



SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Records of the Parish of St. John's, Berkeley, 1774-2019 **SCHS # 0675.00**

Description: 10 linear ft. (19 boxes + flat file)

Biographical/Historical note: The parish of St. John's, Berkeley, was created in 1706 and was the largest of the original parishes in South Carolina. Because of its great size, it was divided into three parts: Lower, Middle, and Upper St. John's. The main parish church, known as Biggin Church, and its chapel of ease, Strawberry Chapel, were built in the lower portion of the parish. According to Albert Sidney Thomas's history of the Episcopal Church in South Carolina, "Before the war St. John's was a prosperous parish" which possessed a summer and a winter parsonage, a rice plantation, and considerable stock investments. Thomas also noted that there was later a "chapel at the Barrows, called St. John's Chapel," and that in 1882, "a new chapel was built in Cordesville." He recorded that the parsonage in Cordesville (a summer village) burned down in March 1882. According to Louisa C. Stoney's notes in *A Day on the Cooper River*, the parsonage which was located "near the site of Wadboo house" was burned in 1865 during raids led by General E. E. Potter of the U.S. Army. Biggin Church also suffered significant damage during the Civil War, an official church report of 1868 stating: "The congregation is not revived, except by a monthly service." In the second half of the 19th century, Strawberry Chapel became the principal church of the parish of lower St. John's, and no vestry meetings at Biggin are recorded in the minute books after October 1871. Around 1890 or so, a forest fire destroyed Biggin Church, and its ruins were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977.

Scope and content: Collection chiefly consists of vestry records including correspondence, property records, financial records, election records, and minutes, arranged roughly chronologically. Early records (18th and 19th centuries) include correspondence about ministers, repairs to and maintenance of Biggin Church and Strawberry Chapel, the rental of glebe lands, legal matters, and parsonages, along with property records relating to glebe plantation lands, and records of work done on Biggin Church, Strawberry Chapel, and the parsonages (or rectories). Early financial records include accounts, receipts, and offertory records. Later records (beginning in the 20th century) include correspondence, financial records, property records, and photographs. Of note are records and correspondence about vestry opposition to a proposed interstate highway in Berkeley County, and to a proposed commercial real estate development at Childsbury. Photographs have been removed to the visual material collection and include images of the graveyards of Biggin Church and Strawberry Chapel, the interior and exterior of Strawberry

Chapel, and church silver. Photographs removed from a cookbook, "Old Receipts from Old St. Johns" (ca. 1936?), consist of black and white photographs of Berkeley County plantations and scenes including Belvidere, Mulberry, Ophir, Northampton, Dean Hall, a garden in Pinopolis, Gippy, Eutaw Springs, and Somerset.

Note: See also Records of the Parish of St. John's, Berkeley, 1731-1933, SCHS# 0176.00.

Note: Photographs have been removed to the visual materials collection.

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Search terms:

Biggin Church (S.C.)
Episcopal Church -- South Carolina -- Berkeley County
St. John's Parish (Berkeley County, S.C.)
St. John's Parish (Berkeley County, S.C.) Vestry
Strawberry Chapel (S.C.)
Cemeteries -- South Carolina -- Berkeley County
Church lands -- South Carolina -- Berkeley County
Church records and registers -- South Carolina -- Berkeley County
Parsonages -- South Carolina -- Berkeley County
Plantations -- South Carolina -- Berkeley County
Berkeley County (S.C.) -- History -- Sources
Childsbury (S.C.)
Cordesville (S.C.)

COLLECTION OVERVIEW:

Early vestry records, 18th and 19th centuries:

Correspondence
Property records
Financial records
Election records
Minutes
Miscellaneous vestry records

Vestry records, 20th and 21st centuries:

Financial records
Correspondence
Vestry records kept by senior wardens
Property records
Restricted material (Box 19)

Container listing:

Early Vestry Records, 18th and 19th centuries:

BOX 1

Vestry correspondence, arranged chronologically:

- 1 Correspondence, 1774-1799. The earliest letter, 1774, is from John Harleston to the vestry concerning “moneys put in my hands by my Father” for the church. Another letter, dated 1788, from Col. John Harleston to the vestry concerns funding for repairs to the chapel. Also included is a letter, 1795, from David Ramsay to Henry Laurens concerning a clergyman. Most of the remaining letters (1797-1799) are from Thomas Parker (a lawyer) to Henry Laurens, and chiefly concern payment on some land leased by “Mr. Holmes” (probably John Bee Holmes). A letter, May 1799, from Peter Broughton to Henry Laurens proposes the erection of “a Building of 26 feet Square ... with Hip’d Roof, 12 feet in the Ceiling, 3 Doors, 8 Windows, a Reading Desk, & 14 Benches 10 ½ feet long with backs.”
- 2 Correspondence, 1800-1809. Includes a letter of resignation, 1802, from rector Rev. Peter Manigault Parker; and a letter, 1806, to Henry Laurens from E. Haskell (Elnathan Haskell) concerning heirs of Major Hugh Butler in Georgetown District (giving some family history). A letter, 1808, to Capt. Peter Broughton from Peter Ray relates to payment of rent on upper glebe land. The remainder of the letters are from Thomas Parker to Henry Laurens and Peter Broughton. The first, dated Feb. 4, 1809, includes a reply or copy of a reply from Henry Laurens at Mepkin. The letters of 1809 chiefly concern a debt owed by Mr. J. B. Holmes.
- 3 Correspondence, 1815-1818. Includes a letter, 1815, from Ann Galbraith, a “poor widow” pleading for the payment of “a sum so long due to me.” A letter, 1817, from Philip Porcher to Edward Simons is his request to purchase 150 bushels of shells from “Watboo.” A letter, 1817, from Henry Ravenel, Jr. to Isaac Ball, the vestry secretary, mainly concerns rental of glebe lands. A letter, 1818, from Frederick A. Dalcho requests information on the parish for his "history of our Church."
- 4 Correspondence, 1821-1828. Includes a circular letter, 1821, from Frederick A. Dalcho announcing an upcoming convention meeting in Charleston. Some letters concern subscription payments by parishioners, as well as the lease of glebe land and a parsonage, and a survey of glebe land. Correspondents include Samuel Gourdin, William Read (vestry chairman), H. M. Haig, James B. Harleston, Thomas Broughton, and Sims White. A letter dated Jan. 3, 1826, to John B. Laurens (vestry secretary) from Samuel Gourdin partly concerns the cutting of a bank at Buck Hall Plantation.
- 5 Correspondence, 1823-1824. These letters were enclosed in a wrapper marked “Letters & Papers relative to the suit in Chancery of Danl Ravenel, Saml DuBose, Peter Gaillard, inhabitants of Upper St. Johns vs. Thos. Corbett & other Vestry of Lower St. Johns.” A letter, 1824, to the vestry from Keating Simons giving his opinion that the lawsuit

between the upper and lower districts “will no doubt be decided in favour of the latter as occupying the Mother Church.”

