

**SELECTION FOR DIGITISATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE'S
INSITUTIONAL ARCHIVES:
METHODOLOGY AND PRELIMINARY SELECTION**

1. INTRODUCTION

The aim of this project is to identify and select a small set of University archives for digitisation, as well as develop a methodology for this process that can be replicated for expansion. Selected documents illustrate and provide evidence of major events, themes, groups and individuals in the history of the University of Fort Hare. In time, these documents will be available on Fort Hare's website and can be made available on other electronic media, like a CD-ROM. Through this process these materials will be made accessible to a wide audience, including Fort Hare community members, researchers, and anyone interested in the history of an academically, socially and politically important institution.

2. METHODOLOGY: SELECTION FOR DIGITISATION IN THE UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE'S ARCHIVES

2.1. Theme Identification and Chronology Development

The first step in the selection for digitisation process was the identification of nine major themes that are key to understanding the history of the University of Fort Hare. These nine themes were divided into two sets. The first set is composed of six primary themes for initial consideration. The second set is composed of three additional themes for future consideration. When choosing these themes, we considered areas and times that have been historically important to Fort Hare, areas of interest that are otherwise unknown to the public or even most Fort Harians, and areas that are nationally and globally important.

Theme selection as followed by the development of a chronology of events reflective of these major themes in Fort Hare's history. Chronologies were used to navigate the University archives for document selection. Although we only made document selections from official university records, we tried to give attention to the multiplicity of voices and experiences present at Fort Hare over the course of its long history.

Both the theme selection and the chronology building were taken in consultation with the University Librarian, Yolisa Soul.

The following themes were established to guide the digitisation process:

- Early History: (1905 – 1959)
- Student Unrest (1941 – 1999)
- Bantu Education (1955 – 1960, 1990)
- Notable Fort Harians (alumni & staff)
- Fort Hare after Apartheid: Transformation and Beyond (1990 – present)
- Anniversaries (1966, 1991, 1996, 2006)

Potential future themes include:

- Fort Hare and the Struggle (e.g., Defiance Campaign, Freedom Charter, Treason Trial, Sharpeville, Soweto Uprising, States of Emergency, and relations with student and youth organizations such as NUSAS, SASO, and the ANC Youth League)
- Athletics
- Music

To form our chronology, we consulted Daniel Massey’s master’s thesis “The History of Fort Hare and its Student Activists, 1933-1973.” A brochure produced by the university for the 90th anniversary of the college by NAHECS staff member Mark Snyders was another valuable source, particularly as it provided information from the later years of the university that was beyond the scope of Massey’s thesis.

These labors have resulted in the development of:

- A selection of Exhibit materials for digitization related to the “Bantu Education” and “Early History” themes (**See APPENDIX 1: University of Fort Hare Institutional Archives Exhibit Materials for Digitisation**)
- A series of chronologies to support selection for digitisation, (**See: APPENDIX 2: Chronological Roadmap to Digitising the History of the University of Fort Hare**) including:
 - a brief chronology of the early history of the university,
 - an extensive timeline illustrating significant moments in the history of student unrest at Fort Hare,
 - a detailed timeline about the events leading to and the consequences of the Bantu Education Act and Fort Hare Transfer Bill, and
 - a skeleton history of notable Fort Harians

We suggest that those taking the next step in this project continue this process by developing a richer chronology of notable Fort Harians, University anniversary celebrations, Fort Hare and the struggle against apartheid, Fort Hare after apartheid, athletics at Fort Hare, and music at Fort Hare.

Additional sources that may aid those continuing with the creation of these timelines include Donovan Williams’ two volumes about the early history of the university and the university in the 1950’s, as well as Alexander Kerr’s recollections, as Fort Hare’s first principal, of the early days of the college, *Fort Hare, 1915-1948: The Evolution of An African College*. Z.K. Matthews and H.R. Burrows’ *A Short Pictorial History of the University College of Fort Hare, 1916-1959* provides a wealth of visual representations of the university. A listing of notable Fort Harians is available in the Howard Pim Library of Old and Rare Books in an archive box labeled “Fort Hare History / Alumni” in the first aisle of the archives reading room between the archivist’s desk and the vault.

2.2. Selection for Digitisation

We began the selection for digitisation process with documents providing evidence from the Bantu education era since the events surrounding this theme were more finite and closed-ended than others. This project was conducted with the intention of piloting a bibliographic format that could be used for lists of documents under other themes. For the history of the “Bantu Education” theme at Fort Hare, we searched university documents housed in the library archives, particularly published materials (from both Fort Hare and Pretoria) about the changeover from 1959 to 1960. Other sources included the “Fort Hare History” shelf in the large records room in the basement of the

Administration building, and some documents produced under Burrows and Matthews' rectorships in the small records room, also in the basement of the Administration building.

The bulk of our findings came from combing the large, bound books of Senate and Council minutes from 1955-1960. These sources were particularly interesting as their form and content provided evidence for the deep changes at Fort Hare in 1960. The Council minutes book from 1960 at the onset of Bantu Education begins in Afrikaans (where previous books had all been in English) where the composition of the Council changed completely from what it had been in 1959 before the formal institution of Bantu Education. Further, we were interested to find that the new, government-appointed Council were holding meetings in Pretoria concurrently and in parallel with the meetings of the outgoing Council at Fort Hare, in Alice.

Our selections from the "Early History" theme of the University came from materials that were available in the small and large rooms of records in the Administration building in May-June 2007, particularly from a shelf in the large storeroom labeled "Fort Hare History." The selection of items for the early history section is in progress and would likely not be complete until UFH-related records at the Cory Library at Rhodes University are consulted.¹ A substantial body of University records were selected and removed to Rhodes University in advance of the onset of Bantu Education at the University of Fort Hare.

We had three methods at our disposal for finding relevant records to select for digitisation. First, shelf-reading and organizing materials in the two large storerooms and Council and Senate minutes in the provided a familiarity with documents' locations that could not have been produced otherwise. Second, the finding aids, physical diagrams and series descriptions our colleagues produced over the course of our work during May-June 2007 were invaluable in our search for relevant materials. Finally, the finding aid for a significant body University of Fort Hare materials housed in the Howard Pim Library provided a roadmap to materials housed there.

While we hoped to choose documents that provided the best evidence of a particular event or decision in our chronology, we also recognized that a multiplicity of voices have existed at the University, and thus, we also chose items that highlight particular groups and may provide evidence of their existence and points of view. For instance, when selecting for the Bantu Education theme at Fort Hare, we selected documents from the point of view of Fort Harians protesting the change as well as speeches from government officials extolling the virtues of separate educational facilities for different racial groups. We tended to privilege the final official version of a decision rather than a discussion or drafts leading up to it.

Most of the selected documents are of uniform shape, size and media. The records are predominantly typed or hand-written text on paper that is loose or pasted into a bound book. While all of the documents we have selected are showing signs of age, very few are in urgent need of digitisation for conservation.

¹ The history of the presence of University of Fort Hare records at Rhodes University is unclear – according to Donovan Williams' book, in the run-up to the implementation of the Fort Hare Transfer Act in 1960, the senate had discussed compiling and microfilming the early records of the university, although his involvement was scant since he was preparing to leave the university at that time and we found no other record of this project. According to the report of the records of the University of Fort Hare by Seán Morrow and Khayaletu Gxabalashe, the papers of Alexander Kerr, the first principal of the college, are deposited at the Cory Library at Rhodes, alongside the papers of Z.K. Matthews.

Of all the documents in the university's collection, we chose what might be considered "exhibit-level" documents – these documents provide a skeleton of the university's history and are of interest to a broad base of users. Ostensibly, as this project moves forward, there may be the means and inclination to digitise more of the university archives. This second level of digitisation is known as the "core level," and provides a corpus of documents for curriculum development, teaching, and basic research. Rather than by item, as is the case for exhibit materials, core documents would be described by folder. Good candidates for core document digitisation include important years from Senate and Council minutes, and whole folders regarding the early history of the university and important events (e.g., University of Fort Hare Transfer Act, important SAUVCA files, Anniversary files). The third level of digitisation is "access level" digitisation, which includes items that would be heavily used for research remotely. Candidates for this category include the whole run of Senate and Council minutes, along with accompanying documents, Rector / Vice-Chancellor files from important years or important administrations, project proposals, and long runs of correspondence. The fourth level of digitisation would be to digitise the whole collection of university documents. We do not recommend this, as this does not seem either feasible or a good use of the University's limited digitisation resources. However, as description and organization of the University's institutional archives improves, researchers will have the opportunity to come to the university and consult non-digitised documents in person.

