Guide to the Alice Royal Collection

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Guide to the Alice Royal Collection

Collection number: MS 140

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Oakland, California

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Sean Dickerson

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Alice Royal Collection

Dates: 1913-2011

Collection number: MS 140

Creator: Royal, Alice. Harris, Dorothy Hickerson. Hickerson, Joseph William. Calbert, William E.

Collection Size: 1 linear foot (2 boxes + 1 oversize box)

Repository: African American Museum & Library at Oakland (Oakland, Calif.)
Oakland, CA 94612

Abstract: Alice Calbert Fauntleroy Royal (1923-2014) was born Alice Lucinda Calbert on January 15, 1923, in her grandparents’ home in Allensworth, California to William Riley Calbert and Sadie Hickerson Hackett Calbert. The Alice Royal Collection includes material assembled and donated to the African American Museum & Library at Oakland by Royal on the activities of family members Joseph W. Hickerson (1883-1971), Dorothy Hickerson Harris (1916-1989), and William E. Calbert (b. 1918).

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access
No access restrictions. Collection is open to the public.

Access Restrictions
Materials are for use in-library only, non-circulating.

Publication Rights
Permission to publish must be obtained from the African American Museum & Library at Oakland.

Preferred Citation
Alice Royal Collection, MS 140, African American Museum & Library at Oakland, Oakland Public Library. Oakland, California.

Processing Information
Processed by Sean Dickerson.

Biography / Administrative History

Alice Calbert Fauntleroy Royal (1923-2014) was born Alice Lucinda Calbert on January 15, 1923, in her grandparents’ home in Allensworth, California to William Riley Calbert (1879-1932) and Sadie Hickerson Hackett Calbert (1885-1987). The family farmed the San Joaquin valley outside Lemoore, California, while Royal attended primary education in the Allensworth school. In 1933 the family moved to Alameda, California, where her mother worked as a governess. Royal graduated from Haight School in 1936, and completed Alameda High School in 1940.

From 1940 to 1943, Royal attended San Francisco Junior College and San Francisco State, completing a program in pre-nursing. She did her nursing training at Highland Hospital in Oakland, California, and became licensed in 1946. From there Royal sought a career as a public health nurse and administrator, working with the Oakland Health Department, as an Oakland Public Schools nurse, and as nursing advisor to the Oakland Board of Education under Superintendent Wilson Riles. In 1950, Royal married African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Reverend G. Fauntleroy. Reverend Fauntleroy died in 1958, though Royal maintained a lifelong membership in A.M.E. Zion. She remarried in 1960 to Cornelius C. Royal, a dedicated
member of the Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples in San Francisco, California.

Royal formally retired in 1978 to care for her mother, moving to Visalia, California, where she took up the project of acting to preserve and educate about the Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park, California’s first state historical park designated to African-American pioneers. With assistance from her brothers, James W. Calbert, and William E. Calbert, Royal worked to restore the township’s historic structures, produce staffing reports and resource management plans and promote the Allensworth townspeople as beneficiaries of the park under the Allensworth Citizens Council. She chaired the Colonel Allensworth State Park Advisory Committee from 1985 to 1989, served on the Allensworth planning task force for 2008, and was a member of the Friends of Allensworth. In 2008 Royal published the book Allensworth, the Freedom Colony: A California African American Township. Alice Royal died December 9th, 2014.

In addition to her work with Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park, Royal spent much of her middle and late years collecting Hickerson and Calbert family histories. As legal executor of Dorothy Hickerson Harris (1916-1989), Royal assembled material related to Hickerson Harris’ active participation in the First A.M.E. Church, Oakland, California, as well as material related to Hickerson Harris’ father, Joseph W. Hickerson (1883-1971). Royal also documented the service and chaplaincy career of her brother, U.S. Army chaplain William E. Calbert (b. 1918).