- 6 Correspondence, 1831-1839. Some letters concern the estate of the late rector Rev. John Jacob Tschudy (1778-1834), and assistance for his widow, Mary G. Tschudy. A letter, 1831, to the vestry from Keating Simons relates to the “2 % fund” (2 % of proceeds from sales of rice and cotton) pledged by parishioners; and another letter dated March 28, 1839, refers to this fund and appropriations “for repairs of Biggin Church.” Other letters concern the resignation of Rev. James H. Fowles, and a new rector, Rev. Edward Thomas. A letter to the vestry, 1835, from Jacob Axson refers to a “school lot” and the will of “Childs” (James Child). A letter, 1839, from Henry M. Holmes to Dr. H. Pinckney consents to the rental of a house in Cordesville for the rector.
- 7 Correspondence, 1840-1847. Includes a letter, August 1840, to Rev. C. E. Gadsden from Benjamin Huger pertaining to the erection of a “monument” in Biggin Church to “our late respected and beloved pastor Mr. Thomas.” A letter, June 1840, to Frederick Ford from “Mary G. Murphy (late Tschudy)” concerns a payment of funds to her; another letter from her is dated June 20, 1842. A letter, April 1842, from Thomas Gadsden partly concerns the salary paid to the rector Mr. Thomas. A letter to Ford from W. L. Moultrie dated June 27, 1842, mentions a “title deed and plat of the land conveyed to the church” by Mr. Ball. A letter from Thomas Ashby to Ford dated April 25, 1844, concerns vestry elections. On December 15, 1844, Edward S. Lucas writes to Ford to inquire if there is room in Strawberry Chapel for another bench (for his family). The remaining correspondence (1840-1847) is that of the rector Rev. Wallace Cranmore. His letter, June 1842, to the vestry relates to his salary, as well as needed repairs to Biggin Church, Strawberry Chapel, and the rectory, which he details. Numerous letters concern Henry M. Holmes’ payments of glebe rent. Rev. Cranmore Wallace’s letter of September 1842 gives an account of “the Church Plate in my possession belonging to the Parish,” including a silver tankard, cup, paten, a silver plate marked “Biggin and Strawberry Churches,” a gilt cup, and an alms plate. Cranmore’s letter of December 1844 partly concerns Dr. Holmes and “another difficulty in the payment of the Glebe rent.” In his letter of January 1847, Cranmore asks the vestry wardens to appoint “Mr. Howe” as his assistant, whom he has taken with him when officiating “for the benefit of Negroes.”
- 8 Correspondence, 1845-1847. A frequent topic in the letters of the 1840s is a series of disputes between the parish vestrymen and Dr. Henry M. Holmes, who, by 1845, had rented the lower glebe for ten years. Some of these difficulties resulted in legal actions. Holmes’ letter of December 1845 expresses his surprise and dissatisfaction that the glebe land lease was to go into other hands (Solomon Clark, whose last name is spelled Clarke in later correspondence) despite his offer for it. Correspondents of this period include Frederick A. Ford, Dr. B. Huger, the Charleston law firms of Capers & Huger and Peronneau & Mazyck, H. A. DeSaussure, Cranmore Wallace, Solomon Clark, and Dr. W. L. Moultrie. Dr. Holmes’ letter to Dr. W. L. Moultrie dated July 1845 expresses his desire to see a church built, and includes his proposal to give a lot in Cordesville to the

parish “for the purpose of erecting a place of worship for the Protestant Episcopal service.” A letter, 1845, to Ford from vestrymen informs him of a vestry resolution concerning the lease of the lower glebe, and mentions that the barn there burned down and that the “negro houses” had become dilapidated. Frederick A. Ford’s letter of January 2, 1846, to Peronneau & Mazyck directs them to “commence suits for barn burned, negro houses injured & wood cut at glebe.” Frederick A. Ford’s letter of the same date reports to Capers & Huger that Solomon Clark has been informed of the “threat of Dr. Holmes to cut the river bank and prevent the erection of [the glebe’s] canal bank,” with the consequence that the vestry cannot guarantee Solomon “a south bank.” This threat by Holmes resulted in another lawsuit. Ford’s letter of January 22, 1846, which concerns the sale of some slaves (named), may be unrelated to church affairs. A letter from W. D. Gaillard to Dr. Benjamin Huger, vestry chairman, dated August 20, 1846, concerns Philip G. Prioleau’s intention to erect a brick wall enclosing his family “burial grounds” at Biggin Church.

- 9 Correspondence, 1848-1849. Some of these letters pertain to another controversy with Holmes relating to a question of right of way on a road through a property called Sportsman’s Retreat, and a road through rectory land. Correspondence on this topic includes letters (1848-1849) of Robert Q. Pinckney, who made a survey relative to the right of way claims. A letter of Cranmore Wallace dated May 13, 1848, partly concerns pay requested by “Ned, the Sexton of Strawberry.” A letter from Frederick A. Ford to Solomon Clark dated March 15, 1849, expresses his concern about Clark’s “trimming & ringing the live oaks at the glebe.” A letter, May 8, 1849, from attorney H. A. DeSaussure to the vestry and wardens proposes arbitration as an alternative going to court in their “case against Dr. Henry M. Holmes.” Two letters of December 1848 concern a controversy about a vestry election. These include a letter of resignation from vestryman John Laurens; and a letter to J. W. Read from attorney James L. Petigru relating to “the legality of the present Vestry’s election.” Petigru also offers his legal opinion on vestry elections and eligible voters, and suggests changes to relevant rules and regulations of the parish.
- 10 Correspondence, 1848-1850. This folder consists of correspondence with Rev. W. B. W. Howe concerning his election as the assistant minister of St. John’s Berkeley Parish, and the conditions under which he would accept the rectorship.

BOX 2

- 1 Correspondence, 1851-1854. Includes a letter, 1851, to S. W. Barker from W. L. Moultrie transmitting a statement, 1850, by a vestry committee concerning the construction of “a wire enclosure around the cemetery and grounds attached to Strawberry Chapel.” Dr. Holmes’ letter to Thomas Ashby (vestry chairman) dated February 24, 1854, asks for some vestrymen to inspect the buildings on the glebe plantation, noting the poor condition of the “negro houses” and asking for a renewal of his lease. Other topics of this

correspondence include Rev. W. B. W. Howe's request for a leave of absence, the boundary line between the glebe and Buck Hall Plantation (owned by E. Horry Deas), and the estate of Solomon Clarke, who passed away in 1850. W. H. Trapier's letter, October 1853, to Rev. Howe, requests to place a marble memorial to his family in Biggin Church. A letter, November 25 1854, to the vestry and wardens from Eliza F. Holmes concerns her late husband's "sublease" on glebe land.

- 2 Correspondence, 1855-1856. Folder consists of correspondence that was enclosed in a wrapper marked "Letters Relative to Lease of Lower Glebe Plantation St. John's Berkeley." Included is a letter to William P. Ingraham from John Harleston dated July 20, 1855, which describes the condition of the plantation and its buildings, including "six negro houses and a barn all erected since the commence of the last lease, and an overseer's house." A letter to Ingraham from Alonzo J. White (a Charleston broker) dated January 4, 1856, concerns White's expenses and commission for the "sale of the lease of plantation," and other services, including collection on a lease and bond of Solomon Clarke.
- 3 Correspondence, 1860-1861. Letters of this period mainly relate to the resignation of Rev. W. B. W. Howe, and subsequent offers of the rectorship to Rev. Samuel J. Pinkerton of Darien (Ga.), Peter F. Stevens, and A. F. Olmstead (Aaron Franklin Olmstead, 1818-1895, a native of Connecticut). Stevens' letter of October 25, 1861, to vestry chairman Benjamin Huger explains the circumstances of his engagement as a minister to another parish. Olmstead's letter of October 15, 1861, to a "Rev. & Dear Bro." expresses his willingness to take the rectorship of St. John's Berkeley Parish, and, noting that there will be a parishioner there with strong objections to "a Northern man" as rector, he gives assurances of his Southern sympathies and loyalty, writing: "My two nearest relations—my two sisters, are both here, and one of them is the wife of a North Carolinian, now a Major in the Confederate Service. I have been for Secession from the *very start*—voted for it—and have felt the warmest sympathies with the whole movement." A letter dated October 26, 1861, to Benjamin Huger from Thomas F. [Jarvis] in Camden recommends Rev. Olmstead.
- 4 Correspondence, 1865-1869. Topics of these letters include the leasing of the glebe and a landing; the "safekeeping," "preservation," and repair of the rectory property (also called the parsonage) deeded to the parish by Elias Ball; and diocesan affairs. Of note is a letter from A. F. Olmstead in New York to Benjamin Huger dated November 9, 1865, in which he expresses his regrets that he will not return to ministerial duties in the South. In this letter Olmstead describes his life in the South and his "assimilation" to it "in all matters of feeling, opinion, and interest." He also deplors the present dismal "state of affairs" in South Carolina as described to him by Huger, writing, "I can readily conceive what a deplorable change has already come over the once happy fields and plantations on Cooper River." Olmstead also observes: "The emancipation of the blacks, in the way that it has come about, and with all attendant circumstances, seems to my simple understanding, a pure and unmitigated calamity to all concerned." A letter to Olney

Harleston dated July 21, 1868, from John A. Selby and R. H. Selby at Sportsman's Retreat concerns a landing and a wharf hired to them by the vestry. A letter of January 25, 1869, from William P. Ingraham to Keating S. Ball and W. J. Ball, concerns a legal opinion about the parish rectory. In a note dated April 17, 1867, Keating S. Ball informs the vestry chairman that he "will not be able to attend at Biggin Church on Easter Monday." Other correspondents include Bishop Thomas F. Davis, F. P. Elford, John Harleston, and W. P. Ingraham.