The records of the University of Fort Hare have been stored in two records rooms in the University's Administration building, largely unprocessed, for many decades. These rooms more closely resemble a records storeroom than they do an archive. Due to the scale and volume of documents accumulated during the university's existence, this project will be ongoing and dependent upon further cataloging, organization, means to access, and safe storage. Considering the current condition of the university's records, we believe that this project can only be scaled-up as the environment of the University institutional archives is stabilized and their order improved.

2.3. Bibliographic Process

Our bibliographic process captured an entry (often the document's title), the item's location, the condition of the item (with special attention to attributes that could affect the digitisation process), a brief description the item's content as well as a rationale for its digitisation, and any notes about disparities in describing or locating the item. A template follows.

Entry:

When describing the document's title, either transcribe the document title or, in the case of a letter, have the word "letter" in brackets, then list the sender, the recipient, and the date. When transcribing a document's title, separate titles from subtitles with a semicolon. Include a document number whenever possible; list it last, separated by a semicolon.

Examples:

- University College of Fort Hare; Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Senate of the University College of Fort Hare Held on Monday 18 February 1957 at 11:00 a.m. in Stewart Hall; S/11/3/57/45
- [Letter] from John Doe to Jane Doe, 24 July 1999

Include as much of a date as is possible, either from the title or added in brackets.

We occasionally list two related documents in the same entry. In these cases, the words “two documents” will be at the beginning of the entry in brackets, and the items will be separated by a soft return (shift+return).

Location:

Location descriptions go from specific to general, starting with document number or page numbers, then going to folder name, box number, shelf number, collection, and the name of the building.

Example:

- Document 116, in folder “Correspondence Re: Establishment 1908,” on shelf labeled “Fort Hare History” in the large records room in the administration building as of 4 June, 2007

As a rule, include as much information as is available to help others find these documents in the future.

Condition:

The aim of this entry is to include all information that may affect the digitisation process as is possible. Attributes include (in the following order): type of material in brackets (e.g., [booklet]), number of pages, page numbers, page dimensions (in centimeters), whether double or single sided, medium of writing (i.e., whether typed, printed, handwritten, etc.), media of other markings (e.g., signature in ink, printed letterhead, marginalia, etc.), description of parent volume (e.g., blue book with green binding), dimensions of parent volume, condition of item (e.g., yellowing, holes, mold, creases, etc.)

Content:

The content note aims to give both a sense of the content of the document and a rationale as to why this document should be digitised. A clear and thorough content note would be useful as a description when the digitised document is put online.

Notes:

We have included notes when two versions of the same document co-exist in different places in the archive, or when the name on the finding aid is different from the name on the folder. In any case, we usually left notes to help the reader find a particular document when confusion might otherwise be present.

2.4. Metadata

The entry, location, condition, content and note fields can all be easily incorporated as metadata when these documents are scanned. In all cases, a date, date range or approximation is present in the entry field, as is, in most cases, the name of the record creator, and/or the office where the record was made.

3. Conclusion and Next Steps

We hope that we have provided a workable plan and set of methodologies for selecting documents for digitisation from the university's records. We suggest the following next steps in the selection process.

- Continue creating chronologies for the categories listed above, especially notable Fort Harians, for which we have only been able to provide basic information so far. Yolisa Soul has many other excellent suggestions of important people, dates, and events in the university's history.
- For each item in the chronology, imagine possible documents that illustrate each event from finding aids and secondary-source materials (a list of books on the history of Fort Hare is above, and is also available in Daniel Massey's literature review section of his thesis).
- Try to discover documents based on those that may exist based on the details and events from a chronology. As always, shelf reading tends to lead to discoveries that may not be easily deduced from the finding aids.
- Use the bibliographic template provided above to record these documents.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about our methods or if there is anything we can do to help clarify this process.

Thank you,

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APPENDIX 1: University of Fort Hare Institutional Archives Exhibit Materials for Digitisation

Bantu Education Era

- Entry:** University College of Fort Hare; Minutes of the 185th Meeting of the Senate of the University College of Fort Hare held on Monday 11th June 1956 at 3.30 in Stewart Hall
Location: Book of Senate Minutes S 1952 to 1957, located in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small vault)
Condition: 5 pages, 20.5 cm by 33cm, typed, single-sided, affixed with paste to pages of large hard-bound book with dark blue cover and purple binding, 38x25x8cm, pages are yellowed, mildly warped from paste
Content: Included in these minutes are a declaration from the senate that the best interests of the college would be served by the continuation of its then-present relationship with the Department of Education, Arts and Science, rather than transfer to the Department of Bantu Education
- Entry:** University College of Fort Hare; Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Senate of the University College of Fort Hare Held on Monday 18 February 1957 at 11:00 a.m. in Stewart Hall; S/11/3/57/45
Location: Book of Senate Minutes C 14-11-52 to 26-11-59, located in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small vault)
Condition: 3 pages, 20.5 cm by 33cm, typed, single-sided, affixed with paste to pages of large hard-bound book with dark blue cover and purple binding, 38x25x8cm, pages are mildly warped from paste
Content: These minutes from a special session of the senate discuss a message from the Secretary for Education, Arts and Science in which he announces the introduction of legislation to provide separate education for non-whites. The rest of the meeting involved a discussion of the senate's reaction and objections to this measure.
- Entry:** University College of Fort Hare Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Governing Council of the University Council of Fort Hare Held on Tuesday 26 March 1957 at 10:00 a.m. in Stewart Hall; S/29/3/57/77
Location: Book of Council Minutes S 1952 to 1957, located in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small vault)
Condition: 1 page, 20.5 cm by 25cm, typed, single-sided, affixed with paste to page, 24x36cm of large hard-bound book with dark blue cover and purple binding, 38x25x8cm, page is mildly warped from paste
Content: Official statement from the governing council regarding the University Education Bill, 1957, protesting the proposed loss of autonomy of the university.
- Entry:** University College of Fort Hare; Summary of Evidence to be Submitted to the Separate University Education Commission S/16/10/57/272 [16 October 1957]
Location: Book of Senate Minutes C 14-11-52 to 26-11-59, located in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small vault)
Condition: 7 pages, 20.5 cm by 33 cm, typed, single-sided, affixed with paste to pages of large hard-bound book with dark blue cover and purple binding, 38x25x8cm, pages are very mildly warped from paste
Content: This document of 23 objections to proposed items in the Separate University Education Bill was prepared by the senate at Fort Hare for review by the Commission on the Separate University Education Bill.

5. **Entry:** The University College of Fort Hare by Professor Z.K. Matthews, Acting Principal [circa 1957]
Location: Box X, University Publications, Library
Condition: stapled booklet, 36 pages, 13 cm by 17.5 cm, printed, yellowed paper, but not yet brittle, tear in corner of back page
Content: This essay by Z.K. Matthews discusses the history and future of Fort Hare in 1957, and argues against the transfer of Fort Hare to the Department of Bantu Education.

6. **Entry:** University College of Fort Hare; Minutes of Special Meeting of the Senate of the University College of Fort Hare held on Thursday, September 4th, 1958, S/5/9/58/435
Location: Book of Senate Minutes, S Nov 57 to 1959, located in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small vault)
Condition: 2 pages, 20.5x33cm, typed with signature in blue ink, single sided, affixed with paste to pages of large hard bound book with green cover and red binding, 26x38x5cm, mild warping by paste, small rust stain of left margin of first page
Content: This meeting of Senate included two items: the first was a memorandum from the SRC concerning the Separate University Education Bill and the second was a senate memorandum regarding the extension of the University Education Bill.

7. **Entry:** The Extension of the University Education Bill, 1958; Draft Memorandum by the Council and Senate of the University College of Fort Hare.
Location: Box 21, Extension of Univ. Education Bill 1958, Library
Condition: 1 page, A2, typed, single sided, photocopy, good condition
Content: This document is a joint memorandum from the council and senate arguing against the state's proposal to directly control Fort Hare, with particular disagreement regarding the policy of no longer admitting coloured, Indian, and non-Xhosa African students.
N.B.: A copy of the final draft of this document, "Memorandum on the Fort Hare Transfer Bill Submitted by the Council and Senate of the University College of Fort Hare S/30/6/58/270" is available in the large records room in the administration building on a shelf labeled "Fort Hare History" and in a folder marked "University of Fort Hare Transfer Bill 1958." This copy is 7 pages, 20.5 cm by 33 cm, stapled (rusty, with first page unstapled), bound to folder and other documents with green yarn, typewritten, single sided, good condition.

