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Special Collections Department**

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Keith A. Sculle collection

Title: Keith A. Sculle collection

Collection No: MSS.525

Extent: 0.25 cubic feet

Inclusive Dates: 1959-1967 and undated

Abstract: The collection comprises materials collected by Keith A. Sculle during his research on the Memphis-based Downtowner motel chain including blueprints and brochures.

Donor: Keith A. Sculle, Springfield, Illinois, 2003.

Processed by: Gerald Chaudron, 2018.

Access: Open to all researchers.

Language: English

Preferred Citation: Keith A. Sculle collection, Special Collections Department, University Libraries, University of Memphis.

Publication date: January 2018

Scope and contents

The collection comprises materials collected by Keith A. Sculle during his research on the Downtowner motel chain which was published in the article "Production of the Downtowner Motel Chain in Memphis", *The West Tennessee Historical Society Papers*, Vol. 54, 2000, pp.94-108. The collections includes copies of plans for seven motels across the South, including Memphis, and copies of brochures produced by the company.

The Downtowner Corporation built its first motor inn in Memphis in 1958, the brainchild of Luther F. Matthews. Over the following decade, the company expanded to 101 motels, mostly in the South. However, with the decline of inner cities and a changing clientele, the company declined in the 1970s, changed ownership several times and then went out of business in 1982.

Subject terms

Motels.

Inventory

OS

Blueprints (copies): Downtowner Motor Inn. Architect: George A. Thomason, Memphis, Tenn.:
Shelby Street, Kingsport, Tenn., 1959.
Market Street, Jackson, Tenn., 1960.
Reynolds Street, Augusta, Ga., 1962.
Monroe and Virginia, Tallahassee, Fl., 1963.
Bourbon and Toulouse, New Orleans, La., 1965.
Willard and Chapel Hill, Durham, N.C., 1966.
Union and Second, Memphis, Tenn., 1967.

Brochures (copies): Lake Charles, La.; Danville, Va.; Vicksburg, Miss.; Savannah, Ga.; Hot Springs, Ark.; Passport Inn, Gulf Shores, Ala.; Memphis, Tenn.; Lockhart's Motor Court, Camden, Tenn.; Downtowner Corporation, 1961.