- 5 Correspondence, 1870-1874. Topics include the rental of the parsonage in Cordesville and glebe lands; ministers being considered for or offered the rectorship; and financial matters. Letters, 1870, of Sanford W. Barker and Evan Edwards concern some "state securities" (stocks) held by the parish, about which the law firm of Pope & Haskell (Joseph D. Pope and Alexander C. Haskell) was consulted. Several ministers wrote to decline the rectorship including W. H. Campbell, B. F. Dunkin Perry, Samuel J. Pinkerton, and John D. McCollough. A letter to the vestry dated January 27, 1871, from John Ball and Thomas G. Prioleau reports on the condition of the lower glebe. Two letters from Benjamin Villeponteaux (November and December 1871) detail repairs and improvements he is willing to make to the rectory in order to obtain the use of it and "the landing" for one year. Two letters (November 1871) from Daniel G. Wayne concern the costs and details of the construction of "Negro houses" (giving details of their dimensions and features), and the possibility of "pulling down the Lecture Room and converting it into a dwelling." Letters (December 1872 and January 1873) between S. W. Barker and William J. Ball pertain to "Mr. Hay's acceptance" of the rectorship (Rev. Hugh Peronneau Dawes Hay, 1840-1930).
- 6 Correspondence, 1885-1889. A letter to "Mr. Ball" from Louisa A. Porcher dated April 17, 1886, concerns "the Tablet erected to Rev. Edward Thomas" which had been in Biggin Church, and which was found "on the floor" by "Dr. Dwight's man in Pinopolis." Miss Porcher writes about getting the consent of the Strawberry Chapel vestry to place the tablet in their church. A letter of February 8, 1889, to Isaac Ball, vestry chairman, from Bishop Howe relates to Rev. Phelps (Hardy H. Phelps) remaining as the rector of Biggin Church. On February 27, 1889, H. H. Phelps writes to the vestry resigning from "the joint parishes of Trinity, Black Oak, and St. John's, Berkeley." In a letter of March 12, 1889, Phelps accepts the rectorship of St. John's Berkeley Parish. Other topics include the rental of glebe lands and a landing. [Note: vestry minutes of April 1888 record that two mural tablets (for Tschudy and Edwards) were removed from Biggin Church to Strawberry Chapel.]
- 7 Correspondence, 1890-1899. A letter from Rev. H. H. Phelps to J. C. Porcher dated January 20, 1890, concerns the clergyman's salary and money that he spent "on the house" in Cordesville. Letters of 1894 chiefly concern Rev. Hartzell and arrangements for sharing his services among St. John's Berkeley, St. James Santee, and Christ Church parishes. Correspondents on this topic include S. D. Doar, J. O. Freeman, Bishop Ellison Capers, F. W. Heyward, and J. S. Hartzell. Of note is a letter from Bishop Capers dated

February 12, 1896, stating that he has received complaints that “the walls of old Biggin Church are being torn down and the bricks sold to negroes and others, and the graves desecrated.” Other letters of 1896 and 1897 concern Rev. Hartzell and the relations between St. John’s Berkeley and Christ Church parishes; a memorial tablet for Rev. Howe; and repairs to the “glebe house.” Topics of 1898 and 1899 correspondence include a survey of a church lot in Cordesville; and various financial matters. Correspondents of the 1890s include A. E. Cornish, Henry L. Barker, T. M. Waring, and R. Geissler.

BOX 3

- 1 Correspondence arranged topically, 1805-1900. These communications consist of mostly printed letters to the wardens and vestry concerning meetings of the diocesan conventions.
- 2 Correspondence arranged topically, 1814-1831. These consist of letters of or relating to Rev. John Jacob Tschudy. Tschudy’s lengthy letter to the vestry dated April 10, 1818, concerns an appropriation of money by the vestry from the proceeds of the glebe rent, which he characterizes as an “act of injustice” and an offense against God. On January 9, 1821, he also writes to complain about the condition of the parsonage, and in a letter of June 27, 1831, expresses his gratitude that he has been provided with “a summer retreat” at Cordesville. Correspondents include Bishop Theodore Dehon, Peter Broughton, Thomas S. Grimke, William Read, and Frederick Ford.

Early property records (18th and 19th centuries):

- 3 Glebe plantation records, 1795-1799. These include a receipted bill, 1795, from Timothy & Mason for advertising a meeting of the “inhabitants [respecting] the glebe lands,” a receipted bill, 1796, from James G. Ware for a resurvey and plat of the lower glebe, and receipts, 1796-1799, for payments on a lease of the lower glebe by John Bee Holmes. There is also a copy of a vestry resolution, 1799, concerning John Bee Holmes and the “payment of his arrears of Rent for the Lower Glebe,” with a copy of a letter from Henry Laurens to Holmes on this subject.
- 4 Glebe plantation records, 1808-1833. These include a receipt, 1809, for rent of the lower glebe by Peter Broughton; a receipt, 1829, for the same from John Harleston; and an “Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of the Rents of the Lower Glebe” for the years 1814 to 1821. Also included is a lease, 1821, of the upper glebe to Philip Porcher; and a report, 1833, concerning rental of the upper glebe to “Mr. Porcher.”
- 5 Glebe plantation records, 1842-1856. Includes an indenture, 1846, which is Solomon Clarke’s lease of the lower glebe; and a newspaper clipping, 1846, advertising the private sale of the lower glebe. Other documents of the 1840s include vestry committee reports. Documents of the 1850s include a circular notice, 1852, soliciting laborers to be provided by parishioners “for the purpose of erecting a bank at the Glebe.” This circular includes a list of names of five parishioners and the number of hands they pledged or provided.

There is also a report, 1853, of the committee appointed to examine the boundary line between “the Glebe” and Buck Hall; and a report, 1856, by the committee appointed for “the sale of the lease of the Lower Glebe.”

