnel opened, its daily management, including the collection of tolls, became the responsibility of the Bankhead Tunnel Department. The tunnel was supervised by the operations and maintenance engineer who reported to the city commissioners. Other members of the tunnel department included the tunnel operators, tunnel operator helpers, and toll collectors.

Supervision of the tunnel department rotated among the city commissioners until 1965 when it became the responsibility of the finance and administration commissioner. Ownership of the tunnel was transferred to the Alabama Highway Department on February 9, 1973.

This record group contains approximately three cubic feet of correspondence and financial records concerning the operation of the tunnel and the collection of tolls. The records date 1941-1973. See also RG 8, Records of the Finance Department and RG 9, Records of the Revenue Department.

1. RECORDS RELATED TO THE OPERATION OF BANKHEAD TUNNEL. 1955-1973. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Auditors' reports on traffic counts and toll collections, payroll records, and correspondence concerning the sale of ticket books to companies using the tunnel. Also includes a 1971-1972 statement of income and expenses.

2. RECORDS CONCERNING TUNNEL REVENUE BANK ACCOUNTS. 1941-1973. 1 1/2 c.f.

Arranged by type of material and thereunder chronologically.

Deposit books, deposit slips, checkbook stubs, and canceled checks related to bank accounts for tunnel revenue funds. Most record the deposit of tolls. Also included are money bag manifests which record the amount of money contained in bags placed in a vault and a receipt book which records the amount of money picked up by Wells Fargo.

3. TICKET BOOK LEDGERS. 1967-1973. 4 vols. 4 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

These ledgers document the sale of tickets to regular users of the tunnel. Information recorded includes the number of the ticket book, the buyer's automobile tag number, and the date of the sale.

**RECORD GROUP 14
RECORDS OF BROOKLEY INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX AND AIRPORT**

The site currently occupied by the Brookley Industrial Complex and Airport has operated as an airfield since 1925 when it was used as a training area by the Alabama National Guard. Three years later the city purchased the field for use as a municipal airport. In November 1929 the airport was named Bates Field in honor of city commissioner Cecil F. Bates.

In 1940 the United States Army purchased the site for use as an air depot. The municipal airfield was relocated to a site ten miles west of the city. The depot was renamed Brookley Field in December 1940 after Captain Wendall H. Brookley, a member of the Army Air Corps, who was killed in an airplane crash at Bolling Field in 1934.

In 1949 the United States Air Force gained control of the depot and renamed it Brookley Air Force Base. The base rendered logistical support to military installations. Operations were phased out beginning in 1964 and culminating in 1969.

The city created the Brookley Coordinating Office to develop the former air force base in a way that would minimize unemployment in Mobile as well as utilize the base's existing facilities. The coordinating office worked to bring large industrial concerns to the Brookley facility.

In 1969 the city purchased 368.70 acres of land and title to the airport from the General Services Administration. The area was renamed Brookley Airport and Industrial Complex and was placed under the direction of the Mobile Municipal Airport manager. An office was established at the complex to oversee the buildings and grounds, to handle the rental of land and buildings to tenants, and to operate the airport.

From 1970 to 1978 the area was known as the Mobile Aerospace Industrial Complex and Airport. Its name was changed again in 1978 to Brookley Industrial Complex and Airport (BICA).

In 1982 the control and ownership of BICA and the Mobile Municipal Airport were transferred to the Mobile Airport Authority. Other than making appointments to the authority, the city no longer exercises control over these facilities.

The records in this group were generated by BICA, city departments, and various federal agencies. The records are concerned with the utilization and operation of the facility after the closing of Brookley Air Force Base, leases for rental of the facilities, and personnel and financial records concerned with the operations of BICA. Maps and blueprints of the buildings and grounds owned by the city are also included. These materials are divided into seven series and comprise twenty-six cubic feet. The documents date 1941-1981.

1. GENERAL FILES. 1961-1979, 1981. 5 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Consists largely of correspondence of the BICA manager and resolutions concerning leasing at the complex. Also included are monthly and annual departmental reports, studies on transportation and aviation in Mobile, blueprints and maps of the base and complex, and minutes from the Interim Airport Authority, the Planning and Steering Committee, and the board of commissioners.

2. CORRESPONDENCE FILES. 1964-1981. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Correspondence and memoranda of the Brookley coordinator, the Brookley manager, and the city commissioners concerning the economic impact of the Air Force's withdrawal, BICA personnel, building leases, Hurricane Camille damage, custodial work, and equipment storage. Included is the resolution that changed the name from Brookley Air Force Base to Brookley Airport and Industrial Complex.

3. RECORDS CONCERNING BUILDING LEASES. 1967-1980. 7 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject or company name.

Contains building and equipment leases, correspondence, ordinances permitting the city to enter into or cancel agreements, blueprints and drawings of the complex and the buildings, bills for rental charges, newspaper clippings, and rights-of-entry given by the Air Force to lessees or sublessees.

4. PERSONNEL AND PAYROLL RECORDS. 1969-1981. 3 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Consists largely of reports and correspondence. Subjects of the reports include employee service ratings, accidents, job reclassifications, and daily activities of the BICA police. Also included are minutes of the Employee-Employer Relations Committee, computer printouts of payrolls, and index cards listing personal information about city and CETA employees at BICA.

NOTE: Access to these records is restricted.

5. FINANCIAL RECORDS. 1969-1979. 5 c.f.

Arranged by type of record.

Contains budgets, city financial reports, departmental requisitions, receipts for moneys collected by the office, and index cards listing all companies leasing property and amount of rent paid. Also included are bills for building and equipment rentals, for legal services performed for BICA, and for repairs to vehicles by the city garage.

6. REPORTS, STUDIES, AND BROCHURES. 1944-1975. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by title.

Topics include civilian utilization of Brookley Field, aviation and airfields in Mobile, planning airport industrial parks, airport standards, and instrument landing systems. Also included are nine negatives of aerial photographs of Brookley Air Force Base and surveys of the base which include maps and plots of the area.

7. SCHEMATICS, BLUEPRINTS, AND MANUALS. 1941, 1946, 1950-1964. 4 c.f.

Unarranged.

All materials are from the period when Brookley was occupied by the Air Force. Included are operation, installation, and maintenance manuals for equipment at the base. Blueprints of buildings and equipment, and schematics of heating, air conditioning, fire alarms, sprinkler systems, boilers, generators, electrical wiring, and other equipment or services installed in the buildings at Brookley are also included.

**RECORD GROUP 15
RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND
CULTURE**

Since 1819, the city has been empowered to designate, maintain, preserve, remove, and regulate all burying grounds within the city. These duties were performed at various times by the city sexton or by keepers of the cemetery. In 1916 the city sexton became head of the newly created Cemetery Department. His title was changed to superintendent of the Cemetery Department.

In 1871, a four member Board of Park Commissioners was established to supervise the city's public parks. This responsibility was given to the Department of Parks and Playgrounds in 1915. In 1926, the department was reorganized. The Parks Division merged with the Cemetery Department to form the Parks and Cemeteries Department. Charles McLean, superintendent of the Cemetery Department, became the new superintendent of the Parks and Cemeteries Department. The playgrounds division was renamed the Recreation Department with H.G. Rogers appointed as superintendent.

In 1978 the Department of Parks and Cemeteries, the City Recreation Department, the Fine Arts Museum of the South, and the city's other museums all became divisions of the newly created Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture under the direction of John A. Calametti Jr.

The records of the Department of Parks and Cemeteries total approximately twenty-five cubic feet and date 1848-1962. The materials document burials in Church Street Cemetery and Magnolia Cemetery. This record group contains mainly lists of burials kept by the city sexton although burial and pauper permits, death certificates, receipts, invoices, payrolls, and correspondence concerning park and cemetery improvements are also included.

**1. SEXTON'S REPORTS, BURIAL PERMITS, AND DEATH CERTIFICATES.
1848-1907, 1918, 1928-1932, 1938-1949, 1953-1970. 22 c.f.**

Arranged chronologically.

Includes monthly burial reports of the city sexton which list names of the deceased, their age, color, graveyard where buried, lot number, fees paid, and the name of the funeral home. Also included are pauper and burial permits from the Board of Health authorizing undertakers or the sexton to bury the dead; death certificates addressed to the city sexton which list the name of the deceased, age, color, occupation, disease, birthplace, date of death, and burial place; and monthly bills and receipts for pauper burials. Records for some years are incomplete.

