

Record Series #: 1121-064.01
Name: Carver Village Community Collection
Dates: 1946-2017, no date
Extent/Size: 4 folders, 460 digital files (0.1 cubic feet, 15.2 GB storage)
Language: English

Neighborhood History:

The Carver Village neighborhood, founded in 1946, was developed as the first African American subdivision in the United States by The Byck-Worrell Company. Historic Carver Village is considered to be bounded by West Gwinnett Street on the north, Allen Avenue on the east, Blun Avenue on the south, and Collat Avenue on the west. It is made up of neighborhoods previously known as Water Works, Springfield Terrace, Flatland Village, Mexico City, and Collat's Quarters. Today, the wider community surrounding historic Carver Village is commonly referred to as Carver Heights. Carver Heights extends from the Springfield Canal on the east, to Louisville Road on the north, Blun Avenue on the south, and Endley Street on the west. Significant landmarks in the neighborhood include Springfield Terrace School (also known as Pearl Lee Smith School), Hannah Chapel (now Flipper Chapel), and Water Works Pump House (now part of the Canal District).

Scope and Content:

The Carver Village Community Collection contains documents related to the planning of the December 2016 and September 2017 History Round-up Days events, historical accounts and information gathered as part of the events, digital scans of photographs provided by Carver Village residents, audiovisual recordings of oral history interviews conducted during the events, and one scanned property deed for a Carver Village home. The City of Savannah Municipal Archives now collects neighborhood histories through the Savannah Community Memory Project.

System of Arrangement and Ordering:

Files are both physical and digital in format. Digital files are arranged according to donor or interviewee, physical files are arranged by subject.

Conditions Governing Access:

None

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

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Digital Access:

Select digital images are available through the [Municipal Archives Digital Image Catalog \(www.savannahga.gov/DigitalCollections\)](http://www.savannahga.gov/DigitalCollections).

Related Collections:

Record Series 1121-064.06, Canal District Community Collection. City of Savannah Municipal Archives, Savannah, Georgia.

Access Points:

African American Churches
African Americans -- Housing
African Americans -- Segregation
Byck-Worrell Company
Canals – Springfield (Savannah, GA)
Churches – Hannah Chapel
Churches – Flipper Chapel
Ellis, Chester
Ellis, Wilmotine
Neighborhoods – Carver Village
Neighborhoods – Collat’s Quarters
Neighborhoods – Flatland Village
Neighborhoods – Mexico City
Powers, Johnnie
Richards, Essie
Shinoster, Richard
Springfield Terrace School (Savannah, GA)
Walker, Gladys
Wallace, Cody
Waterworks Building (Savannah, GA)
Williams-Orage, Charlsetta
Williams-Crawford, Edith Marie

Preferred Citation:

Record Series 1121-064.01, Carver Village Community Collection. City of Savannah Municipal Archives, Savannah, Georgia.

Collected On:

December 14-15, 2016; September 22, 2017

Processed by:

K. Zacovic, June 2017; amended September 2017; revised M. Kerkhoff, March 2023

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Inventory:

Physical Files [housed in Box 1121-064-001]

| <i>Folder #</i> | <i>Description</i> |
|-----------------|--|
| 1121-064.01_001 | Oral History interview notes, September 20, 2017 |
| 1121-064.01_002 | Two aerial-view maps of the Carver Heights vicinity, marked with pen by residents noting landmarks and neighborhood designations. Further explanations of these notations are available in Folder 1121-064.01_003. |
| 1121-064.01_003 | Photographs and map identifications, and resident reflections, 2017 |
| 1121-064.01_006 | Prompt cards with written reflections from area residents collected at a Canal District event, November 5, 2022 |

Digital Files [housed in E-Archives]

*See attached inventories for detailed descriptions and identified individuals of Digitized Items

| <i>Folder #</i> | <i>Description</i> |
|-----------------|--|
| 1121-064.01_004 | Scanned photographs from residents (243 images) Donor 1: Richards, Essie Donor 2: Powers, Johnnie Donor 3: Ellis, Wilmotine Donor 4; Williams-Orage, Charlsetta Donor 5: Walker, Gladys Donor 6: Shinhoster, Richard Donor 7: Slay, Carolyn |
| 1121-064.01_005 | Oral history recordings (files) [includes 3 files per interviewee: video, audio, and still photograph] Interview 1: Ellis, Wilmotine Interview 2: Ellis, Chester Interview 3: Powers, Johnnie Interview 4: Williams-Orage, Charlsetta Interview 5: Wallace, Cody Interview 6: Williams-Crawford, Edith Marie Interview 7: Shinhoster, Richard Interview 8: Mewborn-Slay, Carolyn (transcribed notes from an in-person conversation, no audiovisual recorded material) |
| 1121-064.01_002 | Deed for 915 Bowden Street, 1947 [photocopy] [Missing 5/5/2023] |

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Digitized Items Inventory

Note: Identifications provided by donor at point of collection.

