

## **She is a Friend of Mind: Julie Varner Wright Hunter**

*“She is a friend of my mind. She gather me, man. The pieces I am, she gather them and give them back to me in all the right order. It’s good, you know, when you got a woman who is a friend of your mind.”<sup>1</sup>*

### **Introduction**

When the call went out soliciting submissions on the topic of Black women in librarianship, it could not have come at a more opportune time. The world was nine months into a pandemic that fundamentally changed everything thought to be true about work and productivity, health and safety, teaching and learning, and community and connection. However, while the world was on pause due to the pandemic, Black people also collectively grieved the disproportionate loss of so many Black lives due to COVID19. Compounding the trauma of a pandemic was bearing witness to the murder of George Floyd, filmed by a Black teenage bystander, Darnella Frazier, and the denial of justice to the young and hopeful Breanna Taylor. Suffice it to say, contributing to this project was an act of self-care, a way to show love and respect to the ingenuity of Black women librarians and archivists who fashioned and transformed this profession into something that resembles inclusivity, compassion, and access.

It is not often that space is created within librarianship to fill those historical silences with narrative and content about the Black foremothers within the profession. This piece hopefully adds to the larger contemporary discussion of why more institutions in our nation should #SupportBlackWomen by amplifying their voices and leadership. From the second highest office in the nation with the Vice Presidency to the work of countless Black women on the frontlines of protest movements to the Black women who worked tirelessly to make sure citizens have access

to the voting booth, these are just a few examples of why we should #TrustBlackWomen. This moment of centering Black women's narratives and contributions also includes past and present women working in libraries and archives. One such woman is Julie Varner Wright Hunter, civil rights activist/organizer, educator, librarian, and builder of Black library collections. Her life and work epitomizes the unsung labor and sisterhood networks of Black women who have done so much for the liberation of Black people with very little recognition.

*"America is not a racist country."*  
U.S. Senator Tim Scott, South Carolina.<sup>2</sup>

Hunter retired in 2013 with almost 50 years of service to libraries throughout the Southeast. Her leadership is connected to many careers and her legacy of leading libraries focused on Black collections blazed a trail for younger librarians whose Black studies degrees paired with their library education found a natural home in the special libraries she helped to build. Hunter provided fascinating conversations about her life and work in libraries revealing a woman of great courage, compassion, and commitment.

Hunter was born 1937 in Summerville, South Carolina, 25 miles northwest of Charleston. She shared recollections of early memories of her parents working to shield her and her siblings from the harsh realities of growing up in segregated South Carolina. Some of her earliest memories include the indignities her father endured as a grocery store owner. The deference her father had to show to white men, who delivered products to his store, referring to them "mister" and "sir" never sat well with her. Her reflections on the treatment of her father quickly took the conversation from the past to the present where she brought up fellow African American South

Carolinian, United States Senator Tim Scott (R) and his recent pronouncement that “America is not a racist country,” Disquieted for days by Tim Scott’s falsehood, Hunter shared the following:

“We do an injustice, a disservice for all the people who have been lynched... Those families who have had difficulties to bring themselves up by their bootstraps. [Those who] couldn’t succeed or couldn’t survive because in this country, [because] America had every law they could think, to hold us down... And then I can go back to my own life and how my father was called ‘boy’ or ‘John’ and it bothered me. And I think that's how it [my activism] really got started.”<sup>3</sup>

After learning more about Hunter’s noteworthy history of activism as a young woman throughout the Southeast, it was apparent why she fundamentally rejected Scott’s assertion. Throughout her life, she had engaged in struggle, challenging various institutions’ racist practices from drugstore lunch counters to segregated libraries.

### **Academics and Activism**

Growing up in Summerville, segregation held African Americans in a purgatory of second-class citizenship. Hunter recounted stories of terrorism by Klu Klux Klan on Black Summerville residents and Jim Crow policies that segregated restaurants, department stores, and other public spaces, including the public library, rendering them legally inaccessible to African Americans.

