

FRANK GARVIN YERBY.

Frank Garvin Yerby File, 1936-2009

Paine College
Collins-Callaway Library Archives and Special Collection

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Yerby, Frank Garvin

Title: Frank Garvin Yerby File, 1936-2009

Dates: 1936-2009

Number: Box 34

Size: 1 linear ft. (1 box).

Abstract: The Frank Garvin Yerby File includes biographical information, photograph, bibliography, newspaper clippings, programs, manuscripts, letters, tapes, note cards, and yearbook.

Usage Information

Access

Unrestricted access.

Citation

Preferred citation: Frank Garvin Yerby. File, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections, Collins-Callaway Library, Paine College.

Collection Description

Biographical and Historical Note

Frank Garvin Yerby, a prodigious African American writer, was born in Augusta, Georgia on September 5, 1916 to Wilhelmina (Smythe) and Rufus Yerby. He earned a high diploma from Haines Normal and Industrial Institute in 1933; a bachelors degree in English from Paine College

in 1937, and a masters degree from Fisk University in 1938. He wrote the Paine College Hymn in 1937.

Frank Yerby received the O. Henry Memorial Award in 1944 for his first short story, "Heath Card." He wrote a number of best-seller romance and historical novels that brought him world-wide fame. Among the first were *The Foxes of Harrow* (1946), *The Serpent and the Staff* (1958), *The Garfield Honor* (1961), *Dahomean* (1971), and *The Tent of Shem* (1963), a completed protest novel which was never published.

On November 29, 1991, Frank Yerby died in Madrid Spain, his place of residence. Yerby remains a beloved native son of Augusta, Georgia, having received honorary degrees from Fisk University (1966) and Paine College (1977).

(Excerpt from *Frank Yerby Program 2008*)

Scope and Content

The Frank Garvin Yerby File includes biographical information, photograph, bibliography, newspaper clippings, programs, manuscripts, letters, tapes, note cards, and yearbook. Material spans 1936-2009.

General Note

Additional Materials

Original unpublished manuscript – "The Tents of Shem" (stored in library archives repository).
Materials cataloged: Six (6) linear feet of books.

Subjects

Paine College—Alumni and alumnae

Photographs

Letters

Manuscripts

Yearbooks

Container List

Box 34

- Folder 1 Programs, 1987-2009
- Folder 2 Autograph, 1973
- Folder 3 Magazines highlighting Yerby – 1988, 1992
- Folder 4_{a,b,c} A Selected Bibliography, October 1987
- Folder 5 Biosketches, 1991-1992
- Folder 6 Newspaper Clippings, 1975-2008, [n.d.]
- Folder 7 Poetry (copies), [n.d.]
- Folder 8 Manuscript - *The Trogan Woman...May 7, 1970*
- Folder 9 Book Ads, 1946
- Folder 10 Manuscript copy- *The Tents of Shem*, [n.d.]
- Folder 11 Manuscript – *Speak Now*, 1969
- Folder 12 Thesis – “Behind the Magnolian Mask: Frank Yerby as Critic of the South,” by Willam W. Hill, Jr., December 12, 1968
- Folder 13 Tapes – *Frank Yerby Talking Book*, [n.d.]
- Folder 14 *Poems from the Voyager Unplanned (talking book)* by Frank Yerby, [n.d.]
- Folder 15 Photograph – Frank Yerby, [n.d.]
- Folder 16 Letter – Response to editor, *The Tents of Shem*, January 30, 1970
- Folder 17 Letter – Response from editor, *The Tents of Shem*, January 22, 1970
- Folder 18 Letter – To E.C. Peters from Frank Yerby, February 10, 1946
- Folder 19 Yearbook - The Paineite Senior-Alumni Edition, 1936
- Folder 20 Letter – To Julius Scott from Frank Yerby, March 25, 1978
- Folder 21 Note Cards from Commencement Speech, 1977
- Folder 22 *The Nature of Love, A Non-Novel* by A Non- Person Called Glennville Sykes, June 30, September 7, 1965
- Folder 23 Letter – Donor Gift, Frank Yerby Collection of Books, November 25, 2003
- Folder 24 Letter – From Yerby to Vivian Robinson, March 16, 1987