



Title: James C. Free Papers

Dates: 1978–2000

Creator: James C. Free

Summary/Abstract: The Free Papers include paper documents and memorabilia related to his time working for the Democratic Party, including the campaigns for Walter Mondale (1980s), Ned McWherter (1980s), and Al Gore, Jr. (1980s and 2000).

Quantity/Physical Description: Approximately 4.5 linear feet

Languages(s): English

Repository: Albert Gore Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN 37132, (615) 898-2632

Restrictions on Access: None

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Preferred Citation: (Box Number, Folder Number/Name), The James C. Free Papers, Albert Gore Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Acquisition: James C. Free donated materials to the Gore Center in 1998 and 2009. Additional accretions are possible.

Processed By: Original processor Matthew Brown; additional processing, Kayla Utendorf, graduate assistant, 2013

Biographical Note:

James C. Free attended Middle Tennessee State University where he received a bachelor's degree in Economics (1969) and a master's degree in Public Administration (1972). After graduation, Free worked for Middle Tennessee State University as an assistant to the university's vice president.

Free has a rich activity of history in the Democratic Party. In 1976, Free worked on Jimmy Carter's presidential campaign as southern regional coordinator. After Carter's election to the presidency, Free served as a special assistant to the president for Congressional Affairs and supported President Carter's programs before Congress.

Free raised money for Ned McWherter's campaign for Governor of Tennessee. He served as Governor McWherter's administrative assistant and as chief clerk and an executive officer of the Tennessee House of Representatives. Free supported Walter Mondale's campaign for president (1984) and Senator Albert Gore, Jr. during his presidential campaigns of 1988 and 2000.

In 1995, Free co-founded the Smith-Free Group. Previously he was vice-chair of Walker-Free Associates. He represented American businesses in such areas as energy, entertainment, communications, health care, banking, and insurance.

On May 8, 2010, Free gave a commencement address at Middle Tennessee State University.

Scope and Content: The bulk of the papers include correspondence between Free and various politicians. They include the names of donors, receipts from travel to conventions, and written testimony presented to the Hunt Commission. There is also material from the 1982 Mid-term Democratic Convention and the 1984 Democratic National Convention. Free's papers also contain materials documenting Democratic Party political strategy and fundraising activities.

Arrangement: The materials were arranged by subject rather than type or function of material. This means, for example, that although there is a series for correspondence, subject related correspondence may be found in a series related to that subject. Researchers are advised to note possible alternative locations of the documents for which they seek.

Series 1. Correspondence. This series contains personal correspondence, letters of appreciation, and letters of congratulation.

Series 2. Democratic National Party. This series contains documents pertaining to the Democratic National Party, including documents from the Democratic National Convention, the Commission for Presidential Nominations, the Hunt Commission, and newspaper articles relating to the Democratic National Party.

Series 3. Elections. This series contains documents relating to the campaigns of Walter Mondale, Ned McWherter, and Al Gore, Jr., as well as fundraising information concerning the Democratic Congressional Committee and Senatorial Committee and newspaper articles about presidential candidates.

Series 4. James C. Free Articles. This series contains correspondence, maps, and articles written by James Free.

Related Collections: There are no known related collections.

Subject Terms:

Persons

James C. Free
Ned McWherter
Charles E. Walker
Walter Mondale
Coleman Young
Bill Clinton
Tony Coelho
Charles Rangel
Jimmy Carter
Al Gore Jr.

Places

Tennessee
Philadelphia, PA
Birmingham, AL
Washington, D.C.

Atlanta, GA

Subjects (General)

Democratic National Party
Democratic National Convention
Presidential campaigns
Tennessee gubernatorial campaigns

Material Types

Correspondence
Memos
Documents
Receipts
Photographs
Newspaper/Magazine articles
Campaign buttons

Container List:

Box	Folder	Series	Subseries	Contents	Dates
1	1	Correspondence		Personal and political correspondence	1980-1983
1	2	Correspondence		Personal, political, and business correspondence	1980-1983
1	3	Correspondence		Duplicate correspondence from folders 1 and 2	
1	4	Correspondence		Personal correspondence	1981
1	5	Correspondence		Personal correspondence	1983
1	6	Correspondence		Personal correspondence	1983

1	7	Correspondence		Personal correspondence	1984
1	8	Correspondence		Letters of appreciation to and from Jim Free	
1	9	Correspondence		Letters of appreciation to Jim Free	
1	10	Correspondence		Letters of congratulation regarding position at Charles Walker Associates	
1	11	Correspondence		Letters of congratulation regarding position at Charles Walker Associates	
1	12	Correspondence		Personal, financial, and political correspondence	
1	13	Democratic National Party	Hunt Commission	Correspondence, schedules, and goals/member lists relating to the development of the Hunt Commission	
1	14	Democratic National Party	Hunt Commission	Documents related to the testimony hearing	Nov 1981
1	15	Democratic National Party	Hunt Commission	Documents related to the testimony hearing	Nov 1981
1	16	Democratic National Party	Hunt Commission	Publications and articles related to the proceedings of the Hunt Commission	
2	1	Democratic National Party	Hunt Commission	Publications and articles related to the proceedings of the Hunt Commission	
2	2	Democratic National Party	Hunt Commission	Rules proposed by the Hunt Commission regarding delegate selection process	
2	3	Democratic National Party	Commission on Presidential Nominations	Correspondence, schedules, rules, and articles relating to the Commission on Presidential Nominations	
2	4	Democratic National Party	Commission on Presidential Nominations	Schedules for the Commission on Presidential Nominations	
2	5	Democratic National Party	Commission on Presidential Nominations	Testimony and correspondence relating to the Presidential Nominating system	