Injecting a little levity into her heavy recollections, she chuckled about her teenage years and her failed attempt to stage a sit-in at a Summerville lunch counter. However, her denied access to the local library is a lingering injustice from her childhood:

“There were so many places, but the biggest thing for me was the library. The public library was not open to me. We couldn’t use it. Mama would try to buy as many books as she possibly could for the house but we didn’t have money. We had enough money to have our groceries and survive but not enough money to go beyond... She bought an encyclopedia set and any time she found a special book that was a study on the African American she would [buy it]...”<sup>4</sup>

Being denied access to the local library made Hunter an avid user of the library once she enrolled as a student at Claflin College in 1957. At Claflin, a historically Black college located in Orangeburg, South Carolina, she majored in Mathematics and was active with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's (NAACP) Youth Council. During her time at Claflin, she became politicized further and participated in organized demonstrations of Orangeburg establishments that practiced segregation. After a mass demonstration in March of 1960, she and fellow students were arrested and bused to the state prison in Columbia. She recalled the traumatic story of her arrest:

“We were arrested at the S.H. Kress Five and Dime Store. We were taken from the Kress store and taken to a compound where they washed us down with hoses and later on that evening they had buses that took us to Columbia, South Carolina. Matthew Perry was the lawyer for the NAACP and of course got us out the next day...They never called that [arrest] into a court case. That one experience was terrible.”<sup>5</sup>

An exceptional student, balancing her work with the NAACP youth council and her academics, Hunter's picture was featured in the 1958 *Times and Democrat* newspaper detailing her academic success at Claflin. This caught the eye of the University of South Carolina, where they encouraged her to apply to attend the flagship university. However, when she showed up and the University of South Carolina admission officers realized that she was a Black woman of fair complexion they quickly rescinded the offer. Hunter believes that when she showed up in person with I. DeQuincy Newman, South Carolina's NAACP Field Secretary, the university quickly realized their mistake and refused to honor their invitation to the promising prospective student who happened to be Black. To date she has never received an official apology from the University of South Carolina.

By the time Hunter graduated in May 1960, she was committed to freedom fighting. She worked in South Carolina and then throughout the South as a Youth Field Secretary. She traveled between the southeastern states and it was in Mississippi that she worked closely with Medgar Evers<sup>6</sup>. One of her last vivid memories of being with Evers, two years before his assassination, was at the 1961 trial of students known as the Tougaloo 9.<sup>7</sup> The Tougaloo 9 were arrested for staging a read-in protest at the main library in Jackson, Mississippi:

“I stayed in his [Evers] house anytime I went there...When the young people who had sat-in at the library and they were being tried... We were on our way to support them by going into the court and that was when the officers stood at the top of the courthouse steps...they had K9 dogs and they sicced those dogs on Medgar and me as we were attempting to cross the street towards the courthouse.”<sup>8</sup>

Bearing witness to the Tougaloo 9, whose protest had a direct impact on the American Library Association's stance on a more inclusive membership, set some things into motion that would lead Hunter on the path to librarianship.<sup>9</sup>

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5/16/61  
The Current  
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# NAACP YOUTH

Southeast Regional Office  
859 1/2 Hunter Street, N. W.  
Atlanta 14, Georgia  
Mu. 8-8868-9

Julie Wright,  
Regional Youth Secretary

May 10, 1961

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*It's seven months late, but it's here!*

The Youth Dispatch will continue if you will send us your news.

A look at what's behind Us!

At the Southeast Regional Youth Conference in Greenville, South Carolina last February, delegates from twenty-four (24) Youth Councils and College Chapters appointed a Regional Steering Committee to formulate plans that will build our Regional Youth Program. The Committee is composed of one (1) Youth Council, one (1) College Chapter member and one (1) Youth Advisor from each state.

The Committee is asking that you send your ideas on how to build a dynamic Youth Program in our region to the Regional Office. The ideas, in turn, will be the main topic of discussion at their first meeting.

Month of March

South Carolina - Youth from various parts of the State of South Carolina participated in a mass march on the State Capitol in Columbia, South Carolina on March 2. It was an open protest against the State's General Assembly which was in session.

