



ArchivesSpace

# **Ruffin (C. Bernard) Papers**

## **An inventory of C. Bernard Ruffin Papers at DC Public Library**

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

People's Archive, MLK Library

901 G Street NW

Washington, DC

[peoples.archive@dc.gov](mailto:peoples.archive@dc.gov)

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	People's Archive, MLK Library
<b>Title:</b>	C. Bernard Ruffin Papers
<b>ID:</b>	145
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1936-1993
<b>Physical Description:</b>	8.75 Linear feet
<b>Physical Description:</b>	6 Boxes
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English

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## Biographical / Historical

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The C. Bernard Ruffin Collection is an African-American genealogical collection. It references the lives of many prominent families and individuals in the Washington D.C. area, including Dr. Charles Drew, Charlene Drew Jarvis, and Mary Church Terrell. In addition to the family histories in the collection, it includes material regarding the history of the Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church, located at 1701 15th St NW, Washington, D.C. On November 3, 1841, the Reverend John F. Cook conducted meetings in order to establish a Presbyterian church specifically for people of African descent. On November 21, 1841, the Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church was officially organized. Cook served to educate his community. In 1834 he became actively involved in a school located at 14th and H Streets and renamed it Union Seminary, educating those in the African community. Cook began studying for the ministry in 1836, and subsequently served as a minister at several churches in the area. Cook served as the Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church's first pastor. He passed away in 1855. C. Bernard Ruffin is a Lutheran minister who pastors at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter. Assistant Pastor Bernard Ruffin became a member of Holy Comforter in 1977. He is a third generation Washingtonian, born in 1947, and is a graduate of Roosevelt High School. He earned his B.A. in History in 1969 from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Yale Divinity School in New Haven, Connecticut in 1972. Ruffin served as intern pastor in Loganton, Pennsylvania from 1972 to 1973. He was a parish assistant at Luther Place Memorial Church from 1973-1974 and Pastor of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Alexandria, Virginia from 1974 until 1976. Pastor Ruffin is a teacher at South Lakes High School in Reston, Virginia where he has worked since 1982 and has written eight books on various religious and historical topics. His non-fiction work includes Fanny Crosby, The Twelve: The Lives of the Apostles

After Calvary, and The Days of the Martyrs: A History of the Persecution of Christians from Apostolic Times to the Time of Constantine.

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## Scope and Contents

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The C. Bernard Ruffin papers document Ruffin's personal life as well as his genealogical research. Files include class record books, photographs, Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church files, Dunbar High School files, and other subject files, including cassette tapes.

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## Arrangement

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Processed without series.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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Washington, DC

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### Revision Description

Finding aid revised to be more evergreen. 2020-10-19

### Custodial History

Donor unknown.

## Processing Information

This collection is unprocessed. It was accessioned by the Library, and was placed in archival containers upon its receipt. A descriptive container listing was created at the time to facilitate access.

## Conditions Governing Use

Some material may be copyrighted or restricted. It is the patron's obligation to determine and satisfy copyright or other case restrictions when publishing or otherwise distributing materials found in the collections.

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## Controlled Access Headings

- African Americans
- Genealogy
- City churches
- Families

## Collection Inventory

Series 1		
Title/Description	Instances	
Photographs, undated	Box 1	Folder 1
Baseball Drawing, undated	Box 1	Folder 2
Correspondence, 1926-1969	Box 1	Folder 3
Class Record Book, 1980-1981	Box 1	Folder 4
DC Teachers College Catalog - 1971/1972, 1971	Box 1	Folder 5
Newspaper Articles, 1991	Box 1	Folder 6
Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church, 1991	Box 1	Folder 7
Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church, 1990-1991	Box 1	Folder 8
Women in Mongo Betti's Perpetu, undated	Box 1	Folder 9
Boys Club, undated	Box 1	Folder 10

Award Night Program, 1957	Box 1	Folder 11
Louise Hubbard, 1974	Box 1	Folder 12
Presbyterian Church Research, undated	Box 1	Folder 13
Dunbar High School, 1960-1962	Box 2	Folder 1
Class Register Books, 1960-1975	Box 2	Folder 2
Club Members Fold Christmas Seals, 1941	Box 2	Folder 3
Dunbar High School Newsletter, 1954-1962	Box 2	Folder 4
All College Assembly / Travel Abroad, undated	Box 2	Folder 5
Class Record Books, 1960-1981	Box 2	Folder 6
Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church, 1953-1994	Box 2	Folder 7
Academic Consolidation Committee, 1978	Box 2	Folder 8
Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church 150th Anniversary Planning Committee, 1990-1993	Box 2	Folder 9
Historical Committee/ History Notes, 1991	Box 2	Folder 10
Presbyterian Women, 1984-1987	Box 3	Folder 1
Howard Transcript, 1936	Box 3	Folder 2
Board Pamphlet, undated	Box 3	Folder 3
English Teaching Forum Magazine, 1978	Box 3	Folder 4
The Modern Language Journal, 1968	Box 3	Folder 5
Accent on ACTFL, 1973	Box 3	Folder 6
The Division of Foreign Languages and Literature, 1975	Box 3	Folder 7
Manuscript - Morceaux Choisis, undated	Box 3	Folder 8
The Modern Language Journal, 1980	Box 3	Folder 9
Manuscript - Hubbard, undated	Box 3	Folder 10
Foreign Language Annals Journal, 1975	Box 3	Folder 11
The Individual and the Group in French Literature since 1914. Dissertation, 1955	Box 4	Folder 1
Delta Journal, 1985-1986	Box 4	Folder 2
ACTFL Workshop Proceedings, 1972	Box 4	Folder 3
Spanish in the Elementary Schools, 1952	Box 4	Folder 4
1978 MLA International Bibliography, 1979	Box 4	Folder 5
Annales de L'Universite du Benin, 1977	Box 4	Folder 6
The DFL Bulletin, 1967	Box 4	Folder 7

Public Schools of DC Curriculum Bulletin, 1951	Box 4	Folder 8
University of Congo Pamphlet, undated	Box 4	Folder 9
CLA Journal - 1975, 1975	Box 4	Folder 10
The College Faculty Portraits, 1967	Box 4	Folder 11
Strength through Wisdom: A Critique of U.S Capability, 1979	Box 5	Folder 1
Dimension Languages '80 16th Southern Conference on Language Teaching, 1980	Box 5	Folder 2
Guide for Teaching Spanish in the Elementary Schools, 1952	Box 5	Folder 3
Cassettes, undated	Box 6	Folder 1
Oversized Photographs, undated	Box 7	Folder 1

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