

## DeKalb History Center

### Aurelia Austin Papers (1912-1998)

**Scope and content:** The Aurelia Austin papers include notes on family genealogies, including some complete genealogies, original poetry, novels, family photographs, and information on various topics of interest.

**Provenance:** Gifts of Leroy Gardner, Accession # 1999.17, 1999.17 and 2010.12 and Aurelia Austin, Accession # 1985.44.

**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. Citation should be as follows:

Description of specific item; Aurelia Austin Papers, DeKalb History Center Archives

Processed by Coley Stilz, DHS intern, 1999, Jill Sweetapple, Archivist, 2011.

**Size:** 5 document boxes, 1 scrapbook box

**Biographical Sketch of Aurelia Austin (1912-1998):** Aurelia Austin was born January 21, 1912. Her parents were Rev. Herbert O. and Mary Wells Austin. She was born in Decatur, GA, and was educated in Atlanta public schools. Afterwards, she attended the Southern Business University, and took classes in art, religion and creative writing at Emory University. She also attended the Minneapolis School of Art and the Atlanta Conservatory of Music. Aurelia Austin worked as a private secretary to the president and chairman of Ashcraft-Wilkenson Company and Duval Sales Corp. She worked in Houston, Texas from 1972-1977. Aurelia Austin had a passion for genealogy work, creative writing, and poetry. She published several books, including *Georgia Boys with Stonewall Jackson*, and *Capt. Nathaniel (Nathan) Austin, and his Sons of the American Revolution*. She won many awards for her poetry and published several anthologies. She was a loyal member of the National League of American Pen Women, including being president of the Atlanta branch 1980-82 and president of the Georgia branch 1982-84.

**Description:** The Aurelia Austin Papers are composed primarily of original writing and genealogy work. There are many family files that she compiled through her genealogical research and correspondence. In these files you may find family trees, family correspondence, pictures, and sometimes histories and stories. The first archival box contains mostly files of some personal relation to Aurelia Austin. Materials like personal history, original poetry, or original novels may be found here. The last three boxes contain files relating to Aurelia Austin's research. These boxes have files associated with her genealogical and personal interests. She wrote several short histories, such as those one Henry Wirz and the Thompson Family. There are several useful copies of documents in these boxes such as wills and transcripts of Civil Wars letters written by James Thomas Thompson. The 2010 donation includes the unpublished historical manuscript on Andersonville *No Larks at Sunset*, poetry books and a set of index cards

with personal information, bibliographic information and addresses. There is a family cemetery plot drawing, will for Ainsley Hall and information for the Jackson Hill Baptist church in Atlanta. There are also photographs of the unveiling of the James Alvin Wells portrait in the library of the First Baptist Church of Tucker painted by Mary Garvey LaSalle. There is also a 1960s/1970s scrapbook and photo album.

**Subject Headings:** Where possible, Library of Congress Subject Headings have been used.

Main Entry: Austin, Aurelia (1912-1998)

Subject/Added Entries:       Atwood Family  
                                       Austin Family  
                                       Bullock Family  
                                       Carter Family  
                                       Cochran Family  
                                       First Baptist church, Tucker (Ga.)  
                                       Gower Family  
                                       Jackson Hill Baptist Church, Atlanta (Ga.)  
                                       Hambrick Family  
                                       Henry Hartman Wirz  
                                       Hudson Family  
                                       Thompson Family  
                                       Wells Family  
                                       Wyche Family

**Folder List \*\*Note: many family folders include photographs**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Contents</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
1	1	Personal history, awards, pictures	
	2	Jackson Hill Baptist church	
	3	Poetry	
	4	Poetry Austin Collection	
	5	Caroline Wyatt, poetry book manuscript	
	6	Joel Chandler Harris house National League of American Pen Women	
	7	<i>Christmas is Beauty</i>	
	8	<i>A Confederate Catechism</i>	
	9	<i>Redtop</i> – a novel, Mellichamp award	
	10	<i>Tall Timber</i> – Henrietta B. Washington book award	
	11	Miscellaneous photographs and personal photographs	
	12	<i>Bright Feathers</i>	1958
	13	Tucker Sunday school	1897-1899

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Contents</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
2	1	Austin family	
	2	Ayers family	
	3	Barnett family genealogy	
	4	Burford, Bullock and Hawkins families	
	5	Bullock family research and correspondence	
	6	Archibald Bullock – Colonial president of Georgia (1776-1777)	
	7	Dickenson family research and correspondence	
	8	Gower family	
	9	Hambrick family	
	10	Hardman cemetery and Cochran family genealogy	
	11	Henry Hartman Wirz papers Andersonville Prison camp	
	12	Henry Hartman Wirz papers	
	13	Hudson family genealogy	
3	1	Henry Huey	
	2	Andrew Pickens	
	3	Thompson Family, original photographs	
	4	Transcripts of Civil War letters-James Thomas Thompson	
	5	Thomas, Langford and Easley genealogy notes	
	6	Wells family history and genealogy	
	7	Wells family – House of Eight Doors	
	8	Wells family genealogy correspondence	
	9	Wells family history and genealogy	
	10	Guy H. Wells Sr., Lewis Aycock correspondence	
	11	Wells family photographs	
4	1	Wells family correspondence	1961-1990
	2	Wells genealogy notes/research	
	3	Wyche family	
	4	Wills from South Carolina, Richland district	
	5	Photographs from <i>Captain Nathaniel</i> book	
	6	<i>Captain Nathaniel</i> paste up 1 of 3	
	7	<i>Captain Nathaniel</i> paste up 2 of 3	
	8	<i>Captain Nathaniel</i> paste up 3 of 3	
5	1	Index cards 1 of 4	
	2	Index cards 2 of 4	
	3	Index cards 3 of 4	
	4	Index cards 4 of 4	
	5	Miscellaneous documents	1963-1978
	6	<i>No Larks at Sunset</i>	
	7	Photographs	
	8	Photograph envelopes	

