Annie John Williams Papers

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: 1 box

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

Items Separated: Original photos are stored separately in the photograph files

Related Collections:

Preferred Citation: Annie John Williams Papers. 95-005. Rockingham Co. Historical Collections, Gerald B. James Library, Rockingham Community College.

Descriptive Note: 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.
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. 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


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. (Stored in M209)

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
Photocopies of 70 photographs (see originals in Private Collections Photographs Files)

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

Folder 8
Three Calendars from J. W. Williams Store, Reidsville, NC. 1928, 1930 and 1930

Folder 9

Folder 10
Ruby M. Williams, B. A. Degree. Greensboro College, 1931

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ROCKINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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