As a result, some one-hundred ninety (190) youth and adults were arrested and charged with breach of the peace. Among those arrested were Reverend I. DeQuincey Newman, NAACP, Field Secretary for South Carolina, Reverend B. J. Glover, President of Charleston's NAACP Branch and Miss Leola Clement, President, South Carolina State Youth Conference.

All of their cases are now on appeal after having been convicted in City Court.

Rock Hill - The South Carolina Youth Conference had its first statewide Fund Project on March 24-26 in Rock Hill, South Carolina. The three-day conference was attended by delegates from Youth Councils and College Chapters in the state.

Members from the National Staff of NAACP who gave leadership in the several sessions were: Mr. Herbert L. Wright, National Youth Secretary, Reverend I. DeQuincey Newman, Field Secretary and Mrs. Julie Wright, Regional Youth Secretary.

At the Rally, we were highly honored with the presence of two (2) students from the University of Dakar in West Africa. Brief talks were given by both of the students at the rally and during the Mass Meeting.

Mr. Herbert Wright gave a dynamic speech at the Sunday's meeting.

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**"Mississippi Ain't What It Used To Be!"**

At a Mass Meeting in Jackson, Mississippi, Mr. Samuel Bailey, Co-chairman of the Membership Campaign, said, "Mississippi ain't what it used to be." His statement had reference to the arrest of nine (9) NAACP youth members from Tougaloo NAACP College Chapter on March 27 and four (4) youth from Jackson State Teachers College on April 19.

The nine (9) NAACP youth were arrested and charged with disturbing the peace on March 27 for "reading-in" at the Jackson Municipal Library. They were convicted on March 29 at about the same time police officers used clubs and two (2) police dogs to disburse a group of Negroes standing in front of the court building lending moral support to the "Freedom Fighters."

Men, women and children were attacked by this police brutality including Medgar Evers, NAACP Field Secretary for Mississippi, Reverend S. Leon Whitney who was bitten by one of the dogs, and Mr. Thomas Armstrong, a Freelance photographer, who suffered a head blow. The Regional Youth Secretary escaped without injury.

The nine (9) were convicted and their cases are on appeal.

On April 19, four (4) members from our Jackson NAACP Inter-collegiate Chapter were arrested for sitting in the section of one of Jackson's City Buses. They were charged and convicted with disturbing the peace.

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**"A Welcome to the Fold"**

We doff our hats to our seven (7) baby Councils and four (4) College Chapters.

Special commendation and a welcome to the fold for the following Councils and Chapters:

- |                                     |                             |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Orlando Youth Council               | Orange County, Florida      |
| Albany Youth Council                | Albany, Georgia             |
| Augusta Youth Council               | Augusta, Georgia            |
| Campbell College                    | Jackson, Mississippi        |
| Jackson Inter-collegiate Chapter    | Jackson, Mississippi        |
| Chattanooga Youth Council           | Chattanooga, Tennessee      |
| Great Falls Youth Council           | Great Falls, South Carolina |
| Columbia Youth Council              | Columbia, South Carolina    |
| DeQuincey Newman Collegiate Chapter | Columbia, South Carolina    |
| Columbia Inter-Collegiate Chapter   | Columbia, South Carolina    |
| Julie Wright Youth Council          | Spartanburg, South Carolina |

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**What's Ahead of Us!**

**CONVENTION TIME IS ALMOST HERE**

Youth Councils and College Chapters are urged to send delegates to the 52nd Annual NAACP Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 10-16, 1961.

Make sure your Unit is represented at the convention.

You won't want to miss the opportunity to be a participant in cooperative action and obtain fresh ideas to initiate in your community.

## Activism and Librarianship

*"I am glad to have the opportunity to aid, in some way, toward our success in obtaining freedom."* Correspondence from Julie Wright to NAACP President Roy Wilkins, July 27, 1960<sup>10</sup>

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1959 JUL 29 1960 Julie Wright

919½ Washington Street  
Columbia, South Carolina  
July 27, 1960

Mr. Roy Wilkins  
20 West 40th Street  
New York 18, New York

Dear Mr. Wilkins:

Upon receiving my salary check for the week ending July 23rd, I noticed an increase of \$10 with a note from Mr. Herbert Wright that it was due to your generosity.

