



THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH ARCHIVES REPOSITORIES WITH RIVERSIDE CHURCH & RELATED MATERIALS

The following contains brief statements concerning other repositories with materials pertaining to the congregations, members, or staff connected with The Riverside Church, as well as related materials that may be of help to your research.

### ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS RELATED TO THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH

#### **The Rockefeller Archive Center (RAC)**

15 Dayton Avenue  
Sleepy Hollow, New York 10591  
Phone: (914) 366-6300  
Email: [archive@rockarch.org](mailto:archive@rockarch.org)  
Website: [rockarch.org](http://rockarch.org)

The Riverside Church Archives contains information concerning members of the Rockefeller family, particularly John D. Rockefeller Jr., who was a member of the Board of Trustees, chair of the Building Committee, member of the Men's Class, and was integral in the building of The Riverside Church. Information about David Rockefeller and Laurance Rockefeller can also be found in The Riverside Church Archives.

For more archival resources, contact The Rockefeller Archive Center (RAC), which serves as the primary repository of records pertaining to the business and family life of the Rockefellers. RAC also contains complimentary materials concerning The Riverside Church and its two predecessor congregations, the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church and the Park Avenue Baptist Church.

#### **Central Presbyterian Church**

593 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10065  
Phone: (212) 838-0808  
Email: [info@centralchurchnyc.org](mailto:info@centralchurchnyc.org)  
Website: [centralchurchnyc.org](http://centralchurchnyc.org)

The Archives of the Central Presbyterian Church, formerly the Park Avenue Baptist Church, contains some information on the history of the church and the current congregation located there.



**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

### **First Presbyterian Church**

12 West 12<sup>th</sup> Street

New York, NY 10011

Phone: (212) 675-6150

Email: [fpcnyc@fpcnyc.org](mailto:fpcnyc@fpcnyc.org)

Website: <https://fpcnyc.org/about/history>

The First Presbyterian Church was the pulpit from which Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, The Riverside Church's first senior minister, delivered his famous 1922 sermon, "Shall the Fundamentalists Win." Fosdick served as the Associate and Preaching Minister of the Consolidated First Presbyterian Church from 1919 to 1924. The records of the First Presbyterian Church can be found at the Presbyterian Historical Society, 425 Lombard Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147.

<https://www.history.pcusa.org/collections/research-tools/guides-archival-collections/rg-413>

### **The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary**

3041 Broadway at 121<sup>st</sup> Street

New York, NY 10027

Phone: (212) 851-5606

Email: [burke@library.columbia.edu](mailto:burke@library.columbia.edu)

Website: [library.columbia.edu/locations/burke.html](http://library.columbia.edu/locations/burke.html)

Union Theological Seminary, located across the street from The Riverside Church, serves as the primary repository for the papers of Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, Riverside's first senior minister. The Riverside Church Archives contains a limited but rich collection of Fosdick papers including sermons, diaries, vestments, articles, and correspondence. The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary contains the full range of Fosdick's archival manuscripts and papers.

### **Manuscripts and Archives Repository at Yale University Library**

Sterling Memorial Library

120 High Street

New Haven, CT 06511

Phone: (203) 432-1735

Email: [mssa.assist@yale.edu](mailto:mssa.assist@yale.edu)

Website: [web.library.yale.edu/mssa](http://web.library.yale.edu/mssa)

The Manuscripts and Archives Repository at Yale University Library holds the collected papers of William Sloan Coffin, Jr., Senior Minister of The Riverside Church from 1977 to 1987. The Riverside



**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Church Archives contains a limited collection of materials related to Coffin including sermons and some correspondence. Coffin was Chaplain of Yale University from 1958 to 1975.

**Bentley Historical Library at University of Michigan**

1150 Beal Avenue

Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Phone: (734) 764-3482

Email: [bentley.ref@umich.edu](mailto:bentley.ref@umich.edu)

Website: [bentley.umich.edu](http://bentley.umich.edu)

The Bentley Historical Library contains a small collection of papers related to Dr. Ernest T. Campbell, Senior Minister of The Riverside Church from 1968 to 1976. Campbell was minister at the First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor during the 1960s.

**Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library at Columbia University**

1172 Amsterdam Avenue

New York, NY 10027

Phone: (212) 854-6199

Email: [avery@library.columbia.edu](mailto:avery@library.columbia.edu)

Website: [library.columbia.edu/libraries/avery.html](http://library.columbia.edu/libraries/avery.html)

Avery Library's Drawings & Archives department collects drawings, photographs, and architectural records documenting architecture and design practices. Their collections focus largely on American and New York City architecture of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Avery holds a collection of architectural drawings by Allen & Collens, the architects of the Park Avenue Baptist Church, The Riverside Church, as well as The Cloisters and Union Theological Seminary.