8. **Entry:** Comments on Proposed Legislation Affecting the University College of Fort Hare, 23/1/1959
Location: administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small room)
Condition: 16 pages of report, worn green paper, 20.5x33cm, typed, single sided, corners bent, rusted staples, in brown folder with green edges, attached to folder with green yarn; 9 pages, 20.5x33cm, stapled to the other document, attached to folder with yarn, pages are typed, some single sided and others double sided, paper is yellowing and worn, corners bent, rusted staples attach it to the other document
Contents: There are two documents in the folder: one is a report detailing objections to the proposed legislation and the other is a copy of the University College of Fort Hare Transfer Bill, 1959.
N.B.: the titled listed is congruent with the finding aid. The title on the report is: "University College of Fort Hare, Comments on Proposed Legislation Affecting the University College of Fort Hare, S/14-23/1/59."
Also Note: A copy of the University College of Fort Hare Transfer Bill exists in the large records room in the administration building on a shelf labeled "Fort Hare History" and in a

folder marked "University of Fort Hare Transfer Bill 1958." This copy is 15 pages, 20.5 cm by 33 cm, stapled (rusty), bound to folder and other documents with green yarn, typewritten, double sided, good condition

9. **Entry:** [two documents] University College of Fort Hare; Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Governing Council of the University Council of Fort Hare Held on Friday 6 February 1959 at 10 a.m.; S/49-17/2/59
[Petition: Appendix] To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly of the Union of South Africa in Parliament Assembled from Council of the University College of Fort Hare
Location: Book of Council Minutes C 14-11-52 to 26-11-59 located in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small vault)
Condition: 8 pages, 20.5 cm by 33cm, typed, note in red ink, signature in pencil, single-sided, affixed with paste to pages of large hard-bound book with dark blue cover and purple binding, 38x25x8cm, pages are moderately warped from paste
Content: These two documents include: the council minutes in which a proposal to send a petition regarding the University College of Fort Hare Transfer Bill is approved and a copy of the petition sent to heard at the Bar of the House of Parliament.
10. **Entry:** University College of Fort Hare; Minutes of the Meeting of the Governing Council of the University College of Fort Hare held on Thursday, 30th July 1959. S/321-17/8/59
Location: Book of Council Minutes C 14-11-52 to 26-11-59 located in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small vault)
Condition: 7 pages, 20.5 cm by 33cm, typed, single-sided, affixed with paste to pages of large hard-bound book with dark blue cover and purple binding, 38x25x8cm, pages are very warped from paste
Content: In this meeting the council resolved to acknowledge the approval of the Fort Hare Transfer Bill with great regret.
11. **Entry:** Letter from Acting Secretary for Education, Arts and Science to Chairman of the Council, University College of Fort Hare, 9 September 1959. S/512
Location: Book of Council Minutes 1959, located in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small vault)
Condition: 1 page, 20.5x33cm, typed, single sided, affixed with paste to page of large hard-bound book with green cover and red binding, 26x38x5cm, slightly warped from paste but otherwise in fair condition
Content: This letter from the Department of Education, Arts and Science advises Fort Hare that transfer to the Department of Bantu Education will take place as of 1st January 1960. The letter also announces the members of the new council effective of that date.
12. **Entry:** [Letter] From H.J. du Preez, Secretary for Bantu Education to the Principal of the University College of Fort Hare Regarding the Admission of New Students to Fort Hare in 1960. 25/9/1959, S/404 [25 September 1959]
Location: Book of Council Minutes C 14-11-52 to 26-11-59 located in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small vault)
Condition: 1 page, 20.5 cm by 33cm, typed, single-sided, affixed with paste to page of large hard-bound book with dark blue cover and purple binding, 38x25x8cm, page is very warped from paste
Content: This letter discusses changes in the policy for admitting students to the University of Fort Hare under the Department for Bantu Education starting in 1960.

13. **Entry:** University College of Fort Hare; Final Ceremony of 1959; 28th October, 1959
Location: Box X, University Publications, Library
Condition: stapled booklet, 36 pages plus blue cover, 13 cm by 17.5cm, printed, includes half-tone photos on clay-coated paper, good condition
Content: This publication, reproducing the programme and addresses of the final assembly of the University College of Fort Hare before transfer to the Department of Bantu Education, includes addresses by Alexander Kerr, Z.K. Matthews and others, as well as photographs of the event and a bibliography of published memoranda on the Fort Hare Transfer.
14. **Entry:** [two documents] Universitettskollege von Fort Hare. Notule van raadsvergadering, 17th November 1959, 10 v.m.
 Universitettskollege von Fort Hare. Notule van raadsvergadering gehou te Pretoria op 10 Desember 1959 om 10 vm. in scheidunggebou.
 [these two meetings of the incoming council of the University of Fort Hare were held in Pretoria to discuss changes to be made after their installation under the authority of the Bantu Education Act.]
Location: Council, Vol. 1, 1960-1969, in Small vault in Administration Building, as of June 6, 2007
Condition: [1st document] 8 pages, 20.5 cm by 33 cm, pasted to page that is 24.5 cm by 37.5 cm, single sided, typed in black ink, numbers in blue ink on top right corners, marginalia in pencil, signed in blue ink, in book that is blue with brown binding, 26.5 cm by 39 cm by 13 cm, pages in book 1-9, fair condition, minimal warping, minor yellowing
 [2nd document] 9 pages, 20.5 cm by 33 cm, pasted to page that is 24.5 cm by 37.5 cm, single sided, typed in black ink, numbers in blue ink on top right corners, marginalia in blue ink, signed in blue ink, in book that is blue with brown binding, 26.5 cm by 39 cm by 13 cm, pages in book 10-18, good condition, minimal warping, minor yellowing
Content: These minutes of the incoming council of the University of Fort Hare (by the authority of the Bantu Education Act) detail plans for new policies and personnel at Fort Hare, which will be implemented on January 1st, 1960. Note that these meetings were held in Pretoria in parallel with the meetings of the outgoing council of the University of Fort Hare on the campus in Alice where they expressed regret and admonished the impending takeover under the Bantu Education Act.
15. **Entry:** University College of Fort Hare; Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Executive Committee and the Finance Committee of the Governing Council of the University College of Fort Hare held on 20th November 1959
Location: Book of Council Minutes C 14-11-52 to 26-11-59 located in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small vault)
Condition: 2 pages, 20.5 cm by 33cm, typed, signed in pencil, single-sided, affixed with paste to pages of large hard-bound book with dark blue cover and purple binding, 38x25x8cm, pages are very warped from paste
Content: These minutes of council document discussion of staff who resigned on principle or were dismissed in the lead up to the transfer of Fort Hare to the Department of Bantu Education.
16. **Entry:** University College of Fort Hare; Minutes of a Special Meeting held in the Council chamber on Tuesday 15th December 1959 at 11 am
Location: Book of Senate Minutes, S Nov 57 to 1959, located in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small vault)
Condition: 1 page, 20.5x25cm, typed with signature in blue ink and marginalia in pencil,

single sided, affixed with paste to page, 24x36 cm of large hard bound book with green cover and red binding, 26x38x5cm, yellowing, significant warping by paste

Content: 1 page senate minute about final preparations before the hand over of the university to the Department of Bantu Education. Topics addressed include the unveiling ceremony for the memorial plaque and the official reaction to staff dismissals.

