

Treasures of the South: the history and holdings of Campbell Collections.

“I have attempted no more than a brief and rough sketch of this great collection. My aim in doing so is to appeal to African leaders, patriots and artist to co-operate and help preserve these treasures ...”¹ H.I.E Dhlomo

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Background

The Campbell Collections of the University of KwaZulu-Natal comprises a rich variety of rare Africana books, manuscripts, artworks, and museum artefacts, mostly related to southern Africa, particularly the eastern region. The core of the collection was bequeathed to the University by Killie Campbell (1881-1965) and her brother William (1880-1962). The Campbells' former home, a Cape-Dutch style building called “Muckleneuk”, on Durban’s Berea, houses the collections.

In 1850 William (c1821-1865) and Agnes Campbell, the grandparents of Killie and William, immigrated to Natal from Scotland as Byrne settlers. They initially settled in Durban where William, who had worked for the Scottish railways, obtained a contract for the building of a pier on the northern side of Durban bay.⁵ Thereafter they moved to a farm near the Umhloti River, where William grew sugar cane, and in due course their son Marshall (1848-1917) became the owner of a successful sugar estate. In his later years he became a member of the Natal Legislative Assembly and

¹*Ilanga lase Natal*, 23 April 1949. “Great Contribution to African Culture: Unique Collection by the Campbells”. H.I.E Dhlomo was one of the foremost dramatists of his era. He also wrote poetry, short stories and essays. He was an educator, librarian, journalist, politician, actor, and violinist.

² Senior Museologist, Campbell Collections.

³ Senior Librarian, Campbell Collections.

⁴ Senior Archivist, Campbell Collections.

⁵ In 1857, during the building of the pier, the contract was terminated and instead the construction of a breakwater from Addington Beach was commissioned. This new structure, designed by James Vetch, was swept away while it was being built, and only in 1877 were plans developed, by the harbour engineer, Edward Innes, to build a similar pier to the one originally envisaged. Herd, Norman. *Killie's Africa: the achievements of Dr. Killie Campbell*. Pietermaritzburg: Blue Crane Books, 1982, p 9-10.

after Union became a Senator for Natal in the Union Parliament. Marshall Campbell was knighted in 1916⁶ for his services to the country.⁷

When Marshall retired from active farming he moved to the newly built family home Muckleneuk in 1914, and this is where his daughter Killie Campbell lived until her death in 1965. Her brother William⁸, also known by his initials WAC, moved into Muckleneuk when he became a widower.

The Collections

Both Killie and her brother William Campbell were enthusiastic collectors. Killie Campbell built up her library of Africana books and manuscripts from a young age, and made her collection available to researchers. She collected manuscripts recording the experiences of early European settlers in Natal (in the form of letters, diaries or later recollections), as well as the memories, traditions and customs of the Zulu people. One of the ways that she encouraged this was to organise, jointly with her father Marshall, a Zulu tribal history essay competition in 1912, where the entrants were asked to write about the history of their families. These essay competitions were repeated in 1942 and 1950, and focused on historical places and clans.

During the 1940s Killie Campbell purchased the notebooks and papers of James Stuart from his widow in London, where the Stuarts had lived since his retirement in the 1920s. James Stuart had worked as a civil servant and magistrate in Zululand and Natal⁹, and during this time had recorded the oral testimonies of around 200 Zulus regarding their history and traditions. The collection is still in great demand today, and was made widely available when it was published in five volumes by the University of Natal Press, a process that was commenced during the 1970s.

⁶ A reception, attended by thousands of Africans, was given in celebration of Marshall Campbell's knighthood, and one of the principal speakers was Rev. Dr. John Dube. Dube praised Marshall Campbell for his "peace-keeping efforts in the Bambatha rebellion, [and] his fight for the remission of the poll tax". Herd, Norman. *Killie's Africa: the achievements of Dr. Killie Campbell*. Pietermaritzburg: Blue Crane Books, 1982, p 50.

⁷ Herd, Norman. *Killie's Africa: the achievements of Dr. Killie Campbell*. Pietermaritzburg: Blue Crane Books, 1982, p 3-5; 9-11; 35; & 50.

⁸ The AmaQadi people of Inanda gave him the Zulu name iQadi Elimhlophe (White Qadi). This was because of his close association with the AmaQadi, as the tribal councillor. He was also known by another Zulu name mfoka Mashu (son of Mashu i.e. son of Marshall Campbell).

⁹ *Natal Mercury*, 19 March 1942. "Death of Mr. J. Stuart".

