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**Guide to the Ethel James Williams Papers
DCAAP.0029**

**Moorland-Spingarn Research Center,
Howard University Collection Number xxx**

Finding aid prepared by Finding aid prepared by D.C. Africana Archives Project

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

March 14, 2016

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

DC Africana Archives Project
Gelman Library
Special Collections, Suite 704
2130 H Street NW
Washington DC, 20052

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Summary Information

Repository	DC Africana Archives Project
Title	Ethel James Williams Papers
Date	1867-2002
Extent	12.0 Cubic feet
Location note	This collection is part of the holdings of the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center at Howard University, 500 Howard Place, NW, Washington, DC 20059. Please contact them for information on accessing these materials.
Language	English
Abstract	Ethel James Williams worked in Washington social services and government for five decades who was research director of the city council and executive director of the D.C. Commission for Women. Her papers document her career and various political causes, as well as her personal life. The collection contains scrapbooks, photo albums, and speeches given by Williams, as well as family files. Also included are subject files and correspondence from organizations Williams belonged to, including Club Twenty, DC Commission for Women, and the National Association of Commissions for Women, among others.

Biographical/Historical note

Ethel James Williams was born on April 10, 1915, in Philadelphia, PA. She was the daughter of Elijah James and Carrie “Carolina” D. Mayes. She later graduated from Philadelphia High School for Girls and earned a bachelor’s degree from Temple University and master’s in social work from Columbia University. Williams dedicated her life’s work to serving women and children in the District. Williams was appointed as Executive Director of the National Association of Commission for Women in 1980 by then-Mayor, Marion Barry. In addition to her work for the city, Williams worked for the Southeast Neighborhood House, serving as its Executive Director. Her work at Howard University as Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Social Work is well noted. Williams became more deeply involved in D.C. politics when she accepted a fellowship with the U.S. Department of Housing and Community Development and became a staff member of the first D.C. Council. She eventually served in the Department of Human Resources, Division Chief for the Equal Employment Opportunity department, and the Civil Rights Compliance Program. She was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and maintained a high level of community service for the D.C. United Way, Metropolitan YMCA & YWCA, Metropolitan Housing and Planning Association, and the Black Women’s Agenda. She also served as Commissioner of ANC 2D and was elected Chairperson of the Commission in 1979.

Scope and Contents note

The Ethel James Williams Papers document Williams' career and various political causes, as well as her personal life. The collection contains scrapbooks, photo albums, and speeches given by Williams, as well as family files. Also included are subject files and correspondence from organizations Williams belonged to, including Club Twenty, DC Commission for Women, and the National Association of Commissions for Women, among others.

Arrangement note

This collection is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

DC Africana Archives Project

Conditions Governing Access note

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use note

Some material may be copyrighted or restricted. It is the patron's obligation to determine and satisfy copyright or other case restrictions when publishing or otherwise distributing materials found in the collections.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

tbd

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

tbd

Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
101st Congress Voting Record on Women's Issues 1990	4	10
A Salute to Ethel James Williams 1986	9	1
AARP - Southwest Waterfront Chapter - Minutes and Events (1 of 2) 2000-2003	10	2
AARP - Southwest Waterfront Chapter - Minutes and Events (2 of 2) 2000-2003	10	3
Academy of Certified Social Workers Award 1971-1972	12	4
Ad Hoc Committee on Senior Services 2002	2	3
Addresses and Holiday Cards (1 of 2) undated	9	7
Addresses and Holiday Cards (2 of 2) undated	9	8
Advisory Neighborhood Commission Swearing-in 1980	7	7
Africa - July, 1985 1985-1988	11	11
African Methodist Episcopal Church - Suffrage 1966-1991	8	2

