

BMRC

The Black Metropolis
Research Consortium

Institution: Shorefront Legacy Center

Collection Title: Pauline Williams papers

Date Span: 1951-1993, bulk dates 1988-1991

Extent: 1.75 Linear feet

Processors: Processed by CLIR funded Black Metropolis Research Consortium "Color Curtain Processing Project." By Dustin Witsman. June 1st, 2012.

Restrictions: None

Related Collections: Women's Auxiliary of Community Hospital records, Shorefront Legacy Center.

Abstract:

Pauline Williams (1911-2005) was an African-American community leader who lived most of her life in Evanston, Illinois. She was an active member in a number of social and civic clubs and organizations in Evanston throughout her life. The Pauline Williams papers contain material related to her work with these organizations and her interest in African-American history. The collection spans from 1951 to 1993, but the bulk of the material covers 1988-1991 and consists of meeting minutes, photographs, newspaper clippings, publications, and awards.

Biographical/Historical Note:

Pauline Williams (1911-2005) was born on the L & N Railroad in the whistle stop town of Trenton in Todd County, Kentucky but lived most of her life in Evanston, Illinois. Williams was actively involved a number of social and civic organizations: She served for 10 years as the first African-American woman on the Evanston Plan Commission; served on the Women's Auxiliary of the Community Hospital of Evanston and two years as President; served on the Board of Directors of Community Hospital of Evanston and as President for 6 years; served on the board of the Y.W.C.A of Evanston and was President for two years; served as trustee of the Evanston Historical Society (Evanston History Center) where she received an award by the State of Illinois for her work on the project "The Sick Can Wait". Williams was also a member of the Evanston Black Catholic Group, the Fleetwood-Jourdain Art Guild, and the Tech Sergeant William B. Snell Ladies Auxiliary of the 7186 V.F.W.

Scope and Content Note:

The Pauline Williams papers are arranged into four series: "Evanston Historical Society," "Research Files," "Personal," and "Scrapbook." The bulk of the material comprising the collection concerns Williams' involvement with the Evanston Historical Society and African Americans in Evanston, Illinois. The collection spans from 1951 to 1993, but the bulk of the material covers 1988-1991 and consists of meeting minutes, photographs, newspaper clippings, publications, and awards.

Access Headings:

African Americans--Illinois--Evanston.
History--Societies, etc.

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Suburban African Americans--Illinois--Evanston.

Williams, Pauline, 1911-2005

Women--Societies and clubs.

Container List:

Series I: Evanston Historical Society

Box	Folder	Title	Date
	1	Correspondence	1991
	2	Events	1988-1990
	3	Newsletters	1987-1990
	4	Oral History Project	1977-1990
	5-6	Organizational	1988-1991
	7	Women's Auxiliary of the Community Hospital	1989-1991

Series II: Research Files

Box	Folder	Title	Date
	8	African/African-American History	1991
	9	Associates of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament	1999-2002
	10	Chicagoland	1966-1967
	11-13	Evanston, Illinois	1952-1990
	14	Inventories	1988
	15	News Clippings	1955-2000
	16	Young Women's Christian Association	1975

Series III: Personal

Box	Folder	Title	Date
	17	Biography	1993
	18	Certificates and Awards	1971-2002
	19	Dinners and Menus	1965-1976
	20	Weddings	1975-1995

Series IV: Scrapbook

Box	Folder	Title	Date
2		1 Scrapbook	1951-1954
Box			Date
2		Oversized Certificates and Awards	1951-1954

OS Folder 1 – unidentified photograph, n.d.