2	6	Democratic National Party	Commission on Presidential Nominations	Testimony and correspondence relating to the Presidential Nominating system	
2	7	Democratic National Party	Commission on Presidential Nominations	Testimony and correspondence relating to the Presidential Nominating system	
2	8	Democratic National Party	Commission on Presidential Nominations	Testimony and correspondence relating to the Presidential Nominating system	
2	9	Democratic National Party	Commission on Presidential Nominations	Articles and regulations for preparation for conference in Wisconsin	
2	10	Democratic National Party	Commission on Presidential Nominations	Schedules, articles, by-laws, etc. to prepare for the Commission on Presidential Nominations meeting held in Washington D.C.	
3	1	Democratic National Party	Democratic Policy Committee	Articles and publications from the Democratic Policy Committee	1982
3	2	Democratic National Party	1982 Democratic Mid-Term Convention	Correspondence about preparing to attend the convention	1982
3	3	Democratic National Party	1982 Democratic Mid-Term Convention	Notes, member lists, and schedules	1982
3	4	Democratic National Party	1982 Democratic Mid-Term Convention	Hotel guide, notes, catering lists, and receipts	1982
3	5	Democratic National Party	1982 Democratic Mid-Term Convention	Publications used for the convention	1982
3	6	Democratic National Party	1982 Democratic Mid-Term Convention	Publications used for the convention	1982

3	7	Democratic National Party	1984 Democratic Mid-Term Convention	Receipts and correspondence preparing the convention	1984
3	8	Democratic National Party	1984 Democratic Mid-Term Convention	Lists and instructions related to the tracking of Alabama delegates	1984
3	9	Democratic National Party	1984 Democratic Mid-Term Convention	Publications	1984
3	10	Democratic National Party	1984 Democratic Mid-Term Convention	Invitations, schedules, and maps	1984
3	11	Democratic National Party	Democratic Policy	Correspondence and articles	
3	12	Democratic National Party	Democratic Policy	Publications	
3	13	Democratic National Party	Democratic Policy	Publications	
3	14	Democratic National Party	Democratic Policy	Articles	
3	15	Democratic National Party		Newspaper articles	1986-1988
3	16	Democratic National Party		Newspaper articles	1987
4	1	Elections	Walter Mondale	Correspondence relating to issues and endorsements	
4	2	Elections	Walter Mondale	Correspondence including strategy memos and politician lists and descriptions	
4	3	Elections	Walter Mondale	Correspondence and delegate lists—Alabama	
4	4	Elections	Walter Mondale	Delegate lists and notes—Louisiana	

4	5	Elections	Walter Mondale	Correspondence, delegate lists, and notes—Mississippi	
4	6	Elections	Walter Mondale	Delegate lists—South Carolina	
4	7	Elections	Walter Mondale	Delegate lists—Tennessee and Texas	
4	8	Elections	Walter Mondale	Correspondence, schedules, notes, and articles relating to the Alabama Primary in March 1984	1984
4	9	Elections	Walter Mondale	Correspondence, notes, and delegate lists—Tennessee	
4	10	Elections	Walter Mondale	Correspondence, newspaper articles, and member biographies relating to a duck hunting trip in Tennessee, participated in by Walter Mondale	1982
4	11	Elections	Walter Mondale	Newspaper articles relating to a duck hunting trip in Tennessee, participated in by Walter Mondale	1982
4	12	Elections	Walter Mondale	Correspondence and schedules	1982-1984
4	13	Elections	Walter Mondale	Correspondence relating to the 1984 Democratic National Convention	1984
4	14	Elections	Walter Mondale	Correspondence	1982-1984
4	15	Elections	Walter Mondale	Correspondence regarding Walter Mondale's Campaign	1982-1984
4	16	Elections	Walter Mondale	Correspondence regarding Walter Mondale's Campaign	1982-1984
4	17	Elections	Walter Mondale	Correspondence regarding Walter Mondale's Campaign	1982-1984
4	18	Elections	Walter Mondale	Articles discussing Walter Mondale's campaign	
4	19	Elections	Walter Mondale	Transcripts of speeches delivered by Walter Mondale	