Scope and Content of Collection
The Alice Royal Collection includes material assembled and donated to the African American Museum & Library at Oakland by Royal on the activities of family members Joseph W. Hickerson (1883-1971), Dorothy Hickerson Harris (1916-1989), and William E. Calbert (b. 1918). The collection includes service bulletins, events programs, ledgers, newsletters, printed material, brochures, ephemera, correspondence, newspaper clippings, photographs, and a scrapbook. The bulk of material relates to First African Methodist Episcopal (First AME) Church activities and its members, as collected by Hickerson Harris, and U.S. Army chaplain William E. Calbert service and chaplaincy career. The collection is arranged in five series: Series I. Dorothy Hickerson Harris Series II. Joseph W. Hickerson Series III. William E. Calbert Series IV. Allensworth calendar of events Series V. Photographs

Arrangement
Series I. Dorothy Hickerson Harris Series II. Joseph W. Hickerson Series III. William E. Calbert Series IV. Allensworth calendar of events Series V. Photographs

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.
Calbert family.
Military chaplains—United States—History..
First African Methodist Episcopal Church (Oakland, Calif.).
African Americans—California—East Bay—History.
African Americans—Families.
African American freemasonry—California—History.
African American churches—California.
African Methodist Episcopal Church—History.

Related Material
Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park Advisory Committee Audio Recordings Collection, African American Museum & Library at Oakland, Oakland Public Library
Calbert Family Papers, African American Museum & Library at Oakland, Oakland Public Library
Hickerson Family Papers, African American Museum & Library at Oakland, Oakland Public Library

Dorothy Hickerson Harris 1927-1981
Physical Description: 7 folders
Series Scope and Content Summary
Includes bulletins, events programs, ledgers, newsletters, printed material, and a scrapbook owned by Dorothy Hickerson Harris mostly related to the First African Methodist Episcopal (First AME) Church activities and its members.

Arrangement
Arranged alphabetically by format and by date thereafter.
### Church service bulletins 1969, 1974

| Box 1:1 | First A.M.E. Dedicatory Services of the Church service bulletin 1969-08-19 |
| Box 1:1 | First A.M.E. Church Women! Day service bulletin 1974-06-24 |

### Events programs 1954-1982

| Box 1:2 | First A.M.E. Church souvenir program for Relocation Service and Dedication Service 1954-06-20 |
| Box 1:2 | West Coast Region NAACP Civil Rights Rally program 1960-10-16 |
| Box 1:2 | First A.M.E. Church Jules Haywood in concert 1966-03-13 |
| Box 1:2 | Wedding anniversary program of Reverend and Mrs. J. Russell Brown 1966-08-21 |
| Box 1:2 | First A.M.E. Church Dedication of Rebuilt Sanctuary 1969-08-19 |
| Box 1:2 | 115th session of the California Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church Fifth Episcopal District 1979-08-22-1979-08-26 |
| Box 1:2 | 14th Annual Banquet program for the NAACP Bay Area Life Membership Committee 1982-03-06 |
| Box 1:2 | 16th Annual Banquet program for the NAACP Bay Area Life Membership Committee 1982-03-05 |

### Mary Henriques accounts ledger circa 1940

| Box 1:3 | Mary Henriques accounts ledger circa 1940 |

### Mercy and Health Club meeting minutes ledger 1927-1932

| Box 1:4 | Mercy and Health Club meeting minutes ledger 1927-1932 |

### Newsletters and calendars 1972, 1981

| Box 1:5 | First A.M.E. Church newsletter The Voice 1972-04-09 |
| Box OM 21 | Inspirational Community Guild of First A.M.E. list of patrons birthdate calendar 1981 |

### Printed material circa 1950s

| Box 1:6 | Combined minutes of the general conferences African Methodist Episcopal Church 1948-1952-1956 circa 1950s |
| Box 1:6 | I.H. Hunt, Los Angeles District A.M.E. Church business card circa 1950s |

### Scrapbook 1906-1918, 1966

| Box 1:7 | Invitations and press clippings scrapbook 1906-1918, 1966 |
| Joseph W. Hickerson 1913-1971 |
| Physical Description: 1 folder |
| Series Scope and Content Summary |
| Includes a collection book and membership roster related to Joseph W. Hickerson's membership in the Acacia Lodge No.7, F.&A.M., Prince Hall masonic order. Also included is the 1965 funeral service program for James Williams. |
| Arrangement |
| Arranged chronologically. |
| Box 1:8 | Masonic order collections book 1913 |
| Box 1:8 | Funeral service program for James Williams 1965 |
Box 1:8

Acacia Lodge No.7, F.&A.M., Prince Hall membership roster 1971

William E. Calbert 1968-2010

Physical Description: 9 folders

Series Scope and Content Summary

Includes biographies, brochures, ephemera, service bulletins, correspondence, events programs, newspaper clippings and writings related to William E. Calbert’s service career, activities with Shiloh Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., and as a WWII and Vietnam War veteran.