**2. RECORDS RELATING TO PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND RECREATION.
1943-1948, 1951-1952. 2 c.f.**

Arranged chronologically

Bills, receipts, requisitions, invoices, payrolls, correspondence, and contract documents such as project specifications, bids, performance bonds, and agreements all pertaining to work performed on the city's parks and recreational facilities. Also included are monthly reports from the Recreation Department.

3. PAY GRAVE RECEIPTS. 1903-1918. 2 vols. 3 1/2 lin.

Arranged chronologically.

Receipts issued to undertakers listing their name, the name of the person to be buried, and the amount paid to the tax collector for a burial permit.

BOUND VOLUMES

**4. PLAT BOOK OF MAGNOLIA AND CHURCH STREET CEMETERIES.
ca. 1944-1947. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.**

Magnolia Cemetery Church Street Cemetery

Arranged by cemetery and thereunder by section.

Plat book showing cemetery boundaries and the location and occupant of each burial plot.

**5. PLAT BOOK OF MAGNOLIA CEMETERY. 1870-1983. 1 vol.
1 lin. in.**

Arranged by lot and section.

Plat book showing lots 1 through 34 and the Public Burial Grounds(or called Pauper Graves) with owner of each section shown.

6. INDEX TO DEEDS. 1868-1908. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged alphabetically by first letter of last name.
An index to cemetery sections in Magnolia Cemetery showing who owns them.

7. DEED RECEIPTS. 1871-1957. 11 vols. 11 lin. in.

Arranged numerically by receipt number.
Receipts books for sections sold in Magnolia Cemetery.

8. REGISTER OF LOTS SOLD. 1838-1861. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged by lot.
A register of lots 1 through 16 showing who purchased each section.

9. LOTS IN MAGNOLIA CEMETERY. 1888-1942. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged by first letter of last name.
Lists purchase of sections in Magnolia Cemetery.

10. REPORT OF BURIALS. 1920-1973. 8 vols. 8 lin. in.

Arranged by date.
Register of burials for all cemeteries within the City limits which gives name, sex, age, race, where buried and mortuary.

**RECORD GROUP 16
RECORDS OF THE MOBILE TENNIS CENTER**

In 1958 the city constructed eight tennis courts at Municipal Park. Ten additional courts and a clubhouse were constructed in 1964, and the facility became known as the Mobile Tennis Center. A tennis pro was hired to give instruction, operate a pro shop, organize tennis programs, and to stage tournaments. On September 15, 1978 the tennis center facilities were leased to the tennis pro who took over the daily management of the facility.

This record group contains five cubic feet of records dated 1962-1978. It includes correspondence, budget reports, and other materials that document the use and management of the tennis center.

1. GENERAL RECORDS. 1962-1975. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Correspondence of the tennis pro and other city officials concerning policies and management of the tennis center and issues that arose during the center's construction. Materials accompanying the correspondence include fee lists, invoices, and receipts. Also included are drawings, plans, and specifications of the facilities and inventory lists of tennis and office equipment.

2. FISCAL RECORDS. 1965-1978. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Budgets and proposed budgets, which outline anticipated revenues and expenditures. Computer produced printouts list revenues and expenditures of the tennis center. Invoices and requisitions document expenditures on equipment and services. Also includes weekly work sheets that record fees collected for the use of courts, lights, lockers, and various membership and league fees. Weekly and monthly cash reports contain the same information in condensed form.

3. PERSONNEL RECORDS. 1970-1978. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Correspondence of the tennis pro with other city officials, the Mobile County Personnel Board, and tennis center employees on such topics as personnel policies and procedures, the creation and modification of positions, and the performance of various employees. Bulletins from the personnel board explain policies and procedures. Files on individual employees contain letters related to employment, termination, and job performance. Other materials include report to duty forms, payroll time reports, employee insurance forms, and pay plans.

NOTE: Access to these records is restricted.

DEPARTMENTS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

**RECORD GROUP 20
RECORDS OF THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

The Inspection Services Department was created by an ordinance dated September 28, 1962 which combined the existing Building Inspection Department, Electrical Inspection Department, Plumbing Inspection Department, Public Buildings Department, Zoning Administration, and the newly created Motor Vehicle Inspection Department. Howard E. Yeager, the incumbent building inspector, became director of inspection services.

Before 1866, a four member "Committee of Mechanics of the City of Mobile" investigated complaints regarding building construction. Building permits were issued by the city engineer. The office of inspector of buildings was created in 1866. He was elected annually in general elections and was directed to search out violations of the fire ordinance relating to the construction of new buildings, especially wooden buildings. Beginning in 1905, the general council appointed the building inspector for a term of three years. He was responsible for the surveying and inspection of buildings and issuing building permits. When the building inspector resigned in 1911, the office was abolished and the duties assigned to the city engineer. In April 1923, the office of building inspector was reinstated when A.W. Barr was appointed to the position. The city's first building code was adopted in October 1924. With the adoption of the city zoning ordinance of November 1, 1927, the building inspector was made responsible for its administration and enforcement.

The office of electrical inspector was created by an ordinance dated October 28, 1924 to insure that all electrical work and materials used in the construction of any building in the city conformed to the national electrical code.

The office of inspector of plumbing was originally established on December 20, 1899 as the inspector of plumbing and sewers and sewer connections. By a resolution adopted September 17, 1900 the general council created the office of superintendent of sewers to supervise all sewers laid in the streets. The inspector of plumbing was charged with supervising all plumbing done in the city.

Before 1911, the maintenance of public buildings was supervised by committees. After 1911, the duties were assumed by the Public Buildings Department. On December 1, 1964 the Public Buildings Department was transferred to the Projects Architectural Engineering Department.

In October, 1996, the Urban Development Department was formed combining the Land Use Administration, Inspection Services, and Planning. It now made up of the Land Use Administration, Code Administration, Long Range Planning Section, Safety/Parking Section, and GIS Section.

The records in this group comprise 454 cubic feet and date 1905-1975. Much of the material relates to the offices of building inspector, electrical inspector, and plumbing inspector before they were merged to form the Inspection Services Department. The largest series contains architectural drawings of public and commercial buildings. Also

prominent are copies of permits and applications for permits issued for building construction, electrical installation, and plumbing work. Property valuations performed by George G. Ehrenborg provide useful information on property and buildings in the 1920s.

1. CORRESPONDENCE FILES OF CLIFFORD W. ADAMS, BUILDING INSPECTOR. 1929-1942. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by last name of correspondent.

Correspondence concerning the safety of buildings and other structures in the city. Letters sent often advise property owners of safety hazards in buildings or violations of the building code and order that the problem be alleviated. Letters regarding building permits and the condemnations of buildings are common. Letters received usually concern owners' efforts to repair or modify buildings, or notify the building inspector of unsafe structures.

2. PERMITS FOR MOVING BUILDINGS, DEMOLISHING OLD BUILDINGS, AND ERECTING SIGNS. 1957-1971. 1 3/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically and by permit number.

Carbon copies of permits granting permission to move or demolish buildings, or erect signs.

3. PERMITS TO OPERATE BOILERS AND ELEVATORS. 1968-1971. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically and by permit number.

Carbon copies of permits granting permission to operate a boiler or elevator in the city.

4. PLUMBING AND SEWER PERMITS AND RECEIPTS. 1909, 1913, 1915, 1931, 1948. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Permits granting permission to perform plumbing and sewer work. Shown on each permit is the owner's name, application number, permit number, name of licensed plumber employed to do the work, and a description of the work to be performed. Receipts for permit fees collected are also included.

5. BUILDING PERMITS. 1928-1948. 1 3/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically and by permit number.

Carbon copies of permits issued to builders granting permission for new construction, additions, or renovations. Shown on each permit is the name of applicant, type of construction to be undertaken, location of construction site, cost of construction, permit fee, permit number, and date.

6. RECEIPTS FOR ELECTRICAL PERMITS. 1934-1935, 1939-1948. 8 c.f.

Arranged chronologically and by receipt number,

Carbon copies of receipts issued by the Bureau of Electrical Inspection for the collection of electrical permit fees. Each receipt shows work location, owner, description of electrical service to be performed, receipt number, and amount of fee.

7. CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY AND COMPLIANCE. 1927-1948. 3 c.f.

Arranged chronologically and by certificate number.