Killie Campbell's library was open to any member of the public who requested access, and one admirer of Killie's was H.I.E. Dhlomo who wrote an article about the library in the *Ilanga lase Natal* newspaper in 1944. Dhlomo observed that "Miss Campbell has one of the finest---perhaps the finest---private libraries of Africana. Unlike some collectors, Miss Campbell's effort is a work of love. She takes a living practical interest in her work and is never so happy as when she helps visitors and scholars in her library. The library is a paradise for all lovers of culture and literature. It contains many rare items. Books, periodicals, cuttings, letters, pictures which it would be difficult if not impossible to get today, make the mouths of scholars and writers water when they visit the library."¹⁰

Killie Campbell was also a patron of Natal artists, amongst others Barbara Tyrrell, Gerard Bhengu, Simon Mnguni and Jabulani Ntuli. Killie would sponsor Barbara on her journeys around southern Africa to record the material culture and tribal dress of southern African tribes. Killie provided Barbara with an office in the Muckleneuk home, where Barbara could gather necessary information from Killie's vast ethnographic book collection before going into the field. On her return she would stay at Muckleneuk to finish her watercolours.

William Campbell collected material culture relating to traditional African Society, such as beadwork, basketry and pottery. In a handwritten draft of an article for *Ilanga lase Natal*, Dhlomo reported that William Campbell intended to set up a museum of "Ancient Zulu Customary Articles" and that William was hoping to build the museum in Durban "where it will be within the reach of all Africans". The article described the type of material that William wished to house in the museum, including "varieties of grass-baskets and grass-pots, assorted grass food and table mats, sleeping mats, handles, special old Zulu men snuff holders (made of horn), scrapers, open clay pots, spears, special trappy arrowlike spears, short spears, full size skin shields, medium and small size skin shields, and many other things of Zulu interest. There will be pictures and photographs of all Zulu Chiefs and other articles of ancient Zulus."¹¹

¹⁰ *Ilanga lase Natal*, 5 February 1944. The article was written under H.I.E. Dhlomo's pseudonym "Mr X".

¹¹ Draft of article, *Ilanga lase Natal*, undated (c1943-1945). KCM 9705, file 14a, Killie Campbell papers. Killie Campbell Africana Library, Campbell Collections, University of KwaZulu-Natal.

Bequest of the Africana Library and Museum Collection

In 1949 Killie Campbell formally arranged that her library collections and museum holdings would on her death be bequeathed to the then University of Natal, and as part of the bequest offered to donate £8 000 to build an Africana Library and £10 000 to build an African Studies Museum. The premises would be provided by the Durban City Council, and the facilities would be open to all races.¹²

A second bequest was drawn up by Killie Campbell in 1952, in which a further £20 000 was to be donated for the building of museum and library facilities, either separately or in one building, to accommodate the collections. While she still wanted the collections to be available to all persons, by this stage she was having to consider the country's increasingly stringent race laws. Therefore, in this bequest, she stated that the museum should be open to all races, as long as the University arranged suitable times for the use of the facilities by the different race groups.¹³

Killie Campbell's correspondence around this time shows that she was worried about the future of her collections under the National Party government. In May 1957 she wrote to the Minister of Education, Arts and Science, J.H. Viljoen, to express her concern about the future autonomy of South African universities. She particularly sought reassurance that the money she would bequeath to the University would remain at the University's disposal, and asked, in the event of the University losing its autonomy, if there would be any interference by government in her Africana Library. She also indicated that as a result of these concerns she was reconsidering the future of her collections, and had been approached by the then Rhodesia about donating her collections there.¹⁴

After receiving assurances from the Minister, she wrote to him again in June 1957, and explained the terms of her 1949 Will regarding the library and museum. She explained that her brother William was donating £10 000 towards the building, and that the museum would contain "lithographs of I'ons, Daniell, many Angas, beautiful

¹² Deed of gift, K. Campbell, in favour of, University of Natal, 28 September 1949. Uncatalogued original. Campbell Collections office archives. University of KwaZulu-Natal.

¹³ Deed of gift, K. Campbell, in favour of, University of Natal, 13 February 1952. Uncatalogued original. Campbell Collections office archives. University of KwaZulu-Natal

¹⁴ Letter from K. Campbell to J.H. Viljoen, 28 May 1957. KCM 6907, file 36, Killie Campbell papers. Killie Campbell Africana Library, Campbell Collections, University of KwaZulu-Natal.

woodcuts of ethnological value and 159 studies of Bantu costumes by Barbara Tyrrell, as well as innumerable Bantu handicrafts of historical and ethnological interest”.¹⁵ She and her brother had carefully considered the museum’s location, as they realised people would have difficulty accessing the museum if it was housed at Howard College. This had led them to request the Durban City Council for a site that was more suitably situated¹⁶.