N.B.: Item in need of preservation

17. **Entry:** University College of Fort Hare; Report of the Governing Council for the Year Ending 31st December 1959
Location: Box X, University Publications, Library
Condition: stapled booklet, 36 pages plus blue cover, plus fold-out graph on inside back cover, 13 cm by 17.5 cm, printed, yellowed paper, highly-acidic paper for fold-out graph causing acid migration
Content: This report from the council includes a report about the transfer of Fort Hare to the Department of Bantu Education and quotations from legislators during house assembly debates on the Fort Hare Transfer Act.
N.B.: Much of this booklet reproduces minutes of the council meeting of 20 November 1959, which is housed in the administration building in a green book, alongside other council minutes.
18. **Entry:** Universitettskollege von Fort Hare. Notule von raadsvergadering gehou te Fort Hare op 15 Junie, 1960 om 10.v.m. in die raadsaal. S.159-16/6/60. [Minutes of first meeting of the new council at the University of Fort Hare under the new administration under the Bantu Education Act on 15 June, 1960]
Location: Council, Vol. 1, 1960-1969, in Small vault in Administration Building, as of June 6, 2007
Condition: 8 pages, 20.5 cm by 33 cm, pasted to page that is 24.5 cm by 37.5 cm, single sided, typed in black ink, numbers in blue ink on top right corners, marginalia in blue ink and in pencil, date stamped in purple ink, signed in blue ink, in book that is blue with brown binding, 26.5 cm by 39 cm by 13 cm, pages in book 19-26, fair condition, minimal warping, minor yellowing, hole punched in top left corner.
Content: First meeting under the new administration instated as a result of the Bantu Education Act. Plans include: the exclusion of non-white members from the university senate and the establishment of an advisory senate of non-white members. This is the first meeting held at Fort Hare in Afrikaans.
19. **Entry:** Transfer of the Fort Hare University College; Issues by the Information Service of the Department of Bantu Administration and Development, Pretoria, 1960
Location: Box X, University Publications, Library
Condition: stapled booklet, 24 pages and cover, 13 cm by 21 cm, printed, pale yellow cover and white pages, good condition
Content: This is a speech delivered in the South African senate on 26 June 1959 by the Minister of Bantu Education, Mr. W.A. Maree, a minister of parliament. In this speech, Maree explains and justifies the Fort Hare Transfer Act.
20. **Entry:** University College of Fort Hare 1960; Handbook of Information for Applicants for Admission
Location: Box X, University Publications, Library
Condition: stapled booklet, 32 pages, 11 cm by 18 cm, printed, yellowed paper, but not yet brittle
Content: Although this booklet makes no mention of admission standards based on race, its frontnote does say that control of the UCFH will be given over to the department of Bantu

education and as such, information in the handbook may be subject to change.

N.B.: The archive also has the student handbook for 1959.

21. **Entry:** Photograph of UFH Officials: 1959—1961
Location: Box X, UFH Photographs; UFH Officials: 1959-1961, Library
Condition: photograph, 16 cm by 21 cm, silver gelatin print (? – darkroom-printed), identification of subjects on reverse
Content: This photograph includes many staff members who did not return to Fort Hare in 1960. In back row: Bursar F.P.G. Hunter, Prof. J.J. Bruwer, Prof. M. Webb, Dr. W.C.J. Cooper, Prof. J.V.L. Rennie, Mr. W.M. Totsi, Rev. Canon N. Blamires, Prof. Z.K. Matthews. Front row: Mr. S.H. Wright, Asst. Registrar, Mr. J.P. Benyon, Chief Native Commissioner J.A.C. van Heerden, Dr. A. Kerr, Vice-Chairman, Dr. T. Alty, Chairman, Principal Burrows, Mr. R. Ginsberg, Cr. L. Maninjwa, Prof. M.H. Giffen, Sir Fulque Agnew, Registrar
22. **Entry:** University of Fort Hare Act to Grant Recognition as a University to the University College of Fort Hare and to Provide for the Administration and Control of the Affairs of Such University, for the Regulation of its Activities and for Matters Incidental thereto, 1969
Location: In box “Correspondence 1905” on Fort Hare history shelf in large vault
Condition: 13 pages, A2 on glossy paper, reproduction of print, single sided, stapled in top left corner, fair condition
Content: This act proclaims the University of Fort Hare an independent university and detaches it from the aegis of UNISA.
23. **Entry:** [two documents] University of Fort Hare Act No. 40 of 1969
University of Fort Hare Amendment Decree, 1990, to Amend the University of Fort Hare Act, 1969
Location: Folder, tab 1 and 3, Rector’s files, Council 8 June 1990, Council Exco 8 June 1990, in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small room)
Condition: [first document] 6 pages, A2, typed, photocopied with pink highlighting and marginalia in black pen, double sided, bound by two punches in folder with plastic tab affixed (tab 1), good condition, [second document] 1 page, A2, typed, photocopied with pink highlighting and marginalia in black pen, double sided, , bound by two punches in folder with plastic tab affixed (tab 3), good condition
Content: This act and its amendment establish the governance structure of the University of Fort Hare and illustrate changes in council composition after 1990.
24. **Entry:** [Letter] From G.G.A. Munnik (Chairman of Council) to G.G. Antorbos (Academic Registrar), 3rd May 1990
Location: Folder, tab 9, Rector’s files, Council 8 June 1990, Council Exco 8 June 1990, in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small room)
Condition: 1 page, A2, typed, photocopied, single sided, bound by two punches in folder with plastic tab affixed, good condition
Content: This letter announces Munnik’s resignation in anticipation of the end of Bantu Education.
N.B.: This letter may or may not be confidential and outside the realm of digitization.

Context

25. **Entry:** University College of Fort Hare; Minutes of the 201st Meeting of the senate of the University College of Forth Hare held on Monday, 9th June 1958 S/2/7/58/273
Location: Book of Senate Minutes, S Nov 57 to 1959, located in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small vault)
Condition: 5 page, 20.5x33cm, typed with signature in black ink, single sided, affixed with

paste to page of large hard bound book with green cover and red binding, 26x38x5cm, moderate warping by paste

Content: The minutes of this meeting include an agreement to appoint a committee to examine the Fort Hare Transfer Bill as well as an agreement to appoint a committee to assist council in drawing up statutes to be submitted as an alternative to those in the Higher Education Act

Early History of the University (Founding – 1959)

- Entry:** Statement by the Reverend James Stewart, M.D., D.D. November 1905
Location: Folder, University Land on Shelf labeled Fort Hare History in the big room in Administration Building as of 4 June, 2007
Condition: 4 pages, 21.5 cm by 28 cm, single sided, typed in indigo ink, holes punched in left margin, stapled and attached to other documents with yarn, folded at bottom right corner, fair condition
Content: This document outlines Stewart’s vision for the founding of a college for the education of black Africans. He includes his rationale for this institution as well as plans for the financing and control of it.
- Entry:** Scheme for the Establishment of the Native College to the High Commissioner of South Africa [August 1906]
Location: Folder, University Land on Shelf labeled Fort Hare History in the big room in Administration Building as of 4 June, 2007
Condition: 5 pages, 21 cm by 33 cm, single sided, typed in indigo ink, signature and marginalia in black ink and pencil, attached to other documents with yarn, holes in left margin, some previous acid migration on first page, 3 horizontal creases, fair condition
Content: This scheme by K.A Hobart Houghton is for the establishment of what will be Fort Hare includes plans for financing the institution, associations with churches for the building of hostels, the purchase of land for the university, a list of courses to be offered at the college, the formation of a commission to determine the governance of the college, and other pertinent details to the founding of Fort Hare.
- Entry:** Minutes of Conference, October 2, 3, 4, 1907; Inter-State Native College Scheme
Location: document 116, in folder “Correspondence Re: Establishment 1908,” on shelf labeled “Fort Hare History” in the large records room in the administration building as of 4 June, 2007
Condition: 3 pages, 21 cm by 35 cm, single sided, typed, red markings, holes in left margins, creases at the bottom of the page, hole in top right corner, significant yellowing, poor condition
Content: The minutes of this meeting detail decisions regarding the formation of the Inter-State Native College, which would become the University of Fort Hare.
- Entry:** Inter-State Native College. Minutes of the Executive Board, Feb. 6th, 1908
Location: Number 199, Correspondence Re: Establishment 1908 on shelf labeled Fort Hare History in the big room in Administration Building as of 4 June, 2007
Condition: 8 pages, 13 cm 20.5 cm, booklet, printed, hole in left margin, affixed with staples (rusty), some mold, yellowing
Content: This pamphlet relates the minutes of the executive board of the Inter-State Native College. Topics addressed include finances, staffing, lands, and relationships with churches, among other topics.
- Entry:** Conference Held on September 25, 26, 1908 Between the Representatives of Churches Wishing to Build Hostels, and a Committee Appointed by the Executive Board
Location: Folder, University Land on shelf labeled Fort Hare History in the big room in Administration Building as of 4 June, 2007
Condition: 2 pages, 20 cm by 25 cm, single sided, typewritten in indigo ink, thin papers, bound to other documents with yarn in top left corner, holes in left margin, fair condition
Content: In this meeting church leader and Inter-state Native College officials discussed of

the building of hostels as well as the positions of wardens and how religious services were to be conducted.

