

Augusta County Historical Society
Acc #: 297
Charles Catlett Collection
1923-1942

Size: 10 folders

Creator: Charles Catlett

Donor Information: Lucy Huston Catlett

Restrictions: None

Preferred Citation: Charles Catlett Collection, Augusta County Historical Society, Staunton, VA.

Processed by: Jan Lotz, Lena Mahone, and Tracy Harter, 2002

Associated Material:

Historical/Biographical Note:

During the years that span this collection, Charles Catlett was a member of the Staunton and Augusta County Chamber of Commerce, trustee of Thornrose Cemetery, and a stockholder in Ingleside Resort.

Scope & Content:

The collection is arranged topically, then chronologically, with the most voluminous topics listed first. Three folders spanning 1923-1940 document Catlett's dedicated service as trustee of **Thornrose Cemetery**. This includes maintenance issues, financial statements, and improvement issues. A folder titled **Civic Affairs** reflects various city or local issues about which Catlett was concerned. Correspondence regarding **Highway 11** emphasizes Catlett's support of a proposed new road initially to re-route truck traffic on Highway 11, later to become a "first class full width road" to alleviate traffic congestion in Staunton. Catlett's correspondence as a shareholder with the **Ingleside** Hotel and Country Club is sparse, but illustrates his unique involvement with and interest in the success of the venture.

On a more personal level, **Political Issues** (1940) underscore Catlett's strong anti-Roosevelt and pro-Willkie sentiments prior to FDR's election to a third term, and documents the opinions of some of Catlett's peers. A small folder of **Miscellaneous Correspondence** holds letters not directly related to his professional life. Catlett's creative side is revealed in the **Staunton Songs** correspondence, which consists of verses and music he initially composed in the 1920s, which he typed and gave permission to the U.S.O. to use in the 1940s.

Materials contained in **Clippings and Ephemera** directly or indirectly relate to the topics listed above and thus supplement the correspondence.

Organization/Arrangement:

- Folder 1: Thornrose Cemetery, Correspondence, 1923-1931
- Folder 2: Thornrose Cemetery, Correspondence, 1932-1940, n.d.
- Folder 3: Thornrose Cemetery, Financial Records, 1924-1940
- Folder 4: Civic Affairs, 1940-1942
- Folder 5: Highway 11, 1941
- Folder 6: Ingleside, 1941
- Folder 7: Political Issues, 1940
- Folder 8: Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1940-1941
- Folder 9: Staunton Songs, 1941
- Folder 10: Clippings and Ephemera, c.1930s-1940s