

DeKalb History Center

Caroline McKinney Clarke Papers

Introduction: The Caroline McKinney Clarke Papers primarily include clipping and other sources that Clarke used to write her book *The Story of Decatur, 1823-1899*.

Provenance: Gift of Louise H. Reaves (Accession #1995-28)

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; Caroline McKinney Clarke Papers, DeKalb History Center Archives

Processing begun by Lindsey Breithaupt, DHS intern, 1997. Completed by Megan Milford, DHS intern, 2001.

Size: 2.4 linear feet (six archival boxes)

Biographical Sketch of Caroline McKinney Clarke (1905-1994)

Caroline McKinney Clarke was a lifelong resident of Decatur, Georgia. She lived in the same house at 146 South Candler Street that her family had owned for several generations. She was born November 21, 1905, the daughter of Samuel Branch McKinney and Claude Candler McKinney. Her maternal grandfather, Milton Candler (-1909), a Congressman and attorney, built the house in 1889. Clarke had one brother, Samuel B. McKinney, Jr. (1908-1992). In 1927, she graduated from Agnes Scott College in Decatur. She had planned to attend the School of Social Work in New York, but instead went to work for a variety of social service organizations, including Community Employment Service, Federal Emergency Relief, and National Youth Administration.

She and her first husband, Forrest Hill, had one daughter, Louise Hill Reaves (1933-). A World War I veteran, Hill operated a nine-hole golf course that bore his name. The course was located just off his family's farm on Columbia Drive. The clubhouse was a popular site for dances, barbecues, and office parties. It burned down in 1937 and was never rebuilt. After Hill succumbed to tuberculosis in 1942, Clarke took over the management of the course. She ran the course for two years, acting as general manager, caddy master, greens keeper, and bartender. She was then approached about becoming the Director of the DeKalb Department of Family and Children Services, which she did from 1945 to 1972. During this time, she married Oscar Taylor Clarke, who died in 1958. After her retirement, Clarke was able to devote more time to her avocation of local history. She was a member of the DeKalb Historical Society and author of two books, *The Story of Decatur, 1823-1899* and *The Story of the Decatur Presbyterian Church*.

Clarke died on October 21, 1994. Her lifelong home at 146 South Candler Street is now the property of Agnes Scott College.

Description

The Caroline McKinney Clarke Papers contain copies from archival records and books, along with newspaper clippings that the author used to write her book, *The Story of Decatur*. The topics of these clippings range from the Civil War to historic buildings. She has information about prominent Decatur citizens and the surrounding areas. Also, there are several drafts of her manuscript and old photographs of various individuals, including Forrest Hill, Caroline and her brother, Thomas L. Cooper, Mary Scott Candler, Bessie Scott, Charles Murphey Candler, Alexander Stephens and servant, and W.H. Clarke.

Subject Headings

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

Main Entry:

Clarke, Caroline McKinney (1905-1994)

Subject/Added Entries:

Candler, Milton A.
 Civil War, 1861-1864.
 Clarke, Rev. William Henry (-1872).
 Decatur, Ga.—Social life and Customs.
 Decatur Presbyterian Church (Decatur, Ga.).
 DeKalb Historical Society (Decatur, Ga.).
 Old Courthouse on the Square (Decatur, Ga.).
 United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Folder List

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>
1	1	Clarke, Rev. Wm Henry	
	2	Old DeKalb Courthouses	
	3	Gay, Mary	1975-1980
	4	DeKalb County Doctors	
	5	Green, Agnes Bidwell	1974-1978
	6	Indian Trails	1935-1973
	7	Decatur Streets/Town Lots	
	8	Houston, Maj. W.J.	
	9	Footman, Miss Bella	
	10	Everhart, Adelaide – Portrait Painter	

11		Candler, Milton A.	
12		Bond, J.B.	
13		Crockett, Jas Pickens	
14		Families	
15		Inquiries re: Decatur/DeKalb History	
16		Jones, Robb E.	
17		Oliver, Henry	
18		O'Neal, "Country"	
19		Scaife, Wm (Bill)	
20		Wilson, John S.	
21		Black Churches – prior to 1900	
22		Decatur/DeKalb Churches	
23		The DeKalb County Sunday School Assn.	
24		Midway Sunday School and Church	
25		Rehoboth Baptist Church	
26		Alston Home – Meadow Nook	
2	1	Census of DeKalb	1790-1970
	2	Mills, etc. in DeKalb County – Carl Hudgins	
	3	Georgia Railroad and Depot	1963-1978
	4	House Tours	1973-1983
	5	Stone Mountain	1924-1979
	6	Soapstone Ridge	1949-1980
	7	DeKalb County	1981-1982
	8	Court Square	
	9	Decatur Neighborhoods	1898-1978
	10	Post Office – Decatur	1826
	11	Swanton House – Decatur	
	12	Decatur	1825-1900
	13	Decatur	1900-
	14	Decatur	1900-1945
	15	Old Decatur Homes and Buildings	
	16	Sycamore Street History	
	17	Maps of Decatur	1866,1880,1943
	18	Maps – DeKalb County	
3	1	Early History of Decatur	
	2	<i>Story of Decatur</i> – Susie Houston Transcript	
	3	From Atlanta to the Sea – Nov. 1864	
	4	Battle of Decatur – July 22, 1864	
	5	Civil War	
	6	Daughters of the Confederacy	
	7	Agnes Scott College	
	8	Decatur Beautification	
	9	DeKalb Historical Society	
	10	DHS Meetings – Minutes, etc.	

	11	DHS Board Meetings	
	12	DHS Publicity	
	13	DHS Committees	
4	1	Scrapbook	1929-1940
	2	Scrapbook – Milton A. Candler	1883-1887
	3	DeKalb Articles	
	4	Miscellaneous Clippings	
	5	Miscellaneous Clippings	
5	1	McDonald, G. Glenn (Ret. Capt. USN)	1988
	2	<i>Story of Decatur</i> – manuscript	
	3	<i>Story of Decatur</i> – extra pages	
	4	Scrapbook	1890s
	5	Miscellaneous Photos	
6	1	South Decatur Survey	1987
	2	Historical Sketch – DeKalb County, GA	1987
	3	Clean Up Decatur Campaign	
	4	Photos – Decatur Buildings and Homes	
	5	Photos – Individuals	
	6	Photos – Groups	
	7	Impact of MARTA	
	8	Street Scenes and Businesses	
	9	Education	
	10	“Murph’s Papers”	
	11	“Murph’s Papers” – Articles	