6. **Entry:** The South African Native College Constitution (circa 1916)
Location: Number 142, Folder, Correspondence Re: Establishment 1908 on shelf labeled Fort Hare History in the big room in Administration Building as of 4 June, 2007
Condition: booklet, 12.5 cm by 18.5 cm, 12 pages, double sided, printed in black ink, bound by staples, holes in left margin, good condition.
Content: This constitution includes information about: the name and object of the college, the Christian character of the college, the constitution of the governing council, the rules surrounding the governing council, the rules surrounding the senate, the presence of a non-denominational hostel, and a list of rules regulating hostels.
7. **Entry:** Letter from E. Barnett of the Department of Native Affairs, Union of South Africa to Alexander Kerr, Principal at Fort Hare, 22 August 1917
Location: Box 20, Correspondence: Political Matters/Kerr, Library
Condition: 2 pages, 29 cm by 20 cm, single sided, typewritten, signature in gray-black ink, top right corner folded, holes in left margin, some yellowing
Content: This letter includes a discussion of what should and should not be taught to Fort Hare students based on what the writer believes they would be capable of understanding and what would be most useful to them.
8. **Entry:** Letter from Fort Hare principal Alexander Kerr to the postmaster of Alice, 24 December 1917
Location: Box 20, Correspondence: Political Matters/Kerr, Library
Condition: 2 pages, 20.5 cm by 33 cm, single sided, typewritten with purple ink, signature in pencil, holes in left margin, hole in top left corner from fastener, some yellowing
Content: This letter, evidence of early race struggles in the university community, includes a request on behalf of black staff to the postmaster in Alice for an exception to the rule that a particular entrance to the post office must be for natives only. Kerr argues that university staff should be except because they are “cultivated” and that this exception would contribute to the good feeling that must exist between whites and blacks on Fort Hare’s staff for the institution to be successful. Although this was not a major event on Fort Hare’s campus, it does provide evidence of Kerr’s philosophies regarding race relations.
9. **Entry:** Meeting of the Senate of the South African Native College with attachment, 4th October 1922
Location: Senate Minutes 1921-1940, in Small vault in Administration Building as of June 6, 2007
Condition: 2 pages, 20.5 cm by 32 cm, double sided, hand written in pencil, signature in black ink, embellishment in red ink, blue book with tan suede corners and binding, 21.5 cm by 33 cm by 4 cm, pages 28-29, attachment is the same dimensions, 20.5 cm by 32 cm, 4 pages single sided, typed in indigo ink, edges of the pages are badly mangled, some yellowing of the paper, some of the type is fading
Content: These documents include the minutes of a meeting in which the Senate discussed the draft bill for the South African Native College which would grant Fort Hare the ability to give higher education degrees. Also included is a memorandum from the sub-committee, which evaluated the draft bill. This lengthy and detailed document discusses points to address with the government regarding the draft bill.
10. **Entry:** Letter from Senator Edgar H. Brookes to Alexander Kerr, principal at Fort Hare, 25 October 1938

Location: Box 20, Correspondence: Political Matters/Kerr, Library

Condition: 1 page, 20 cm by 25 cm, single sided, typewritten, signature in black ink, holes in left margin, 2 shallow vertical creases, 1 shallow horizontal crease

Content: Senator Edgar H. Brookes, a member of Fort Hare's governing council, writes to note dissatisfaction with the university senate's decision to exclude non-European members to its body. He notes that this is the first official colour bar in either the former University of the Cape of Good Hope or the then-current University of South Africa, and announces his intention to resign from the council.

11. **Entry:** Special Meeting [of Senate] Thursday, 17th September 1942; Behavior of Beda Hall Students

Location: Senate Minutes, 1941-1949, pp. 67-69, in small vault in administration building as of 5 June 2007

Condition: 3 pages, 20 cm by 32 cm, double-sided, handwritten in blue ink with embellishments in red, signatures in black ink (or pencil), in maroon-colored hard-bound book, 21cm by 33 cm by 4 cm, good condition, pages numbered in top outside corner

Content: These minutes include an introduction to the Senate of students' protest to the prohibition of tennis on Sundays at Beda Hall. It also introduces a declaration drafted by the warden of Beda Hall which residents were compelled to sign that prohibits activities conducted or the refusal of duties under the protest. Reactions of the SRC and senate members (including Z.K. Matthews) are included in these minutes.

12. **Entry:** Special Meeting [of Senate] Monday, 21st September 1942; includes as an attachment a letter from W.T. Murdock, acting principal of Fort Hare to the secretary of the Students' Representative Council 21 September 1942

Location: Senate Minutes, 1941-1949, pp. 70-72 [double-paged insert attached to page 72], in small vault in administration building as of 5 June 2007

Condition: 4 pages, 20 cm by 32 cm, double-sided, senate minutes handwritten in blue ink with embellishments in red, signatures in black ink (or pencil), letter typewritten on printed letterhead with marginalia in blue ink, in maroon-colored hard-bound book, 21cm by 33 cm by 4 cm, good condition, pages numbered in top outside corner

Content: The minutes of a special meeting of the senate, as well as an attached letter from the acting principal Fort Hare to the secretary of the SRC notes the receipt of the SRC's letter and informs students that the rules dictated by the university must be followed and the warden must be heeded.

13. **Entry:** A Special Meeting of the Senate of the South African Native College in Stewart Hall, November 10th 1942 at 7:30 pm

Location: Senate Minutes, 1941-1949, pp. 83-84, in small vault in administration building as of 5 June 2007

Condition: 4 pages, 20 cm by 32 cm, double-sided, senate minutes handwritten in blue ink with embellishments in red, signatures in black ink (or pencil), in maroon-colored hard-bound book, 21cm by 33 cm by 4 cm, good condition, pages numbered in top outside corner

Content: The minutes of this meeting includes a list of the students refused re-admission to the university.

14. **Entry:** Letter from Fort Hare principal Clifford Dent to Gordon [office and surname unknown], 6 August 1949

Location: Box 20, Correspondence: Political Matters/Kerr, Library

Condition: 1 page, 20 cm by 27 cm, double sided, typewritten on printed letterhead, signature and corrections in black ink, holes in left margin, some yellowing

Content: This letter discusses in great detail the dual threats to and from the student body: communism and black consciousness. It provides evidence of how seriously administrators considered these threats and of student activities in radical groups in this era.

15. **Entry:** [document and attachment] Minutes of the 134th meeting of the Senate of the South African Native College held in the Council Room, Stewart Hall on Monday, November 7 [1949] at 7.30 pm
Appendix D: Report of Committee set up under Minute 2550 of Senate of October 31 1949, held on November 2nd
Location: Senate Minutes, 1949-1951, pp. 117-122; 134 [in pen 55-56; 60], in small vault in administration building as of 5 June 2007
Condition: Minutes: 2 pages, 18 cm by 29.5 cm, typewritten, with marginalia and edits in black ink, pasted in blue book with tan binding and corners, 22 cm by 33 cm by 4 cm, mild warping, fair condition
Appendix: 2 pages, 18 cm by 29.5 cm, typewritten, with marginalia and edits in black ink, pasted in blue book with tan binding and corners, 22 cm by 33 cm by 4 cm, mild warping, fair condition
Content: This document includes an item about the amending the rules of the university to not allow student groups “the purpose of which is to translate discussion into action subversive to the interests of Fort Hare.” This meant the non-admission of the ANC Youth League onto campus; an official decision prohibited its presence at Fort Hare. An appendix describes the committee report regarding proposed changes to university policy concerning the recognition of student societies and go into much greater detail.
16. **Entry:** [two documents] Basic Policy of Congress Youth League [ca. 1949]
African National Congress Youth League Constitution [ca. 1949]
Location: SRC and Other Committees 1945-1950 vol. 1, on “Fort Hare History” shelf in large records storeroom
Condition: 2 pages, 20.5 cm by 33 cm, double sided, typewritten, fair condition, slightly wrinkled, bottom-right corner folded, fair quality paper, bound by yarn to other documents in top left corner, top right corner mangled
4 pages, 20.5 cm by 33 cm, double sided, typewritten in black ink, once stapled then ripped apart, three horizontal creases, bound by yarn to other documents in top left corner, top right corner mangled
Content: These documents explain the purpose and goals of the ANC Youth League and how the organization is run. They are indicative of what this organization was doing during its early years. In light of the subsequent banning of the ANC Youth League, these documents shed light on what about the organization might have been threatening to the university.
17. **Entry:** Regulations for Students [ca. 1949]
Location: SRC and Other Committees 1945-1950 vol. 1, on “Fort Hare History” shelf in large records storeroom
Condition: 1 page and ½ page, first page 20.5 cm by 33 cm, ½ page 20.5 cm by 16 cm, single sided, typewritten, stray mark in blue ink, horizontal and diagonal creases, bent corners, 1 cm hole at bottom of first page, poor quality paper, bound by yarn to other documents in top left corner
Content: Although the authorship of this document is unclear, it is obvious that it came from a university authority. Its contents are best described as follows, “the following regulations are an indication of the main requirements upon students, and must not be taken

as an exhaustive list of students' obligations and duties. What is more important than the observation of rules is the conduct of our lives in a spirit of true community.”