I am writing to express my deep appreciation for your generosity. Not only am I grateful for the increase, but I would like to express my gratitude for this employment. I am glad to have the opportunity to aid, in some way, toward our success in obtaining freedom.

Thank you kindly.

Sincerely,  
*Julie Wright*  
Julie Wright,  
Special Field Secretary

JW  
cc: Mr. Herbert L. Wright

In 1963, Hunter resigned from her work as Regional Youth Field Secretary. In a 2008 interview, she discussed the stress of the field work,

*"I didn't stay with NAACP long 'cause I went to-uh-that was in 1960 through '63, and by the time-the-the travel-you-you didn't eat [long pause] on a regular schedule. You were always stressed, so your stomach felt it. And um-I was sick for-for many years after that just because that stress was-was too much, but I didn't realize it was the stress."*<sup>11</sup>

In addition to stress, there were other reasons for leaving behind her youth organizing days. She shared that she felt she needed to switch from organizing the youth to helping young people understand more about Black history.

“The lack of entrance to the public library in my hometown, then the time when the kids from Mississippi [Tougaloo 9] had to be tried because they sat-in at the library. All these things had their impact on me... The 1960s were the worst time in our history before we got to this period [present day]. Working with youth, I just felt at that time that they needed more than what they were doing. That they needed to go beyond the incidents and events of Black versus white... that they needed to know the history of our people. And I couldn't do it. I didn't have enough of that knowledge but I knew the library did because I had experience with the library...I felt that the library was something that every child should know.”<sup>12</sup>

Her compassion for people and thirst for knowledge did not go unnoticed by one of the many Black women who would play an integral role in guiding her towards and through librarianship. With her departure from her position with the NAACP, the opportunity to enter the field of library studies presented itself through the power of Black women librarians working together.

During her time as a Claflin student, Hunter's constant presence in the library made an impression. She worked as a student aide to a sociology professor and taught some summer English courses at Claflin. She found that taking her classes to the library in search of answers was an important exercise in terms of their learning. Because she was a respected student leader on campus who had taken to showing her fellow students how the library could enhance their learning, the Library Director at Claflin College, Louisa Robinson, had been observing her over the years training students on how to use the library. Unbeknownst to Hunter, Robinson was connected to the powerhouse of Atlanta University's library school, Dr. Virginia Lacy Jones.<sup>13</sup>

Both Robinson and Jones were beneficiaries of the Black women's club movement who ascribed to the motto of "lifting as we climb" and through their collaboration they continued in this great tradition of uplift by helping women like Hunter and many other promising young students to join their ranks in librarianship.<sup>14</sup> Robinson's oral history interview with the project *Speaking History: The Words of South Carolina Librarians*, part of University of South Carolina's School of Library and Information Science recounted her experience as a student of Jones:

"She was our cataloging teacher. In fact, I think there were about 22 of us and when we first got there with the amount of work and so forth, we seemed to be just so upset and nervous that one day she just told us to all come to her house that evening. She brought us to her house and sat us around on the floor, and talked to us and tried to settle us down because it was really a nerve-racking experience. Several of us were just out of college and I guess we just didn't know what to expect. She really did a lot to help us while we were there."<sup>15</sup>

Jones's impact on Robinson and then Robinson paying it forward by referring Hunter to Jones demonstrates how vital the support of Black women can prove in the lives of younger Black women. According to Hunter, Robinson encouraged her former professor to find some funds for the promising young student. The timing was right because in 1964 Atlanta University received "275,000 grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to be used over a three-year period for scholarships, enrichment of the instructional program and professional development of the faculty, library materials, conferences and workshops, and furniture and equipment represented the singular most significant development since the School's establishment."<sup>16</sup> It was through the network of Black women leading historically Black colleges and university libraries like Claflin College and Atlanta University that created a pathway for Hunter. Her journey into librarianship is an example of informal sisterhood networks that aided Black women within librarianship long before formal professional library organizations/networks were intentionally inclusive of African Americans within the library profession.

