

Hope College

Hope College Digital Commons

[Collection Registers and Abstracts](#)

[Archives and College History](#)

May 2012

W89-1005. Baar, James W. (1921-1999). Papers, 1938-1968. 0.25 linear ft.

Western Theological Seminary

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/collection_registers



Part of the [Archival Science Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Repository citation: Western Theological Seminary, "W89-1005. Baar, James W. (1921-1999). Papers, 1938-1968. 0.25 linear ft." (2012). *Collection Registers and Abstracts*. Paper 102.

https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/collection_registers/102

May 24, 2012.

This Register is brought to you for free and open access by the Archives and College History at Hope College Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Collection Registers and Abstracts by an authorized administrator of Hope College Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@hope.edu.

W89-1005. Baar, James W. (1921-1999).
Papers, 1938-1968. 0.25 linear ft.

Abstract

Hope College class of 1942; Western Theological Seminary class of 1945 and an RCA minister. The collection includes materials from his mission to Brewton, Alabama, 1965-1968, and pamphlets, relevant magazine and newspaper clippings, and progress reports tracing Baar's efforts towards construction of a gymnasium for Southern Normal School in Brewton, Alabama. Also includes history of Southern Normal School, correspondences between Baar and other churches, donation forms, letters of encouragement, and photographs of Southern Normal School, its students, groundbreaking ceremony for the gymnasium construction, and completed gymnasium.

Accession No: W89-1005
Provenance: James W. Baar
Donor: James W. Baar
Photographs: 10 images
Processed by: John Stull, May 1996

Biography

James William Baar was born March 29, 1921, in Chicago, Illinois. He graduated from Chicago Christian High School, then from Hope College in 1942. After receiving his B.D. degree from Western Theological Seminary in 1945, he was licensed and ordained as a minister. Baar served as a United States Navy Chaplain during the last months of World War II and as a pastor at Maplewood (Holland, Michigan), First (Denver, Colorado), Second (Wyckoff, New Jersey), and Fellowship (Lombard, Illinois) and Grand Rapids. After retiring, he served part-time on the staff of Fellowship Reformed Church in Holland. In the 1960s, Baar served as Chairman of the Brewton Committee for the Board of North American Missions. His duties included fundraising for a new gymnasium at the Southern Normal School in Brewton, Alabama.

Baar passed away in Holland, Michigan, on November 28, 1999.

Scope and Content

The James W. Baar Papers, 1965-1968, center around Baar's efforts to raise funds for the construction of a gymnasium for the Southern Normal School in Brewton, Alabama. As chairman of the Brewton gym fund campaign, Baar asked 236,000 RCA members to contribute one dollar for the gym's construction. Pamphlets, relevant magazine and newspaper clippings, and progress reports trace Baar's efforts towards construction of the gymnasium. Also included is a history of Southern Normal School, correspondence between Baar and other churches, donation forms, and letters of encouragement. Photographs show Southern Normal School, its students, the groundbreaking ceremony for the gymnasium construction, and the completed gymnasium.

Container List

Biographical, 1999
Correspondence, 1965-1969
Magazine articles (newspaper articles, donation forms, building plans), 1965-1969
Missionary buttons, n.d.
Photographs, 1967-1971
 Brewton Gymnasium (during construction), April 1967 (1 image)
 Brewton Workcamp, July 6-14, 1966 (individuals unidentified) (1 image)
 Proposed Site Sign, 1967 (4 images)
 James Baar (breaking ground), 1967 (1 image)
 James Baar, Phillip May, Harry Weaver, & Ulysses McBride, 1967 (1 image)
 Gymnasium (complete), 1968 (1 image)
 Volunteer Group at Brewton, 1966 (individuals unidentified) (1 image)
Plaque (photocopy) (for service to Brewton School), n.d. (original removed to Alabama State University archives)