**New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center**

40 Lincoln Center Plaza

New York, NY 10023

Phone: (917) 275-6975

Email: [performingarts@nypl.org](mailto:performingarts@nypl.org)

Website: [nypl.org/locations/lpa](http://nypl.org/locations/lpa)

The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts houses one of the world's most extensive combinations of circulating, reference, and rare archival collections in its field. The Library is known particularly for its prodigious collections of non-book materials such as historic recordings,



**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

videotapes, autograph manuscripts, correspondence, sheet music, stage designs, press clippings, programs, posters, and photographs. The Library contains numerous video and sound recordings of performances at The Riverside Church as well as a small collection of recordings from the Church's former radio station, WRVR. The Library also holds the papers of Harold Vincent Milligan, the organist for Riverside's congregation from 1915 to 1940.

**The American Organ Institute Archives and Library at the University of Oklahoma**

2101 West Tecumseh Road

Norman, OK 73069

Phone: (405) 325-7829

Website: [aoial.libraryhost.com](http://aoial.libraryhost.com)

The AOIAL is dedicated to collecting, preserving, and making accessible primary and secondary source materials related to the American pipe organ, while also promoting interest in the history and culture of said instrument. They contain the papers of Virgil Fox, The Riverside Church organist from 1946 to 1965.

Note: The American Organ Institute was closed in 2019 by University of Oklahoma but its collections will likely continue to reside at the university library.

**The John Hay Library at Brown University**

20 Prospect Street

Providence, RI 02912

Phone: (401) 863-2146

Email: [hay@brown.edu](mailto:hay@brown.edu)

Website: [library.brown.edu/hay/index.php](http://library.brown.edu/hay/index.php)

The John Hay Library at Brown University contains Brown's special collections, rare books and manuscripts, and the University Archives. Among their materials are the William Herbert Perry Faunce papers. Faunce was the pastor of the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, one of Riverside's predecessor churches, from 1889 to 1899, before becoming Brown's president from 1899 until his retirement in 1929.

**MORNINGSIDE HEIGHTS INSTITUTIONS**

**The Ruth Stafford Peale Library of The Interchurch Center**

61 Claremont Avenue

New York, NY 10115



**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Phone: (212) 870-3804

Email: [tdelduca@interchurch-center.org](mailto:tdelduca@interchurch-center.org)

Website: [interchurch-center.org/library](http://interchurch-center.org/library)

The Ruth Stafford Peale Library is a research library focusing on ecumenism, biblical studies, theology, spirituality, preaching, prayer, missiology, liturgy, and world religion. The Library's Archival Collections include documents related to the founding of the Interchurch Center in 1958 with funds granted by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who also endowed The Riverside Church.

**International House Archives**

500 Riverside Drive

New York, NY 10027

Phone: (212) 316-8400

Email: [archives@ihouse-nyc.org](mailto:archives@ihouse-nyc.org)

Website: [ihouse-nyc.org](http://ihouse-nyc.org)

The International House Archives are a brand-new archive of materials related to the work and mission of International House, a residence for international students, started in 1924 with funds granted by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who also endowed The Riverside Church.

**Morningside Heights Digital History by Columbia University Libraries**

Website: [mhdh.library.columbia.edu](http://mhdh.library.columbia.edu)

The Morningside Heights Digital History finding aid provides an excellent primer on Morningside Heights history and links to useful information and resources related to Morningside Heights institutions.

**Columbia University Archives**

535 West 114<sup>th</sup> Street

New York, NY 10027

Phone: (212) 854-3786

Email: [uarchives@columbia.edu](mailto:uarchives@columbia.edu)

Website: [library.columbia.edu/libraries/cuarchives.html](http://library.columbia.edu/libraries/cuarchives.html)

The University Archives, a unit within the Rare Book & Manuscript Library, preserves the institutional memory of Columbia University through the acquisition of official University records and related historical collections and materials from its founding in 1754 to the present day. The University



**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Archives contain numerous photographs, manuscripts, publications, and oral histories related to the history of Morningside Heights, The Riverside Church and New York City. The Columbiana Library within the Archives contains numerous official and student publications which chart the history of Columbia University and its surrounding neighborhoods.

