

**South Carolina State University
Miller F. Whittaker Library
SCSU Historical Collection**

Pathfinder: The Orangeburg Massacre

A pathfinder is an organized introductory checklist of various types of sources and materials on a specific topic. Each one is designed to help the user during the early stages of research. Pathfinders are structured to save users time by aiding them in systematically locating materials on subjects with which they have little or only general familiarity. They are not designed as exhaustive guides to subject literatures or outlines for complete bibliographies.

Scope. This pathfinder is designed to assist researchers in locating materials about the Orangeburg Massacre (1968) and events leading up to this event during the 1950s and 1960s on the campus of South Carolina State University (then South Carolina State College) and in the local Orangeburg community.

Introduction. There are two sources to consult when searching for a general discussion of the Orangeburg Massacre. They are:

Nelson, Jack, and Jack Bass, *The Orangeburg Massacre*, Mercer University Press, 1996. Miller F. Whittaker Library Call # SPEC. C F279.06 N4 1996, also available in the SCSU Historical Collection.

Watters, Pat, and Weldon Rougeau, "Events at Orangeburg: A Report Based on Study and Interviews in Orangeburg, South Carolina, in the Aftermath of Tragedy," [Atlanta, Southern Regional Council], 1968. Miller F. Whittaker Library Call # SPEC. C F279.06 W3, also available in the SCSU Historical Collection.

Primary Sources. A primary source is an original work of a person or a first-hand, eyewitness account. A primary source tells you a person's ideas in his or her own words. Examples of primary sources include letters and diaries.

Primary Sources—SCSU Historical Collection:

- **Thomas J. Crawford Collection**

The Thomas J. Crawford Collection contains letters from SCSU students to Lt. Gov. John West in the aftermath of the Orangeburg Massacre demanding that action be taken. The collection also contains grievance letters relating to events during President Benner C. Turner's

administration that shed light on events in the years leading up to the massacre. (Finding aid available.)

- **William C. Hine Oral History Collection**

This collection consists of transcripts of interviews with various individuals. These interviews do not deal directly with the Massacre but with the events of Turner's administration (1950s and 1960s) that added fuel to the event and the general civil rights movement in Orangeburg: T.J. Crawford, Fred Moore, Matthew Perry, Rudolph Pyatt, James and Ruby Sulton, and Isaac Williams. (Contents list available.)

- **Office of the President—General Files, 1967-1969**

This collection contains a file on the Student Council (the precursor to the Student Government Association). Included in the file are student newsletters, letters to and from Gov. West and SCSU President Nance, and a report on the meeting of students with Gov. McNair.

- **Orangeburg Massacre Collection**

This collection contains the FBI report on the massacre, clippings and articles related to the massacre, programs from the memorial services held in the following years, reports, and bound volumes of newspapers from 1968. (Finding aid available.)

- **Rosa W. Perry Papers**

This collection contains "The Orangeburg Declaration" issued by the Orangeburg Branch of the NAACP, 11 Feb. 1968, a report on the Student Government Association meeting with Gov. McNair, 6 Mar. 1968, and news clippings related to the event. (Contents list available.)

- **Annette Lewis Phinazee Papers**

This collection contains an undated list of "Grievances with the City of Orangeburg." (Contents list available.)

- **Stanley Ryan Orangeburg Massacre Scrapbook**

This scrapbook contains newspaper clippings and programs relating to the events immediately before, during, and after the Orangeburg Massacre. The scrapbook was kept by Stanley A. Ryan, SCSU's Dean of Students, while a student at the university during the Orangeburg Massacre.

- **Johnnie M. Sharpe Papers**

This collection contains a copy of the *Collegian* from Mar. 1968.
(Contents list available.)

Primary Sources—Other Repositories:

- **Frank Beacham Papers** (South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina)

Frank Beacham was a reporter during the Orangeburg Massacre. This collection contains information on the radio program he wrote and directed about the event entitled “The Orangeburg Massacre.”

- **Strom Thurmond Executive Assistant Series, 1937-** (Strom Thurmond Institute, Clemson University Libraries)

This series is part of the Strom Thurmond collection and contains files related to the Orangeburg Massacre. (Finding aid available.)

- **Transcript and Videorecordings of the South Carolina Voices of the Civil Rights Movement Conference, 1982** (Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture, College of Charleston)

This conference was sponsored by Avery and includes such speakers as: Septima Clark and James Clyburn. The Orangeburg Massacre and the civil rights movement in South Carolina were among the topics discussed.

Websites. The following websites contain information about the Orangeburg Massacre. (The SCSU Historical Collection does not vouch for the accuracy of the information on these pages.)

- “Reflections on the Orangeburg Massacre”
<http://www.aclu-mass.org/youth/orgngburg.html>
- “The Orangeburg Massacre”
<http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu/fac/mercier/hist419/Orangeburg.html>
- “S.C. college marks 'Orangeburg Massacre' anniversary”
<http://www.cnn.com/2001/US/02/08/orangeburg.massacre/>
- “Brian Cabell: Remembering the 1968 Orangeburg Massacre”
<http://www.cnn.com/2001/US/02/08/cabell.debrief/>
- “Orangeburg Massacre: Dealing honestly with tragedy and distortion”
<http://www.wearyfeet.com/reviews/sellers.htm>

- “Crystal Steward: Reflections on the Orangeburg Massacre”
<http://users.aol.com/mcluf/crystalo.htm>
- “Orangeburg Massacre Memorial: February 8, 2001”
<http://www.state.sc.us/governor/photoarchive10.htm>
- “South Carolina State College Historical District”
<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/civilrights/sc2.htm>
- “The Forgotten Martyrs of Orangeburg”
<http://www.hartford-hwp.com/archives/45a/005.html>
- “Remarks of Governor Jim Hodges S.C. State University, Orangeburg
Thursday, February 8, 2001”
<http://www.state.sc.us/governor/oburgmass.html>
- “Civil Rights in Orangeburg County South Carolina”
<http://crm.cr.nps.gov/archive/20-2/20-2-19.pdf>

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