

DeKalb History Center

Elizabeth Wilson Collection

Scope and content: This collection contains scrapbooks/notebooks created by Mrs. Wilson covering the years of her career and public service to the city of Decatur and DeKalb County.

Provenance: Accession # 2021.36

Access: Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. Permission to publish materials from this collection must be requested from the Archivist, DeKalb History Center. Citations should be made as follows:

Description of specific item; Elizabeth Wilson Collection, DeKalb History Center archives

Processed by J Blomqvist, archivist, May 2022.

Size: 14 scrapbooks, 1 oversized box

Biography of Ms. Wilson: Originally from Greensboro, Georgia, Elizabeth Wilson moved to Decatur, Georgia in 1949. She was the first African American on the City Commission for Decatur, as well as the first African American mayor of Decatur. She also founded and served as the CEO of the Community Center of South Decatur, also known as the Oakhurst Community Health Center, which provided medical care and community resources for residents. Mrs. Wilson has been active in many civic, political, educational, and church organizations for over 60 years.

Description: The collection consists of 14 spiral-bound scrapbooks/notebooks and 1 oversized box that includes: letters and other personal correspondence, awards, photos, newspaper articles, maps, brochures, speeches, and more. Topics include Beacon Hill, Oakhurst, NAACP, Agnes Scott, 1996 Olympics, Burkina Faso, Black History, the DeKalb History Center, Decatur cemetery, and more. The scrapbooks were kept in their original order, with page protectors and labels in place. Large items were unfolded and moved to an oversized box, however.

Scrapbook list

1. Agnes Scott
2. Beacon Hill
3. Black History programs
4. Burkina Faso (sister-city of Decatur)
5. Community Center of South Decatur (CCSD) 1
6. Community Center of South Decatur, 2
7. DeKalb History Center award; Dedication statue "Celebration" 2000; Grand opening celebration Community Center of South Decatur, 2002; Heroes, Saints, and Legends, 2006; Women of Achievement YMCA, 1992; Honoring Decatur's Namesake, 1998; Oakhurst Presbyterian Church, 1980 & beyond
8. Heroes, Saints, and Legends
9. Letters
10. Letters & copies of events
11. Misc.; NAACP, The Champion newspaper articles, etc.
12. News clippings; 1996 Olympics; Mayor; Decatur/Oakhurst; Housing and African Americans
13. Oakhurst Community Health Center (OCHC), 1978-on
14. Oakhurst Community Health Center