Alexis Herman 1998	6	18
Alpha Kappa Alpha Public Policy Seminar 1996-1998	9	19
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority 10th Cluster Conference 1996	9	9
An Afternoon Tea with Adele Alexander 2000	3	8
Anacostia Neighborhood Museum 1972-1991	4	12
Article: Sexism and Social Work 1974	11	19
Articles about Ethel Williams 1977-1991	6	5
Articles on Women's Issues 1977-1997	5	8
Awards and Certificates 1979-1999	4	19
Bermuda - March 13, 1977 1977	7	10
Biography undated	6	4
Black History (1 of 2) 1966-1971	2	15
Black History (2 of 2) 1966-1971	2	16
Black Soldiers - Civil War 1994-1998	6	13

Black Woman as Volunteer 1995	7	5
Black Woman as Volunteer: Rewrites 1976-1983	11	18
Black Women Historians 1996-1998	1	17
Black Women in the Academy 1999	5	17
Black Women's Agenda 1993-1995	5	9
Black Women's Agenda - Newsletters & Meeting Minutes; Congressional Black Caucus Agenda 1995-1998	10	1
Black Women's Agenda: Welfare Program and Plan of Action 1987	9	5
"The Black Woman as Volunteer" (1 of 2) 1976-1979	4	14
"The Black Woman as Volunteer" (2 of 2) 1976-1979	4	15
Board Member Lists 1982-1988	5	33
Bridge undated	5	10
Canaan 1999 Catalog 1999	2	8
Certificates and Awards 1981-1985		12

"The City as a Set of Related Systems in a Metropolitan Setting" 1967	11	10
Class of '49 Columbia University 1999	5	27
Cloward's Lectures undated	5	11
Club Twenty - Certificate of Incorporation 1991	3	3
Club Twenty - Events (1 of 2) 1996	3	4
Club Twenty - Events (2 of 2) 1996	3	5
Club Twenty - Fundraising 1996	3	7
Club Twenty - General 1988-2000	3	1
Club Twenty - Mailing Lists 1996	3	6
Club Twenty - Minutes, Contracts, Events 2000-2001	3	16
Club Twenty Book Review 2000	3	2
Columbia University School of Social Work Centennial Planning 1997	5	39
Community Configuration Lecture 1965	5	13
Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings 1981-1990	7	12

Correspondence and Obituaries 1985-1996	6	11
Course Materials 1987-1988	1	8
Curriculum Vitae 1969-1977	4	7
DC Agenda 1996	5	23
DC Commission for Women 1983-1996	5	1
DC Commission for Women - Speeches 1966-1986	8	5
DC Commission for Women Binder (1 of 4) 1981-2002	7	13
DC Commission for Women Binder (2 of 4) 1981-2002	7	14
DC Commission for Women Binder (3 of 4) 1981-2002	7	15
DC Commission for Women Binder (4 of 4) 1981-2002	7	16
DC Women's Commission 1985	3	11
DC Women's Commission for Crime Prevention 1996	5	22
DC Women's Program Managers 1983-1984	5	24
Death Notices and Memorial Service Programs 1989-1993	1	11

District of Columbia Inagural 1991	4	11
District of Columbia Rehabilitation Association 1985	11	1
District of Columbia Women's Hall of Fame 1990-1998	9	18
Documents on Minority Health 1999	11	7
Dorothy R Jackson, Esq. c.2000	2	6
Dr. Calvin W. Rolark, Sr. Memorial Luncheon 1999	5	18
"A Drowning of Innocence" 1965	8	16
Eden Cemetery - Philadelphia 1991	6	19
Episcopal Campus Ministry 1967-1969	11	13
Estate Planning	6	21
Ethel James Williams Recognition Resolution 1985	12	2
Ethel James Williams Retirement Recognition Resolution 1986	12	1
Ethel James Williams Scholarship Fund 1993-1995	6	2
Eva M. Stewart 1991	6	3