- 6 Glebe plantation records, 1867-1888. These include bills for advertising the lease of the glebe in Charleston newspapers; a lease, 1867, of the glebe plantation to W. M. Williams; a report, 1871, by W. J. Ball concerning legal actions against lessee Richard Harleston and Otto Pfaehler; a tax return, 1873; an account statement, 1872, for the sales of 108 bushels of “rough rice” from the glebe plantation; a lease of “the Glebe plantation Cooper River” to Hugh B. Rose; and a report, 1888, by Henry L. Barker relating to the lease of the glebe. Of note is a sharecropping contract, 1871, between the vestry and Ishmael Stuart and other freedmen working the glebe plantation.
- 7 Biggin Church property records, 1809-1835, and undated. Included is a bill, 1809, for printing newspaper notices of vestry meetings and for contracts for the rebuilding of Biggin Church. An undated document of this period lists the names of subscribers to a fund for the “rebuilding” of the church. Several undated documents which were enclosed in a wrapper marked “Estimates made for the Vestry” consist of an estimate for interior improvements including the framing of a ceiling, and the addition of a gallery “to the West End” with a vestry room and a staircase underneath; and two pencil sketches of the ceiling. Other documents pertain to the hiring of Robert Galbraith to do work at the church. These include his estimate for a roof and the construction of doors, and “sashes, frames and shutters” made of cypress wood; and an account of payments made to Galbraith from 1809 to 1811 and other transactions up to 1816. There are also two bonds, including a surety bond [1809] with receipts for payments to Galbraith dated 1809 to 1810 affixed to the document. A document dated 1813 mentions Mrs. Ann Galbraith, executrix of Robert Galbraith’s estate, and recommends that a sum be deducted from Galbraith’s bill “in consequence of his not fulfilling his contract in repairing” Biggin Church. A statement, 1835, lists the names of persons contributing to a fund for putting new shingles on Biggin Church, and an affixed receipt of Thomas Ashby refers to “good Cypress shingles.”
- 8 Biggin Church property records, 1842-1856. The earliest document in this group is an agreement listing persons who have agreed to “send six men with their necessary implements to Biggin Church” also to Strawberry Chapel, “for the purpose of enclosing within a heavy bank and ditches the Cemetery attached” to the churches. Of note is a petition, 1850, to the vestry from the ladies of the church requesting permission to “adorn the Chancel with suitable hangings” and make other interior improvements. The petition includes a sketch of the proposed alterations. Other documents of the 1850s include a report, 1851, concerning alterations and improvements to the church interior; and an estimate, 1855, from John Veree, a “colored mechanic,” for re-shingling the roof.
- 9 Strawberry Chapel property records, 1844-1845. This group of documents was enclosed in a sheet of newspaper marked “Estimates for Repairs Strawberry Chapel.” They include

said estimates for interior improvements, such as plastering, and for the construction of an attached vestry room; and a related committee report, 1844.

- 10 Strawberry Chapel property records, 1844-1848. The earliest document, 1844, is a committee report (fragment?) relating to John Harleston's request to "enlarge the Harleston burial ground at Strawberry." Other documents of the 1840s concern a "Club House" as well as "a Ball Room recently erected" on church property, as described in a committee report dated April 18, 1848. An extract from the minutes of the "Strawberry Club" dated April 15, 1848, notes that about "ten or twelve years" ago, "a small Wooden Building" known as the "Parish House" was built on church land, and was used by parishioners on various occasions, and more frequently by members of the Strawberry Club for their meetings. The minutes also state that the Parishioners "have within a few weeks considerably increased the size" of the Parish House, and that the vestry objected to this. A vestry committee report dated April 18, 1848, mentions the Club House, Ball Room, and a "kitchen belonging to the Club." An undated vestry resolution deplors the erection of a "Building devoted entirely to secular purposes" on church grounds and directs its removal.
- 11 Strawberry Chapel property records, 1851-1871, and undated. An undated resolution concerns consulting parishioners for their approval of "a Gallery at Strawberry Chapel for the Negroes," and includes a list of those approving the gallery, including Thomas Milliken, Sanford W. Barker, Hopson Pinckney, and Henry M. Holmes. The report, 1851, of a committee "appointed to erect a gallery" states that "the work has been completed." A copy of a letter, 1854, to the vestry from the rector W. B. W. Howe contains suggestions for changes to the interior of the chapel, and includes a list of signatories giving their approval of these changes. A committee report dated 1859 relates to the construction of a "lecture room" in which "the negroes attached to our church might receive religious instruction" (presumably at Strawberry Chapel, although this is not explicitly stated). A letter, 1871, to the vestry from P. Gourdin reports that he has sold the pulpit and benches from the lecture room of Strawberry Chapel. An undated drawing in pencil and ink is a plan of the chancel of Strawberry Chapel and a railing.
- 12 Strawberry Chapel property records, 1887. These documents were originally enclosed in a wrapper or envelope marked "Report of Committee on repairs to 'Strawberry Chapel' caused by the Earthquake of Aug. 31, 1886 (with all vouchers)." A five-page document submitted by Isaac Ball lists the sums expended on repairs, services, and materials. Other documents include receipts for purchases of lime, molding, floorboards, shingles, varnish, etc. [Note: vestry minutes record that in May 1887, there was a decision to remove the gallery from Strawberry Chapel.]
- 13 Records relating to rectory properties, 1821-1889. The earliest document is a contract, 1821, with Samuel Guild for "repairs to the parsonage neare Biggin Church." The contract gives details of the work to be done on the house and other buildings. Documents pertaining to the rectory (or parsonage) property in Cordesville and include a statement, 1832, by Henry M. Holmes giving his consent to build a rectory in Cordesville

under certain conditions; and minutes, 1852, of a vestry meeting reporting on the condition of the outbuildings of the rectory, with a related report, 1853. There is also an indenture, 1855, which leases to J. J. and W. M. Williams an acre of land on Watboo Creek "being part and parcel of the tract of Glebe land, known as the Rectory" for a turpentine distillery; Receipts of 1861 are for payments to a subscription to pay for a house "purchased from Mr. Keating Simons for the use of the parson." Documents of 1865-1866 consist of agreements between the vestry and Mr. N. Windham, and John and Richard Selby, for the hire of "the Landing on the Rectory Tract below Wadboo Bridge." A document dated 1866-1867 pertains to rent paid on a lot in Cordesville by heirs of B. Gaillard. There is also a committee report, 1868, on repairs to be made to the parsonage house, with related receipts. A report, 1871, concerns the leasing of the rectory (the Cordesville rectory?). Minutes of a vestry meeting, 1889, pertain to an "unfinished Rectory in Cordesville." Other documents of this date pertain to work done on "Rector's house."

- 14 Miscellaneous property records, 1810-1883. Includes a copy of a conveyance, 1810, of a tract of 63 acres to "The Vestry and Church Wardens of St. John's Berkeley" from John Ball and others; and a draft of a lease, 1821. Records of 1881-1882 consist of bills relating to "Repairs to the Irving House Cordesville." A receipt of 1883 is for "rent of my house in Cordesville" by E. N. Benjamin.

BOX 4

Early financial records (18th and 19th centuries):

- 1 Financial records, 1779-1798. These include receipts for payments for a subscription to support a minister, and to the Society for the Relief of Widows and Orphans of the Clergy. There is also a receipt of payment, 1798, from Henry Laurens for a "new silver seal with an ebony handle."
- 2 Financial records, 1800-1818. Includes receipts; accounts for the 2% fund; and a bond, 1814, of Peter Broughton. There is also a small group of documents which had been enclosed in a wrapper marked "Presented by Mrs. Elias Ball to the Vestry of St. John's Parish, Berkeley, April 19th, 1931." These consist of a letter, 1811, to the vestry from John Ball at Kensington transmitting a bond of Peter Broughton for the sum of \$1,955, and a related resolution and receipt.
- 3 Financial records: cash book, 1813-1834 (bulk 1813-1827). The first three pages contain "Rules of the Vestry." The volume contains accounts with various individuals, including E. Simons, Mrs. Jane Rutledge, Rev. John Jacob Tschudy, Dr. Henry Laurens, Bartholomew Gaillard, Edward Harleston, James Ravenel, John Ball, Jr., Keating Simons, Thomas Corbett, Rev. Milwood Pogson, Samuel Gourdin, Isaac Ball, William Read, and others. Many of these accounts pertain to subscriptions for the support of the minister and church projects. Several pages contain accounts, 1815-1816, for Biggin Church and its "rebuilding," with a few related later entries dating from 1818 to 1834.

There are also accounts for the lower glebe (1817-1827) and the upper glebe (1817-1826) listing monies received for rent.