Carbon copies of certificates stating that the named individual or company has applied for a building permit and that the class of building proposed complies with the provisions of the zoning ordinance. Shown on each certificate is the certificate number, name of applicant, type of building, location, use of building, fee, and zoning ordinance district.

8. BUILDING SPECIFICATIONS. 1962-1975. 9 c.f.

Unarranged.

Technical specifications for the construction, addition, and alteration of municipal, state, and federally owned buildings and privately owned structures. Specifications, usually prepared by architects, detail the type of work to be performed and the materials to be used. Instructions for bidders are usually included.

9. APPLICATIONS FOR BUILDING PERMITS. 1905-1928, 1934-1945. 4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically and by application number.

Shown on each application is the owner's name, location, type of work to be performed, name of builder, description of materials to be used, estimated cost, application number, and fee. Approved applications are signed by the building inspector.

10. APPLICATIONS FOR PLUMBING PERMITS. 1913-1927, 1930-1932, 1937, 1946. 8 c.f.

Arranged chronologically and by application number.

Applications for permits to perform plumbing and sewer work in accordance with city ordinances. Shown on each application is the name of applicant (owner), name of licensed plumber performing work, location of building, description of building, application number, and a description of work to be performed. Plumber's notices that plumbing work is ready for inspection and the inspector's report on the work accompany applications dated 1930-1932.

11. PROPERTY VALUATIONS. 1926-1927. 24 c.f.

Arranged by page number of plat book.

Valuations performed by George G. Ehrenborg, Valuation Engineer. This series consists of "Unit System" cards which identify the location of property by city block number, district number, addition or subdivision, lot number, owner and street. Describes the property by size of building and its structural components such as types of floors, walls, roofs, heating, lighting, and plumbing. Each card contains a sketch of the lot or building, giving its dimensions. Total land valuation, improvement valuation, and total valuation are given. Cards are grouped in envelopes which give the plat book page number, addition, block number, the total number of buildings on the property, total land valuation, total building valuation, and total valuation of property.

12. ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS, BLUEPRINTS, AND PLATS. 1927-1975. 392 c.f.

Unarranged.

Architectural drawings, blueprints, and plats of public and commercial buildings were required to be deposited with the Inspection Services Department in order to apply for building, electrical, or plumbing permits. On each drawing is noted the date and time it was received by the department and the signatures of the fire marshal, city engineer, traffic engineer, zoning administrator, chief building inspector, chief electrical inspector, and chief plumbing inspector signifying that they reviewed the plans. Occasionally building specifications accompany drawings. A card file, arranged alphabetically by name of building or owner, is available for these records. A list of drawings, arranged alphabetically by street, is also available.

DEPARTMENTS OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

RECORD GROUP 17 RECORDS OF THE MOBILE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The existence of a police force in Mobile dates back to 1819 when the city was granted the power to appoint three police constables and to establish a night watch. Every male over sixteen years of age was required to serve as a watchmen. Members were chosen by lottery but could hire someone to serve in their place.

In 1826 a city marshal was appointed as chief of the police. Aside from police work he also collected all debts due the city and inspected chimneys for fire hazards. By 1835 the watch had expanded to include a captain, a lieutenant, and twenty-three privates.

From 1866 until the early 1900s, the police force was under the direction of a chief of police who reported directly to the mayor. Between 1908 and 1911 a Board of Police Commissioners controlled Mobile's police force. The board was dissolved when the commission form of government was adopted in 1911.

In 1962 the Police Department was reorganized. It was divided into a Field Operations Bureau and a Staff Services Bureau. The Juvenile Police Department Juvenile Division assumed the duties of the City Welfare Department, Child Welfare Bureau.

Today the police department is staffed by more than five hundred employees. It is divided into three bureaus--Field Operations, Investigative Services, and Staff Services--and has nine divisions.

The records of the Mobile Police Department total 529 cubic feet of materials which date 1821-1980. The records document the history of criminal activity in the city and the offenses of particular individuals. Much of the material relates to crimes of, or against, juveniles. Records relating to the administration of the Police Department are included as well.

NOTE: Access to these records is restricted.

1. OFFENSE REPORTS. 1955-1973. 151 c.f.

Arranged chronologically and by case number.

Offense report forms for complaints filed with the Police Department. Includes narrative descriptions of offenses and investigations. Statements of complainants or other persons involved in the offense are frequently attached.

1A. NARCOTICS. 1974-1992. 65 c.f.

Arranged chronologically by case number.

Offense reports(see series 1), case files, and other reports used in drug investigations.

1B. NARCOTICS REPORTS. 1975-1985. 45 c.f.

Arranged numerically by report number.
Lab reports identifying substances found in narcotics cases.

1C. EMPLOYEE ENTERTAINMENT CARD APPLICATIONS. 1982-1986. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by club name.
Applications filed with the Identification Division for employee entertainment card. Gives name, positioned applied for, and previous residences.

1D. FINGER PRINT FILES. 1977-1984. 5 1/2 c.f.

Arranged numerically by case number.
Finger prints taken by the Identification Division for police cases.

1E. PHOTOGRAPHIC FILES. 1976-1992. 55 c.f.

Arranged chronologically by case number within subject category.
Crime scene photographs taken by the Identification Division. Grouped by subject categories such as: narcotics, rape, burglary, larceny, suicide, one dead, robbery, arson, others, miscellaneous, and traffic accidents.

2. OFFENSE REPORTS--CLEARED CASES. 1940-1957. 27 c.f.

Arranged chronologically and by case number.
Offense report forms for complaints filed with the Police Department which were subsequently solved. Includes narrative descriptions of offenses and investigations. Statements of complainants or other persons involved in the offense are frequently attached.

3. OFFENSE REPORTS--UNSOLVED CASES. 1957-1960. 9 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically and by case number.
Offense report forms for complaints filed with the Police Department for which a suspect was never arrested or when the case was never solved. Includes narrative descriptions of offenses and investigations. Statements of complainants or other persons involved in the offense are frequently attached.

4. "EVENT, NARRATIVE, PERSON, PROPERTY, AND JAIL LOG REPORTS."

1973-1991. 457 c.f.

Arranged chronologically and by file number.

"Event, Narrative, Person, Property, and Jail Log Reports" were filed for complaints or accidents reported to the Police Department. Includes the name, address, telephone number, age, race, and sex of victim, complainant, witnesses, and suspects. Also includes a description of the offense, lists any property or evidence involved, and states the charge against the arrested suspect. Accident reports, statements from witnesses or defendants, criminal records of the suspect, evidence lists, and complaint forms usually accompany the reports.

5. CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION RECORDS. 1944-1973. 4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically and by file number.

Reports from the Mobile Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation giving the arrest record and fingerprints of convicted criminals.

6. MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT REPORTS. 1970-1971. 2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Completed forms which identify drivers and vehicles involved in accidents, describe the accident, and describe the weather conditions, road conditions, and other factors that contributed to the accident. Sketches of accident scenes usually accompany forms.

7. MONTHLY AND ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE. 1932-1936. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Reports to the board of commissioners regarding the activities of the Police Department. Reports show the amounts of fines collected, the number and types of arrests made, the amount of stolen property recovered, the type of labor performed by prisoners, the number of street lights reported not working, and the number and cost of meals served to prisoners.

8. INFORMATION MEMORANDA, WARRANTS, AND APPEARANCE BONDS. 1963-1968. 24 c.f.

Arranged chronologically and by case number.

Information memoranda, signed by the complainant, accuse the named individual of violating city ordinances or committing other crimes. A brief statement describing the

violation is usually given. Accompanying memoranda are arrest warrants, court appearance bonds, and subpoenas.

9. OFFICER INVESTIGATION REPORTS. 1957-1973. 4 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by name of officer.

Forms used to report occurrences other than crimes. Each form shows the reporting officer's name, subject of investigation, date and time of investigation, and a narrative description of the incident or investigation.

10. RECORDS RELATING TO TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS INVOLVING POLICE VEHICLES AND PERSONNEL. 1968-1976. 4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Officer investigation reports, Alabama motor vehicle traffic accident reports, repair estimates, insurance information cards, City of Mobile traffic accident reports, and photographs of traffic accidents involving police vehicles and personnel.

11. CALL CARDS. 1973-1974. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Cards completed for complaints or requests received by the department by telephone.