4	20	Elections	Walter Mondale	Lists of schedules for Walter Mondale's visits and trips	
4	21	Elections	Ned McWherter	Fundraising	
4	22	Elections	Ned McWherter	Outgoing correspondence	1984
4	23	Elections	Ned McWherter	Incoming correspondence	1985
4	24	Elections	Ned McWherter	Outgoing correspondence	1985
4	25	Elections	Ned McWherter	Incoming correspondence	1986
4	26	Elections	Ned McWherter	Outgoing correspondence	1986
4	27	Elections	Ned McWherter	Incoming correspondence	1986
4	28	Elections	Ned McWherter	Financial correspondence	1986
4	29	Elections	Ned McWherter	Post-Campaign correspondence	1986-1990
4	30	Elections	Ned McWherter	Newspaper articles	
5	1	Elections	Ned McWherter	General fundraising and contributor information	
5	2	Elections	Ned McWherter	Campaign finance receipts	
5	3	Elections	Ned McWherter	Contributor correspondence and business pamphlets	
5	4	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Potential surrogates to appear at events which Gore could not attend	1988
5	5	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Correspondence concerning Tipper Gore	1988
5	6	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Press correspondence and Daily Talking Points	
5	7	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Schedules and correspondence	
5	8	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Schedules and correspondence	

5	9	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Lists, correspondence, notes, campaign advice	
5	10	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Telephone contact lists	
5	11	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Clippings on education and teaching in the United States	1930-1955
6	1	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Correspondence and staff lists	
6	2	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Donor lists, articles and correspondence relating to campaign finance	
6	3	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Senator lists and lists of superdelegates by state	
6	4	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Contact lists and economic information	
6	5	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Lists of potential donors	
6	6	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Correspondence, schedules, and demographics regarding delegates	
6	7	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Delegate lists and endorsement lists, articles and correspondence relating to superdelegates	
6	8	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Forms of politicians Gore or his staff need to connect with	
6	9	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Correspondence regarding superdelegate procedures	
6	10	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Correspondence, lists, and articles concerning opposing candidates	
7	1	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Correspondence and schedules relating to planning for the Democratic National Convention	
7	2	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Correspondence regarding Al Gore's speech at the Democratic National Convention	
7	3	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Correspondence relating to Al Gore's 1988 campaign	

7	4	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Correspondence, lists, and notes of contact information of supporters	
7	5	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Correspondence, staff lists, and notes regarding Democratic National Convention	
7	6	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Correspondence, personnel lists, maps, and information regarding Democratic National Convention	
7	7	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Correspondence and schedules regarding Democratic National Convention	
7	8	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Schedules and notes relating to the Democratic National Convention	
7	9	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Correspondence, reservation forms, lists, etc., for the Democratic National Convention	
7	10	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Staff notebook containing phone numbers, maps, hotels, seating, restaurants	
7	11	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Budgets and correspondence regarding budgets for the Democratic National Convention	
7	12	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Catering lists from the Georgia World Congress Center	
7	13	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	List of 100th Congress of the United States House of Representatives	
7	14	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Forms with names of congressmen and their contact information and political endorsements	
7	15	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 1988	Forms with names of congressmen and their contact information and political endorsements	
8	1	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 2000	3 packets of "Super Delegates Status Report" and 1 page of shorthand notes	

8	2	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 2000	Correspondence and attachments, mainly "thank you" letters for donations	
8	3	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 2000	Correspondence and donor lists from Gore's 2000 presidential campaign	
8	4	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 2000	Correspondence and donor lists from Gore's 2000 presidential campaign	
8	5	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 2000	Correspondence and a contributor list	
8	6	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 2000	Correspondence, donor lists, copies of articles, Congressman lists, news releases, email, reception invitation, fact sheet, Guidelines for Volunteer Fundraisers	
8	7	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 2000	Lists of Congressmen and Congressmen who have supported Al Gore	
8	8	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 2000	Fundraising lists, correspondence, and donor forms	
8	9	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 2000	Correspondence, guidelines, campaign literature, etc. related to fundraising for Al Gore's 2000 presidential campaign	
8	10	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 2000	Lists of potential donors, correspondence, and notes on fundraising procedures and amounts	
9	1	Elections	Al Gore, Jr. 2000	Correspondence, donor lists, etc. relating to fundraising for Al Gore's 2000 presidential campaign	
	2	Elections	Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee	Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee members debt lists	
9	3	Elections	Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee	Correspondence and lists associated with the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee	

9	4	Elections	1992 Presidential Candidates	Newspaper articles	
9	5	Elections	1992 Presidential Candidates	Newspaper articles and correspondence relating to 1992 campaigns	
9	6	Elections	Newspaper Articles	Copies of newspaper articles relating to elections and politics	1986-1988
9	7	Elections	Newspaper Articles	Copies of newspaper articles relating to elections and politics	1987
9	8	Elections	Newspaper Articles	Copies of newspaper articles relating to elections and politics	1987-1997
10	1	James C. Free Articles		Paper drafts and maps by James C. Free relating to elections	1980s
10	2	James C. Free Articles		Correspondence, newspaper articles, and drafts relating to political events	1982