- 4 Financial records: index to cash book, 1813-1834.
- 5 Financial records: loose items removed from the cash book, 1813-1834. These include loose accounts, 1826-1831, for various individuals and funds, including the Bishop's Fund.
- 6 Financial records, 1820-1830. Includes accounts and other records relating to the support of the minister. There is also a "Statement of my claim against Capt. Thomas Broughton" (1823-1826) by Rev. J. J. Tschudy relating to "subscriptions to the Rector."
- 7 Financial records: daybook, 1823-1825.
- 8 Financial records: vestry account book, 1828-1850. Volume contains accounts with John Harleston, Frederick A. Ford (treasurer), J. W. Read (treasurer), and Rev. Cranmore Wallace, as well as cash accounts.
- 9 Financial records, 1829-1856. Includes accounts for the 2% fund, receipts, and a bond, 1856, of Elias Horry Deas, and Solomon Clarke, 1846.
- 10 Financial records: account book, 1851-1931. Volume contains accounts for the Glebe Fund and Contingent Fund, as well as cash accounts.
- 11 Financial records, 1865-1870. These mostly consist of receipts. There is also a treasurer's report, 1870.
- 12 Financial records: offertory records, 1877-1879. These consist of records of offerings at the Barrows, Cordesville, and Strawberry Chapel.

BOX 5

- 1 Financial records, 1880-1889. These include receipts of Hardy H. Phelps for his salary; receipts for payments to the Bishop's Fund and for convention dues; and invoices mostly for purchases of building materials.
- 2 Financial records, 1890-1899. These include receipts as well as parish accounts with the Society for the Advancement of Christianity in South Carolina, and the Diocesan Convention.
- 3 Financial records, undated.

Vestry election records:

- 4 Election records, 1831-1850. These documents, most of which are marked "Biggin," include tallies of votes for vestrymen and wardens.
- 5 Election records, 1845. These chiefly consist of ballots.
- 6 Election records, 1847. These consist of ballots and a vote tally or return.

- 7 Election records, 1848. These consist of ballots.
- 8 Election records, 1848. These consist of ballots; a 2-page document marked "State of the Polls at the Special Election on Apl. 27, 1848," which includes the signatures of three parishioners protesting the election because of 'illegal votes;' and a protest signed by John Laurens and others.
- 9 Election records, 1851. These consist of ballots and a return.
- 10 Election records, 1852-1860. Records of the 1850s consist of ballots and returns. There is also a list, 1860, of vestrymen and wardens elected.
- 11 Election records, undated. These consist of ballots which likely date in the 1850s or 1860s.

Early minutes (18th and 19th centuries):

- 12 Minutes, 1812-1853. This volume is a typewritten transcript of the "Minute Book, Parish of St. John's, Berkeley." It chiefly contains minutes of meetings of the church vestry and wardens. The volume begins with a "List of Vestry Papers in the hands of the Secretary," followed by an "Act Incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church of St. John Berkeley County passed the 17th day of December 1794." Minutes of the meeting of December 7, 1813, refer to a subscription for "rebuilding Biggin Church." There are also minutes of meetings of the parishioners of Biggin Church. The last dozen or so pages in the volume include a transcript of a "Deed of Gift to Biggin Church and Strawberry Chapel by the Heirs of Elias Ball" (1810). The 1810 deed is for a tract of land gifted to the vestry and wardens of the parish. There is also a transcript of an indenture dated 1712 between Landgrave John Colleton and Gov. Charles Craven and others relating to the establishment of churches within the parish. (NOTE: the original minute book is found in collection number 0176.)

Miscellaneous vestry records (18th and 19th centuries):

- 13 Vestry records, 1786-1835. The earliest document, 1786, is the minutes of a convention meeting in Charleston. Another early document, 1787, is a "Report of a Committee to whom were referred Rules for the Order Government" of the Protestant Episcopal Church of South Carolina. (The folder contains a photocopy of this document, and the original is located in oversize documents). Also included is a court decree, 1829, in the case of Peter Gaillard et al. v. Thomas Corbett et al., a case relating to church property. A undated resolution, probably dating in the 1820s, concerns Rev. John Jacob Tschudy.
- 14 Vestry records, 1842-1849. These include treasurer's reports, many of which pertain to the 2% fund; a resolution, 1845, concerning the death of Dr. William Read; and a list, 1849, of records received from Frederick A. Ford including a minute book (1731-1813), proceedings of the Childsbury school trustees (1729), the corporation seal of vestry, plats and other property records, and a bundle marked "Valuable Manuscripts."

- 15 Vestry records, 1850-1859. These include a petition, 1850, by N. Windom (Windam?) concerning the use of a road; resolutions, 1852, relating to the death of Bishop Gadsden and a leave of absence requested by W. B. W. Howe; minutes, 1853, of a vestry meeting; and an undated (1850s or 1860s) financial statement listing "available funds."
- 16 Vestry records, 1860-1868. These include a resolution, 1860, concerning the resignation of Rev. W. B. W. Howe; and a list, 1861, of records received from Sanford W. Barker including minute books, plats and other property records, and journals of the convention.

BOX 6

- 1 Vestry records, 1871-1885. These include a report, 1871, by a committee "appointed to meet the Vestry of Trinity Church, Black Oak" which offers a call to Rev. B. F. Perry to minister to "the two Church parishes," with related reports; printed resolutions, 1871, of the vestry of St. Luke's Church in Charleston relating to the death of their rector, Christopher P. Gadsden; a photocopy of a list, 1875, of "present and former rectors" of St. John's Berkeley Parish; and a report, 1885, by church wardens about membership, offerings, church assets, and numbers of baptisms, burials, etc.
- 2 Vestry records, 1886-1889. Most of these documents are minutes of meetings pertaining to Rev. Hardy H. Phelps.
- 3 Vestry records, 1891-1897. These include a resolution, 1890, relating to the resignation of Rev. W. B. W. Howe. Other records, 1895-1897, including invoices, relate to a memorial (or "mural") tablet honoring Bishop W. B. W. Howe.
- 4 Vestry records, undated.

Vestry Records, 20th and 21st centuries:

- 5 Financial records, 1900-1919.

Financial Records: Treasurer's Records (These begin with a series of files, 1927-1978, kept by treasurer J. Heyward Furman and later Francis M. Waring, including correspondence and financial records. Both Furman and Waring served as treasurer or secretary-treasurer. See also an account book, in box 4, folder 10, which contains both 19th and 20th century financial records.)

- 6 Treasurer's records, 1927-1930. These include correspondence and receipts.
- 7 Treasurer's records, 1929-1933. This file was marked "Taxes and Insurance." Includes tax and insurance records on properties in Charleston on America and Wolfe streets.
- 8 Treasurer's records, 1931-1932. These include records relating to the Strawberry Chapel Preservation Fund.
- 9 Treasurer's records, 1933. These are mostly banking records.

10 Treasurer's records, 1934. Includes many banking records.

BOX 7

1 Treasurer's records, 1935. Includes many banking records, and records relating to rents and repairs of Charleston properties. A bill dated July 8, 1935, is for plastering the walls of Strawberry Chapel.

2 Treasurer's records, 1936. These were wrapped in a paper marked "Bank statements, cancelled checks & vouchers." They include records relating to rents and repairs of Charleston properties.

3 Treasurer's records, 1936.

4 Treasurer's records, 1937-1939.

5 Treasurer's records, 1941-1942. Includes a letter, September 10, 1942, from the South Carolina Public Service Authority to John Coming Ball concerning condemned lands belonging to the church (because of the Santee Cooper hydroelectric project).

6 Treasurer's records, 1943. These include correspondence with "Santee-Cooper" relating to an equity suit and condemned lands belonging to the church.

