

First Baptist Church of Abilene, Texas Records and Ephemera, 1927-1978:

A Guide

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Lewis, Marvin

Title: First Baptist Church of Abilene, Texas Records and Ephemera, 1927-1978

Inclusive Dates: 1927-1978

Abstract: The collection documents the activities of the Building Committee of the First Baptist Church of Abilene, Texas from 1951 to 1953.

Identification: AR64

Extent: 1 folder

Shelf location: Small Collections Box 2, Folder 14

Language(s): Collection is in English.

Repository: Tarleton State University, Dick Smith Library, Archives and Special Collections, Stephenville, Texas

Organizational History

The First Baptist Church of Abilene, Texas was founded on December 17, 1881 in the downtown area. It is still in operation today under the leadership of Dr. Phil Christopher, the 19th pastor. In addition to worship, the church directs many community mission programs. In the early 1950s, the church held a building program. Marvin Lewis, as the secretary of the Building Committee, collected records of the building project.

Abilene, Taylor County, Texas is located 150 miles west of Fort Worth, Texas. It was established in 1881 as a shipping point on the Texas and Pacific Railway (T&P) and was incorporated in 1883. During its first 100 years the economy relied only on agriculture. Today the diverse economy includes oil, agriculture, commerce, light manufacturing, and service. There are many churches and several colleges in Abilene. During World War II it was the home of Camp Barkeley. Dyess Air Force Base was established to the west of Abilene in 1952.

Sources:

Fane Downs, "Abilene, TX," *Handbook of Texas Online*, accessed May 11, 2021, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/abilene-tx>.

"Our History," *First Baptist Church, Abilene*, accessed May 11, 2021, <https://fbcabilene.org/about-us/our-history>.

Scope and Contents

The collection documents the activities of the Building Committee of the First Baptist Church of Abilene, Texas from 1951 to 1953. Materials are mostly textual, comprising the minutes of the meetings of the Building Committee and 1952-1953 revised estimates of the cost of building. Other formats related to the church building include three news clippings and one black-and-white photograph of the church.

Organization

The First Baptist Church of Abilene, Texas Records and Ephemera are organized in two series:
Series I. Minutes of the Building Committee, 1951-1953
Series II. Ephemera, 1927, 1932, 1978, undated

Rights and Access

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Physical Access Restrictions

None.

Technical Access Restrictions

None.

Publication Rights

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Index Terms

Persons

Lewis, Marvin

Organizations

First Baptist Church of Abilene, Texas

Subjects

Baptist church buildings
Church architecture
Church buildings
Church facilities

Places

Abilene (Tex.)

Administrative Information

Provenance

Unknown.

Preferred Citation

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Processing Information

Finding aid prepared by Phyllis Kinnison, 2021.