By 1957, however, she was concerned that because of apartheid she would no longer be able to open the museum to all races, and would have to limit access to Africans only. Furthermore, she felt it was possible that the Durban City Council would no longer supply land for the museum if it was only open to Africans. At the end of her letter she wrote, “I am sorely worried about the future, and I would like to know if these arrangements could be in any way curtailed by Apartheid?”.¹⁷

The Minister responded in August 1957 that the bill that he had introduced amending the Act covering the four national museums did not affect municipal, university or private museums, and did not provide for the exclusion of particular race groups.¹⁸

Muckleneuk

In 1954 William Campbell offered to donate the Campbells’ Muckleneuk home to the Durban City Council as an Africana museum.¹⁹ The transfer occurred in 1955²⁰, with the agreement that the Campbells would continue to live in the house until their

¹⁵ Letter from K. Campbell to J.H. Viljoen, 27 June 1957. KCM 6907, file 36, Killie Campbell papers. Killie Campbell Africana Library, Campbell Collections, University of KwaZulu-Natal.

¹⁶ In her 1949 bequest Killie Campbell specified that the site should be located centrally within the city, and should be near the University’s Commerce Block. Her 1952 bequest identified land that had been set aside by the City Council for the building of the museum and library. The area was a portion of the “Outspan” site between Williams and Sydney Roads, and faced onto Smith Street. The 1952 bequest further stated that if the “Outspan” land could not be utilised, that the site should be within one and a half miles of the Durban City Hall.

¹⁷ Letter from K. Campbell to J.H. Viljoen, 27 June 1957. KCM 6907, file 36, Killie Campbell papers. Killie Campbell Africana Library, Campbell Collections, University of KwaZulu-Natal.

¹⁸ Letter from J.H. Viljoen to K. Campbell, 7 August 1957. KCM 6907, file 36, Killie Campbell papers. Killie Campbell Africana Library, Campbell Collections, University of KwaZulu-Natal.

¹⁹ Letters from K. Campbell to R. Currie, 21 September and 8 October 1954. KCM 5868, file 26, Killie Campbell papers. Killie Campbell Africana Library, Campbell Collections, University of KwaZulu-Natal.

²⁰ Deed of Transfer, No. 9518/1955, 19 October 1955. Pietermaritzburg Deeds Registry, South Africa Government Services.

deaths²¹. The house was transferred to the City Council in trust for “public purposes”.²² At this time the Campbells considered the Muckleneuk museum as separate from their bequests to the University, and were still discussing the building of a museum in Durban to house their library and material culture collections.²³ In a letter to Richard Currie on the 29 October 1954, Killie Campbell wrote that she felt “a bit apprehensive now, that when the University strips the house of all books, pictures, maps etc: our walls will look a bit bare, to say the least of it. However, now that my first fears have subsided, I am hoping to collect more suitable pieces, that will add to the interest of this house as an Africana museum, for Durban”.²⁴

William passed away in 1962, and in 1963 the University obtained legal opinion in relation to a deed of gift from William Campbell in 1949. The matter was connected with his bequest of £10 000 and his Africana collection, and the fact that the Durban City Council had not provided any land for the building of the museum: thus the executors of his estate were not releasing the donation. According to the legal document, William Campbell had “persuaded the Council to agree to grant to Consultant²⁵ a fifty year lease of the property”, and the University was proposing that the Killie Campbell Library and the Mashu Museum²⁶ be housed at the Muckleneuk residence.²⁷

It appears from Killie Campbell’s 1963 Will, that by this stage she intended for her collections to be housed at the Muckleneuk home after her death. After providing for close family, friends and her employees she left the residue of her estate to the Natal University Development Foundation. The money was to be held in a trust and “The principal purpose of the Trust is to provide for the maintenance of “Muckleneuk”, and

²¹ Letter from K. Campbell to R. Currie, 8 October 1954. KCM 5868, file 26, Killie Campbell papers. Killie Campbell Africana Library, Campbell Collections, University of KwaZulu-Natal.

²² Deed of Transfer, No. 9518/1955, 19 October 1955. Pietermaritzburg Deeds Registry, South Africa Government Services.

²³ Letter from K. Campbell to R. Currie, 18 October 1954. KCM 5868, file 26, Killie Campbell papers. Killie Campbell Africana Library, Campbell Collections, University of KwaZulu-Natal.

²⁴ Letter from K. Campbell to R. Currie, 29 October 1954. KCM 5868, file 26, Killie Campbell papers. Killie Campbell Africana Library, Campbell Collections, University of KwaZulu-Natal.

²⁵ The consultant was the University of Natal.

²⁶ In her 1952 bequest to the University, Killie Campbell specified that her Africana Library was to be called the “Killie Campbell Library” and the Museum for African Studies was to be called the “Mashu Museum”.