Donor 1: Richards, Essie (170 images)

| <u>Item #</u> | <u>Identification</u> |
|---------------|---|
| 1 | Pearl Lee Smith School |
| 2 | Food drive (after 1997) |
| 3 | Food drive (after 1997) |
| 4 | Community Center Opening Ceremony, March 26, 1997 |
| 5 | Community Center Opening Ceremony, March 26, 1997 |
| 6 | Food drive (after 1997) |
| 7 | Newspaper clipping on Carver Heights Community Center, circa 1997 |
| 8 | Unknown house |
| 9 | Faded sign |
| 10 | Reverend Wright, Hanna Church (now Flipper), food drive (after 1997) |
| 11 | Showcase Savannah home |
| 12 | People in front of houses |
| 13 | Unknown house |
| 14 | Annual Banquet at Carey Hilliard's |
| 15 | Reverend Wright, Hanna Church (now Flipper), food drive (after 1997) |
| 16 | Reverend Wright, Hanna Church (now Flipper), food drive (after 1997) |
| 17 | Driver of the food drive truck |
| 18 | Mayor Floyd Adams speaking at Community Center Opening Ceremony, March 26, 1997 |
| 19 | Unknown house |
| 20 | Mr. John Finnex, guest speaker at annual banquet at Carey Hilliard's |
| 21 | Ribbon cutting ceremony and grand opening of Community Center March 26, 1997 - City Manager Brown, Robert Walker, Dorothy Patterson, Mrs. Lovett, Carey Butler, Mrs. Richards, Rev Wright (left to right w/ ribbon) |
| 22 | 2nd convention, Civic Center, Mr. James Hall was speaker 1996 |
| 23 | Youth dancers at Civic Center neighborhood competition, 1996 |
| 24 | State representative Dorothy Pelote, Deacon Charlie Boatwright, Essie Richards 1996 |
| 25 | Community Center Opening, Mayor Adams March 26, 1997 |
| 26 | Community Center Opening, March 26, 1997 |
| 27 | Community Center Opening ceremony, March 26, 1997 |
| 28 | Community Center Opening ceremony, March 26, 1997 |
| 29 | Community Center Opening ceremony, March 26, 1997 |
| 30 | Community Center Opening ceremony, March 26, 1997 |
| 31 | Reverend Wright holding placard after winning \$500 prove for most attendees at 1996 Spirit Awards (*spent \$500 to buy stallions mascot costume) |

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| <u>Item #</u> | <u>Identification</u> |
|---------------|--|
| 32 | Community Center Opening Ceremony, March 26, 1997 |
| 33 | Community Center Opening Ceremony, March 26, 1997 |
| 34 | Coach Richards and another man at Community Spirit Awards |
| 35 | Sign looking towards Kennedy Park from Community Center March 26, 1997 |
| 36 | Community Center Opening Ceremony, March 26, 1997 |
| 37 | Community Spirit Awards, Civic Center |
| 38 | Carver Village Annual Banquet at Carey Hilliard's |
| 39 | Community Center Opening Ceremony, Rep. Jack Kingston addressing crowd March 26, 1997 |
| 40 | Sign looking towards Kennedy Park from Community Center March 26, 1997 |
| 41 | Unknown house |
| 42 | Mrs. Richards giving an address as President of Neighborhood association at Community Center Opening Ceremony, March 26, 1997 |
| 43 | Community Center Opening Ceremony, Rep. Jack Kingsdon, Mayor Floyd Adams, Alderman David Jones, March 26, 1997 |
| 44 | Unknown house |
| 45 | Charles Gordon addressing the crowd at Community Center Opening Ceremony, March 26, 1997 |
| 46 | Mrs. Richards giving an address as President of Neighborhood association at Community Center Opening Ceremony, March 26, 1997 |
| 47 | Friends from West Side community in t-shirts, Mrs. and Mr. Dunham and Commissioner Priscilla Thomas, 1996 |
| 48 | Carver Heights Community Center under construction, 1996 |
| 49 | Unknown houses |
| 50 | Unknown houses |
| 51 | Unknown houses |
| 52 | Johnny Johnson, Deacon David Boatwright, Mrs. Johnson at Showcase Savannah |
| 53 | Unknown house |
| 54 | Unknown house |
| 55 | Unknown man in suit, March 1997 |
| 56 | Unknown house |
| 57 | Unknown house |
| 58 | Unknown house |
| 59 | Unknown house |
| 60 | Unknown house, March 1997 |
| 61 | Annual Banquet |
| 62 | Carver Heights Stallions award, 1996 |
| 63 | Pearl Lee Smith School |
| 64 | Mrs. Bozmore (115 year old woman, Eliza possible first name) standing on a porch |
| 65 | Mrs. Richards, James Flowers, Herman Thomas giving donation to unknown 1985, Dorothy Pelote at Pearl Smith School |