**Barnard Archives, Barnard College**

3009 Broadway

New York, NY 10027

Phone: (212) 854-4079

Email: [archives@barnard.edu](mailto:archives@barnard.edu)

Website: [archives.barnard.edu](http://archives.barnard.edu)

The Barnard Archives and Special Collections collects and makes accessible materials that document campus and academic life at Barnard, as well as histories of feminism and dance. The collection includes materials related to the history of Barnard and its neighborhood, including documents related to The Riverside Church, in particular documents related to the Women's Center of the Riverside Church and audio recordings of Barnard events held at Riverside.

**The Library of Jewish Theological Seminary**

3080 Broadway

New York, NY 10027

Email: [library@jtsa.edu](mailto:library@jtsa.edu)

Website: [jtsa.edu/library](http://jtsa.edu/library)

The JTS Library's Special Collections are world-class. With the largest collection of Hebrew manuscripts on earth, the most complete collection of early Hebrew printed books (incunables), 43,000 fragments from the Cairo Genizah, and much more, there are few collections that offer students, scholars, and visitors material of such quality, depth, and breadth. A new library is currently under construction. The Library also contains the records of JTS' construction and business and as such contain valuable insight into the history of the Morningside Heights neighborhood.

**The New York Diocesan Archives at The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine**

1047 Amsterdam Avenue

New York, NY 10025

Phone: (212) 316-7419

Email: [archives@diocesenyc.org](mailto:archives@diocesenyc.org)

Website: [diocesenyc.org/the-diocese/diocesan-archives](http://diocesenyc.org/the-diocese/diocesan-archives)



**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

The Diocesan Archives contain the collected records from over 350 churches, chapels and missions located within the boundaries of the Episcopal Diocese of New York, as well as all the records of the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine. St. John the Divine was funded in part by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who also endowed The Riverside Church.

## **HARLEM INSTITUTIONS**

### **Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture**

515 Malcolm X Boulevard

New York, NY 10037

Phone: (917) 275-6975

Email: [schomburgreference@nypl.org](mailto:schomburgreference@nypl.org)

Website: [nypl.org/locations/schomburg](http://nypl.org/locations/schomburg)

The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in Harlem is one of the world's leading cultural institutions devoted to the research, preservation, and exhibition of materials focused on African American, African Diaspora, and African experiences. The Schomburg's collections include documents and oral histories pertaining to black life and culture in and around Harlem, including The Riverside Church.

### **Harlem Cultural Archives**

2300 Fifth Avenue

New York, NY 10037

Phone: (917) 817-4993

Email: [HarlemCulturalArchives@gmail.com](mailto:HarlemCulturalArchives@gmail.com)

Website: [harlemcultural.org](http://harlemcultural.org)

Harlem Cultural Archives is a donor and foundation-supported Historical Society. Its mission is to create, maintain and grow a remotely accessible, online, interactive repository of audio-visual materials documenting Harlem's remarkable and varied multicultural legacies, including its storied past as well as its continuing contributions to the City and State of New York, the nation, and the world. The Harlem Cultural Archives produces and collects videotaped oral history interviews with prominent Harlem residents. Their archives contain over 200 interviews covering the history of Harlem, its culture, and the black experience in New York City.



**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## **NEW YORK CITY HISTORY**

### **Patricia D. Klingenstein Library at New-York Historical Society**

170 Central Park West

New York, NY 10024

Phone: (212) 485-9225

Email: [reference@nyhistory.org](mailto:reference@nyhistory.org)

Website: [nyhistory.org/library](http://nyhistory.org/library)

The Patricia D. Klingenstein Library at New-York Historical Society collects books, pamphlets, ephemera, prints, photographs, and other primary sources related to the history of New York City from European settlement to present.

### **Museum of the City of New York Archival Collections**

1220 Fifth Avenue

New York, NY 10029

Phone: (917) 492-3399

Email: [research@mcny.org](mailto:research@mcny.org)

Website: [mcnycatablog.org](http://mcnycatablog.org)

The Museum of the City of New York is currently in the midst of a long-term project to provide increased access to all of its holdings. One aspect of the project, begun in 2008, is the digitization of its holdings, starting with the vast collections of photographs, prints, and other works on paper depicting the changing city over time.