²⁷ Copy of legal document for the University of Natal in regards to deed of gift, W.A. Campbell, 30 July 1963. Uncatalogued. Campbell Collections office archives. University of KwaZulu-Natal.

maintain and to carry on satisfactorily, the Library and all books and the like which are housed at “Muckleneuk” and will belong to the “Natal University Development Foundation”.”.²⁸ In a University of Natal Council meeting, 15 October 1965, subsequent to Killie Campbell’s death, it was reported that the sum of R300 000 was left to the University for the upkeep of the house and collections. At the same meeting it was reported that the University had negotiated a fifty year lease of the Muckleneuk house from the Durban City Council.²⁹

University of Natal

When the Campbell Collections was taken over by the University of Natal, it fell under the University’s library and was run by an Africana Librarian until 1993. During that time the collection was expanded and developed, and particularly noteworthy was the Oral History Project of the late 1970s and early 1980s. This project recorded the testimonies of a range of people living in the Durban region, and the tape recordings and interview transcripts are now housed in the Killie Campbell Africana Library. Also, during this early period, in the 1970s, an extension was built onto the Muckleneuk house which established the new library upstairs and the museum downstairs.

Unfortunately, the Campbell Collections was not able to escape the university politics of the late 1960s and early 1970s. When the former Principal of the University, E.G. Malherbe, an outspoken critic of the South African government, offered the Killie Campbell Africana Library his papers after his retirement in 1965, he was turned down by the management committee of the Campbell library and museum. The committee comprised the Chancellor, G. Campbell, the new Principal, O. Horwood, and the Chairman of the University Council, L. Robinson. At the time there was dismay within the university community, and the student magazine, *Dome*, reported in June 1969 that “Students and staff of Natal University have reacted strongly to the decision” and that the Students’ Representative Council had passed a unanimous resolution recording the Council’s “very deep regret that Dr. Malherbe's offer was not

²⁸ K. Campbell’s will, 25 February 1963. In: Deceased estate, Killie Campbell, 1965-1970. Source: MSCE; Type: LEER; Reference: 3350/1965. Pietermaritzburg Archives Repository, National Archives of South Africa.

²⁹ University of Natal, Council Minutes, 15 October 1965. University of KwaZulu-Natal Archives.

accepted by the management committee”.³⁰ Furthermore, *Dome* understood that Malherbe had made the offer “because of his long association with the late Dr. Killie Campbell who expressed the desire that Dr. Malherbe should donate his papers to her library”.

On the 5 June 1969 the *Daily News* covered the story, as did the *Sunday Times* on the 8 June 1969. The *Sunday Times* described the anger and disbelief of the university’s academic staff at the decision that had been reached by the management committee, and reported that senior staff had asked the committee to reconsider but with no success.³¹ The *Daily News* also quoted the reactions of prominent Natalians such as Edgar Brookes and Alan Paton³² to the rejection of the papers.³³

The management committee suggested, when turning down the papers, that the Malherbe collection could be housed instead at the Howard College Library, however this was declined by E.G. Malherbe. The *Sunday Times* and *Dome* articles reported that the university’s library was not considered adequate to house such a collection of papers.^{34 35}

After his death in 1982, E.G. Malherbe’s family offered his papers to the Campbell Collections, and the papers were this time accepted by the Africana Librarian. A portion of Malherbe’s papers, around 120 pamphlet boxes of material, had already been donated by E.G. Malherbe to the History Department, University of Natal, in 1981 and this material was transferred in 1987 to the Campbell Collections to be incorporated into the main collection of Malherbe papers at the Killie Campbell Africana Library.³⁶ The collection was meticulously arranged and catalogued by

³⁰ *Dome: Natal University Student Review*, 17 June 1969.

³¹ *Sunday Times*, 8 June 1969. “Varsity no to Malherbe gift stuns experts”, Brian Rudden.

³² “Dr. Edgar Brookes, author of “History of the University of Natal”, said: “I am extremely surprised and disappointed at this extraordinary decision”. Mr. Alan Paton, who is a former member of the university council and was president of convocation for six years, said: “I hope that the Killie Campbell library will rescind its decision not to accept the Malherbe papers “The Killie Campbell Library has the closest possible link with the university and there can be no more suitable repository “I appeal especially to Dr. George Campbell whose long association with Dr. Malherbe proved so fruitful for the university.””

³³ *Daily News*, 5 June 1969. “Malherbe Papers surprise”.

³⁴ *Sunday Times*, 8 June 1969.

³⁵ *Dome*, 17 June 1969.

³⁶ Introduction to E.G. Malherbe inventory. File R/3, Collection Inventory Vol I, E.G. Malherbe papers. Killie Campbell Africana Library, Campbell Collections, University of KwaZulu-Natal.

Dianne Winters, the sister of our current Head, Yvonne Winters. It was a mammoth task and took seven years to complete. This collection has been extensively used by researchers, and we plan to have the detailed inventory that was compiled by Dianne typed up by our secretary.

In the early 1980s the Africana Librarian, Jenni Duggan, was very active in acquiring manuscript collections at auction, as well as through the route of donations. For example, the papers of Field Marshal Evelyn Wood were purchased, and this collection was thoroughly arranged by the manuscript librarian Joan Simpson, who also compiled a detailed inventory of the collection.