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| <u>Item #</u> | <u>Identification</u> |
|---------------|--|
| 66 | Unknown houses and cars |
| 67 | Food drive, March 1997 |
| 68 | Unknown houses, March 1997 |
| 69 | Carver Village Annual Banquet |
| 70 | Carver Village Annual Banquet |
| 71 | Food Drive (after 1997) |
| 72 | Carver Village Annual Banquet |
| 73 | Friends from West Side community in t-shirts, Mrs. and Mr. Dunham and Commissioner Priscilla Thomas, 1996 |
| 74 | Carver Village Annual Banquet |
| 75 | County Commissioner Ray Allen at 1984 Carver Heights Banquet |
| 76 | Coach Ronald Richards at 1996 Banquet |
| 77 | Mrs. Richards, Mrs. Grace Taylor giving accolades to Mrs. Richards at Annual Banquet |
| 78 | Food drive (after 1997) |
| 79 | Mrs. Price from Woodville, 1996 |
| 80 | Woman speaking at podium at Annual Banquet |
| 81 | Mrs. Pelote at the podium at Annual Banquet |
| 82 | Reverend Wright giving Mr. Finney a certificate of appreciation at Annual Banquet |
| 83 | Goodwill Baptist Church |
| 84 | Coach Ron Richards with 3 players from Carver Heights Stallions at Annual Banquet |
| 85 | Mayor Floyd Adams sitting at Annual Banquet Head Table |
| 86 | Finney's daughter introducing him at Annual Banquet |
| 87 | Unknown house |
| 88 | Mrs. Richards, James Flowers, Herman Thomas giving donation to unknown 1985, Dorothy Pelote at Pearl Smith School |
| 89 | Unknown house, March 1997 |
| 90 | Railroad tracks |
| 91 | The Gospel of Light Deliverance Center, March 1997 |
| 92 | Flipper Chapel AME Church, organized 1926, March 1997 |
| 93 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 94 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 95 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 96 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 97 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 98 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 99 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 100 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 101 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 102 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |

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| <u>Item #</u> | <u>Identification</u> |
|---------------|---|
| 103 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 104 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 105 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 106 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 107 | Pearl Smith School |
| 108 | Unknown house |
| 109 | Olivia Johnson, Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 110 | Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Davis, Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 111 | Carver Village, first homes developed, note the unpaved streets, sidewalks across drainage ditches, circa 1947 |
| 112 | Food drive |
| 113 | Deacon Charlie Boatwright, Deacon George Steward (from right to left) |
| 114 | City Youth Convention for spirit awards (Stallions) |
| 115 | Group sitting inside for a presentation |
| 116 | People around railroad tracks and a house |
| 117 | View of inside a store with a welcome sign |
| 118 | Group sitting inside for a presentation |
| 119 | Showcase Savannah House, March 25, 1998 |
| 120 | Group sitting inside around tables |
| 121 | Unknown house |
| 122 | Mayor Floyd Adams, Essie Richards, unidentified woman at Carver Village Community Center (from left to right) |
| 123 | Kids sitting on a porch of a house |
| 124 | Representative Pelote (in pink) presenting at Community Center |
| 125 | Showcase Savannah House, March 4, 1998 |
| 126 | Mrs. Bozemore (115 year old woman, Eliza possible first name) standing on a porch |
| 127 | Mrs. Amanda Plummer "Dictionary Lady" at Annual Banquet (She provided dictionaries for all the students in the neighborhood, taught at Garrison School in 1990's) |
| 128 | Reverend Wright, Mrs. Richards, Representative Pelote at the dedication for the Stallions sign, with team in the back, 1996 |
| 129 | Cheerleaders at the Stallions sign dedication, Gwinnet Street, 1996 |
| 130 | Stallion mascot for the sports teams at Annual Banquet |
| 131 | Mary's Place, a restaurant |
| 132 | Carver Heights Stallions Cheerleaders, 1996 |
| 133 | Representative Pelote at Pearl Smith School |
| 134 | Banquet at Pearl Smith School |
| 135 | Vendall William at Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 136 | Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 137 | Representative Pelote and Catherine Jackson (Pearl Smith, principal) |
| 138 | Mrs. Millidage at Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |

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| <u>Item #</u> | <u>Identification</u> |
|---------------|---|
| 139 | Showcase Savannah House, March 4, 1998 |
| 140 | Ellen Powell, Representative Pelote, Mrs. Law, Mrs. Small, Carver Heights Banquet, 1990's |
| 141 | Carver Village Annual Banquet, 1984 |
| 142 | Carver Village Annual Banquet, 1984 |
| 143 | Carver Village Annual Banquet, 1984 |
| 144 | Mrs. Evelyn Daniels, Carver Heights Banquet, 1984 |
| 145 | Food Drive (after 1997) |
| 146 | Two men working on a lawn mower |
| 147 | Mrs. Polite, House of the Month on Brickyard, March 4, 1998 |
| 148 | Grand Opening of Community Center, completed landscaping, March 1997 |
| 149 | Mayor Floyd Adams at Annual Banquet |
| 150 | House of the Month, Showcase Savannah, March 4, 1998 |
| 151 | Truck parked between houses |
| 152 | Houses that do not exist anymore |
| 153 | Houses that do not exist anymore |
| 154 | Houses that do not exist anymore |
| 155 | Houses that do not exist anymore |
| 156 | Houses that do not exist anymore |
| 157 | Houses that do not exist anymore |
| 158 | Houses that do not exist anymore |
| 159 | Houses and streets |
| 160 | Houses and streets |
| 161 | Houses and streets |
| 162 | Houses and streets |
| 163 | Three women standing and sitting by a table inside |
| 164 | Community Garden |
| 165 | Group of people sitting at a table |
| 166 | Group sitting inside for a presentation |
| 167 | Large audience in the lobby of the Civic Center |
| 168 | Community Spirit Awards presentation boards |
| 169 | Friends from West Side community in t-shirts, Mrs. and Mr. Dunham and Commissioner Priscilla Thomas, 1996 |
| 170 | Flipper Chapel AME Church |

Donor 2: Ellis, Wilmotine (13 images)

Pearl Lee Smith School dedication program and newspaper clippings related to Pearl Lee Smith School, 1959, 1976 1991

Donor 3: Powers, Johnnie (4 images)

Several images of homes in Carver Village, and a newspaper article about Reverend Johnnie Powers, 1964

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Donor 4: Williams-Orage, Charlsetta (14 images)

| <u>Item #</u> | <u>Identification</u> |
|---------------|--|
| 189 | Springfield Terrace School Student, 1946-1947 |
| 190 | Springfield Terrace School Student, 1947-1948 |
| 191 | Springfield Terrace School Student, 1947-1948 |
| 192 | Springfield Terrace School Student, 1947-1948 |
| 193 | Springfield Terrace School Student, last name Harten, 1946-1947 |
| 194-202 | 9 photographs, 2 variations: 1st Springfield Terrace School in middle background, 3rd person on the left in the back is Ms. Miley, last person on the right is Mrs. Thomas, with Mr. Thomas (5th from right), on the left is Mr. Fireman, 4th from right is Florence Perry (in center with black hat), most likely breaking ground for Independent Hall, as these were the founding members of the organization, also shows Kemper store |

Donor 5: Walker, Gladys (21 images)

| <u>Item #</u> | <u>Identification</u> |
|---------------|---|
| 203 | Roosevelt Walker school and fire patrol merit certificate |
| 204 | John Paul Walker, certificate of attendance, 1960 |
| 205 | Patricia Walker, citizenship certificate, 1961 |
| 206 | Michael Al Walker, perfect attendance, May 24, 1966 |
| 207 | Robert Jr. |
| 208 | Isaac Walker |
| 209 | Gladys Walker Crime Prevention certificate, 2001 |
| 210 | Gladys Walker |
| 211 | Gladys Walker, Keep Savannah Beautiful certificate, 1999 |
| 212 | Gladys Walker, certificate for service, 1997 |
| 213-219 | Carver Heights Mission Improvement Organization Annual Association Banquet program, November 19, 1999 |
| 220-222 | Carver Village Annual Scholarship Banquet, November 8, 2013 |
| 223-243 | Carver Heights Mission Improvement Organization Annual Association Banquet program, October 29, 2010 |

Donor 6: Shinhoster, Richard (2 images)

| <u>Item #</u> | <u>Identification</u> |
|---------------|--|
| 224 | Carver Village Championship Baseball Team, Springfield Terrace after school program managed by Pauline Wright (woman in the picture), called the "raggedy nine"; Mr. Standrick was the coach, also showing Ike Carter, Hugh Bryant (Estella Shabazz's brother), and Woodrow Conyers, early to mid-1950's |
| 225 | Later Springfield Terrace baseball team, Eric Shinhoster is second from the right on the bottom row |

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Donor 7: Slay, Carolyn (3 images)

| <u>Item #</u> | <u>Identification</u> |
|---------------|--|
| 226 | Group of men standing in front of a building holding documents |
| 227 | Two women walking and smiling down a sidewalk |
| 228 | A man in a suit and hat leans on a table |