

Annie John Williams Papers

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| Repository: | Rockingham Co. Historical Collections Gerald B. James Library Rockingham Community College P. O. Box 38 Wentworth, NC 27375 |
| Title: | Annie John Williams Papers |
| Accession No.: | 95-005 |
| Extent: | 2 boxes |
| Provenance: | Donated by the Annie J. Williams estate in 1995 |
| Inclusive Dates: | 1828-1950 |
| Subject Headings: | Rockingham County (N. C.) -- Genealogy Watt's Warehouse J. H. Williams Store – Reidsville (N. C.) Williams, Annie John, 1913-1994 Williams, Deborah Boyles Williams, Hubbard Williams, John Wesley, d.1931 Williams, Martha Walker Williams, Ruby Malinda, 1911-1961 |
| Preferred Citation: | <i>Annie John Williams Papers. 95-005. Rockingham Co. Historical Collections, Gerald B. James Library, Rockingham Community College.</i> |
| Descriptive Note: | <p>This small collection of miscellaneous items relates to Annie John Williams and her older sister, Ruby Malinda Williams who grew up in Reidsville, NC. The Williams sisters spent the last years of their lives in Durham, NC where they were noted educators.</p> <p>The collection includes 73 photographs dating from 1911 through the 1930s. The largest portion of the photographs are of the Williams family and their friends. Among the photographs are pictures of the J. W. Williams home on No.</p> |

Main Street in Reidsville and an interior shot of J. W. Williams' general merchandise also in Reidsville.

Other items include the college degrees of the Williams sisters, a 1929 Reidsville High School yearbook, 2 commemorative plates from Lowe's Methodist Church, issues of the Reidsville Review from 1928 and 1931, an 1898 tobacco warehouse sales bill, 3 calendars from J. W. Williams store from 1928-1930, bulletins from Main St. Methodist Church, Reidsville, NC from 1945 and 1946, and a post card of the Reidsville Municipal Building c.1930.

The collection also contains the Boyles family bible published in 1828. The Bible has a number of entries concerning the birth dates and deaths of various family members.

Family Sketch:

Annie John Williams was born in Reidsville, NC on 26 August 1913. She was the daughter of John Wesley and Martha Walker Williams. Her only sibling was an older sister, Ruby Malinda Williams, born 12 March 1911. John Wesley Williams, their father, was born in the Williamsburg Township of Rockingham County, NC and was the son of Hubbard and Deborah H. Boyles Williams. John W. Williams moved to Reidsville in 1898 and at one time worked in the store of his brother in law, elder George M. Trent. In 1909, Williams opened his own store in Reidsville and continued the business at the same location until his death on 5 March 1931. Williams had purchased a brick home on No. Main St. in Reidsville shortly before his marriage on 26 December 1906 and after his death his widow continued to reside there. In 1945, Mrs. Williams moved to Durham, NC to live with her daughters.

Ruby Malinda Williams graduated from Reidsville High School in 1927 as valedictorian of her class. In 1931, she received a B.A. degree, summa cum laude, from Greensboro College and in 1943 a M. A. degree from Duke University. In 1959, she received the Cardinal Award for excellence in teaching chemistry. She was an American Association for the Advance of Science fellow. From 1934-1945 she taught at Reidsville High School. She taught at Durham High School in Durham, NC from 1945 until her death in 1961.

Annie John Williams graduated from Reidsville High School in 1929 and received her B. A. degree from Greensboro College in

1933. In 1939, she received her M. A. degree from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After an active career in mathematics education she spent her retirement in Durham doing family research and volunteering in mathematics at the North Carolina School of Science and Math. She died in Durham in 1994.

Bibliography

The Heritage of Rockingham County, North Carolina, 1983.
Winston-Salem, NC: Hunter Publishing, 1983, p. 687.

Robert W. Carter, Jr.
Historical Consultant
8 November 1995

Contents:

Folder 1

Boyles' Family Bible, 1828

Folder 2

Commemorative plates. Lowe's Methodist Church, Rockingham County, c. 1950. Two plates.

Folder 3

Miscellaneous: Main Street Methodist Church, Reidsville, Church Bulletin, 1945-1946. Three bulletins Photocopy of Watt's Warehouse Bill of J. W. Williams Photocopy of Reidsville Municipal Building Postcard, 1930s

Folder 4

Photographs:

4 photos – unidentified women standing

15 photos – small child and baby

2 professional photos – Ruby Williams

1 photo – young woman with pearl necklace, "Happy Birthday, Love Mildred"

1 photo – Gretchen Buis (?)

14 assorted photos – Williams family

11 photos, including female members of the Williams family and John Williams on the front porch of N. Main Street home

1 photo – Ruby Williams and 3 photos unidentified women

1 photo – Annie John Williams as an adult

1 photo – young woman, "Lovingly, Gretchen"

1 photo – young woman, "Because I love you, Gertrude"

1 photo – Ruby Williams

1 photo – group of 4 young women
3 photos – Annie John Williams and 1 gift tag, “Merry Christmas to Ruby from Annie John”
1 photo – Ruby Williams as an infant
1 photo – Ruby, age 5 and Annie John Williams, age 2 in 1916 sitting on donkey
1 photo – Reidsville High School, about 1932, Annie John Williams on front row
1 photo – John W. Williams standing in his store in Reidsville, dated 1/27/1921, note on back, “In time of snow”
1 photo – Annie John Williams as a baby
1 photo – John W. Williams with two other men, possibly in entrance of John Williams’ store
1 photo – John Williams, wife, daughter and dog on porch of home on N. Main St.

Folder 5

Photocopy of Reidsville High School Yearbook, *Renocahi*, 1929
Abstracts of Rockingham County Wills. One copy
1944 copy of the 1912 Miller Map of Rockingham County, NC.

Folder 6

Reidsville Review, 12 July 1928. One copy
Reidsville Review, 6 March 1931. Four copies

Folder 7

Annie John Williams. B. A. Degree. Greensboro College, 1933.

Folder 8

Three Calendars from J. W. Williams Store, Reidsville, NC. 1928, 1930 and 1930

Folder 9

Ruby M. Williams. M. A. Degree. Duke University, 1943

Folder 10

Ruby M. Williams, B. A. Degree. Greensboro College, 1931