7 Treasurer's records, 1944.

8 Treasurer's records, 1945.

9 Treasurer's records, 1946.

10 Treasurer's records, 1947. Includes a bill, December 13, 1947, for the restoration of "Strawberry Chapel silver."

11 Treasurer's records, 1948.

12 Treasurer's records, 1949.

BOX 8

1 Treasurer's records, 1950-1951. Includes insurance records.

2 Treasurer's records, 1952.

3 Treasurer's records, 1953.

4 Treasurer's records, 1954.

5 Treasurer's records, 1955.

6 Treasurer's records, 1956.

7 Treasurer's records, 1957.

8 Treasurer's records, 1958.

- 9 Treasurer's records, 1959-1960.
- 10 Treasurer's records, 1961. These are mostly bills for services and materials used in repairs and renovations at Strawberry Chapel.
- 11 Treasurer's records, 1962-1963.

BOX 9

- 1 Treasurer's records, 1964.
- 2 Treasurer's records, 1965.
- 3 Treasurer's records, 1966-1967.
- 4 Treasurer's records, 1966-1967. These records were bound together in folders marked "Financial Matters."
- 5 Treasurer's records, 1967-1968. "Financial Matters."
- 6 Treasurer's records, 1968-1969. "Financial Matters."
- 7 Treasurer's records, 1969-1970. "Financial Matters."
- 8 Treasurer's records, 1970-1971. "Financial Matters."
- 9 Treasurer's records, 1971-1972. "Financial Matters."
- 10 Treasurer's records, 1973-1974. "Financial Matters."
- 11 Treasurer's records, 1974-1975. "Financial Matters."
- 12 Treasurer's records, 1975-1976. "Financial Matters."
- 13 Treasurer's records, 1976-1977. "Financial Matters."
- 14 Treasurer's records, 1977-1978. "Financial Matters."

Miscellaneous financial records:

- 15 Account book, 1953-1966. Accounts for rents kept by J. H. Furman.
- 16 Insurance records, 1965-1978.
- 17 Check stub book, 1971-1980.
- 18 Records of contributions in memory of Theodore DuBose Stoney, 1982.
- 19 Statement of the "Ball Graveyard Account," 1986-1998.

BOX 10

- 1 Insurance records, 1987-1989.
- 2 Insurance records, 1990-2017. Includes a DO policy (2017).

- 3 Financial statements, 1983-2001.
- 4 Financial records kept by Clarence M. Condon, treasurer, 1993-1998. These include correspondence.
- 5 Financial records kept by Clarence M. Condon, treasurer, 1992-1998. These were in a folder marked "Paid Bills" and include invoices and tax records.
- 6 Parochial reports, 1958-1979. These are mainly financial statements but also include information on the number of congregants, baptisms, etc.
- 7 Parochial reports, 1980-1989.

BOX 11

- 1 Parochial reports, 1990-1994.
- 2 Parochial reports, 2004-2005.
- 3 Miscellaneous financial records. Bank passbook, 1977, for the John H. Boylston Fund.

Correspondence:

- 4 Correspondence, 1900-1919. A letter to the vestry and wardens from Isaac Ball dated December 5, 1909, relates that Mr. Sims, the owner of Strawberry Planation, is willing to donate to the parish a "triangular portion of land contiguous to the whole S.W. boundary of the church lot." Ball recalls some landmarks of the area and states that ownership of this tract is desirable "not only for the protection of the grand old live oaks but also to guard a spot which we hold so dear and sacred." Other topics include contributions to missions; financial matters; and the rental of the Cordesville parsonage by Mrs. M. L. Tarrant. A letter from Henry H. Ficken to treasurer J. St. Clair White dated April 26, 1912, partly concerns some old records of the church, including some "which were in the possession of the late Henry L. Barker."
- 5 Correspondence, 1921-1935. Letters of 1925 pertain to the "Bi-Centennial Celebration of Strawberry Chapel" and include invitations to the event, and letters between Isaac Ball and J. S. Frelinghuysen. A letter of 1926 from Clarence Edward Chapman transmits a contribution to the Strawberry Preservation Fund. The remainder of the 1920s correspondence concerns financial matters, mainly securities and interest due to the parish, and correspondents include Henry H. Ficken and J. Heyward Furman. Isaac Ball's letter of July 2, 1930, announces his retirement from the vestry due to the "prompting of age."
- 6 Correspondence, 1944-1967. Topics include the Church Home for Children, the church silver, and the restoration of some of the old parish records by the state archives. There is also a list of church records that were to be microfilmed, including several minute books dating from the 18th century. The list ends with the statement: "These original records are the property of the Diocese of South Carolina, and will be returned to Mr. Ball to be delivered to the Right Rev. Thomas N. Carruthers, and will be kept at the Diocesan

Headquarters on Wentworth Street, Charleston, S.C.” A letter, Sept. 1946 (with related information), to I. G. Ball from Mrs. Henry R. Luce’s secretary concerns an offer to maintain the “lots and grounds surrounding Strawberry Chapel.” A letter, October 26, 1966, concerns repairs to the Harleston family vault.

- 7 Correspondence, 1970-1979.
- 8 Minutes, 1915-1983. Scattered minutes of vestry and congregational meetings. Minutes of 1915 include a list [1915?], of parish properties and assets.
- 9 Minutes, 1990-1999. Minutes of vestry and congregational meetings.
- 10 Minutes, 2000-2012. Minutes of vestry and congregational meetings.
- 11 Minutes, 2013-2020.
- 12 Minutes, 2016. Some minutes concern the ownership of Strawberry Chapel; and proposals for the construction of a permanent building as a restroom and storage unit for Strawberry Chapel.
- 13 Minutes, 2017-2018. Some minutes concern repairs to Strawberry Chapel and its cemetery; and a security system.

BOX 12

Vestry records kept by senior wardens:

- 1 Records kept by J. Heyward Furman, Jr., 1961-1962. These include correspondence, warden’s reports, and other papers. Of note is correspondence, 1962, with Chalmers G. Davidson concerning 19th century vestrymen.
- 2 Records kept by J. Heyward Furman, Jr., 1963-1965.
- 3 Records kept by E. Roy Daniell, 1966-1967.
- 4 Records kept by E. Roy Daniell, 1968-1969.
- 5 Records kept by E. Roy Daniell, 1970-1971.
- 6 Records kept by by E. Roy Daniell, 1972-1973.
- 7 Records kept by by E. Roy Daniell, 1974-1975.
- 8 Records kept by E. Roy Daniell, 1976-1978.

BOX 13

- 1 Records kept by Dr. Albert Cannon, 1978. Some letters of September relate to the death of E. Roy Daniell and donations to Strawberry Chapel in his memory.
- 2 Records kept by Dr. Albert Cannon, 1979-1984. These include correspondence, financial records, minutes, and other papers. Of note is a report, November 8, 1979, on rectory

property; and a conveyance, January 1984, for the sale of a one-acre lot in Cordesville “being the same upon which a wooden frame building was erected and known as the Church of Cordesville.” Other topics include parish records held by the South Carolina Historical Society.

- 3 Records kept by Mrs. E. Roy Daniell (Elizabeth Harleston Daniell), 1985-1987.
- 4 Records kept by Mrs. E. Roy Daniell (Elizabeth Harleston Daniell), 1988-1990.
- 5 Records kept by Robert T. Ball, 1991-1992.
- 6 Records kept by Robert T. Ball, 1993.
- 7 Records kept by Robert T. Ball, 1994.
- 8 Records kept by Robert T. Ball, 1995.
- 9 Records kept by Robert T. Ball, 1996-1998.
- 10 Records kept by Robert T. Ball, 1999-2001; and undated.

BOX 14

- 1 Records kept by Jeff M. Ball, 2001-2013.

Property records:

- 2 Property records: papers, 1935, relating to a burial lot on Dean Hall Plantation deeded to the parish by Elizabeth M. Kittredge.
- 3 Property records: papers, 1950-1969, relating to the rectory plantation land. These include correspondence, financial records, and leases.
- 4 Property records: papers, 1971-1976, relating to the rectory plantation land.
- 5 Property records: papers, 1992-1998, relating to the rectory plantation land.
- 6 Property records: leases, 1984-1990, of parish land to Atlantic Wood Industries and Timberlands Associates, with related correspondence.
- 7 Property records, 1958-1996, relating to parish property, including rental property in Charleston. Includes correspondence, 1965-1992, with the Diocese of South Carolina.