In 1993 the Campbell Collections was moved from under the sole management of the University Library, and fell under the Research Office. It was during this time that the Campbell Collections was run by a Director. In 1999, in partnership with DISA (Digital Innovation South Africa), a project was established for the digitisation of the historical photographs collection in the Killie Campbell Africana Library³⁷. These digital images are available on the website of the Campbell Collections³⁸.

Later, in 2005 the Campbell Collections reverted back to the Libraries, and now forms part of the Libraries' Special Collections, along with the Alan Paton Centre and Struggle Archives, and the Documentation Centre.

Overview of the Collections

The Campbell Collections comprises three sections: the Killie Campbell Africana Library; the Mashu Museum of Ethnology and the Jo Thorpe Collection; and the William Campbell Furniture and Picture Collection. (See **Appendix 1** for more details about individual collections in the Killie Campbell Africana Library)

³⁷ DISA and the Campbell Collections have worked in close association over the years on other projects, and from 1998 to 2007 DISA was based at the Campbell Collections. For more information about DISA, consult the website <http://www.disa.ukzn.ac.za/>.

³⁸ <http://campbell.ukzn.ac.za/>

- The Killie Campbell Africana Library³⁹

The library houses rare and Africana books; newspapers such as *Ilanga lase Natal*, *Bantu World*, the *Natal Mercury*, the *Natal Witness* and *Indian Opinion*; Natal Government Gazettes prior to 1910; the historical photographs collection; the manuscripts collection which consists of personal and organisational papers; and the oral history collection.

The book collection specialises in areas that include early exploration and travel in Africa, Christian missions, education, and hunting, which broadens out into conservation. Among the early publications in the library, dating from the sixteenth century, are accounts by survivors of shipwrecks along the eastern seaboard.

Other areas of special focus are:

- The Anglo-Zulu War
- The South African (Anglo-Boer) War (1899 - 1902)
- The 1906 uprising in Natal
- Zulu art and craft in the context of traditional and modern Zulu society
- The period of Nationalist government in South Africa, and the various organisations which resisted apartheid

The manuscripts collection is an important source on the early history of contact between the Nguni-speaking people of the KwaZulu-Natal region and the British colonists. The ensuing interaction of the two societies, including the activities of peasant farmers, chiefs, traders, missionaries, colonial farmers and armies, is documented in various collections held by the library.

In addition to a variety of documents relating to the two major nineteenth-century regional wars mentioned above, other noteworthy collections include records of educational institutions, farmers' associations, sporting bodies, various commercial undertakings and welfare and conservation organisations. There are also letters and

³⁹ This overview of the Killie Campbell Africana Library was compiled for our website by various members of staff of the Campbell Collections.

diaries written by servicemen during the two world wars (1914-1918, 1939-1945), and several collections reflect various facets of the political strife of the post-1948 era.

- The Mashu Museum of Ethnology and the Jo Thorpe Collection

The museum collection comprises beadwork, basketry and pottery. It includes crafted headrests, walking sticks, milk pails, beer-drinking and brewing pots, amongst other cultural artefacts. The Jo Thorpe collection, named after the first Director of the African Art Centre, Durban, dates from the 1960s to the 1990s. It hosts an array of soft-sculptural dolls made by traditionalist women such as Khulumelaphi Mkonto, Mavis Mchunu, Thembi Mchunu and Busaphi Ngubane, all from Ndwedwe district who chose to depict scenes from their traditional environment, like oxen ploughing, weddings and soccer-players.

- The William Campbell Furniture and Picture Collection

Many of the items of furniture were collected by William Campbell when he was resident at Umhlanga, prior to moving to Muckleneuk. Other pieces were derived from his parents' collection of Cape Dutch furniture which complement the neo-Cape Dutch architecture of the house. The mahogany floors are covered with antique Persian, Tukuman and Caucasian carpets. The picture collection includes paintings by British traveller-artists, like Samuel Daniell, George French Angas and William John Burchell, as well as some of the early African artists such as Gerard Bhengu, Simon Mnguni and Jabulani Ntuli. More contemporary artists include Trevor Makhoba as well as his students, Sibusiso Duma and Welcome Danca. These contemporary African art collections have been used in numerous loan exhibitions.

The Future

The Campbell Collections is currently part of the Libraries' Special Collections, along with the Alan Paton Centre and Struggle Archives, and the Documentation Centre.

As custodians of the rare and unique material that is in our collections we have a duty to care for and preserve the collections, not just for current researchers but also for researchers of the future. We are planning to approach the South African Heritage Resources Agency (S.A.H.R.A.) to motivate for the building and collections to be declared National Heritage, so that the collections can be protected. It is vitally

important that the collections are cared for and maintained using preventative conservation techniques.

