

Charlotte Meyer Collection: Historic Buildings of Decatur, IL

Collection # 1976.01

Finding Aid prepared by Rebecca Damptz, CA



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Archives and Special Collections Department
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COLLECTION SUMMARY

Collection Number: 1976.01

Collection Title: Charlotte Meyer Collection: Historic Buildings of Decatur, IL

Dates: 1974-1976

Size: 12 boxes (6 linear ft.)

Creator/Collector: Charlotte Meyer

Acquisition Information: Zonta Club

Accruals: No accruals are expected

Custodial History: Materials were acquired from collector

Languages: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: Local History Room, Archives and Special Collections Department, Decatur Public Library, Decatur, Illinois.

Processed By: Rebecca Dampz CA, 2016

Conservation Notes: Removed from binders and original plastic sleeves, and placed in acid-free folders and sleeves.

RIGHTS AND ACCESS

Physical Access Restrictions

None

Technical Access Restrictions

None

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INFORMATION FOR RESEARCHERS

Preferred Citation

[item identification], [collection title], [collection number], Decatur Public Library, Department of Archives and Special Collections, Decatur, Illinois.

Related Collections

None.

Separated Material

None.

Published Descriptions

Not applicable

Location of Originals

Not applicable

Location of Copies

Not applicable.

Publication Note

People and Places of Old Decatur #1 and #2

Subject Headings

Charlotte Meyer, historic buildings, Decatur IL

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Charlotte Meyer was born in Decatur, IL on October 17, 1907 to Edward W. and Ellen Vermillion Meyer. She graduated from Decatur High School in 1925, and Magna Cum Laude from Millikin University in 1931. Later, she received her Masters degree from the University of Michigan in 1937, and took graduate courses from the University of Illinois, University of Wisconsin, University of Chicago, and Columbia University. Ms. Meyer was a teacher and administrator for Decatur Public School District for 39 years, and retired in 1968 as the Assistant Superintendent in charge of elementary education. After retiring, she spent 5 years at the National College of Education in Evanston where she supervised student teachers.

Ms. Meyer was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Association for Childhood Education, Illinois Education Association, Illinois Elementary Principals Association, Delta Kappa Gamma Society, Illinois Commission on Teacher Education and Professional Standards, and National Commission on Safety Education. She also participated in many community groups, including Zonta Club, Millikin Alumni Association, Decatur Historic and Architectural Sites Commission, Macon County Historical Society, And the Millikin University Summer School Program. She was a board member at the YWCA, Decatur Day Care Center, Mental Health Association, and the Boy's Opportunity Home.

Charlotte Meyer researched and wrote *People and Places in Old Decatur*, *Places and People in Old Decatur 1900-1929*, and the *History of the First Presbyterian Church*. Her research materials for *People and Places in Old Decatur*, and *Places and People in Old Decatur 1900-1929* were donated to the Decatur Public Library in 1976.

Ms. Meyer died on May 11, 1998, and her body was donated to science.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains the notes, photographs, and newspaper clippings used to write the two *People and Places of Old Decatur* books in the 1970s. The collection is 6 linear feet, and including residences, businesses, churches, educational institutions, public buildings, industry, and social and social service organizations.

The collection was donated to the library by the Zonta Club, and was originally housed in 15 binders. The order of these binders was kept intact. Not all binders received their own box. Some were combined into one box.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

Vol. I: Residences – Boiling Springs Road to 357 W. Decatur

This series contains information pertaining to the history of these houses and the people who owned them.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Title Page and Foreword	Box 1	ff. 1
Table of Contents		ff. 2
Boiling Springs Rd – John Hanks Farm/House		ff. 3
851 E. Cantrell St.		ff. 4
3196 W. Center St.		ff. 5
259 N. College St. – Folrath House		ff. 6
328 N. College St. – Freeman House		ff. 7
361 N. College St. – A.E. Staley Mansion		ff. 8
401 N. College St. – England Mansion		ff. 9
421 N. College St.		ff. 10
612 E. Condit St.		ff. 11
627 S. Crea St.		ff. 12
695 S. Crea St.		ff. 13
314 W. Decatur St.		ff. 14
356 W. Decatur St. – Andrew Mills Home		ff. 15
357 W. Decatur St. – Powers/Jarvis Mansion		ff. 16

Vol. II: Residences – 413 W. Decatur to 1595 W. Macon

This series contains information pertaining to the history of these houses and the people who owned them.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Title Page and Foreword	Box 2	ff. 1
Table of Contents		ff. 2
413 W. Decatur St. – Peter Wikoff House		ff. 3