18. **Entry:** Minutes of the Meeting of the Governing Council held in Stewart Hall, Fort Hare, on Friday, March 9 1951
Location: Council Minutes, 1934-1952, pp. 469-486, in small vault in administration building as of 5 June 2007
Condition: 6 pages, 18 cm by 30 cm pasted onto pages that are 20 cm by 32 cm in book that is 21.5 cm by 33 cm by 6 cm, double sided, typed in black ink, correction in purple ink, signed in black ink, pages significantly warped from pasting, page numbers in top outside corner, many numbered pages removed
Content: An item in these minutes of council discusses an alteration of the scheme of governance in terms of how the council is constituted, as well as government and executive control of the college. This document discusses plans to repeal the previous scheme of governance and the change of the name of the college to “Fort Hare College.” Also included is a statement of the Christian character of the college.
19. **Entry:** Scheme of Government of the Fort Hare Native College [November 1951]
Location: Council Minutes, 1934-1952, pp. 509-517, in small vault in administration building as of 5 June 2007
Condition: 5 pages, 18 cm by 30 cm pasted onto pages that are 20 cm by 32 cm in book that is 21.5 cm by 33 cm by 6 cm, double sided, typed in black ink, significantly warped from pasting, page numbers in top inside corner, lower page corners slightly, many pages removed
Content: This document is the new, official scheme of government, thus replacing the prior constitution. Topics include: 1. the name of the college, which has been changed to the University College of Fort Hare (formerly known as the South African Native College); 2. Christian character of the college; 3. government and executive control of the college; 4. constitution of the council; 5. functions, powers and duties of the council; 6. the principal of the college; 7. the senate; 8. refusal of admittance; 9. power of the council to expel; 10. vacancies not to affect powers of the council or the senate; 11. amendment or rescission of the scheme of government; 12. actions at law; 13. interpretation of terms.

Context

20. **Entry:** Report on the Property at Fort Hare Purchased from Mrs. E. Quinn on Behalf of the South African Inter-Capital State College, from the Lovedale Missionary Institution 17th December 1908
Location: Folder, University Land on Shelf labeled Fort Hare History in the big room in Administration Building as of 4 June, 2007
Condition: 7 pages, 20 cm by 33 cm, double sided, hand written in black ink, good condition
Content: This report on the property that would become the site of the Fort Hare campus includes: an assessment of present buildings and a description of the land on which the campus sits.
21. **Entry:** Minutes of the Meeting of the Governing Council held in Stewart Hall Fort Hare Friday November 2nd 1951 at 9.30 am
Location: Council Minutes, 1934-1952, pp. 500-508, in small vault in administration building as of 5 June 2007
Condition: 5 pages, 18 cm by 30 cm pasted onto pages that are 20 cm by 32 cm in book that is 21.5 cm by 33 cm by 6 cm, double sided, typed in black ink, signature in black ink, significantly warped from pasting, page numbers in top inside corner, many pages removed
Content: This document includes discussion of how to define Fort Hare's affiliation with

Rhodes University in the new constitution. Further discussion of other clauses for the new constitution yielded a resolution that rescinds the previous constitution of the college and institutes the new scheme of governance.

22. **Entry:** Letter from the Students' Representative Council to the secretary of the senate 31 March 1955

Location: SRC and other Committees 1954-1959 vol. 3 in large records room in administrative building, under "Fort Hare History" as of 1 June 2007

Condition: 1 page, 20 cm by 33 cm, single sided, bottom folded and mangled, some yellowing and brittleness

Content: This letter of official SRC requests to the senate includes complaints about the food in the dining hall, a request that straw for mattresses be protected from rain, a request to hold a nation-wide conference of students regarding the upcoming Bantu Education Act, and other curricular and student life requests.

These are items we came across in our search for materials for other themes. Also, note that some documents in early history fit very well under other themes.

Student Unrest

1. **Entry:** Report of the Fort Hare Commission July 1955; Duminy Commission
Location: Box X, University Publications
Condition: stapled booklet, 50 pages single-sided, 13 cm by 17 cm, photocopy of printed booklet
Content: Report of recommendations issued by the Duminy Commission. This commission was formed to assess the environment of student unrest on Fort Hare's campus and make recommendations to university staff.

Anniversaries

1. **Entry:** Golden Jubilee
Location: Box X, University Publications, Library

Fort Hare after Apartheid

1. **Entry:** University of Fort Hare; Minutes of a Special Senate Meeting Held in the Senate Chamber at 14h00 on 15 March 1991, S/89/90
Location: Book of Senate Minutes 5-8-91 to 31-8-92 located in administration building as of May 31, 2007 (small vault)
Condition: 2 pages, A2, typed, single-sided blue paper, affixed with paste to pages of large hard-bound book with green cloth cover, corner folded
Content: The minutes of the meeting include an announcement of Bengu as the University's new vice-chancellor.

Fort Hare and the Struggle

1. **Entry:** Invitation to the chairman of the university council at FHUC to attend a national convention to draft a new constitution incorporating a bill of rights, 1961
Location: Box 20, Corresp South African National Convention 1961, Library

APPENDIX 2: Chronological Roadmap to Digitising the History of the University of Fort Hare

Themes / Outline

1. Early History: (1905 – 1959)
2. Student Unrest (1941 – 1999)
3. Bantu Education (1955 – 1960, 1990)
4. Notable Fort Harians (alumni & staff)
5. Fort Hare after Apartheid: Transformation and Beyond (1990 – present)
6. Anniversaries (Jubilee 1966, 1991, 1996, 2006; earlier ones?)

Potential Future themes

7. Fort Hare and the Struggle ((Defiance Campaign, Freedom Charter, Treason Trial, Sharpeville, Soweto Uprising, States of Emergency....NUSAS, SASO, ANC Youth League)
8. Sport
9. Music

Early History

1878

At a missionary conference in London, James Stewart makes a public appeal for an institution of higher learning for Africans. After running Lovedale College in Alice for a number of years, Stewart began the project of building a university in earnest.

1905

The Colonial Native Affairs Commission officially recommends the establishment of a college for blacks in South Africa.

1916

The South African Native College opens with Alexander Kerr as its first principal. The university received great support from the South African government, to the degree that General Smuts was present at the official opening ceremony.

1916-1923

As the South African Native College, Fort Hare is engaged in secondary-school work, preparing students for the matriculation exam. Fort Hare is incorporated as a declared institution for higher education under the Higher Education Act of 1923.

1924

On January 25, Z.K. Matthews becomes the first African to qualify for the degree of Bachelor of Arts of the University of South Africa (UNISA).

1934

Students, increasingly interested in history and political philosophy, push to radicalize the Fort Hare curriculum.

Student Unrest

1933

Edward Roux comes and offers political education from the hills near Alice, Influencing students, including Govan Mbeki.

Possible Sources: Minutes and letters, if this is important enough...perhaps in the other section of early days of FH

1942

Known as the “Beda Hall Tennis Court Dispute,” students protest against a university rule prohibiting sporting activities on Sundays. The future Prime Minister of Lesotho, Tsu Mokhehle, is suspended and nearly expelled because of his participation in this protest. Students boycott class from 18-20 of September of this year as part of the protest. Oliver Tambo is expelled because of his participation in these events.

Possible Sources: Council and Senate minutes, possibly finding documents about the pledge of good behavior and Tambo’s re-admission papers.

1948

ANC Youth League was established at Fort Hare (after a meeting AP Mda and Godfrey Pitje [lecturer at Fort Hare and class of ’41-’45]). Known as the Victoria East Branch of the Congress Youth League, it gained prominence despite the fact that the university banned it. Its meetings were held off-campus in neighboring villages to escape the ire of Fort Hare administrators.