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically by format and by date thereafter.

Box 1:9

Biographies undated

Biography of Rev. William E. Calbert by the Friends of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History undated

Biographical statement: Madlyn Calbert undated

Biography of Lt. Col. William (Ed) Calbert undated

Biography quiz Rev. William Edward Calbert undated

Box 1:10

Brochures and assorted ephemera undated, 2005

Bishop Richard Allen flyer undated

Business card of Eddie Raynord Hadden undated

The Eisenhower Suite brochure undated

Elijah McCoy undated

Family Life Center brochures undated

Green Lake in color, American Baptist Assembly undated

Invitation to the Change of Command Ceremony 2005

Invitation to the Vietnam Veterans Day observance at the Wall 2005

Invitation to the World War II 60th Anniversary Commemoration Committee tribute 2005

Riverside Church brochure undated

Shiloh Baptist Church Family Life Center brochure undated

Shiloh Baptist Church Veterans history project flyer undated

United States Chaplain Museum brochure undated

U.S. Department of Transportation Departmental Office of Civil Rights Minority Serving Institutions & Educational Partnerships beverage coaster undated

World War II 60th Anniversary lanyard undated

Box 2:1

Church service bulletins 1964-1994

Concord Baptist Church of Christ Concorder 1964-06-21

St. Patrick’s Cathedral inter-faith service by the armed forces of the United States 1966-10-16

Concord Baptist Church of Christ Concorder 1969-08-31

Shiloh Baptist Church 1971-10-31

Wesley’s Chapel 1972-07

Beth Eden Baptist Church 1987-07-19

Shiloh Baptist Church Senior Citizens Day 1989-05-21

Shiloh Baptist Church Revered William Calbert’s Day 1989-12-29

Riverside Church 1990-06-10

Shiloh Baptist Church 1991-12-22

Riverside Church 1994-04-16
**Correspondence 1967-2007**

**Box 2:2**  
Letter of appreciation from Colonel William J. Reiss 1967-01-31  
Letter from Lieutenant Colonel John M. Henchmen re: reporting assignment 1968-05-28  
Letter from Major General Francis L. Sampson re: retirement from the Army 1969-05-13  
Letter from William E. Calbert re: retirement observation and Lemoore High School reunion 1985-12  
Letter to Dr. William K. Cober from re: endorsement of Allensworth 1987-11-27  
Handwritten Christmas letter from Charles and Margaret Brown to William E. Brown and Madlyn 1988-01-16  
Letter to S. Allen Counter, Harvard University, re: Matthew Henson [two copies] 1988-09-20  
Letter to Trooper Harold S. Cole, Buffalo Soldiers Association, re: Allensworth 2000-06-20  
Letter from Jan Scruggs re: comments at the Holiday Tree at the Wall 2001-12-21  
Letter from Mark S. Seeley re: Vietnam veteran John S. Seeley 2001-12-27  
Letter from Winston A. Williams re: service at Camp Roberts 2003-04-19  
Letter to the Curator, Camp Roberts Historical Museum re: inclusion of exhibits on Afro-American presence at Camp Roberts circa 2003  
Letter from Dennis Duffy, Department of Veterans Affairs, re: request for participation in 60th Anniversary of D-Day 2004-03-17  
Letter from General Pascal Vinchon re: awarding of the French Legion of Honor 2005-05-10  
Letter to William E. Calbert with clipping from the American Society of the French Legion of Honor, Inc., newsletter circa 2005  
Letter to Madlyn Calbert from John Berryman re: William E. Calbert at Shiloh Baptist Church 2006-05-15  
Letter to Madlyn Calbert from John Berryman re: William E. Calbert at Shiloh Baptist Church 2006-05-15  
Letter to Beth Roberts re: documents for Military Chaplains Oral History interview 2007-09-07  
Letter to Dr. Bernard L. Richardson re: Alice Royal 2007-09-13  
Letter to Dr. Bernard L. Richardson re: Alice Royal 2007-09-13  
Letter to Beth Roberts re: background material related to interview with Dr. Paul Zarbock 2007-09-28  
Letter from William E. Calbert re: Buffalo Soldiers meeting undated