472 W. Decatur St. – Hiram Johnson House		ff. 4
539 W. Decatur St. – Barclay & Berry Apts.		ff. 5
617 W. Decatur St. – Richard O. Rosen/Harold A. Pogue House		ff. 6
860 W. Decatur St. – William C. Murray House		ff. 7
309 N. Edward St.		ff. 8
425 N. Edward St. – Frank Panmeyer House		ff. 9
444 S. Edward St. – Jack Powers/Madeline B. Smith House		ff. 10
487 Ewing Ave. – Albert G. Webber House		ff. 11
746 W. Harrison Ave. – Levi Gulick/John Sawyer House		ff. 12
N. Haworth St. – Miscellaneous Bungalows		ff. 13
323 W. Macon		ff. 14
334 W. Macon St. – Hugh Crea House		ff. 15
346 W. Macon St. – Andrew J. Wallace/J.D. Johnson/Ann Seidman House		ff. 16
457 W. Macon St. – Samuel S. Jack House		ff. 17
465 W. Macon St. – Winter Waggoner/Rolla C. McMillen House		ff. 18
1486 W. Macon St.		ff. 19
1548 W. Macon St.		ff. 20
1595 W. Macon St.		ff. 21

Vol. III: Residences – W. Main St. to Millikin Place

This series contains information pertaining to the history of these houses and the people who owned them.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Title Page and Foreword	Box 3	ff. 1
Table of Contents		ff. 2
308 W. Main St. – W.H. Linn House		ff. 3

452 W. Main St. – Heston I. Baldwin House		ff. 4
500 W. Main St. – Dr. William Barnes House/Brintlinger Funeral Home		ff. 5
745 W. Main St. – Edgar E. Barber House		ff. 6
1165 W. Main St. – Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity House/Gushard House		ff. 7
1305 W. Main St. – Zeta Tau Alpha House		ff. 8
1625 W. Main St. – R.R. Elliott House		ff. 9
Millikin Place		ff. 10
#1 Millikin Place – Robert Mueller House		ff. 11
#2 Millikin Place – Edward P. Irving House		ff. 12
#3 Millikin Place – William J. Grady House		ff. 13
#4 Millikin Place – Adolph Mueller House		ff. 14

Vol. IV: Residences – Montgomery Place to 560 Powers Lane

This series contains information pertaining to the history of these houses and the people who owned them.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Title Page and Foreword	Box 4	ff. 1
Table of Contents		ff. 2
#1 Montgomery Place – R.R. Montgomery/William L. Shellabarger House		ff. 3
#7 Montgomery Place – Barkley S. Brooks House		ff. 4
695 W. Mound Rd.		ff. 5
437 W. North St.		ff. 6
438 W. North St. – Dr. Ira Barnes House/Lincoln Manor		ff. 7
464 W. North St. – E.A. Gastman House		ff. 8
805 W. North St. – E.J. Kilborn House		ff. 9

275 Park Place – Huff-Morey House		ff. 10
125 N. Pine St.		ff. 11
470 Powers Lane – Given House		ff. 12
505 Powers Lane – Charles A. Ewing House		ff. 13
510 Powers Lane – Samuel Powers House		ff. 14
560 Powers Lane – LeForgee-Beaman House		ff. 15

Vol. V: Residences – 580 Powers Lane to 715 E. Whitmer

This series contains information pertaining to the history of these houses and the people who owned them.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Title Page and Foreword	Box 5	ff. 1
Table of Contents		ff. 2
580 Powers Lane – T.H. Benton Blackstone House		ff. 3
600 Powers Lane – Dr. Everett J. Brown House		ff. 4
300 W. Prairie St. – Peter Loeb House		ff. 5
412 W. Prairie St. – John Culver House		ff. 6
442 W. Prairie St. – Dr. Albert M. Drew House		ff. 7
502 W. Prairie St. – Robert I. Hunt House		ff. 8
510 S. Seigel St.– Mattes House		ff. 9
627 S. Seigel St. – Ralph J. Monroe House		ff. 10
1520 N. 31 st St. – Jacob Spangler House		ff. 11
2430 N. Water St. – Downing House		ff. 12
567 S. Webster St. – Frank Meyer House		ff. 13
715 E. Whitmer St. – Whitmer House		ff. 14

Vol. VI: Residences – 307 W. William to 1945 W. Wood

This series contains information pertaining to the history of these houses and the people who owned them.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Title Page and Foreword	Box 6	ff. 1
Table of Contents		ff. 2
307 W. William St. – Parke House		ff. 3
321 W. William St. – Caldwell House		ff. 4
351 W. William St.		ff. 5
364 W. William St. – Haworth House		ff. 6
405 W. William St. – Henry Mueller House		ff. 7
467 W. William St. – George D. Lyon House		ff. 8
623 W. William St. – E.H. Lunn House		ff. 9
849 W. William St. – Eleanor Apartments		ff. 10
861 W. William St. – Cruikshank House		ff. 11
8900 W. William St. – George Mueller House		ff. 12
891 W. William St. – W.E. Surface House		ff. 13
919 W. William St. – Thomas T. Roberts House		ff. 14
1004 W. Wood St. – Shea House		ff. 15
1554 W. Wood St. – Herman L. Roth House		ff. 16
1945 W. Wood St. – E.E. Schroeder House		ff. 17

Vol. VII: Residences – Oglesby Mansion

This series contains information pertaining to the history of Oglesby Mansion.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Oglesby House – Title Page and Foreword	Box 7	ff. 1
Oglesby House – Table of Contents		ff. 2
Oglesby House – Historical Information		ff. 3

Oglesby House – Information on house		ff. 4
Oglesby House – Richard J. Oglesby Information		ff. 5
Oglesby House – Oglesby Family Information		ff. 6
Oglesby House – Emma Gillett Keays Oglesby's Family Information		ff. 7

Vol. VIII: Businesses – E. Main St. to S. Main St.