Possible Sources: Senate and Council minutes about the formation of the organization and its banning.

1949

Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe elected to SRC. October 21st he gives a speech at the Completer’s Party urging Fort Hare to be for the Africans what “Stellenbosch is to the Afrikaaners.”

Possible Sources: Sobukwe’s student file has very little information, but is worth a look. Possible copies of *Beware*, a publication by Robert Sobukwe, Dennis Siwisa (?47-) and Pelem Galazi Stamper (?47-’49) that was posted on campus notice boards. If possible, collect copies of his speech given at the Completer’s Party or reproductions in the Fort Harian.

1950

Joe Mathews and Mangosuthu Buthelezi participate in a boycott of the visit of Governor General Van Zyl and his wife to campus, charging that the governor general is the “living embodiment of British Imperialism.”

Possible Source: Minutes of Senate for September 11 and 12, and 13, 1950; signed student statements acknowledging disobedience and pledges to behave; van Zyl’s letter saying that he would just like to sweep the incident under the rug and forget about it.

Mangosuthu Buthelezi is expelled from Fort Hare because he poured water on WM Chirwa’s bed because Chirwa advocated the boycott of Van Zyl’s visit to campus but then went to the meeting.

Possible Sources: Buthelezi wrote a letter, which might be in the archives, refusing to apologize for his actions—letter to Dent on October 18, 1950; info about this incident is in “Student deposition, Vol. 1 SRC, Fort Hare Papers.

1952

Fort Hare students wished to leave the National Union of South African Students (NUSAS) because they saw it as patronizing and unreliable. In 1957, students voted to re-join NUSAS so to have a united front from which to fight the Bantu education act//University Apartheid. The administration forbade their rejoining at that time.

Possible Sources: Mass Meeting Resolution, 31 May 1952, Vol. 2 SRC, Fort Hare Papers.

1952

Encouraged to concentrate on their studies instead of taking a larger role in the nationwide ANC defiance campaign, Fort Hare students organized a protest in Alice instead. They encouraged protesters to ignore curfew laws and segregated benches in Alice. The day after a large number of protesters were arrested, ANC student leaders, singing freedom songs, directed a delegation to the Magistrate's court. Police called in from King William's Town, Fort Beaufort and elsewhere brutally attacked the group.

Possible Sources: SRC resolutions, 17 August 1952, Vol. 2 SRC, Fort Hare Papers.

1955

The entire SRC resigns, charging the university senate with ignoring them.

Possible Sources: SRC records and minutes of senate, etc, especially about "SRC decided to resign and the students resolved to boycott hostel prayers, meals, inter-institutional sports and graduation, crowd the women's hostel with visitors and mix men and women in seating at morning assemblies."

Fort Hare is temporarily closed down after the students boycott graduation ceremonies. The university re-opened on June 14th.

Possible Sources: Senate and/or committee minutes surrounding the decision to do this; letter sent to parents about why the university was closed; documents about the conditions of readmission and who was readmitted; Disciplinary files, process of deciding to close the university in minutes and committees; Announcement of the school's closure

The minister of education appoints the Duminy Commission to look into the governance of the university...and how to prevent future uprisings.

Possible Sources: documents about the appointment of the commission and their conclusions reported (Senate, Council)

1958

SRC president Ambrose Makiwane leads 300 (check) students, staff, and community members in a march in the streets of Alice to protest of the proposed extension of the University Education Bill, which was subsequently carried.

Possible Sources: SRC records, possibly in minutes

1959

The multi-racial student body and diversity on campus were destroyed by the Bantu Education Act—the Indians and 'coloureds' were forced to leave. Even among black students, FH was meant to primarily be for Xhosa students. As opposition to these measures, students greeted Professor Ross, the first "apartheid rector," with a barrage of tomatoes.

Possible Sources: Report of Liason Committee, 5 January 1961, Fort Hare Papers, 2...which concluded that the student protest was "connected with the concrete government policy and with the present political situation."

An oath of obedience is forced upon students after a knife is thrown at a professor in a dining hall.

Possible Sources: Exco minutes

1961

Stanley Mabizela, who was president of the ANC Youth League at that time, is suspended on accusations of defaming Kaizer Matanzima. Following protest by the students and black staff, Mabizela was reinstated. Following Mabizela's expulsion, there was a protest that shut down the university at which time students went on strike and domestic workers refused to cook.

Possible Sources: Mabizela's file, disciplinary files, minutes about the shut down that followed Mabizela's expulsion, file about Mabizela's reinstatement: Report of the Liaison Committee Mabizela Dispute, 1 May 1961, Fort Hare Papers.

Chris Hani is involved in the development of a non-collaboration plan against the creation of the South African Republic. The ANC "underground," very present on campus, calls for a three day stay-away to protest the creation of the republic. In response to the first day of the stay-away from classes, Ross closes the university and gives the students 48 hours to pack their clothes and leave.

Possible Sources: Minutes of Senate Meeting 3 June 1961, Fort Hare Papers; official statement of reaction if there is one, is there a file on Chris Hani?

1968

Professor deWet, a member of the Broederbond, is appointed principal after Professor Ross retires. Students boycott his installation ceremony, beginning a rocky relationship with the new rector that would culminate in the closure of the university later that year. Nyameko Barney Pityana and Kenneth Rachidi, as well as 23 others, are not allowed to come back.

Possible Sources: Student files for those who are expelled, statement about the boycott from the university (maybe the SRC as well?), announcement of the installation event, how and why the university was closed

1970

Fort Hare is classed as a black university, ending its relationship with UNISA. Students now obtained Fort Hare degrees, but upset over that they perceived as the "ghettoization" of black education, the students vehemently protest this change. Once autonomy protest this change. Once autonomy was granted, students continued wearing UNISA robes to graduation in protest of Fort Hare's new status as a "bush college."

1971

Supporting the principle of the 1959 SRC boycott, but believing the students needed an effective organizational body, a delegation of 23 students led by among others, Jeffery Baqwa, begins to campaign for the reintroduction of the SRC. In early 1972, the proposition is supported whole-heartedly by a mass meeting of students. However, principal de Wet refuses to accept the motions, charging that the meeting did not adhere to official regulations.

Possible Sources: Council and senate minutes; the Fort Harian, re-introduction of SRC records

1972

As students prepare to strike in protest of the university's refusal to recognize an SRC, O.R. Tiro is expelled from the University of the North (Turffloep) for giving a speech deemed inappropriate by that university. A sympathy strike breaks out at Fort Hare as campus unrest coincides with a "national revolutionary upsurge."

Possible Sources: Meeting minutes, newspapers

1973

In a continuance of the unrest of 1972, a student strike is sparked after the suspension of a student for breaking the "Hogsback Rule," which limited contact between men and women. The strike escalates and the police are called onto campus.

Possible Sources: Dean of students papers, meeting minutes

1976

Following the Soweto Uprising, Fort Hare closes for an extended period, reopening in October.

Possible Sources: Meeting minutes, newspapers

1980

On 21 March, students stay away from classes to protest the impending independence of the Ciskei. By May, the university closes.

Possible Sources: Meeting minutes, newspapers, announcements of closure

1982

Confrontation between students and Ciskei Security Police ensues following student protest of intended presence of Lennox Sebe, Chief Minister of the Ciskei Homeland, at graduation. Unrest continues until the university is closed.

Possible Sources: Announcement of Sebe's visit, statements from the administration about the unrest and closure of the university

1985—1986

Parks Mankahlana is elected SRC President, and is expelled in 1986 after leading a student boycott of classes.

Possible Sources: Student file, SRC archive, disciplinary file, minutes about the boycott

1986

Fort Hare goes from being a "bush college" to a Bantustaan college, as control of it is transferred to the Ciskei government. Sebe, whose proposed presence at graduation was previously protested, attends graduation as the guest of honour.

Possible Sources: Government documents noting transfer of college, newspapers, SRC records regarding protest, minutes

1992

Following a bloodless coup, Brigadier Oupa Gqozo assumes control of the Ciskei government and sends his troops to Fort Hare to thwart student protest.

Possible Sources: SRC docs, minutes, newspapers

1997

Fort Hare is closed for two weeks due to protest over fees [didn't it close in 1998, as per the memo we found?] this should be double-checked.

Possible Sources: Administrative notices, meeting minutes, SRC docs, newspapers

1999

Independent Assessor Stuart Saunders issues a report charging Mbulelo Mzamane with misuse of university funds. Students, staff and workers vow not to return to work until the 3 Ms are removed from office. On March 25th, Mzamane, along with his deputy, Professor Maqashalala and the university registrar, Isaac Mabindisa, are asked by the council to take six month's paid leave. In the meantime, an interim management team is up.