Hunter accepted the Rockefeller Scholarship offered to her in 1964 by Jones, who would be foundational in her development, serving as a teacher, mentor, supervisor, and trusted friend. Hunter spoke fondly of her instructors at Atlanta University's library school, which included dynamic Black women librarians like Hallie Beachem Brooks and Annette Phinazee.<sup>17</sup> The environment created by these women enabled her to graduate in 1965 with a Master's in Library Service.

Hunter's professional career in librarianship would begin when Jones asked her to serve as her Administrative Assistant. "Virginia Lacy Jones was my Director, she was the Dean, she was my friend. She was like four foot something and she didn't drive. So I drove her everywhere and we talked while we were driving. That is the best time to get to know a person is when you're in the car and they start talking and she would talk."<sup>18</sup> Throughout her twenty-plus year career at Atlanta University, Ms. Hunter would take on many roles including an instructor in the library school, periodicals librarian, and University Librarian of the Trevor Arnett Library. Her leap into upper management was motivated through her mentor Jones. Hunter detailed the wisdom imparted by Dean Jones, "It's no different than any other management position. What you must do is respect your staff. Give them some direction so that they know what to do. And it will materialize on its own. You must love your staff."<sup>19</sup> Through Jones's encouragement, Hunter was promoted to Deputy Director of Atlanta University Center (AUC) Libraries. Serving as Deputy Director, allowed her close friendship/mentorship with Jones to continue. When Jones was appointed the Library Director of the new Atlanta University Center Woodruff Library, the article mentions their working relationship. "Mrs. Jones admits, however, that she has to have

some type of assistance in helping her carry out her responsibilities. One assistant is Mrs. Julie Hunter, Deputy Director. She and I meet daily.”<sup>20</sup>



### Builder of Black Collections

*"We hope to encourage the general public, not just scholars, to conduct more research on the African-American experience, because much still needs to be learned."*

Julie Hunter<sup>21</sup>

Hunter's work as the University Librarian at Atlanta University would set her on a path of being a builder of Black collections. Through her years at Atlanta University working to elevate teaching, learning, art, and the culture on the Black experience, she was ready to create that same thing outside academia by transitioning to public libraries. Casper L. Jordan, prolific scholar,

librarian, and former director of Atlanta University's Trevor Arnett Library, recruited Hunter into public libraries. Through her work with Atlanta Fulton County Public Library (AFCPL) system, her role in library history as a builder of public Black research collections was established. Hunter became the first administrator of the new Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History (AARL), which opened May 1994 as a special library comprised of three divisions, Reference, Archives, and Programs. AARL was the first public research library in the South to offer specialized reference and archival collections dedicated to the study and research of African American culture and history and of other peoples of African descent.<sup>22</sup>

*American Libraries* covered the new library with an article, celebrating AARL as the "Schomburg of the South." In the piece, Hunter shared her rationale on why she wanted to lead AARL which harkens back to her reasons for deciding to leave her position with the NAACP, "I saw it as an intriguing and exciting professional opportunity. I've always been interested in what we call 'the black experience,' and I felt I needed to make some contribution in the area of race relations."<sup>23</sup> Hunter successfully served as the director of AARL for three years. However, she looks back at her departure from AARL with some regret because after accepting a new administrative role with AFCPL she resigned due to issues with the library board.<sup>24</sup> Her departure from AFCPL would lead to another opportunity to help a fledgling but ambitious public research library further south.

The African American Research Library and Cultural Center (AARLCC), located in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, is a flagship library of the Broward County Library (BCL) System.<sup>25</sup>

Envisioned by the former director of BCL, Samuel F. Morrison, AARLCC opened in 2002. Modeled off the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture<sup>26</sup> in Harlem, New York and Atlanta's AARL, AARLCC is a public research library focused on the Black experience. However, unlike its predecessors, AARLCC is also a circulating library with dedicated collections and spaces for both children and adults. Similar to the Schomburg Center and AARL's missions to collect, preserve, and provide access to content about people and cultures of the Black diaspora, AARLCC had much work to do, due to not having an established history and a respected seed collection.