JUVENILE DIVISION

12. GENERAL FILES - JUVENILE DIVISION. 1952-1978. 8 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Mainly correspondence and completed forms. Types of forms included are auxiliary police reports, monthly activity reports, complaint forms on runaways and missing persons, officers' monthly reports, offense reports, daily bulletins, and forms for cases involving social workers.

13. INVESTIGATION REPORTS - JUVENILE DIVISION. 1955-1965. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Reports for cases investigated by the Juvenile Division. Included are the names and addresses of the complainants, descriptions of the complaints, and names of investigating officers.

14. DETECTIVES' DAILY REPORTS - JUVENILE DIVISION. 1955-1979. 25 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.
Daily reports of detectives' activities and investigations.

15. RECORD OF OFFENSES - JUVENILE DIVISION. 1954-1979. 19 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by name of arrested juvenile.
5" x 8" cards containing information on juveniles who were arrested.

16. REPORT OF OFFENSES--RUNAWAY FILES. 1966-1980. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.
5" x 8" note cards show names, addresses, and physical descriptions of runaways.
A list of offenses committed by the runaway is included.

17. RUNAWAY REPORTS--UNSOLVED. 1973-1977. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.
Monthly compilations of runaway and missing person reports that were not solved.
Each monthly file also contains a list of cases reported.

**18. FIELD INTERROGATION REPORTS - JUVENILE DIVISION. 1954-1980.
35 c.f.**

Arranged chronologically and by case number.
Documents detectives' investigations of crimes committed by juveniles. Offense reports, records of offenses, evidence lists, warrants, and jail logs often accompany interrogation reports.

**19. FIELD INTERROGATION REPORTS - JUVENILE DIVISION, "B FILE".
1962-1980. 6 c.f.**

Arranged chronologically and thereunder by case number.
Documents detectives' investigations of crimes with juveniles as victims. Offense reports and statements of victims or witnesses usually accompany the reports.

20. FEDERAL FILE CARDS - JUVENILE DIVISION. 1969-1979. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Notebooks labeled "Federal File Cards" which contain the names of complainants, offenses reported, and investigating officers.

21. CASE ASSIGNMENT CARDS - JUVENILE DIVISION. 1971-1977. 2 c.f.

Arranged by name of officer.

3" x 5" cards which list the name of the complainant, nature of complaint, case number, date, name of officer, name of suspect, and a brief description of the investigation.

22. OFFICE FILES OF THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT - JUVENILE DIVISION. 1955-1975. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Correspondence, monthly reports, minutes of community service club meetings, bills, requisitions, and charitable solicitation permit forms which document the activities of the Welfare Department. Also includes files on particular cases and clients.

23. WELFARE CASE FILES - JUVENILE DIVISION. 1962-1976. 3/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Record of social services provided in juvenile welfare cases by the Welfare Department. Includes a brief narrative description of office visits and services provided.

24. FINANCIAL RECORDS OF THE CHILD WELFARE BUREAU OF THE JUVENILE DIVISION. 1962-1975. 1 c.f.

Arranged by type of record.

Bank statements, canceled checks, check stubs, bills, and journals which document expenditures of the Child Welfare Bureau.

25. AUTHORIZATIONS FOR PAUPER BURIALS. 1957-1959, 1962-1975. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Records dated 1957-1959 are copies of letters from the City Welfare Department to the Mobile County Board of Health authorizing burials of deceased persons as paupers. Records dated 1962-1975 are mainly completed forms from the Social Services Office of the Juvenile Division authorizing pauper burials. Completed forms show name, address, telephone number, age, race, sex, and religion of the deceased. A brief narrative on the back of forms describes the circumstances of the request for burial. Occasional letters accompany forms.

BOUND VOLUMES

26. RECORD OF PATROLS. 1821-1827. 1 vol. 1 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Daily list of persons liable for patrol duties and those absent.

27. GUARD HOUSE DOCKETS. 1859-1863. 3 vols. 8 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Daily record of prisoners confined to the guard house. Lists name of offender, complaint, by whom committed, time, judgment, fine paid, and other remarks. If the offender was a slave, then the owner's name is given.

28. SENTINEL'S DOCKETS. 1899-1910, 1912-1925. 12 vols. 3 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.

Lists names of offenders, their residence, color, age, sex, nationality, occupation, and marital status, whether offenders can read and write, place of arrest, complaints, effects, and name of arresting officers.

29. TURNKEY'S DOCKETS. 1925-1928. 2 vols. 5 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Lists the dates and times prisoners were committed, names, sex, and race of prisoners, sergeants docket numbers, dates, sentences expired, and dates and times of prisoners' release.

30. SERGEANT'S DOCKETS. 1925-1973. 118 vols. 53 1/2 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.

Lists the sergeant's docket number and date, prisoner's name, address, employer, sex, race, age, and birth date, name of arresting officer, time of arrest, violation, a list of prisoner's effects, date prisoner released on bond, sentence, date returned to jail, and court docket number.

31. INDEX TO SERGEANT'S DOCKETS. 1929-1973. 23 vols. 5 3/4 lin. Ft.

Volumes arranged chronologically. Entries within volumes are arranged alphabetically by prisoner's name.

An index to records in Series 30.

**32. DAY ROLL. CENTRAL STATION POLICE FORCE. 1890, 1892-1894.
3 vols. 3 1/2 lin. in.**

Arranged chronologically.

Daily record of officers on duty. Lists names of officers, rank or job, fines collected and from whom, and the officer of the day.

**33. NIGHT ROLL. CENTRAL STATION POLICE FORCE. 1893-1894.
2 vols. 2 1/2 lin. in.**

Arranged chronologically.

Record of officers on night duty. Lists names of officers, rank or job, and absentees.

**34. POLICE DEPARTMENT PAYROLL AND EMPLOYMENT RECORDS.
1940,
1942, 1944-1963. 19 vols. 4 3/4 lin. ft.**

Volumes arranged chronologically. Entries within volumes arranged alphabetically. Monthly record of days worked by police officers and amounts paid.

35. CASH BOOK. 1964-1966. 1 vol. 3 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Record of moneys received by the Police Department from fines and court costs.

RECORD GROUP 18 RECORDS OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT

The judicial functions of the city were originally the responsibility of the mayor. The 1819 charter authorized the mayor to hold daily court to try offenders against the ordinances of the city. In 1840 the Alabama legislature created the office of recorder to try cases under the city ordinances, not involving more than fifty dollars, and criminal cases against the state. Appeals from the recorder's court were taken to the circuit court. The office was abolished in 1841 and the duties were again assumed by the mayor. The office of recorder was reestablished in 1897. The functions of the court remained the same but the office of recorder became an elective post. In 1911 the city commissioners were given the responsibility of appointing recorders. The board of commissioners retained this authority throughout its existence, except for the period 1933-1935 when the office was again made an elective position. In September 1962 the name was changed to Municipal Court of the City of Mobile.

The records in this record group contain docket books from the mayor's court and the recorder's court which document cases involving city and state violations brought before the courts. The records total sixty and one-third linear feet and are dated 1820-1963.

BOUND VOLUMES

1. MAYOR'S COURT RECORDS. 1820-1825, 1828-1837. 3 vols.

3 3/4 lin. In.

Arranged chronologically.

List of cases before the Mayor's Court. Shown are name of defendant, charge, verdict, sentence, and amount of fine.

2. RECORDER'S COURT DOCKET. 1909-1963. 99 vols. 41 1/2 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.

Lists dates, docket numbers, names of offenders, arresting officers, witnesses, charges, judgments, and penalties.

3. STATE DOCKETS. 1883-1886, 1908-1963. 42 vols. 10 1/2 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.
Docket of cases involving the State of Alabama.

4. INDEX TO STATE DOCKET BOOKS. 1910-1962. 49 vols. 8 lin. ft.

Arranged alphabetically.
An index to records in Series 3.

**RECORD GROUP 19
RECORDS OF THE MOBILE FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT**

During the period 1819-1888, Mobile relied on volunteer fire companies for fire protection. The companies were required to provide and maintain their own equipment though they often petitioned the city to build new station houses, to provide funds for major repairs, and to purchase new equipment. The city paid the fire companies based on the first company to draw water at a fire. The first volunteer companies formed were Creole Company No. 1 and Neptune Company No. 2. Franklin Engine Company No. 3 was added in February 1832. Merchants Company No. 4 was organized in 1836. Two years later Torrent No. 5, Phoenix No. 6, and Mechanics No. 7 were established. The last three volunteer companies were Hook and Ladder No. 1 formed in 1839, Washington No. 8 established in 1843, and Lafayette No. 9 founded in 1866.

