

Stewart Bell Jr. Archives
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C&P Telephone Company Collection
Collection Number: 492 THL

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS: Collection is open to all researchers.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING REPRODUCTION AND USE: Restrictions may apply concerning the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult a member of the archives staff for information concerning these restrictions. The user assumes all responsibility for identifying and satisfying any claimants of copyright. Some materials may require special handling.

PROCESSING INFORMATION: Initial finding aid created 01/1954. Last updated by Nova Kulakowski, October 2025

ACCESSION NUMBER(S): 1986.004 WFCHS, 2014.001 THL, 2022.003 WFCHS

EXTENT: 0.21 linear feet. 58 volumes, telephone directories.

CREATOR: Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company

DATE: 1931-1995

EXISTENCE AND LOCATION OF COPIES: Photographs in this collection have been digitized and are available to view online through the Past Perfect online database: <http://handley.pastperfectonline.com/>

SCOPE AND CONTENT: The collection contains various materials concerning the history of the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company, or the C & P Telephone Co. as it was known in Winchester, VA. This includes a history of the company, telephone directories, and other miscellaneous items.

C&P telephone directories from the years 1932-1995 are filed in the reading room; 1931-1932 and 1939 are filed in the rare collection.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL: The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, founded in the late 1800s, served Washington D.C., Maryland, West Virginia, and Virginia. The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Virginia, also known as C&P, served the localities of Berryville, Boyce, Gainesboro, Gore, Middletown, Stephens City, Winchester, and likely many other areas in Virginia. C&P of Virginia's general office was in Richmond, and they had a local office in Winchester, as well as an office in Berryville briefly. Local newspapers suggest C&P had set sights on Winchester in the early 1900s.

C&P was a part of the Bell System ran by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T). C&P later became a Bell Atlantic company around 1984. Around 1995, the C&P name was dropped from the directories, and the name Bell Atlantic remained until it became Verizon.

IMMEDIATE SOURCE OF ACQUISITION: Gift of various donors.

CONTAINER LIST:

BOX 1

Akers, Conrad H. — “Historical Background of the Telephone Company in Winchester, Virginia.” Talk given to the Winchester Rotary Club, 1954.

C&P — *It's doggone good service!*, Party line manners, N.D.

C&P — Miscellaneous. Folder contains the following items:

Notice of change in phone numbers, 1956

Phone book cover, c. 1963

Phone book cover envelope, c. 1963

C&P — Telephone Directories, 1931-1995

Physical Location: Reading room and rare collection.

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company banquet, c. 1940. [492-001 WFCHS]