Strawberry Chapel records:

- 8 Strawberry Chapel records: vandalism repairs estimates, 1993; and records, 2014-2016, relating to security services by police (in a folder marked “Halloween Security”).
- 9 Strawberry Chapel records: repair records, 1993-1997, including correspondence and estimates.
- 10 Strawberry Chapel records: historical information relating to the chapel cemetery (graveyard), and information on historic cemetery cleaning and preservation.

- 11 Strawberry Chapel records: records relating to Ball family burial lot and gravestones.
- 12 Strawberry Chapel records: correspondence, 1986-1992, with E. J. McCarthy & Sons concerning repairs to Ball family gravestones, monuments, and lot wall.
- 13 Strawberry Chapel records: papers, 1987-1997, relating to the Ball Graveyard Fund, including reports to “cousins and supporters” from Robert T. Ball.
- 14 Strawberry Chapel records: letters from contributors to the Ball Graveyard Fund, 1986-1996.
- 15 Strawberry Chapel records: insurance appraisal, 2004, for “Antique Church Silver belonging to St. Johns Parish used at Strawberry Chapel.”
- 16 Strawberry Chapel records: papers, 1997-1999, relating to protests by the parish vestry and members against zoning changes (to commercial use) to lands surrounding the chapel. These include correspondence and clippings.

BOX 15

- 1 Strawberry Chapel records: records, 2013-2017, of Friends of Strawberry, Inc., an historic preservation organization. These include incorporation records, bylaws, and minutes of meetings.
- 2 Strawberry Chapel records: service notices, 1965-1980. These consist of letters to newspaper editors pertaining to services at Strawberry Chapel and clergymen celebrating Holy Communion.
- 3 Strawberry Chapel records: papers, 1970-1989, relating to Strawberry Chapel and Childsbury as historic sites. These include nomination forms for the National Register of Historic Places, and a South Carolina statewide survey site form.
- 4 Strawberry Chapel records: notes and research about Strawberry Chapel, mostly by Roy and Betty Daniell.
- 5 Strawberry Chapel records: historical information, notes, and clippings concerning the chapel, Biggin Church, church silver, and Childsbury.
- 6 Strawberry Chapel records: miscellaneous papers, including a program, 1975, for the 250th anniversary service; cards featuring a sketch of Strawberry Chapel; a poem about the chapel by Isaac Ball; transcripts from old minutes and other records; clippings and notices relating to services at the chapel; and sample bulletins from other churches.
- 7 Strawberry Church records: journal kept by senior warden Nathaniel I. Ball, 1957-1962. It contains records of vestry operations, and services held at the chapel.
- 8 Strawberry Chapel records: papers, 1992-1994, relating to clean-up days and paid groundskeeping services.

- 9 Strawberry Chapel records: papers, 1995, relating to clean-up days and paid groundskeeping services.
- 10 Strawberry Chapel records: papers, 1996, relating to clean-up days and paid groundskeeping services.
- 11 Strawberry Chapel records: papers, 1997, relating to clean-up days and paid groundskeeping services. These include a “rough sketch of Strawberry Chapel grounds” and the locations of its trees.
- 12 Strawberry Chapel records: papers, 1998, relating to clean-up days and paid groundskeeping services.

BOX 16

- 1 Papers relating to Biggin Church: National Register of Historic Places nomination form, 1977, and related papers.
- 2 Papers relating to Biggin Church: papers, 1973-1998, relating to the Biggin cemetery and the Biggin Cemetery Association. These are mostly correspondence.
- 3 Papers relating to Biggin Church: papers, 1959-1996, relating to Biggin cemetery and the Biggin Cemetery Association. These include the constitution and by-laws of the Association, newspaper clippings, and financial statements.
- 4 Papers relating to Biggin Church: miscellaneous papers, including a letter, 1962, from Chalmers G. Davidson concerning planters who were vestrymen of Biggin.
- 5 Records relating to vestrymen and wardens of St. John’s Berkeley Parish, 1951-1960. Included is a list of 18th century wardens.
- 6 Records relating to rectors: These include a a list of “present and former Rectors” of the parish, 1875, that also lists some vestrymen, wardens, and convention deputies; and biographical information on John Jacob Tschudy.
- 7 Records and research relating to St. John’s Berkeley Parish families and plantations: research, genealogical information, correspondence, and other papers pertaining to the Ball family and some of the family plantations (chiefly Kensington and Limerick).
- 8 Records and research relating to St. John’s Berkeley Parish families and plantations: clippings, research, etc., chiefly pertaining to the Ball family, Edward Ball’s book about slaves in the Ball family, Ball family plantations, and the related Moultrie family.
- 9 Records and research relating to St. John’s Berkeley Parish families and plantations: these include a memo, 1992, to persons invited to a “brainstorming” meeting which concerns updating of information on the Ball family history, and “steps that might or could be taken to keep alive, and project into the future, the active life of Strawberry Chapel which for 267 years has been an important and integral part of the Ball Family and its history.” There are also copies and transcriptions of 19th century family letters, a

memoir by Mrs. Isaac Ball about a plantation called The Bluff, and a “History of the Furniture Owned by John Ernest and Anne Simons Gibbs.”

- 10 Records and research relating to St. John’s Berkeley Parish families and plantations: clippings and other information on parish history and historic churches in Berkeley County.
- 11 Records and research relating to St. John’s Berkeley Parish families and plantations: typescript copy (ca. 1936?) of a cookbook, “Old Receipts from Old St. Johns.” The cookbook is in a two-ring binder which includes photographs of Berkeley County plantations and a few loose items. An accompanying note (1969) states: “Cookbook originally belonged to Mr. Sterling Childs, Pres. Yeamans Hall Club.” There are several copies of this book in existence. Anne Wickham Sinkler Fishburne (1886-1981) was one of the compilers.
- 12 Records and research relating to St. John’s Berkeley Parish families and plantations: loose items removed from the cookbook “Old Receipts from Old St. Johns.”

BOX 17

- 1 Records relating to a proposed interstate highway (I-73): correspondence, 1997-1998, of Robert T. Ball (senior warden) pertaining to opposition to I-73.
- 2 Records relating to a proposed interstate highway (I-73): clippings, 1997-1998, relating to I-73 and opposition to it.
- 3 Records relating to a proposed interstate highway (I-73): these include clippings, a petition of protest, and a related letter published in a local newspaper in November 1998.
- 4 Records relating to a proposed interstate highway (I-73): miscellaneous items including decals (“No 73”), and a copy of the “Berkeley County Zoning and Development Standards Ordinance” (1997).
- 5 Records relating to a proposed interstate highway (I-73): these consist of articles and other information found on the internet, 1997-1998.
- 6 Records relating to proposed commercial development at the Childsbury site: papers, 1996-1997, mainly pertaining to a zoning petition by a landowner pertaining to lands surrounding Strawberry Chapel.
- 7 Records relating to proposed commercial development at the Childsbury site: mostly correspondence, February through April 1999, including a letter, April 6, to the Berkeley County Manager from Richard Kasprak, owner of Rice Hope Plantation, written “in support of responsible development of the tract of land neighboring and surrounding Strawberry Chapel.” Other correspondents include John Cumbie, Steve Lewis and Doug Talbot (of Southern Lifestyles), Robert T. Ball, and Jeff Ball.