In 1838, the fire companies formed the Mobile Fire Department Association. All the companies were members of the association although they still functioned independently. The association was incorporated by the Alabama General Assembly in 1843.

In September 1871, the Fire Department Association contracted with the city for firefighting services. The contract required the companies to have eight steam engines, seven hose trucks, two hook and ladder trucks, forty-eight horses, and at least twenty-six men per company. All of the companies were under the supervision of the fire chief and his three assistants. In return the association was paid forty thousand dollars annually.

As the city's financial condition worsened in the 1870s and 1880s, payments to the fire department association decreased. Finally, in August 1888, when the city was unable to provide funds for the association, the mayor formed the Mobile Fire Department. Matt Sloan was recruited from one of the volunteer companies to be the chief of the new department. Engines and equipment were collected or purchased from the volunteer companies. The firemen hired to staff the engines were mostly members of the volunteer system.

The Mobile Fire Department has continued to grow over the years. In 1985 it consisted of nineteen fire stations staffed by three hundred eighty-two firemen.

The records of the Fire Department consist of seventeen cubic feet of correspondence, memos, reports, and log books kept by the different stations or the chief. These records document the daily activities of the stations, the number and nature of all fires responded to each day, and payrolls. They date 1924-1985.

1. GENERAL FILES OF THE FIRE CHIEF. 1930-1979. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Consists largely of correspondence with city commissioners, members of the fire department, and private citizens. Topics include job reassignments, vacations, speed limits, and fire school assignments. Some letters express citizens' gratitude for assistance rendered by the fire department. Also includes diagrams of the Hale Multi-Service Centrifugal Pump, special interest bulletins from the National Board of Fire Underwriters, work orders for fire vehicles, index cards listing the location of call boxes, and Mobile County Emergency Medical Services confidential fire rescue report forms.

2. PUBLICATIONS, HANDBOOKS, AND INSTRUCTION MANUALS. 1942-1984. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Publications collected by the fire department, including materials on fire station design, Seagrave pumping engines, and other types of fire fighting equipment. Handbooks and manuals cover workmen's compensation, first aid procedures, security of vessels in port, and the national electrical code. Also included are rules and regulations of the New Orleans Fire Department, the Mobile Firefighters Association, and the Fireman's Relief Association.

7. TRAINING. 1965-1977. 9 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Performance records, job training daily progress reports, company training reports, and career development files.

8. INSPECTION REPORTS. 1982-1987. 16 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Bureau of Fire Prevention inspections of buildings, arson investigations, individual inspector files, reports and ordinances.

9. YEARLY FILES. 1955-1969, 1971-1975, 1977-1988, 1990-1992. 37 c.f.

Arranged chronologically by year, alphabetically by subject.

Office file from the Fire Chief's Office.

BOUND VOLUMES

3. LOG BOOKS. 1924-1991. 202 vols. 17 lin. ft.

Arranged by fire company.

Daily ledgers of fire companies which list fire truck fuel levels, personnel on vacation or detailed to other companies, items received, classes held, maintenance work performed on trucks and equipment, overtime worked, and incidents of the day. Also included are ledgers devoted entirely to overtime pay, maintenance work, sick claims, hoses rebutted, and listings of linens, boots, and helmets issued to firemen.

4. EMPLOYEE TIME BOOKS. 1926-1972. 36 vols. 5 lin. ft.

Arranged by fire company and thereunder chronologically.

Record of the number of days worked by firemen and the amount of pay they received.

5. DAILY FIRE REPORTS. 1926-1991. 161 vols. 5 lin. ft.

Arranged by fire company and thereunder chronologically.

Daily record of fire alarms responded to and how extinguished. Also included are the daily fire reports of the fire chief which record all fires responded to in the city.

**6. DAILY FIRE RESCUE REPORTS. 1977-1985. 15 vols.
3 1/2 lin in.**

Arranged chronologically.

Paperback ledgers kept of all calls responded to by Fire Rescue Company Number

8.

DEPARTMENTS OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION

**RECORD GROUP 21
RECORDS OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

The Public Works Department was created in 1962 when the street maintenance, garbage collection, and drainage responsibilities of the city were combined under the superintendent of public works. The duties performed by the Public Works Department can be traced back to 1819 when the city charter granted the mayor and aldermen power to appoint an inspector of streets, alleys, lanes, fences, yards, and outhouses. By the 1840s the street inspector, often called the street superintendent, was also responsible for supervising the street force and for the construction and repair of all streets, bridges, sidewalks, and drainage systems. In 1867 the name of the position was changed to street commissioner and the office was made an elective post.

In 1897, the street commissioner was placed under the direct supervision of Standing Committee Number Three. In 1901 the Board of Public was created to supervise all work performed on the city's streets, roads, sidewalks, drainage, and bridges. The duties of the board were transferred to the city commissioners in 1911. After 1911 the city established the Street and Garbage Department which was responsible for keeping city streets passable and collecting garbage. Since then these responsibilities have been placed under several departments.

Today, the Public Works Department is under the supervision of the director of public works. The various services performed by the Public Works Department include solid waste and trash pickup and disposal, lot cleaning, pipe laying, storm sewer maintenance, street repair, street sweeping, tree trimming, and dredging.

This record group consists of seven and one-half cubic feet of materials which are dated 1959-1976. The documents are mainly correspondence concerning the administration of the department and personnel matters. Also included are forms listing weed complaints. Related records will be found in RG 23, Records of the Engineering Department and RG 25, Records of the Board of Public Works.

1. GENERAL FILES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. 1959, 1964-1976. 7 c.f.

Arranged chronologically thereunder alphabetically.

Mainly correspondence concerning claims against the city, personnel actions, equipment inventories, and budgets. Also included are requests for leave, lists of inventories, sanitation routes, minutes from the meetings of the Municipal Educational Board, and accident, physician, annual, and supervisory reports.

2. WEED COMPLAINT FORMS. 1971-1972, 1974. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Contains weed complaints received by the Public Works Department.

**RECORD GROUP 22
RECORDS OF THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS DEPARTMENT**

The Buildings and Grounds Department was originally named the Projects Architectural Engineering Department. The Projects Architectural Engineering Department was established in October 1964 and incorporated the functions of the Public Buildings Department later the same year. The department advises city officials on architectural, mechanical, and civil engineering matters and supervises the planning, construction, and maintenance of public buildings.

On April 3, 1979, the Projects Architectural Engineering Department was renamed the Buildings and Grounds Department and divided into a projects architectural engineering division, a building maintenance division, and a mechanical maintenance division.

This record group consists of one series containing two cubic feet of letters sent by the Projects Architectural Engineering Department before it was renamed the Buildings and Grounds Department.

1. LETTERS SENT. 1964-1972. 2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Copies of letters sent to the board of commissioners, other municipal departments, state and federal agencies, and construction and building supply companies. The letters

concern the construction and maintenance of municipal buildings and the administration of the department. Occasional field reports and change orders accompany letters.

RECORD GROUP 23 RECORDS OF THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

The office of city engineer evolved from the office of the city surveyor. Since its incorporation as a town in 1814, Mobile's governing officials have appointed a surveyor, often referred to as the engineer, to lay-out streets and to survey town boundaries. The duties of the office expanded over the years to include the reporting of dangerous buildings, drawing maps of the city, and the supervision of the street force. In 1866, the Alabama General Assembly authorized the position of "City Engineer." He was responsible for the same duties as the earlier surveyor except for the supervision of the street force which was given to the superintendent of streets. Additional duties were later added to the office, including the issuing of building permits, planning street construction, and regulating of railroad tracks, sewers, bridges, and the laying of pipes. In 1895, the office of city engineer was made an elective position. When the board of commissioners was organized in 1911, the office was again made appointive.

The records of the Engineering Department total fifty-six and one-third cubic feet. The documents date from 1815-1985, though most date 1912-1977. They contain materials related to a variety of municipal construction and improvement venture projects, including those sponsored by the Works Progress Administration in the 1930s. Related records will be found in RG 21, Records of the Public Works Department.