As Campbell Collections is an internationally recognised research institution it is ideal that it should be linked to academic research centres.

Campbell Collections is planning to establish an annual memorial lecture, the Killie and William Campbell Memorial Lecture. The lectures would be linked to the collections of Africana, and could cover topics ranging from socio-economic history, politics, art, heritage, and culture.

Another way that Campbell Collections promotes its collections is through its website. The current website contains a number of images from the historical photographs collection, including photographs of old Durban, the Zulu Kings and Chiefs, and indentured labourers, as well as Durban's historical personalities. The website also has electronic inventories for some of the manuscript collections. A new website is being developed for us by web designer Heli Guy, who designed the current website, and all of our existing inventories will be available electronically on this new website.

Conclusion

Donald Morris, author of *The Washing of the Spears*, gave a detailed acknowledgement of Killie Campbell in the foreword of his book. His tribute captures the important role that Killie Campbell and her Africana Library played, and continue to play, for researchers and historians.

We thus, appropriately, conclude this paper with the words of Donald Morris: "I owe the greatest debt of all to a most remarkable person, Dr. Killie Campbell of Durban. She has worked industriously and largely alone for more than half a century to preserve the vanishing traces of the early days of Southern Africa, and she has assembled what is undoubtedly the most important collection of Africana in private hands today. This book - as is true of a score of others - could not have been written

without the riches of the Campbell Library, nor without the many kindnesses and the friendship of its director.”⁴⁰

⁴⁰ Morris, Donald. R. *The Washing of the Spears*. Great Britain: Jonathan Cape, 1966, p12

Appendix 1:

Manuscripts Collection

- The history of the KwaZulu-Natal region, 1830s - 1910

The manuscripts collection covers the history of the early KwaZulu-Natal region through accounts by explorers, traders, missionaries and colonial settlers. These include, for example, copies of papers of the first mayor of Durban, George Cato (1814-1893), traders John Dunn (c1833-1895) and Henry Francis Fynn (1803-1861), and hunter Robert Struthers who recorded his hunting expeditions to Lake St Lucia in a diary dated 1852-1856.

The notebooks of James Stuart (1868-1942), which record the oral testimonies of Zulu informants, provide important documentation of Zulu heritage and traditions. James Stuart was an official in the Natal Colonial Civil Service and a Zulu linguist. Similarly, the Zulu tribal history essays collected by Killie Campbell, provide accounts by Zulu people, over a period of about 40 years, of Zulu clan and family histories.

The holdings relating to Christian missionaries and churches cover material from the early work of churches in the region to the present day. Such collections include: the correspondence of John Colenso (1814-1883), Bishop of Natal, as well as the correspondence of his daughter Harriette Colenso; the records of Adams College which was established by the American Board of Mission in 1853; the notes and correspondence of Alfred Thomas Bryant (1865-1953), a Roman Catholic priest, missionary and Zulu scholar; and the religious and political papers of Alphaeus Hamilton Zulu (1905-1988) who was the first Black Anglican Bishop of South Africa. The Killie Campbell Africana Library also houses collections of individuals who were connected to mission schools, such as the papers of Karl Robert Brueckner (1882-1965), who taught at Adams College for forty years; and Sibusisiwe Makhanya (1894-1971), a social worker and organising director of the Bantu Youth League at the Umbumbulu Centre, who was educated at Inanda Seminary. We also have the Inanda Seminary papers on loan from the Inanda Seminary.

The history of colonial Natal through the records and papers of colonial administrators and magistrates, as well as the diaries and letters of European settlers is another feature of the manuscripts collection. Examples of such collections are: the diaries and a letterbook of Frank Foxon (1861-1943) who joined the Natal Civil Service in 1880 as a magistrate's clerk and interpreter, and was appointed magistrate at Ixopo in 1897; and an account by Benjamin Colenbrander, a magistrate of Nkandhla, Zululand, of the Bhambatha Uprising 1906. There are also the diaries and papers of Charlotte Moor (1854-1930), which cover the years 1884 to 1912. Charlotte Moor was a granddaughter of Donald Moodie, the first Colonial Secretary of Natal, and was the wife of Frederick Robert Moor, the Premier of Natal from 1906. These diaries, and those of her daughter Shirley Moor from 1905-1910, give an insight into life in the colony of Natal, the colony's social and political circles, and colonial views of events of the time.

