Guide to the Papers of

Calhoun Colored School

Prepared by Dana Chandler and Cheryl Ferguson, 2010

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**Tuskegee University National Center of**

**Archives and Museums**

**Tuskegee, AL 36088**

Tuskegee University Archives

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Collection Summary

Administrative Information

Index Terms

Biography

Scope and Content

Arrangement

Restrictions

Inventory

**Collection Summary**

**Creator:** Tuskegee University

**Title:** Guide to the Papers of Calhoun Colored School

**Dates:** 1892-1945

**Quantity:** .666 cubic feet

**Identification:**

**Abstract:** The Calhoun Colored School (1892-1945) was a private boarding and day school in Calhoun, Lowndes County, Alabama, about 28 miles (45 km) southwest of Montgomery. Founded in 1892 by Charlotte Thorn and Mabel Dillingham in partnership with Booker T. Washington, the Calhoun Colored School was first designed to educate rural African American students according to the industrial school model.

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**Administrative Information**

**Preferred Citation**

Guide to the Papers of Calhoun Colored School

**Acquisition Information**

No information available

**Processing Information**

The papers were received for processing in an archival storage container, with the documents in what was assumed to be their original folders. From their arrangement in the storage containers, it was assumed that all the folders were arranged alphabetically by folder title, and were stored in alphabetical order while in active use.

In processing the collection, original folders were replaced with acid-free folders. Folders were labeled, either following the original labeling, or in the case of missing or incorrect labels were assigned folder titles. All metal fasteners were removed.

**Index Terms**

The papers are indexed under the following headings in the Tuskegee University Library’s online catalog. Researchers seeking materials about related subjects, persons, organizations or places should search the catalog using these headings.

**Subjects:**

African American universities and colleges—Alabama

African American women teachers.

African Americans—Education (Higher)—Alabama

African Americans—Societies, etc

**Persons:**

#  Washington, Booker T.

**Biography**

The Calhoun Colored School (1892-1945) was a private boarding and day school in Calhoun, Lowndes County, Alabama, about 28 miles (45 km) southwest of Montgomery. Founded in 1892 by Charlotte Thorn and Mabel Dillingham in partnership with Booker T. Washington, the Calhoun Colored School was first designed to educate rural African American students according to the industrial school model. The school sponsored a land bank that helped 85 families buy land. It created a joint venture with the county to improve a local road so farmers could get their products to market. As the school developed, it raised its standards, created a large library, and offered more of an academic curriculum. The school closed in 1945.

**Scope and Contents**

The Papers of Calhoun Colored School consist only of the School Bulletins.

**Arrangement**

The papers are arranged into one series:

**Restrictions**

**Restrictions on Access**

There are no restrictions on access to these papers.

**Restrictions on Use**

Researchers are responsible for addressing copyright issues on materials not in the public domain.

**Inventory**

**Series I: Personal Papers, 1955-1979. Series contains legal papers, awards,**

 **recommendations, vitae and personal correspondence.**

**Box Folder**

1 1 Bulletin 1922-23

1 2 Bulletin 1923-25

1 3 Bulletin 1927-28

1 4 Bulletin 1928-29

1 5 Calhoun Colored School, Calhoun, Lowndes County Alabama, Bulletin 1929-.30

1 6 Bulletin 1931

1 7 Bulletin 1932-33

1 8 Bulletin 1934