1. RECORDS CONCERNING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS. 1912-1952. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

This series consists mostly of materials related to contracts for construction projects. Includes advertisements for bids, estimates of work, specifications, proposals, and bonds. Also includes correspondence, resolutions and ordinances authorizing project work, reports, maps, drawings, and blueprints. Types of projects include sidewalk ventures, storm sewers, and improvements to Bates Field.

2. RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING PROPERTY AND STREETS. 1946-1960. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Resolutions regarding easements, right-of-ways, private roads and drainage facilities, street vacations, eminent domain proceedings, and street names.

3. EASEMENTS. 1956-1957. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Easements, maps, and correspondence relating to the acquisition of easements for paving ventures.

4. RECORDS RELATING TO WATER WORKS PROJECTS. 1923-1930, 1933-1934. 3/4 c.f.

Records dating 1923-1925 are arranged alphabetically. Records dating 1926-1930 and 1933-1934 are arranged chronologically.

Contains correspondence, specifications, blueprints, bids, bid tabulations, and monthly estimates of work completed on the construction of water works facilities.

5. BLUEPRINTS OF LADD MEMORIAL STADIUM. 1945. 1/4 c.f.

Unarranged.

Blueprints and other drawings of the stadium and its seating plan. Also includes letters and booklets concerning stadium construction.

6. RECORDS OF THE LITTLE STICKNEY HOLLOW DRAINAGE PROJECTS. 1929-1940. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Contains advertisements for bids, estimates of work to be done, proposals, specifications, and bonds concerning several drainage projects in Little Stickney Hollow. Also includes correspondence concerning property easements and construction of drainage systems, monthly certifications of work completed, and photographs of flooding in the Woodlands-Summerville watershed area.

7. RECORDS RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BALTIMORE STREET SWIMMING POOL. 1953-1954. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Contains a copy of the contract for the construction of the pool, correspondence concerning construction, drawings, and specifications.

8. PROPOSALS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND CONTRACTS. 1971-1977. 3 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Booklets containing advertisements for bids, project proposals, specifications, contracts, and bonds for construction projects. Many of the projects were for storm drainage and the paving and widening of streets. Also includes projects to improve or extend runways at Bates Field and the construction of Fort Conde Plaza.

9. RECORDS RELATED TO WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION PROJECTS. 1935-1938. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically by year and alphabetically by project thereunder.

Completed project proposals, reports of project costs, and project financial status reports which describe the purpose and costs

RECORDS OF MUNICIPAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

RECORD GROUP 24 RECORDS OF THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Board of Adjustment was created by the zoning ordinance of the City of Mobile adopted January 23, 1951. The board was established to hear appeals where it is alleged that there is an error in any order, requirement, permit, or decision made by officials carrying out any provisions of the zoning ordinance. The board also interprets the zoning map, grants special exceptions to the zoning ordinance, and grants variances where literal enforcement of the provisions of the zoning ordinance would result in unnecessary hardship. Decisions made by the Board of Adjustment can be appealed to the Circuit Court of Mobile County.

Initially, the board consisted of four regular members and a chairman, all appointed by the city commissioners. In 1981, the number of members was increased to six, four regular members and two supernumerary members. The supernumeraries were appointed to take the place of any regular member absent from a board meeting.

The Board of Adjustment is an independent board responsible only to the governing officials of the city. Members of the board do however work closely with the Planning Commission, the Planning and Development Department and the Inspection Services Department in order to properly rule on zoning issues.

The records of the Board of Adjustment include correspondence concerning zoning issues, minutes and agendas from board meetings, and reports made to the board recommending or denying variance requests. These materials date 1960-1976 and total three cubic feet. Related materials can be found in RG 26, Records of the Mobile City Planning Commission.

1. CORRESPONDENCE. 1962-1982. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Correspondence and interdepartmental memos, including form letters from the city revenue officer requesting that the zoning administrator decide if liquor license applicants' buildings comply with the building code. Also includes letters from the zoning administrator to citizens advising them of the zoning classifications of various properties.

2. MINUTES AND AGENDAS. 1969-1989. 3 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of the regular monthly meetings of the Board of Adjustment usually accompanied by agendas. Information available in the minutes includes members present, new zoning variance applications considered, variances held over, and other business handled by the board.

3. REPORTS ON ZONING VARIANCE APPLICATIONS. 1960-1989. 5 c.f.

Arranged chronologically by meeting dates.

Reports filed by the planning consultant or the zoning administrator which recommend zoning variance applications for approval or denial. Attached to each report are maps of the area for which a variance was requested.

4. SUB-DIVISION AND ZONING REPORTS. 1951-1967. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Files on sub-division containing correspondence, zoning amendments, and drawings.

RECORD GROUP 25
RECORDS OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Board of Public Works was established in 1901. It originally consisted of the mayor and two members appointed by the mayor. Beginning in 1906, the two appointed positions were changed to elective posts. In 1908 the number of members was increased to five. The board supervised all work performed on the city's streets, roads, sidewalks, drainage, and bridges. The duties of the board were transferred to the board of commissioners in 1911.

The records total one cubic foot and date 1898-1911. They document activities of the board and the awarding of contracts for public works projects. Related records will be found in RG 21, Records of the Public Works Department and RG 23, Records of the Engineering Department.

1. CORRESPONDENCE. 1904-1911. 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Letters to the board from businessmen and private citizens concerning bids on public works projects and complaints about street and drainage problems. Some letters are from the city attorney and city engineer. Copies of letters sent usually report on the activities of the board to the general council. Bills for services rendered and payrolls of the engineering department are also included.

2. "FORMS OF ADVERTISEMENT, ESTIMATE, PROPOSAL, SPECIFICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGMENT, AND BOND." 1898-1906. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Completed forms for bids on public works projects. Some contracts for projects and correspondence are also included.

**3. MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS. 1901-1911. 2 vols.
5 1/2 lin. in.**

Arranged chronologically.

Minutes of meetings of the Board of Public Works listing the members present, matters discussed, and actions taken.

RECORD GROUP 26
RECORDS OF THE MOBILE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

The Mobile City Planning Commission was established in September 1944. It was originally composed of nine members, the three city commissioners and six members appointed by them. In 1981 two supernumerary members were appointed to take the place of any regular member absent from a board meeting.

The planning commission serves as an advisory board to the governing body of the city, as well as other officials and agencies, on matters of city planning, zoning, and future city growth and expansion. They hold hearings concerning these issues, make recommendations, and approve or deny new subdivision plans.

This record group contains one series which includes minutes, reports, bills, and some correspondence relating to the activities of the commission. Related records will be found in RG 24, Records of the Board of Adjustment.

1. GENERAL FILES. 1958-1959, 1961-1971. 1 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Contains minutes of commission meetings, meetings of the Architectural Review Board, and Mobile Historic Development Commission meetings. Also contains reports on Board of Adjustment zoning variance requests, car rental bills, and some interdepartmental correspondence.

RECORD GROUP 27
RECORDS OF THE MOBILE RIVER COMMISSION

The Mobile River Commission was established by the Alabama legislature on February 28, 1887. It consisted of the mayor, the president of the Board of Revenue and Road Commissioners of Mobile County, the president of the Mobile Chamber of Commerce, a lawyer, and, until 1889, the United States engineer in charge of Mobile harbor improvements. Members served four year terms. The mayor presided over commission meetings.

The commission had jurisdiction over the Mobile and Tensas Rivers. It was charged with protecting the navigability of the rivers and Mobile harbor. It regulated improvements to the rivers, bulkheads, wharves, dry-docks, and boom lines. It commissioned surveys and maps of the area. It approved all applications for river and harbor improvements and could declare river front structures a nuisance and bring the

owners of such structures to trial. In February 1889 the jurisdiction of the commission was broadened to include the regulation of sunken vessels, and the anchorage of steamboats and other vessels. The commission was dissolved in 1911.

This record group consists of one series of correspondence regarding the activities of the commission.

1. LETTERBOOK OF THE MOBILE RIVER COMMISSION. 1892-1898.

1 vol. 1 1/2 lin. in.

Arranged chronologically.

Mostly letters received by the commission, many of which request permission to drive piles or make other improvements on river front property such as the construction of docks or wharves. Included are several letters from railroad companies, the city engineer, and the commission lawyer. Some of the letters concern appointments to the commission. A few letter press copies of letters sent by the clerk of the commission are also included.