The increasing marginalisation of the Zulu leaders and their people within the British colony of Natal, is also documented within the manuscripts collection. The Dinuzulu ka Cetshwayo (1868-1913) papers include the trial of the Zulu King in 1908, as well as correspondence and reports to King Dinuzulu when he was at St Helena. The Cecil Cowley collection contains four letters from King Dinuzulu to the magistrate of Empangeni, C.A. Wheelwright, ca 1908, and the Harriette Colenso papers include correspondence relating to King Dinuzulu's trial. The manuscripts collection also houses records of the court proceedings of the trials of Chakijana ka Gezindaka in 1907 and 1908. Chakijana ka Gezindaka was a key figure in the 1906 Bhambatha Uprising. Other collections include: the rough 1881 diary compiled by King Cetshwayo's interpreter, R.C.A. Samuelson, written when the King was in captivity in Cape Town; and some of the letters written by Magera Magwaza Fuze (c1840-c1922), who was secretary to Dinuzulu and tutor to Dinuzulu's children. The letters were written while M.M. Fuze was with Dinuzulu on St Helena, 1897-1898.

- Socio-economic issues and politics in South Africa

A collection that deals with socio-economic issues relating to rural workers in the former Natal region, is the Thomas McClendon interviews conducted in 1992. McClendon, a Ph.D. candidate, interviewed former labour tenants who had worked on

farms in the midlands of Natal, c1920-1950. The collection consists of 23 audio cassette tapes, as well as the transcriptions of the tapes.

Material relating to politics and trade unions from around 1924, particularly in the former Natal region, can be found in the Allison Wessels George Champion (1893-1975) papers. A.W.G. Champion was a trade unionist, politician, businessman and civic leader. He became the Transvaal secretary of the Industrial and Commercial Workers' Union (I.C.U.) in 1925 and was subsequently secretary for Natal, but was banished from Natal in 1930 because of his political activities. In 1942, A.W.G. Champion became a member of the Native Representative Council, and in 1945 was elected provincial president of the African National Congress in Natal. The papers focus predominantly on A.W.G. Champion's political life.

Several collections of non-government organisations reflect the politics of the post-1948 era, as well as socio-economic issues that arose during that period. Amongst these collections are the Natal Coastal Branch of the Black Sash (now called the Durban Regional Branch), the Trade Union Research Project (T.U.R.P.), the Abortion Reform Action Group (A.R.A.G.), and the Surplus People Project (S.P.P.).

- T.U.R.P., 1986-2002, was one of several projects created within the Industrial Sociology Department of the then University of Natal to assist the trade union movement. This was at a time when unions were battling for recognition and position in the context of political clampdown of the 1980s.
- A.R.A.G., which was founded in 1972, sought to advocate early, safe, legal abortions. A.R.A.G. campaigned for women's rights to abortion on request within the first three months of an unwanted pregnancy. The group promoted women's rights in terms of abortion not only legally and medically, but also socially, by disseminating information regarding abortion to all sectors of South African society.
- The Surplus People Project grew out of the resettlement programme of the National Party government in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. The S.P.P. was established in late 1979 as a national research project to investigate and report

on the resettlement programme and the ramifications that it was having and would have in South African political, economic, psychological and social life. This collection consists primarily of household questionnaires that were administered in Natal and KwaZulu. Relocation sites which were surveyed by the S.P.P. in Natal included Compensation, Ezakheni, Inanda Newtown, Mzimhlophe, Phoenix and Sahlumbe.

In addition to various non-government welfare organisations' papers, the manuscripts collection contains material relating to South African political parties. One such collection contains the papers of the Democratic Party, which includes material of the Progressive Federal Party. There is also some Liberal Party material in the library, which was donated by former party members, although the official South African Liberal Party papers are housed at the Alan Paton Centre and Struggle Archives in Pietermaritzburg.

- KwaZulu-Natal academics

The Killie Campbell Africana Library also houses the papers of academics, particularly of the former University of Natal. Such collections include:

- The papers of Ernst Gideon Malherbe (1895-1982), who was the Principal of the Natal University College from 1945, and later when it became the University of Natal, until his retirement in 1965.
- The personal correspondence, articles and newscuttings of Mabel Palmer (1876-1958) who was appointed lecturer in economic history at the Natal University College in 1931. After her official retirement in 1936 Mabel Palmer focused on the establishment of university education for Black, Coloured and Indian South Africans in Natal.
- The work papers of Isidor Gordon (1913), who was appointed the first Professor of Pathology at the University of Natal in 1953 and played a prominent part in the early stages of the Faculty of Medicine. The papers consist of minutes, agendas and reports relating to the Medical School of the University of Natal.

- The Daniel McKinnon Malcolm (1884-1962) papers on Zulu language and culture. D.M. Malcolm became a lecturer in Zulu at the Natal University College in Durban after his retirement as Chief Inspector of Native Education in 1944. He assisted Killie Campbell with the assessment of the Stuart Papers when she acquired them after the Second World War, and also, at her request and with her support, worked on the Fynn papers, preparing them for publication. He also translated the Zulu poems of B.W. Vilakazi into English and published them under the title *Zulu Horizons*.
- The academic papers of social anthropologist Eileen Krige (1904-1995), who wrote the book *Social System of the Zulus*. She was a lecturer in the African Studies department, Natal University College, from around 1948, and became head of the department in 1959 until her retirement in 1970.