**Events programs 1952-2009**

**Box 2:3**  
47th commencement program, Berkeley Baptist Divinity School 1952-05-04  
The 188th anniversary commissioned officers’ open mess 1963-07-29  
Graduation exercise, U.S. Army Chaplain School 1965-09-03  
Retirement ceremony, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland 1969-06-25  
Embry A.M.E. Church anniversary banquet 1979-11-02  
Funeral program for Paul Roberson, Mother A.M.E. Zion Church 1976-01-27  
Organ recital by Alonzo Price, Shiloh Baptist Church 1979-11-04  
Afro-American History Week program, Asbury United Methodist Church 1980-02-10  
Spirit of America 1982  
First day of issue Carter G. Woodson stamp, Shiloh Baptist Church 1984-02-01

**Guide to the Alice Royal Collection**
Box 2:3  Inaugural prayer breakfast of the Alpha Wives of Washington, District of Columbia 1985-01-21
Box 2:3  Patterns of faith: Woven together in life & mission theological conference 1986-09-25
Box 2:3  National Ministries biennial luncheon 1987-06-19
Box 2:3  American Baptist Annual Meeting 1987-06
Box 2:3  NAACP silent march on Washington 1989-08-26
Box 2:3  Memorial ceremony and plaque unveiling for Osborne Perry Anderson 2000-11-11
Box 2:3  A quest for freedom: The black experience in the American West 2001-02-02
Box 2:3  Samuel L. Gravely, Jr., Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy 2004-10-22
Box 2:3  Commemorating Victory in Europe Day, World War II Memorial 2005-05-08
Box 2:3  Tribute to World War II veterans 2005-09-02
Box 2:3  A celebration of the life of Dr. Frances Clementine White Hughes 2005-10-13
Box 2:3  In Vogue symposium 2006-10-26
Box 2:3  10th anniversary celebration, Civil War Memorial 2008-07-18
Box 2:3  5th anniversary dedication of the WWII Memorial 2009-05-25

**Neighborhood fellowship weekly bulletin 1969**

Box 2:4  Neighborhood Fellowship Weekly bulletin 1969-03-01

**Newspaper clippings 1968-2005**

Box 2:5  "Veteran earns 5 medals before his death in Viet," *Oakland Tribune* 1968-10-09
Box OM 21  *Sound Off : Published in the interest of personnel at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland* Vol No. 20 1969-07-03
Box 2:5  "Retirees," newspaper clipping circa 1969
Box 2:5  "Over 200 D.C. senior citizens hear president," newspaper clipping 1972-02-03
Box 2:5  "For those who serve," newspaper clipping 2001-12-24
Box 2:5  *VAnguard* Vol. LI No. 4 cover featuring William E. Calbert 2005-07

**Printed material 1980**

Box 2:6  *Black Yank* Vol. 1 No. 2 1980-08

**Writings 1986-2005**

Box 2:7  "Some reflections on patterns of faith" 1986
Box 2:7  "Taking spiritual leadership to the next level" 2005
Box 2:7  Draft of the Allensworth State Historic Park salute undated
Box 2:7  History of Camp Roberts undated
Box 2:7  "To the greatest" undated
Box 2:7  "Prayers offered by Reverend William E. Calbert" undated
Box 2:7  "Veterans Day service" undated

**Allensworth calendar of events 2011**

- **Physical Description:** 1 folder
- **Series Scope and Content Summary:** Includes a 2011 calendar of events for the Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park as collected by Alice Royal.

Box 2:8  Calendar of events 2011
Photographs 1915-2010

Physical Description: 12 folders

Series Scope and Content Summary

Includes photographs collected or assembled by Alice Royal, Dorothy Hickerson Harris, and William E. Calbert. Photographs depict Hickerson Harris’ students at the Emerson School, the early First A.M.E. Church, its choirs and members, and William E. Calbert’s service and chaplaincy career. Included are also undated candid family photographs depicting William E. Calbert with Alice Royal.

Arrangement

Arranged by photograph identification number.