This series contains information pertaining to the location and history of these businesses.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Title Page and Foreword – Businesses		ff. 8
Table of Contents		ff. 9
117 E. Main St. – Dr. Robert's Drugstore		ff. 10
135 E. Main St. – Mutual Home & Savings Association/Powers Hall		ff. 11
111 N. Main St. – Singleton Building		ff. 12
141 N. Main St. – Lincoln Theatre		ff. 13
161 N. Main St. – Bachman Furniture Store		ff. 14
201-211 N. Main St. – New Suffren/Van Law Building		ff. 15
156 S. Main St. – Howard's Supermarket		ff. 16

Vol. IX: Businesses – Merchant St. to William St.

This series contains information pertaining to the location and history of these businesses.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Title Page and Foreword	Box 8	ff. 1
Table of Contents		ff. 2
100 N. Merchant St – Cheap Charley's/Bachrachs		ff. 3
Merchant St. – Central Block		ff. 4
100 N. Water St. – James Millikin & Co. Bank		ff. 5

120 N. Water St. – First National Bank of Decatur/Michl's		ff. 6
141 S. Water St. – Hotel Orlando		ff. 7
161 S. Water St. – Hotel Decatur/Pennsylvania Hotel		ff. 8
418 E. William St. – Commercial Garage		ff. 9

Vol. X: Churches

This series contains information pertaining to the history of these churches.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Title Page and Foreword		ff. 10
Table of Contents		ff. 11
525 N. Church St. – First Congregational Church/Antioch Missionary Baptist Church		ff. 12
240 N. Edward St. – Central Church of Christ/Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church		ff. 13
407 E. Eldorado St. – St. Patrick's Church		ff. 14
130 W. Eldorado St. – St. John's Episcopal Church		ff. 15
359 E. North St. – German Methodist Episcopal Church/Trinity C.M.E. Church		ff. 16
201 W. North St. – First United Methodist Church		ff. 17
133-137 E. Prairie St. – Universalist Church of Decatur		ff. 18
204 W. Prairie St. – First Presbyterian Church		ff. 19

Vol. XI: Educational Institutions

This series contained information pertaining to the history of these educational institutions.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Title Page and Foreword	Box 9	ff. 1
Table of Contents		ff. 2

400 N. Franklin St. – Decatur High School/Stephen Decatur High School		ff. 3
1184 W. Main St. – Millikin University		ff. 4
210 W. North St. – E.A. Gastman School		ff. 5
2495 N. Water St. – Jones School		ff. 6
2700 N. Water St. – Ursuline Academy of St. Teresa		ff. 7

Vol. XII: Industry – E. Cerro Gordo to E. Eldorado

This series contains information pertaining to the history of these industries.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Title Page and Foreword	Box 10	ff. 1
Table of Contentst		ff. 2
220-236 E. Cerro Gordo – “The Old Shellabarger Mill”		ff. 3
780 E. Cerro Gordo – Wabash Depot		ff. 4
2300 Block E. Eldorado – Staley Building		ff. 5

Vol. XIII: Industry – E. Garfield to E. William

This series contains information pertaining to the history of these industries.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Title Page and Foreword		ff. 6
Table of Contents		ff. 7
800 E. Garfield Ave. – Comet Automobile/Essex Wire Corporation/Houdaille Hershey Plant		ff. 8
1800 E. Garfield Ave. – Illinois Traction Co./Parke Warehouse Co.		ff. 9
740 E. North St. – Decatur Coffin Co.		ff. 10
600-660 E. William St. – Union Iron Works		ff. 11

Vol. XIV: Public Built Structures

This series contains information pertaining to the history of these public buildings.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Title Page and Foreword	Box 11	ff. 1
Table of Contents		ff. 2
#1 Central Park East – Transfer House		ff. 3
Decatur Impounding Dam and Lake Decatur		ff. 4
First Macon County Courthouse		ff. 5
1174 E. Locust St. - #4 Firehouse		ff. 6
1429 N. Jasper St. – Alice G. Evans Library Branch		ff. 7

Vol. XV: Social and/or Social Services Organizations

This series contains information pertaining to the history of these organizations.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Title Page and Foreword		ff. 8
Table of Contents		ff. 9
736 S. Broadway – Turner Hall/Webster Hall		ff. 10
2300 N. Edward St. – Decatur Memorial Hospital (1)		ff. 11
2300 N. Edward St. – Decatur Memorial Hospital (2)		ff. 12
436 N. Main St. – Young Women’s Christian Association		ff. 13
2601 N. Union St. – Pythian Home		ff. 14
224 W. William St. – Masonic Temple	Box 12	ff. 1
224 W. William St. – Masonic Temple – Early History of Masonry in Decatur, IL		ff. 2
224 W. William St. – Masonic Temple – Architectural Firm That Designed the Masonic Temple		ff. 3
224 W. William St. – Masonic Temple – Important People to Appear at the Decatur Masonic Temple		ff. 4