Event Invitations and Programs 1982-1990	7	11
Event Programs, Cards, Correspondence 1984-1987	1	4
Family 1951	2	20
Family - Addresses and Notes 1940-1955	2	17
Family - Continued 1998	2	21
Family History 1994	6	17
Family Photo Album 1965-1995	4	1
Family: U.S. Internal Revenue Notebook 1867	2	23
Federal Women's Program Inter-Agency Council 1999	9	2
Federal Women's Program Philadelphia (1 of 2) 1976	2	10
Federal Women's Program Philadelphia (2 of 2) 1976	2	11
Financial Management Service 1991	7	3
Friends of the DC Commission for Women Luncheon 1999	5	2

Friends of the DC Commission for Women Meetings and Correspondence 1998-1999	5	4
"From Strength to Strength" 1988	3	15
Gaston Deviane III 2000	2	5
Geneology 1992-1993	5	6
Golden Girls and Odds and Ends 1990-1999	6	14
Grace Hewell 2000	9	17
Grant Proposal Writing 1978	9	10
History - DC City Council 1969	5	15
Homeowners Policy 1988	5	16
Inabel Burns Lindsay 1984	6	20
Invitations and Newspaper Clippings 1985-1987	1	15
Invitations and Special Events 1990-1999	4	13
Keynote Program of Women's Week 1982	11	3

Lambda Kappa Mu 1990	8	10
Leader in Action, Washington Post Magazine, and Carol Thompson Farewell Gala 1986-1990	9	6
Lecture Material 1968-1971	2	14
Lecture Material 1978	7	4
Letter of Direction and Response 1979	4	8
Mall Committee - Task Force 1998	6	9
Masters Degree from Columbia University 1949	2	22
Masters Degree from Columbia University 1949	12	5
Memorial Services and Obituaries 1990-2000	4	16
Moorland-Spingarn 1974-1993	3	10
Multicultural Issues and Disability: Annotated Bibliography 1999	11	6
Mumford Lewis - "The City in History: Its Origins, Its Transformation, Its Prospects" 1962-1977	11	14
National Association of Commissions for Women - Members of the Board 1986-1987	5	32

National Association of Commissions for Women - Proposal 1988-1989	5	36
National Association of Commissions for Women - Recollections of the Past Presidents 1995	9	15
National Association of Commissions of Women Speeches 1976-1986	1	10
National Association of Social Workers Metro Chapter Service Award 1990	5	7
National Council of Negro Women - Six Month Report 1961-1975	2	4
National Women's History Month 1997	6	7
Newsletters 1979-1981	1	3
Newspaper Clippings 1978	2	19
Newspaper Clippings - Race and Gender Issues 1967-1970	4	5
Newspaper Clippings - Women's Rights Issues 1995-1996	1	6
Newspaper Clippings: Poverty and Urban Renewal 1973-1978	11	9
Newspaper Pictures 1980-1985	7	1
Nigeria, Kenya 1985-1987	5	14

Ninth District News and Department of Human Resources Reunion 1986	1	5
Northeastern Regional Conference - Lambda Kappa Mu 1990	1	16
Office of Early Child Development - Notes & Initiatives 1989-1993	11	17
Older Women's League 1998	5	28
"Our Invisible Poor" by Dwight McDonald undated	5	12
Personal Profile 1963	4	6
Personal Qualifications Statement and Resume 1981	1	19
Philadelphia High School for Girls 1998	9	12
Philadelphia High School for Girls Alumnae Correspondence 1998	5	29
Philadelphia High School for Girls Alumnae News 2000	4	9
Photo Album: A Salute to Ethel Williams (1 of 3) 1986	10	4
Photo Album: A Salute to Ethel Williams (2 of 3) 1986	10	5
Photo Album: A Salute to Ethel Williams (3 of 3) 1986	10	6
Photo album: Ethel with Friends and Family 1956	10	7

Photographs 1986	4	20
Photographs c.1940-1987	7	8
Photographs of Ethel Williams c.1941-1960	2	18
Positive Peer and Mentor Appreciation Day 1994	5	3
"Pray One For Another" 1993	8	17
Professional Correspondence 1968-1971	2	9
Proposal to Support The Black Woman's Agenda National Clearinghouse 1990	9	14
"Race Relations in Crisis" 1968-1973	8	15
Resume 1985-1992	6	1
Resume and Personal Qualifications Statement 1974-1977	4	4
Retirement Proclamation 1986	12	6
River Park 2001-2002	2	2
River Park undated	8	3