**RECORD GROUP 28
RECORDS OF THE MOBILE TREE COMMISSION**

The Mobile Tree Commission was created by the Alabama legislature on September 9, 1961. The objectives of the commission include educating the public on the economic and aesthetic benefit of trees, promoting the health, growth, and planting of trees, and protecting trees in the right-of-way from damage, removal, and other hazards. The commission also reviews tree trimming and removal applications filed with the Inspection Services Department.

The predecessor of the Tree Commission was the Tree Committee established in late 1949 by the City Beautification Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, the Federation of Garden Clubs, and the Historic Mobile Preservation Society. Its members desired to work with the board of commissioners in an advisory capacity to help preserve the city's trees. The committee was active for only a few years.

The records of the Mobile Tree Commission comprise two cubic feet and date from 1949 to 1974. The record group consists of correspondence which document the activities of the Tree Committee and the Mobile Tree Commission.

1. GENERAL FILES. 1949-1953, 1962-1974. 2 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically.

Consists mainly of correspondence with municipal employees and citizens of Mobile concerning the removal or planting of trees in the right-of-way. Also includes applications for tree trimming and removal, blueprints of construction projects in which trees interfere, and photographs of trees. Many of the records relate to the organization and operation of the commission, including a copy of the act creating the commission, bylaws, minutes of the tree commission and the Mobile Historic Development Commission, monthly and annual reports, and bank statements.

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OTHER RECORD GROUPS

**RECORD GROUP 33
MAP COLLECTION**

This record group includes the maps and atlases that we have on Mobile from the colonial era to 1998. Only the books are listed here, individual maps on Mobile and the local are not included due to space. Contact the Archives to inquire about individual maps.

1. SANBORN INSURANCE MAPS. 1880, 1891, 1904, 1925, and 1955. 7 vol. 6

lin. ft.

The Sanborn Insurance Company compiled maps on many cities in the United States from the late 19th to the mid 20th Century. These maps showed individual structures with codes noting what they were made out of, how many stories, fire systems if any, and other items. The maps were used to determine insurance rates. The Sanborn Company amended the maps with paste on pieces to keep up with development. The 1880 and 1891 maps are black and white photocopies showing just the downtown area. The 1904 book covers the downtown area with additions up to 1927. The 1925 three volume set has the downtown area in volume 1, western part of the city in volume 2, and volume three has areas outside of Mobile, this set has been amended up to 1954. The four volume 1955 set has downtown Mobile in volume 1, western Mobile in volume 2, areas north of Mobile in volume 3, and areas west and south of Mobile are in volume 4.

2. CITY ATLAS. 1878. 1 vol. 1 lin. ft.

This is an atlas created by G.M. Hopkins which was published in 1878. Some structures are shown, some property ownership is indicated, and some businesses are named. Only covers the area inside the city limits at the time it was created.

3. TROOST MAP BOOKS. 1840. 7 vol. 7 lin. ft.

Louis Troost was contracted by the City of Mobile for this set in 1840. It shows parcels in a city block with a list of the owners for that block. It covers some property outside the city limits at that time.

4. PILLANS MAP BOOKS. 1868. 8 vols. 8 lin. ft.

This set was done by Palmer J. Pillans while he was city surveyor. Similar to the Troost Map Books, it shows parcels by city block with a list of the owners for that block.

5. ROSS MAP BOOK. 1902-1903. 1 vol. 1 lin. ft.

David M. N. Ross, city engineer, created this book to show what property the City owned. It shows the parcel the City owns and the parcels around it. The book has an index to the property by what was located there.

**RECORD GROUP 34
MOBILE PRESS REGISTER NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS**

The Mobile Press Register traces its history back 1813, the first newspaper printed in Alabama. Over the years it has bought out or driven out all competition until

today it is the only major daily newspaper in Mobile. As part of its operations, the Press Register kept a clippings morgue for historical information. The Mobile Public Library obtained a complete set of the newspaper on microfilm from its beginning and has an ongoing project to microfilm the current editions. The Press Register decided that it no longer needed to maintain its morgue and offered it the Municipal Archives in 1986. The Archives took in the clippings.

1. MOBILE PRESS REGISTER NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS. 1920-1989 254 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

These were the Mobile Press Register newspaper clippings morgue. They cover various subjects that the paper felt it may need in the future. There is an index of the subject titles available.

**RECORD GROUP 35
PRIVATE COLLECTIONS**

Record Group 36 is a catch all collection of materials that are not City of Mobile records. These are items that are important to Mobile but there are no apparent alternative repository for them. Each series will have its own description.

1. MUNGER/BAUMHAUER PAPERS. 1853-1948. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

These are the family papers of the Munger and Baumhauer families. Mostly concerns Charles E. and Fannie Munger with correspondence, family genealogy, newspaper clippings, and pictures.

2. SCHWARZ SCRAPBOOKS. 1890-1935. 14 vols. 3 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Scrapbooks of Leon Schwarz who was appointed sheriff in 1926 and served as a City Commissioner from 1927 to 1931, in which twice he was mayor. Schwarz was active in community affairs, B'nai B'rith, and the United Spanish War Veterans.

3. HIGGINBOTHAM PAPERS. 1954-1991. 28 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Material on local history and genealogy by Prieur Jay Higginbotham who has several historical books published such as *Old Mobile* and *Mobile! City by the Bay* and non-fiction books such as *Fast Train Russia*. He is the first director of the Mobile Municipal Archives.

4. PAPERS OF FRANK S. KEELER. 1946-1950. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Mostly speeches of Frank S. Keeler, Vice-President of Alabama Power, while President of the Mobile County School Board from 1944 to 1950. He was the Mobilian of the Year in 1949.

5. PAPERS OF CECILE SHERMAN. 1936-1984. 1 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Personal material of Cecile Sherman who performed opera in New York in the 1930's and after she retired, supported the opera in Mobile. There are newspaper clippings on her performances, photographs, and memorabilia.

6. LETTERBOOK OF SAMUAL C. MULDON. 1873-1876. 1 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.

Samuel C. Muldon was an insurance agent during this time in Mobile. The book contains both business and personal letters he wrote during this time. It has an index of who Muldon wrote to listed alphabetically.

7. LETTERBOOK OF JOSHUA KENNEDY. 1813-1838. 1 vol. 1 lin. ft.

Arranged chronologically.

This book has the real estate transactions of Joshua Kennedy in what is now Mobile and Baldwin Counties. Kennedy was an English doctor who came to Mobile during the British Colonial Period. He and his brother Joseph Kennedy were major landholders in the area.

8. MOBILE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS. 1916-1918. 1 vol. 1 lin. ft.

Arranged by type of meetings.

Book contains board meetings regular meetings, motions and amendments and roll call. They were concern with community improvement and supporting the war.

9. INDEX TO TRANSLATED RECORDS. 1798. 1 vol. 1 lin. ft.

Arranged alphabetically by first letter of last name.

A translated index from Mobile colonial land record index of 1798 written by Joseph E. Cato in the 1840's. The index starts at the letter E and ends with S.

10. BROOKLEY FIELD. 1939-1969. 15 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

Material from the United States Army Air Corps and its later name the United States Air Force about its operations at Brookley Field. There are official histories, the newspaper published there called the Brookley Bay Breeze/Brookley Welfarer/Brookley Spotlight, and scrapbooks.

11. MOBILE WEATHER BUREAU. 1893-1950. 1 c.f.

Arranged by subject.

Records of the Mobile Station of the Weather Bureau of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and, after 1940, the Department of Commerce including reports of hurricanes, tropical storms, floods, snow and ice, tide flows, and annual reports.

12. SISTER CITIES. 1966-1993. 9 c.f.

Arranged by program.

Material of the various sister city programs that Mobile has with foreign cities. It contains correspondence, exchanges, the Mobile International Festival, student exchanges and other events. Some of the sister cities are: Pau, France; Worms, Germany; Malaga, Spain; and Rostov-on-Don, Russia.

13. FRIENDS OF FREEDOM. 1996-1997. 1/4 c.f.

Arranged by subject.

A community organization promoting patriotism by an annual essay contests and other programs.

14. MOBILE TRICENTENNIAL COMMISSION. 1994-1997. 2 1/2 c.f.

Arranged chronologically.