The gravitas of the seed collections of Arthur Schomburg's personal collection which has evolved into the current collection of eleven million items or the 1934 Negro History Collection at AARL (now known as the Samuel W. Williams Collection on Black America) easily commands respect in terms of its associated collectors and its longevity. However, for AARLCC there was an opportunity to set an example of how to build a new archive focused on local content of historical significance. Along with this collection challenge, Morrison's AARLCC would need an experienced and trusted leader at the helm. It would take almost three years of persuasion to recruit Hunter away from Atlanta, but Morrison's dedication to his dream paid off.

One of the many highlights of Hunter's leadership of AARLCC was her collaboration with another well-known Black librarian and educator, Dr. Henrietta M. Smith,<sup>27</sup> establishing the Ashley Bryan Art Series Conference and Collection (ABASC)<sup>28</sup>. The conference is a continuing education series for librarians, teachers, literacy professionals, and others engaged in the use of children's literature to improve reading appreciation and skills. The Art Collection is a collection

of artwork of illustrators of African descent and contains eight original pieces by Ashley Bryan donated to AARLCC by Smith in 2003. AARLCC continues to build on the collection with other materials from children's authors, artists and illustrators. With the recent passing of Smith, Hunter spoke fondly of meeting her at an ALA conference and working with her over the years on the ABASC. Under Hunter's leadership, AARLCC was able to acquire special collections archives related to other Black women librarians like Dorothy Porter Wesley and Vivian Hewitt.<sup>29</sup> These collections serve as homage to librarians as collectors of Black content. The treasures found in each of their collections are invaluable allowing AARLCC to use them as seed collections to build upon for future collection development.

Hunter served as AARLCC's director until 2006, leaving the role to take on the position of Assistant Director and then Interim Director of Broward County Libraries until her retirement in 2013. She is very modest about her role in serving as a foot soldier in the African American freedom struggle as well as her role in Black collection building. Her work in leading public research libraries dedicated to the study of Black history and culture deserves recognition. She talks about being reminded of her contributions, "So for the three libraries that now have been built since the Schomburg, I have had a hand in all three [AARL, AARLCC, and Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library<sup>30</sup>] of those, yes. I didn't realize it until the other day somebody reminded me."<sup>31</sup>

Lest we forget her contributions, Julie Varner Wright Hunter has gathered the pieces of the Black experience, giving it back to us through her service to the NAACP and through her building Black library collections. It is good, "when you got a woman who is a friend of your mind."