School of Architecture Article - Drafts undated	1	2
"School Integration: 20 Years Later" 1974	11	4
Scrapbook 1982-1987	4	21
Scrapbook 1965-1976	7	6
Scrapbook (1 of 2) 1985-1988	4	2
Scrapbook (2 of 2) 1985-1988	4	3
Scrapbook: Newspaper Clippings, Cards, Photos 1908-1960	12	7
Slave Labor in America 1976	8	11
Social Service: A History of Women in Social Work (1 of 2) c. 1990	1	13
Social Service: A History of Women in Social Work (2 of 2) c. 1990	1	14
Social Work Pioneers 1997-2001	6	6
Southwest Task Force 1999	9	16
Southwest Waterfront Chapter 4751-DC 1996	9	20
Southwest/east Youth Conference 1988	5	37

Speech and Research on Women in the Third World 1969-1975	11	8
Speech by Judge William S Thompson on Men's Day 1970	11	2
Speech on Children's Needs and Poverty c.1970s	11	5
Speeches 1968-1979	1	1
Speeches 1970-1978	7	2
Speeches - Councilman Yeldell and John W. Gardner 1969-1979	8	14
Speeches - Education 1968-1975	8	7
Speeches - Health and Wellness 1967-1993	8	4
Speeches - Women's Issues 1969-1985	8	6
Speeches (1 of 2) 1973-1985	2	12
Speeches (2 of 2) 1973-1985	2	13
Speeches and Literature on Poverty and Women's Rights 1978-1995	1	7
Speeches and Notes 1968-1991	8	1
Speeches: American Women 1976-1984	1	9

Speeches: Education and Civil Rights 1968-1977	11	16
Spiritual Women Entrepreneurial Networking Association 1996	5	5
Stephanie Yvette Felix Thesis 1992	5	34
Suffrage - Women's Equality Day 1988-1998	2	1
Taste of Kentucky President's Reception 1988	7	9
Temple University undated	5	26
The Christian Street of YMCA: Celebrating a Century of Service 1989	4	18
The Group 1978-1989	3	9
Training - Board, etc. 1995-1998	6	8
Training - Workshop 1997	6	15
Training and Storage Plan 1995-1996	6	16
UN Delegation to the Commission on the State of Women 1990	6	12
UNIFEM 1997-1998	5	20
United Black Fund 1998-1999	5	30

United Givers Fund Award undated	12	3
"The Urban Condition" undated	8	8
Urban League Salute to Betti Whaley 1991-1992	9	13
"Urbanism and Human Values" 1962	11	15
Veronica Pace 1983	9	11
Virginia Union University Annual Report 1999-2000	4	17
Vitae and Personnel Actions 1980	5	35
Volunteerism; "Social Action and the Settlement in a Changing World" 1976-1978	11	12
Voting 1996	5	21
Washington Post: Portrait of DC Women 1997	5	25
Welfare Reform 1996	5	19
Wiley Branton Community Development Corporation 1994-1996	5	38
Wiley Branton Community Development Corporation 1991-2002	9	21

Women in the District of Columbia - History 1977	9	4
"Women in the Third World" and Article on Mary McLeod Bethune 1959-1975	8	9
Women of Washington 1996-1999	5	31
Women's Equality Day 1999	3	12
Women's Equality Day 1998	6	10
Women's History 1996-2000	3	14
Women's History March 1997-1999 1997-1999	9	3
Women's History Month 2000	3	13
"Women on the Move" Seminar 1975-1980	8	12
Women's Rights Movement History 1990	1	18
"Working Together in a Multiculture" 1991	8	13
Zora Martin Felton 2003	2	7