Oral History Project Collection

When it comes to political struggle history, the archival material at Campbell Collections is not very strong. Its main, and best known, strength is in social and cultural history. But an area of political struggle history where Campbell Collections is particularly strong is in Oral History research.

The Oral History interviews at Campbell Collections were conducted in the late 1970s and early 1980s and were funded by the Human Sciences Research Council and the University of Natal Research Fund. These interviews deal with cultural, social, economic, and political issues. Most of them were conducted in Zulu and were translated into English, whereas some are only in English. This collection is accessible in audio cassettes, transcripts and translations from Zulu to English. Amongst these interviews there are Oral History interviews that were donated by researchers whose research work fell within the collection policy and scope of Campbell Collections.

To mention just a few of Campbell Collections' Oral History interviews:

1. Dr. Oscar Dhlomo (b. 1943): (Minister of Education and Culture for the KwaZulu Government) His interview is about Inkatha and Education in KwaZulu.
2. Mrs. Nokuthela Dube: (wife of Revered Dr John L. Dube first President of ANC, founder of *Ilanga lase Natal* 1903 and Ohlange Institute 1901) her interview is about the Daughters of Africa and the ANC.
3. Mr. Mafika Pascal Gwala: (acclaimed Black Consciousness era poet) his interview is about the Black Consciousness Movement, African Literature and African Townships in Natal.
4. Mr. Zephaniah Mahaye (b. 1913): his interview is about the formation of Inkatha.
5. A.B. Majola: this interview is about the ANC in the 1950s.
6. C.C. Majola: this interview is about Inkatha.
7. Mr. Charles Mbutho: in his interviews he talks about Local Government in KwaMashu in the 1970s, African Townships in Natal, the KwaMashu Council and Inkatha.
8. Dr. F.T. Mdlalose: his interview covers Inkatha and KwaZulu Politics.
9. Ms. Bertha Mkhize (b. 1889) (Gogo Bertha): her interviews deal with the Bantu Women's League, Bantu Purity League, Daughters of Africa, ANC Women's League, Industrial Commercial Workers Union (ICU), Women and Passes, Anti-Pass Campaigns and the ANC in the 1940s and 1950s.
10. H. Molooi: in this interview he talks about the Industrial Commercial Workers Union (ICU) and Durban in the 1930s.
11. Selby Msimang (b. 1886): his interviews cover the origins and development of the ANC and ICU. These interviews also discuss local political issues in Bloemfontein and the role of Inkatha in the 1970s.
12. S.S.L. Mtolo: this interview is about the ANC, Black Consciousness Movement, Trade Unions, Inkatha and KwaMashu Township.
13. S.K. Ngobese this interview is about the ANC, Inkatha and the 1973 Durban Strikes.
14. Ms Ella Nxasana: her interview is about the Inkatha Women's Brigade, the situation of African Women and the conditions in Lamontville Townships.
15. Mr. I Shembe: in this interview he talks about Inkatha.
16. P.H. Simelane: this interview covers the ANC Youth League and Inkatha.

17. Willel Yengwa: this interview is about the Inkatha Women's Brigade.

18. M. Thipe: the interview is about the ANC Women's League.

Book Collection

Narrative of voyages to explore the shores of Africa, Arabia and Madagascar : performed in H.M. ships Leven and Barracouta under the direction of Captain W.F.W. Owen, R. (1833), by W.F.W Owen

Travels and adventures in Eastern Africa, 1836 by Nathaniel, Isaacs

Narrative of a journey to the Zoolu country in South Africa : undertaken in 1835, 1836, by Allen F. Gardiner 1836

The Cape cyclopaedia. Volume 1, 1835, by W. Gorrie

The American Board Mission in South Africa : a sketch of seventy-five years, 1911, Taylor, J. Dexter

Grammar of the Zulu Language, 1893, by Lewis Grout

Arithmetic Designed for the use of Schools: to which is added a chapter on Decimal Coinage, 1878, by J. W. Colenso

Umzimba Ozwayo, 1881 by J.W. Colenso and W. Ngidi

Zulu Vocabulary and Phrase Book: For the use of immigrants and settlers in the Colony of Natal, 1880 by Cullingworth,

Abantu abamnyama, lapa bavela ngakona, 1922 by Magema Magwaza Fuze

Black, his own enemy (Isita Esikhulu Somuntu nguye Uqobo Lwake), 1924 by John Langalibalele Dube

An African tragedy: a novel in English by a Zulu writer, 1928, by R.R.R Dhlomo

Valley of A Thousand Hills, 1941, by H.I.E Dhlomo

Inkondlo kaZulu, 1935, by B.W. Vilakazi