A non-profit corporation supported by the City of Mobile to plan for the tricentennial of Mobile in 2002.

APPENDIX A:

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY ON THE HISTORY OF MOBILE'S MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

ANNUAL REPORTS

Annual Report of the Port of Mobile. Mobile: Port of Mobile, 1883-84.

Annual Reports of the City of Mobile. Mobile: City of Mobile, 1895, 1899, 1900-1902, 1905, 1907-09.

Reports of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Mobile. Mobile: city of mobile, 1911-1955.

CODES OF ORDINANCES

Berney, Saffold, comp. The Charter and the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mobile, Alabama, with Appendix, in One Volume. Mobile: Commercial Printing Co., 1907.

Bolles, C.E. A Digest of the Various Acts of the Legislature Incorporating the City of Mobile, Together with the Special and Private Acts Incident to the Government of said City with a complete Index. Mobile: Thompson & Harris, 1849.

The Charter and Code of Ordinances of the City of Mobile. Mobile: George Matzenger, Printer, 1889.

Collection of the Ordinances now in Force in the City of Mobile, and also the Various Acts of the Legislature Incorporating said City with a copious Index thereto. Mobile: The Merchantile Advertiser, 1835.

Hamilton, Peter Joseph, comp. The Charter and the Code of Ordinances of 1897 of the City of Mobile, with an Appendix. Mobile: Commercial Printing Co., 1897.

Hendrix, Shelton, comp. The Commission Government Charter and the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mobile, Alabama, with Appendix. Mobile: Board of Commissioners of the City of Mobile, 1934.

Hendrix, Shelton, comp. The Commission Government Charter and the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mobile, Alabama, with Appendix. Mobile: Board of Commissioners of the City of Mobile, 1947.

Lewis, Reuben, comp. The Charter and Code of Ordinances of the City of Mobile. Mobile: Advertiser and Register Office, 1866.

McKinstry, Alexander, comp. The Code of Ordinances of the City of Mobile with the Charter and an Appendix. Mobile: S.H. Goetzel & Co., 1859.

Michie City Publications Co., comp. The Code of the City of Mobile, Alabama. Charlottesville, Vir.: Michie City Publications, 1956.

Michie City Publications Co., comp. The Code of the City of Mobile, Alabama. Charlottesville, Vir.: Michie City Publications, 1966.

Municipal Code Corporation, comp. Mobile City Code. Tallahassee, FL: Municipal Code Corporation, 1985.

Municipal Code Corporation, comp. Code City of Mobile, Alabama. Tallahassee, FL: Municipal Code Corporation, 1991.

Ordinances, Grants and Franchises of the City of Mobile Since the Code of 1907. Mobile: City of Mobile, 1921.

BOOKS

Amos, Harriet E. Cotton City: Urban Development in Antebellum Mobile. University, Ala.: University of Alabama Press, 1985.

Craighead, Erwin. Mobile: Fact and Tradition, Noteworthy People and Events. Mobile: The Powers Printing Co., 1930.

Hamilton, Peter J. Colonial Mobile: An Historical Study Largely from Original Sources, of the Alabama-Tombigbee Basin and the Old South West from the discovery of the Spiritu Santo in 1519 until the Demolition of Fort Charlotte in 1821. 2nd ed. rev. and enl. Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1910. Reprint. Mobile: The First National Bank of Mobile, 1952.

McLaurin, Melton and Michael Thomason. Mobile: The Life and Times of A Great Southern City, An Illustrated History. Woodland Hills, CA: Windsor Publications, Inc., 1981.

APPENDIX B: PRESIDENTS AND MAYORS OF MOBILE, 1814-1985

1814-16	Lewis Judson	1925-26	George E. Crawford
1817	James Inerarity	1926-27	Harry T. Hartwell
1818-19	Samuel Garrow	1927-28	Leon Schwarz
1820-22	Addin Lewis	1928-29	Cecil F. Bates
1823	John Elliott	1929-30	Harry T. Hartwell
1824-26	Samuel Garrow	1930-31	Leon Schwarz
1827-30	John F. Everett	1931-32	Cecil F. Bates
1831-34	John Stockings, Jr.	1932-33	Harry T. Hartwell
1835-36	John F. Everett	1933-34	R.V. Taylor
1837	George W. Owen	1934-35	Cecil F. Bates
1838	George Walton	1935-36	Charles A. Baumhauer
1839	Henry Chamberlain	1936-37	R.V. Taylor
1840-41	Edward Hall	1937-38	Cecil F. Bates
1842-45	Charles A. Hoppin	1938-39	Charles A. Baumhauer
1846-47	Blanton McAlpine	1939-41	Cecil F. Bates
1848	J.W.L. Childers	1941-42	Charles A. Baumhauer
1849-51	Charles C. Langdon	1942-43	Ernest M. Megginson
1852	Joseph Seawell	1943-44	Robin C. Herndon
1853-55	Charles C. Langdon	1944-45	Charles A. Baumhauer
1856-61	Jones M. Withers	1945-46	Ernest M. Megginson
1861	John Forsyth	1946-47	Robin C. Herndon
1862-65	Robert H. Slough	1947-48	Charles A. Baumhauer
1865	John Forsyth	1948-49	Ernest M. Megginson
1866-67	Jones M. Withers	1949-50	Charles A. Baumhauer
1867-68	Gustavus Horton	1950-51	Ernest M. Megginson

1868-69	Caleb Price	1951-52	Joseph R. Mitternacht
1870	George F. Harrington	1952-53	Charles A. Baumhauer
1871	Martin Horst	1953-54	Henry R. Luscher
1872	Gideon M. Parker	1954-55	Charles F. Hackmeyer
1873-74	Cleveland F. Moulton	1955-56	Joseph N. Langan
1874	John Reid, Jr.	1956-57	Henry R. Luscher
1875-77	Alphonse Hurtel	1957-58	Joseph N. Langan
1877	Daniel P. Bestor	1958-59	Henry R. Luscher
1878	George G. Duffee	1959-60	Joseph N. Langan
1879-88	Richard B. Owen	1960-61	Henry R. Luscher
1888-94	Joseph C. Rich	1961-62	George E. McNally
1894-97	C.L. Lavretta	1962-63	Charles-S. Trimmier
1897-1900	John Curtis Bush	1963-64	Joseph N. Langan
1900-02	Thomas S. Fry	1964-65	Charles S. Trimmier
1902-03	Walter F. Walsh	1965-67	Joseph N. Langan
1903-04	Charles E. McLean	1967-68	Authur R. Outlaw
1904-11	Pat J. Lyons	1968-69	Lambert C. Mims
1911-13	Laz Schwarz	1969-71	Joseph A. Bailey
1913-14	Pat J. Lyons	1971-72	Robert B. Doyle, Jr.
1914-15	Harry Pillans	1972-73	Lambert C. Mims
1915-16	Pat J. Lyons	1973-75	Gary A. Greenough
1916-17	Harry Pillans	1975-76	Robert B. Doyle, Jr.
1917-18	Pat J. Lyons	1976-79	Lambert C. Mims
1918-19	George E. Crawford	1979-80	Gary A. Greenough
1919-21	Harry Pillans	1980-81	Robert B. Doyle, Jr.
1921-22	George E. Crawford	1981-83	Gary A. Greenough
1922-24	R.V. Taylor	1983-84	Robert B. Doyle, Jr.
1924-25	Harry T. Hartwell	1984-85	Lambert C. Mims

1985-89 Mayor- Arthur Outlaw
Council-District 1: Irmatean Y. Watson
District 2: Charles A. Tunstall
District 3: Clinton Johnson
District 4: Charles E. Chapman, President
District 5: Reggie Copeland Sr.
District 6: Jane Q. Baxter
District 7: John Peavy

1989-93 Mayor- Michael C. Dow
Council-District 1: Irmatean Y. Watson
District 2: Thomas Sullivan
District 3: Clinton Johnson
District 4: Charles E. Chapman, President
District 5: Reggie Copeland Sr.

District 6: Jane Q. Baxter
District 7: John Peavy

1993-97 Mayor- Michael C. Dow
Council-District 1: Vivian Davis Figures(resigned in 1997, Frederick
Richardson finished term)
District 2: Thomas Sullivan
District 3: Clinton Johnson, President
District 4: Mabin Hicks
District 5: Reggie Copeland Sr.
District 6: Bess Rich
District 7: Charles Waller

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