- 8 Records relating to proposed commercial development at the Childsbury site: mostly correspondence, May through September 1999. Correspondents include Robert T. Ball, the Berkeley County Board of Zoning Appeals, John H. Warren, William B. Barr, and Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Stoney, Jr.
- 9 Records relating to proposed commercial development at the Childsbury site: correspondence, October through December 1999, as well as multiple copies of a “Land Use Approval Agreement” between the vestry of Strawberry Chapel and “Southern Lifestyles, LLC (‘Developer’).” Correspondents include Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Stoney, Jr., Francis Kline (Abbot of Mepkin Abbey), Robert T. Ball, and Robert W. Metts.
- 10 Records relating to proposed commercial development at the Childsbury site: mostly correspondence, 2000, much of which concerns a “Special Area Permit” application by Southern Lifestyles for three tracts of land surrounding the chapel.
- 11 Records relating to proposed commercial development at the Childsbury site: mostly correspondence, 2001, much of which concerns the Special Area Permit and the vestry’s opposition to it. The last dated piece of correspondence, a printed email of May 11, 2001, is a transcript of a newspaper article stating that the State of South Carolina has agreed to buy the land owned by Southern Lifestyles (the “Childsbury tract”).
- 12 Records relating to proposed commercial development at the Childsbury site: miscellaneous records and research relating to Childsbury.
- 13 Records relating to proposed commercial development at the Childsbury site: undated petitions by citizens in support of the preservation of the Childsbury site.

BOX 18

- 1 Records relating to proposed commercial development at the Childsbury site: clippings, mostly newspaper articles, 1999-2001, relating to proposed development of the Childsbury tract, and historic preservation in Berkeley County.
- 2 Records relating to proposed commercial development at the Childsbury site: booklet, 1999, “Archaeological Inventory Survey of the Strawberry Development Tract,” and a related letter.
- 3 Records relating to proposed commercial development at the Childsbury site: research and records pertaining to land ultimately acquired by Southern Lifestyles, including title deeds.
- 4 Records relating to proposed commercial development at the Childsbury site: miscellaneous notes and other items.
- 5 Records relating to proposed commercial development at the Childsbury site: correspondence, clippings, and other documents relating to a proposed Cooper River Historic District, including part of a NRHP nomination form.

- 6 Property research: research, 2008-2014, most or all of which was compiled by Jeff Ball, relating to parish property. Included are conveyance abstracts, as well as copies of wills and other historical documents.
- 7 Legal records, 2018. Agreements and other legal documents relating to a matter concerning the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina and the Right Reverend Mark J. Lawrence, et al., and some of the Episcopal churches.
- 8 Membership records: letters of transfer, 1947-2005.
- 9 Membership records: scattered records of baptisms, confirmations, deaths, etc., 1865-2000.

BOX 19 (**RESTRICTED MATERIAL**; permission to access must be granted by senior or junior warden)

- 1 Correspondence, 2016-2019.
- 2 Financial records and related correspondence, 2015-2019.
- 3 Membership records: lists of communicants and members, 1989-2017.
- 4 Membership records: lists of communicants serving on the Mission Committee, 1992-2007.
- 5 Membership records: mailing lists, mostly undated (1990s-2000s).
- 6 Security system records.
- 7 Digital media: USB drive containing various files, 2004-2017, including correspondence, financial records, membership records, minutes, and a power point presentation; and a cd-r containing “RB’s data through mid 2012” which includes similar information as well as information on Comingtee Plantation and Kensington Plantation, and photographs of Strawberry Chapel and other subjects,

OVERSIZE ITEMS (located in flat files in vault)

- 1 Report, 1787: “Report of a Committee to whom were referred Rules for the Order Government” of the Protestant Episcopal Church of South Carolina.
- 2 Letter, 1818, of Rev. John Jacob Tschudy. Folio letter to the vestry dated April 10, 1818, concerns an appropriation of money by the vestry from the proceeds of the glebe rent, which he characterizes as an “act of injustice” and an offense against God.
- 3 Plats and blueprint: these include a undated blueprint “Plat of Two Lots...Situated in Cordesville”; a “Map of Biggin Church Property” (1951) showing a triangular lot and the

site of the old church; and a “Plat of Property Situated in Berkeley County and Owned by Atlantic Wood Industries, Inc. and Formerly a Part of Strawberry Plantation” (1984).

- 4 Plats and sketch: these include a copy of a plat (1925?) by J. D. McCrady of over 823 acres “being the northern division of 1200 acres granted to James Child in 14 July 1698 and resurveyed in March 1808; a copy of a plat, 1940, of Strawberry Plantation; a plat (1996?), of the “Bluff at Childsbury” showing lots owned by Southern Lifestyles; and a copy (n.d.) of a “Rough Sketch of Strawberry Chapel” showing the site of the chapel and graves.

PHOTOGRAPHS (0675 VM)

- 1 Black and white photograph, [1947] of Isaac Gibbs Ball (1871-1963) “with church silver buried in Comingtee barn by Keating S. Ball, Senior Warden in 1865 and recovered and restored to parish 1947.”
- 2 Miscellaneous images. These are mostly undated photographs, including a b&w photograph (ca. 1960) of two unidentified ladies holding a silver plate; a color snapshot of gravestones purportedly showing the “ghost” of a small child; a b&w photograph (1952) of “The Rocks church”; a b&w snapshot of the Church of Holy Innocents in Cordesville; color postcards of a painting of Strawberry Chapel; and a reproduction of a sketch of Strawberry Chapel entitled “Vue de l’Eglise de Strawberry.”
- 3 Color Polaroid snapshots of vandalism damage at Strawberry Chapel, no date.
- 4 Color photographs, 1989, of vandalized Ball family gravestones.
- 5 Color Polaroid snapshots, no date, of the Biggin Church ruins and graveyard.
- 6 Color photographs [1990s] of Strawberry Chapel, a gathering there, and restoration work.
- 7 Color photographs, 1995, of the Ball family graveyard at Strawberry Chapel.
- 8 Color photographs, 1996, of the Ball family graveyard at Strawberry Chapel, a gathering in the chapel.
- 9 Color photographs, 1996, of the exterior of Strawberry Chapel.
- 10 Color photographs, 1997, of a tour in a cypress swamp and other locales. Includes images of Rudy Mancke and other individuals.
- 11 Color photographs, 1997, of Strawberry Chapel.
- 12 Color photographs, 1998, of graves at Strawberry Chapel.
- 13 Color photographs, 1999, of restored gravestones.
- 14 Album of color photographs, no date, of burial grounds at Strawberry Chapel.

- 15 Album of color photographs, no date, of Strawberry Chapel and its burial grounds.
- 16 Photographs removed from a cookbook, "Old Receipts from Old St. Johns" (ca. 1936?). The cookbook includes black and white photographs of Berkeley County plantations and scenes, entitled, The River Road; Belvidere; Hunting dogs in the field; Mulberry Castle; Fishing from a ricefield trunk; Ophir; Pond at White Hall; Ophir; Northampton; Dean Hall; Garden in Pinopolis; Eutaw; Hunters in the Sarazins woods; Gippy; Eutaw Springs; and Somerset.

BIBLE AND PRAYER BOOKS

- 1 Bible, 1701. This is the bible of Strawberry Chapel, rebound in 1826. It contains the Old Testament, the Apocrypha, and the New Testament. The title page at the beginning is missing, but the title page for the New Testament (beginning page 917) bears the date of MMCCI (1701). This book was printed in London. (Access restricted; located in locked cabinet A)

(Below located in C-Space with SCHS Bibles)

- 2 *A Companion for the Book of Common Prayer*, 1805. This book was used at Strawberry Chapel and rebound in 1826. The title page is inscribed: "The gift of Elias Ball, Limerick, to Strawberry Chapel. Feby 4th 1809."
- 3 *The Book of Common Prayer*, 1836. The inner cover bears the inscription: "Presented to the Chapel in Cordesville by Mrs. Maria Louisa Gibbs, 1874."
- 4 *The Collects, Epistles and Gospels with the Order for the Holy Communion and Other Offices from the Book of Common Prayer*. The title page gives no date, but a "certificate" on the following page bears the date 1893. The cover is inscribed: "Strawberry Chapel, Parish of St. John's Berkeley, S.C. 1918."