Possible Sources: Administrative files, meeting minutes, SRC docs, newspapers

Bantu Education Act

In 1958, the South African apartheid government introduced the Promotion of Bantu Self-Government Act, which determined eight distinct homelands on ethnic grounds within South Africa across which travel would become increasingly limited according to race. Alongside this, the government introduced the Bantu Education Act in 1959 as a means to diffuse political opposition across subjugated groups. This act, in conjunction with the Fort Hare Transfer Act, provided for separate education of Xhosa-speaking Africans and barred the admission of other groups at the University of Fort Hare. It turned over control of Fort Hare from Rhodes University to the apartheid government, resulting in major changes to university autonomy and the university's curriculum. This period is marked by decay in both the quality of the Fort Hare education and, for a time, political momentum on campus. As black and liberal white faculty were dismissed or resigned, and nationalist instructors took their place, few voices against apartheid policies remained on campus. Further, although students boycotted SRC elections and otherwise attempted to protest their ever-diminishing educations, opportunities for free political discourses were few.

1957

In October of this year, the Council and Senate of the University of Fort Hare sent a statement to the government arguing that the proposed bill would place far too much power into the hands of a government-approved rector, and in doing so would undermine scholarship and an academic life free of political pressures.

The Fort Hare Lecturer's Association argued before the Separate Universities Commission against differential salary scales based on race.

Although the Students Representative Council voted to disaffiliate itself from the National Union of South African Students in 1952, it rejoined in 1957 for the sake of providing a united front of anti-apartheid sentiment in the face of the upcoming educational upheaval. Relations between students and staff were similarly strengthened.

1958

In anticipation of the transfer of Fort Hare to the government, the college sent a memorandum to the Minister of Education, Arts and Sciences and the Minister of Native Affairs requesting the reception of a delegation from Fort Hare to argue against segregated education. This request was, as per usual, summarily denied.

SRC President Ambrose Makiwane leads a march in protest of the proposed Extension of University Education Bill through the streets of Alice.

1959

The South African government passes the Fort Hare Transfer Act, Act No. 64, providing for the transfer of the University of Fort Hare from Rhodes University to the apartheid government.

On October 28, the Fort Hare community gathered to eulogize the university as a free institution. A plaque still on display near Freedom Square reads, "The University College of Fort Hare, in deep gratitude to all who between 1905 and 1959 founded, maintained and administered this college at Fort Hare and in remembrance of all who between 1916 and 1959 taught and studied here in association with the University of South Africa and Rhodes University."

Professor Donovan Williams surveyed university records and deposited a representative sample of documents at Rhodes University for safekeeping.

Although the eight white members of the university's staff who were dismissed in the turnover were entitled to pension benefits and a bonus for any inconvenience caused, then-principal and Fort Hare luminary Z.K. Matthews was forced, on principle, to resign without pension.

In anticipation of regulations that would restrict admission to UFH to Xhosa-speaking students in 1960, the university admitted more than one hundred coloured and Indian students, and built extra residence halls to accommodate this change.

1960

Fort Hare opens as a government institution with two senates: one policy-making body composed of whites and an advisory senate of black staff.

Under the new regime, the SRC's powers were decreased, voiding their rights to call mass meetings and reside over meals, among other privileges. Students thus protested graduation and orchestrated blackouts during meals. In response, the executive committee of the senate forced all students to sign a declaration pledging good conduct. Since the rector denied the SRC constitution from 1959, students demanded a new written constitution. When he declined this request, the students dissolved the SRC in protest.

1960s Aftermath

The academic context of what was once a great university changed throughout the 1960s and beyond in the aftermath of the Bantu Education Act and further pressures from the South African government. From 1960 to 1969, blacks on the lecturing staff fell from 35 percent to 19 percent. With the aim of returning students to quiescent lives in Xhosa homelands, the education became more parochial. For instance, Public Administration, a once-favorite course with students, was changed to Native Administration in concordance with the government's intended limits upon the futures of black students. White teachers taught South African history as a preamble to the necessity of discriminatory laws, without providing a meaningful understanding of non-white African history or the historical processes that led to the subjugation of black peoples. Government-approved instructors often spoke exclusively in Afrikaans (against students' preferences and often beyond their understanding) and projected a marked indifference to their students' learning.

1990

Bantu Education ends at Fort Hare. Sibusiso Bengu is appointed the first black principal of the university. Oliver Tambo, the new Chancellor, accepts his post and remarks that “Fort Hare had been since its birth a site of epic battles between forces of democracy and those opposed to it.”

Notable Fort Harians

1878

At a missionary conference in London, **James Stewart** makes a public appeal for an institution of higher learning for Africans. After running Lovedale College in Alice for a number of years, Stewart began the project of building a university in earnest. The University of Fort Hare opened on 8 February 1916.

Possible Sources: Correspondence 1905; University Land file

1910

Govan Mbeki was born on 8 July of this year, the youngest of eight children raised in the Nqamakwe district of the Transkei. He was strongly influenced in his early life by a once-Methodist minister who taught Mbeki about the history and purpose of the ANC and was also influenced by Edward Roux, who traveled to the lands near Alice to provide political education. While at Fort Hare, he became one of the first two students to study political science and joined the ANC in 1935. After a long career, Mbeki donated his library to the University of Fort Hare, thereby founding the Govan Mbeki Research Center.

Possible Sources: Student file? Otherwise combing the archive. Donor’s file.

1916

In February of this year, **Alexander Kerr** becomes the first principal of the South African Native College, and is one of its two first lecturers. He retired from the University of Fort Hare in 1948.

Possible Sources: Fort Hare history documents and correspondence.

1924

Z.K. Matthews became the first black South African to qualify for the degree of Bachelor of Arts of the University of South Africa. He was later, in 1936, appointed lecturer in Anthropology and Bantu Law and Administration. He was elected vice-chairman of the Senate at Fort Hare in 1950 and chosen as acting principal of the university in 1955. He went on trial for treason in 1958, and in 1959, in protest of the implementation of the Bantu Education Act, resigned his post and forfeited his pension.

Possible Sources: Senate and Council Minutes

1933

Edward Roux, a member of the Communist Party of South Africa, arrives in Alice to provide political education to Fort Hare students. He introduced the students to *Indlela Yenkululeko* (The Road to Freedom), a magazine about political strife in South Africa. Fort Hare administrators barred Roux from campus and students were forbidden from attending his lectures.

Possible Sources: Senate or Council minutes may contain the prohibition to students against attending his speeches.

1941

Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela leaves Fort Hare following a disagreement with Alexander Kerr regarding his serving on the SRC. He later earned the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Native Administration and Politics, which he completed externally.

Oliver Tambo is awarded the Bachelor of Science degree. He remained to study for a diploma in Education, and was expelled during a student strike.

Possible Sources: Letters of dismissal and readmission in the UFH archives in the library.

1949

The Fort Hare student body elects **Robert Sobukwe** SRC President. He gives a speech in October of this year urging Fort Hare to be for the Africans what “Stellenbosch is to the Afrikaaners.” In 2003, the University of Fort Hare launches the Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe memorial lecture.

Sources: Student file extant.

1951

The University of Fort Hare awards **Robert Mugabe** a Bachelor of Arts degree. As president of Zimbabwe, he later established a scholarship trust to send young students from Zimbabwe to the University of Fort Hare.

Possible Sources:

Fort Hare after Apartheid

SAUVCA documents, other suggestions welcome, research forthcoming

First VC S. Bengu Inauguration

Inauguration of Oliver Tambo at Chancellor

Inauguration of VC Z Mzamane

Inauguration of Govan Mbeki as Chancellor

South American visitor speech (Yoli to track down)

Termination of Ciskei Government (and coup)

Collapse of three M's

Appointment of Derrick Swartz

Strategy Plan 2000

Institutional Operational Plan (IOP)

Incorporation of East London campus

Anniversaries

1991, 1996, 2006, research forthcoming

Fort Hare and the Struggle

Level of specificity?

Things like:

--Training important people

--Fort Hare chapters of major anti-apartheid organizations and their relationships with the parent group

--Organizing protests in the area (the march in Alice in 1958)

--Setting precedents for other groups and universities? Making inroads/progress that was nationally noted?

--Students' reactions to major external events