### **Trinity Church Wall Street Archives**

76 Trinity Place

New York, NY 10006

Phone: (212) 602-9652

Email: [archives@trinitywallstreet.org](mailto:archives@trinitywallstreet.org)

Website: [trinitywallstreet.org/about/archives](http://trinitywallstreet.org/about/archives)

Trinity Church Wall Street's archives preserve, protect, and make available records of enduring value to further the mission and ministry of the church. The archives are professionally maintained and house approximately 2,000 linear feet of records generated by the parish. In addition to documenting the activities and growth of Trinity since its founding in 1697, the records provide information pertinent to the story of New York City and the Episcopal Diocese of New York. The Archives





**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

contain information useful to those researching the history of Protestantism in New York City, as well as its broader history, culture and architecture.

## **ART & ARCHITECTURE INSTITUTIONS**

### **Thomas J. Watson Library at The Metropolitan Museum of Art**

1000 Fifth Avenue

New York, NY 10028

Phone: (212) 650-2225

Email: Watson: [watson.library@metmuseum.org](mailto:watson.library@metmuseum.org)

Website: [metmuseum.org/art/libraries-and-research-centers/thomas-j-watson-library](http://metmuseum.org/art/libraries-and-research-centers/thomas-j-watson-library)

The Watson Library contains a significant collection of books on New York City architecture, including The Riverside Church, as well as books on the art collections of the Rockefeller family, who were heavily involved in the founding and early years of The Riverside Church.

### **The Cloisters Library and Archives**

99 Margaret Corbin Drive

New York, NY 10040

Phone: 212-396-5319

Email: [Cloisters.Library@metmuseum.org](mailto:Cloisters.Library@metmuseum.org)

Website: [metmuseum.org/art/libraries-and-research-centers/the-cloisters-library-and-archive](http://metmuseum.org/art/libraries-and-research-centers/the-cloisters-library-and-archive)

The Cloisters Library and Archives contain material relating to the history of the museum, which was built with funding provided by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who also endowed The Riverside Church. It also contains a small collection of books pertaining to Rockefeller's life and philanthropy.

## **GENEAOLOGICAL RESEARCH**

### **Irma and Paul Milstein Division of United States History, Local History and Genealogy**

Stephen A. Schwarzman Building

476 Fifth Avenue

First Floor, Room 121

New York, NY 10018

Phone: (212) 930-0828

Email: [history@nypl.org](mailto:history@nypl.org)

Website: [nypl.org/locations/divisions/milstein](http://nypl.org/locations/divisions/milstein)



**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

The Milstein Division collects publications documenting American history on the national, state, and local levels, including extensive holdings on New York City history. The Division has a renowned collection of family histories and other genealogical collections, with a particular focus on the New York region. The Milstein Division's collections include microform copies of The Church Monthly, the newsletter of the Park Avenue Baptist Church, later The Riverside Church.

**Vital Records Section, New York State Department of Health**

P.O. Box 2602

Albany, NY 12220

Phone: (855) 322-1022

Email: [vr@health.ny.gov](mailto:vr@health.ny.gov)

Website: [https://www.health.ny.gov/vital\\_records/](https://www.health.ny.gov/vital_records/)

The Bureau of Vital Records provides uncertified copies of birth certificates, death certificates, and marriage certificates from New York State, excluding New York City, for genealogical research.

**Office of Vital Records, New York City Department of Health**

125 Worth Street

New York, NY 10013

Phone: (212) 639-9675

Email: [nycdohvr@health.nyc.gov](mailto:nycdohvr@health.nyc.gov)

Website: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/doh/services/birth-death-records.page#contact>

The Health Department issues certificates to people who were born or who die in New York City.

**New York City Municipal Archives**

31 Chambers Street, #103

New York, NY 10007

Phone: (212) 788-8609

Email: [research@records.nyc.gov](mailto:research@records.nyc.gov)

Website: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/records/about/municipal-archives.page>

The Municipal Archives preserves and makes available the historical records of New York City municipal government, including genealogical materials for births, deaths, and marriages.



**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

### **National Archives at New York City**

National Archives and Records Administration

One Bowling Green, Room 328

Phone: (212) 401-1620

Email: [newyork.archives@nara.gov](mailto:newyork.archives@nara.gov)

Website: <https://www.archives.gov/nyc>

The National Archives at New York City contains a plethora of genealogical and history records, including court records, naturalization records, passenger arrival records, historical military records, census records, and customs records.

### **New York Genealogical and Biographical Society**

36 West 44<sup>th</sup> Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor

New York, NY 10036

Phone: (212) 755-8532

Email: [genealogist@nygbs.org](mailto:genealogist@nygbs.org)

Website: <https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/>

The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society preserves, documents, and shares the history and stories of families across the state of New York.