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- <sup>1</sup> Toni Morrison, *Beloved: a novel* (New York: Vintage International, 2004) 321  
[https://broward.ent.sirsi.net/client/en\\_US/default/search/results?qu=beloved&qf=ERC\\_FORMAT%09Electronic+Fo rmat%09KINDLE%09KINDLE#](https://broward.ent.sirsi.net/client/en_US/default/search/results?qu=beloved&qf=ERC_FORMAT%09Electronic+Fo rmat%09KINDLE%09KINDLE#)
- <sup>2</sup> Senator Tim Scott Delivers Republican Response <https://www.c-span.org/video/?511326-1/senator-tim-scott-delivers-republican-response>
- <sup>3</sup> Makiba Foster, Interviews with Julie Hunter - ca. May 2021
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>6</sup> Medgar Evers [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medgar\\_Evers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medgar_Evers)
- <sup>7</sup> Tougaloo 9 <https://mscivilrightsproject.org/hinds/organization-hinds/the-tougaloo-nine/>
- <sup>8</sup> Foster, Interviews
- <sup>9</sup> Julia Wright, Southeast Regional Youth Secretary correspondence and memoranda, 1961-1962. 40-41, 126pp Papers of the NAACP, Part 19: Youth File, Series D: Youth Department Files, 1956-1965  
<https://congressional.proquest.com/histvault?q=001467-020-0076&accountid=35635> NAACP records incorrectly list her name as Julia however all correspondence conducted is signed “Julie”
- <sup>10</sup> Julia Wright, Southeast Regional Youth Secretary correspondence and memoranda, 1960. 11p 1-48pp Papers of the NAACP, Part 19: Youth File, Series D: Youth Department Files, 1956-1965  
<https://congressional.proquest.com/histvault?q=001467-020-0028&accountid=35635>
- <sup>11</sup> Rebecca Dominguez-Karimi, Interview with Julie Hunter – ca. 2008. Florida Atlantic University Libraries’ Digital Library [digital object] <http://purl.flvc.org/fcla/dt/79445>
- <sup>12</sup> Foster, Interviews
- <sup>13</sup> Dr. Virginia Lacy Jones Papers <https://radar.auctr.edu/islandora/object/auc.115%3A9999?page=2>
- <sup>14</sup> Lifting as We Climb: The Story of America’s First Black Women’s Club  
<https://womensmuseum.wordpress.com/2018/02/21/lifting-as-we-climb-the-story-of-americas-first-black-womens-club/>
- <sup>15</sup> Robert Williams, Interview with Louis Robinson - ca 1989 Speaking History: The Words of South Carolina Librarian, College of Library and Information Science, Univ. of South Carolina  
<http://www.libsci.sc.edu/histories/oralhistory/index.html>
- <sup>16</sup> Almeta Gould Woodson, "Fifty Years of Service: A Chronological History of the School of Library Service, Atlanta University, 1941-79; the School of Library & Information Science, Atlanta University, 1979-89; the School of Library & Information Science, Clark Atlanta University, 1989-91." *Georgia Librarian* (Fall 1991): 71-79.  
[http://www.libsci.sc.edu/histories/Georgia/libraries/academic/atlantauniversity/Atlanta\\_University.pdf](http://www.libsci.sc.edu/histories/Georgia/libraries/academic/atlantauniversity/Atlanta_University.pdf)
- <sup>17</sup> Black women professors at Atlanta University’s Library school  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hallie\\_Beachem\\_Brooks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hallie_Beachem_Brooks) and [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Annette\\_Lewis\\_Phinazee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Annette_Lewis_Phinazee)
- <sup>18</sup> Foster, Interviews
- <sup>19</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>20</sup> Virginia Jones Named Library Director, May 4, 1982, *The Clark Atlanta University Panther*  
[http://hdl.handle.net/20.500.12322/auc.004.newspaper:1982\\_003](http://hdl.handle.net/20.500.12322/auc.004.newspaper:1982_003)
- <sup>21</sup> Ron Chepesiuk. “Schomburg of the South: The Auburn Avenue Research Library.” *American Libraries*, vol. 27, no. 2, 1996, pp. 38–40. *JSTOR*, [www.jstor.org/stable/25633902](http://www.jstor.org/stable/25633902) . Accessed 28 May 2021.
- <sup>22</sup> Auburn Avenue Research Library <https://www.fulcolibrary.org/auburn-avenue-research-library/>
- <sup>23</sup> Ron Chepesiuk. “Schomburg of the South”
- <sup>24</sup> “Atlanta Director Decries Board’s Micromanagement.” *American Libraries* 28 (11): 16.  
<http://search.ebscohost.com.i.ezproxy.nypl.org/login.aspx?direct=true&AuthType=cookie.ip.url.cpid&custid=nypl&db=aph&AN=9712224153&site=ehost-live>
- <sup>25</sup> The African American Research Library and Cultural Center <http://aarlcc.broward.org/>
- <sup>26</sup> The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture <https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/schomburg>
- <sup>27</sup> Dr. Henrietta Smith [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henrietta\\_M.\\_Smith](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henrietta_M._Smith)
- <sup>28</sup> Ashley Bryan Art Series Conference and Collection [https://broward.ent.sirsi.net/client/en\\_US/ashleybryan](https://broward.ent.sirsi.net/client/en_US/ashleybryan)
- <sup>29</sup> Dorothy Porter Wesley and Vivian Hewitt Collections at AARLCC  
<https://www.broward.org/Library/Research/SpecialCollections/Pages/DorothyPorterWesleyCollection.aspx> and <https://www.broward.org/Library/Research/SpecialCollections/Pages/HaitianAfricanArtHewittCollection.aspx>

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<sup>30</sup> Blair Caldwell African American Research Library <https://history.denverlibrary.org/about-blair>

<sup>31</sup> Dominguez-Karimi, Interview