Emerson School class portraits 1924-1927

| Box 2:9 | Emerson School class portrait [001] 1924 |
| Box 2:9 | Emerson School class portrait [002] 1925 |
| Box 2:9 | Emerson School class portrait [003] 1926 |
| Box 2:9 | Emerson School class portrait [004] 1927 |

First A.M.E. Church 1915-circa 1940s

| Box 2:10 | The First A.M.E. Church chorus [005A/005B] 1915-08-25 |
| Box 2:11 | William Hickerson Sr. Choir, First A.M.E. Church [006A/006B] circa 1920s |
| Box 2:12 | Group portrait of First A.M.E. Church congregation [007] circa 1920s |
| Box 2:13 | Group portrait of the Fifty Sixth Annual session of the California Conference A.M.E. Church, Los Angeles [008] 1923 |
| Box 2:14 | William Hickerson Sr. Choir, First A.M.E. Church [009] circa 1930s |
| Box 2:15 | First A.M.E. Church Choir, reverse: ‘Mrs. Florence Hickerson (second row, first on right)’ [010] circa 1930s |
| Box 2:16 | First A.M.E. Church interior [011A/011B] circa 1930s |
| Box 2:13 | Group portrait of the First A.M.E. Church choir including William Hickerson Sr. (back row, third from left), Arnold Barrauco (second row, fifth from left), Reverend Daniel Hill (second row, sixth from left), and Wanda Addison (first row, third from left) [012] 1939 |
| Box 2:13 | Portrait of Dorothy Hickerson [013] circa 1930s |
| Box 2:17 | Portrait of William Hickerson [014] circa 1930s |
| Box 2:18 | Group portrait, 78th session of the California Annual Conference 5th Episcopal district of the A.M.E. Church, Reverend Noah W. Williams presiding bishop, Sacramento, California [015] 1942-08-26 |
| Box 2:13 | Mary Henriques on 15th street, reverse: ‘Pioneer member of A.M.E. Church, candy maker par excellence’ [016A/016B] circa 1940s |

William E. Calbert 1956-2010

| Box 2:19 | William E. Calbert in chapel, Frankfurt Germany [017] 1956 |
| Box 2:19 | Group portrait at dining table, reverse: ‘William (Ed) with mother, at luncheon for American Baptist chaplains stationed in the S.F. Bay Area about 1960. The meeting was hosted by Dr. W. Earle Smith, executive secretary of the S.F. Bay Area Baptist Union. Photo taken at the San Francisco Union Club’ [018] circa 1960 |
| Box 2:19 | William E. Calbert in the field [021] circa 1960s |
Box 2:19

Box 2:19

Box 2:19
New Testament First Christian Church, reverse: ‘this is that church in Brazil, Indiana, that we told you about last summer' [024] circa 1960s

Box 2:19
William E. Calbert at Shiloh Baptist Church service, reverse: ‘Reverend Eddy in pulpit’ [025] circa 1984

Box 2:19

Box 2:19
Madlyn Calbert, Alice Royal and William E. Calbert at the World War II 60th Anniversary Commemoration tribute [027] 2005

Box 2:19
Madlyn Calbert, William E. Calbert and unidentified woman at at the World War II 60th Anniversary Commemoration tribute [028] 2005

Box 2:19
William E. Calbert in profile at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Wall Christmas tree ceremony [029] 2010-12-20

Box 2:19
Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Wall Christmas tree [030] 2010

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Family photographs circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Candid photograph, back of unidentified woman's head [031] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Fruit basket on dining table [032] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Fruit basket on coffee table [033] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Fruit basket on patio table [034] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Fruit basket on patio table [035] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Fruit basket on patio table [036] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Two unidentified family members [037] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
William E. Calbert and Alice Royal with unidentified bride [038] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
William E. Calbert and Alice Royal with unidentified bride [039] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
William E. Calbert with unidentified bride [040] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
William E. Calbert with unidentified family members [041] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Photograph taken out train window [042] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Photograph taken out train window [043] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Photograph taken out train window [044] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Passengers on train [045] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Photograph of people standing on train platform [046] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
View of the front of a house taken out car window [047] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
View of the front of a house taken out car window [048] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Exterior of house [049] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Flower arrangement [050] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Flower arrangement [051] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Flower arrangement [052] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Exterior of house with foliage [053] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Exterior of house with foliage [054] circa 1990s

Box 2:20
Exterior of house with foliage [055] circa 1990s