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Olive Boline Wills Collection

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Summary Information

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Repository Georgia College Special Collections

Creator Wills, Olive Boline, 1928-2001

Title Olive Boline Wills Collection

Date [bulk] Bulk, 1945-1967

Date [inclusive] 1928-2001

Extent 1.75 Cubic feet

Dimensions note 1.75 cubic feet

Language English

Preferred Citation note

Olive Boline Wills Collection. Special Collections, Ina Dillard Russell Library, Georgia Colle & State University.

Biographical/Historical note

Olive Daile Boline was born in Richmond County, Georgia on May 10, 1928. She was the daughter of Ensey and Gazena Visscher Boline. She lived in Wilkes County most of her life. Photographs in the collection reveal that she was an avid drum majorette for the Washington, Georgia High School Band before continuing her band performances in college with the Georgia Military College Band.

She came to Georgia State College for Women in the fall of 1945. She was active in many groups such as the Penguin Club, the International Relations Club, Phi Sigma, Future Teachers of America, and Y.W.C.A., in which she was vice-president in 1948 and president in 1949. She also served as a sophomore and junior class officer. Some memorabilia from these activities are contained in her collection. Selected for 1948-1949 Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities, she is described in the 1949 Spectrum as "Quiet and efficient head of Y.W.C.A. . . bubbling with enthusiasm and has an infectious smile always . . . sold on sociology and student-in-industry projects." In 1949, she graduated from GSCW with an A.B. in Social Studies.

After she graduated, she returned to GSCW as Director of Voluntary Religious Activities on campus and continued involvement with Y.W.C.A. as Secretary.

Olive Boline married James Wills, also of Washington, Georgia, in April 1952 at the Washington First Baptist Church, where she was a member. She moved back to her hometown, but kept in touch with classmates as she sent updates on her life to the class secretary for The Alumnae Journal. She had three children, a son Ensey, a daughter Deana, and a daughter Ann Visscher.

In 1965, she reconnected with her alma mater as president of the Alumni Association. She served for two years, and saw the name of the college change yet again, from the Women's College of Georgia to Georgia College at Milledgeville.

From 1970-1990, Wills taught American History, World History, English, and Social Studies at Wilkes Academy. She returned to Milledgeville again to teach at John Milledge Academy from 1991 to 1992.

Following her teaching career, she went home to Washington, Georgia to become the curator of the Callaway Plantation in June 1992. After three years, she transferred to the curator position of the Washington Historical Museum, and remained there until her retirement in May 2001.

Olive Boline Wills died at her home in Washington, Georgia on July 17, 2001. She was buried at Resthaven Cemetery.

Scope and Contents note

The bulk of the collection is the notes and papers from courses Mrs. Wills took while at Georgia State College for Women. However, these papers do not represent her entire course load during her academic career; it appears that many of them come from her junior and senior years. Most of the materials are from her education, psychology and sociology courses, probably required for her major.

Date Unknown In addition to academics, it is possible to see some aspects of her college social life from photographs and programs from various campus events she may have attended. There is minimal correspondence to shed light on her life at school. However, her participation in numerous college activities can be traced through photos in Spectrum from 1945-1949. The photos in her collection indicate that she was close friends with Dot Kennedy, Betty Lane and Natalie Hines.

Her Alumni Association papers reveal issues and goings-on of the group from 1965-1967. A couple of her own draft letters are included in the correspondence, as are letters she received from the secretary. There are officers lists and meeting agenda also. Further information on the Alumni Association and her life after GSCW may be found in the University Archives Alumni Association Collection, The Alumnae Journal and Columns.

Arrangement note

The Olive Boline Wills Collection contains notes, papers, correspondence, textbooks, photographs and university publications from Olive Boline's academic life at Georgia State College for Women from 1945 to 1949. Also included in the collection are documents from her tenure as president of the Alumni Association from 1965 to 1967. Following Mrs. Wills' death, her daughter Deana Burgess and son Ensey Wills donated the documents in the collection to the university on Nov. 9, 2001. The processed collection spans one and three-quarter cubic feet of materials.

At the time Wills' papers arrived in Special Collections, they were mostly unorganized. Many class notes were found unbound and separated from assignments for that class. The papers may have been in chronological order at some point, but since not all the papers were dated, chronological arrangement proved difficult. The materials from her Alumni Association presidency were grouped together in two folders unordered.

All bound notes and papers were removed from the binders. Some of the papers contained illustrations that had been glued to the page. Since removal of the illustration would have damaged the page, leaflet pages were inserted to protect the surrounding pages. Some of the photographs were contained in a pocket-sized album. They were removed for preservation purposes and their location noted on a relocation sheet in the folder.

The papers were arranged by series to reflect her college course work, her personal GSCW memorabilia including student records, correspondence, photos, etc., and finally her Alumni Association materials from 1965-1967. Items too bulky to include in the series boxes, such as textbooks, were placed in box 3. All items within series are in alphabetical order.

Box 1, Course Notes and Papers Box 2, GCSW Memorabilia Box 3, Catalogs, Student Handbooks, Textbooks Box 4, Alumni Association

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Georgia College Special Collections

Revision Description

February 5, 2015

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Callaway Plantation (Ga.).
- Georgia College at Milledgeville, 1967 1971.
- Georgia College. Alumni Association.
- Georgia State College for Women (1922-1961).
- John Milledge Academy (Ga.).
- The Woman's College of Georgia (1961-1967).
- Washington Historical Museum (Ga.).
- Wilkes Academy (Ga.).
- Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA).

Geographic Name(s)

- Baldwin County (Ga.)
- Milledgeville (Ga.)
- Washington (Ga.)
- Wilkes County (Ga.)

Subject(s)

• Wills, Olive Boline (1928-2001)

Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
Course Notes and Papers – Agriculture	1	1
Course Notes and Papers – City of Washington, GA*	1	2
Course Notes and Papers – Colleges in the University System of GA*	1	3
Course Notes and Papers – Economics 306	1	4
Course Notes and Papers – Education 104	1	5
Course Notes and Papers – Education 295	1	6
Course Notes and Papers – Education 305	1	7
Course Notes and Papers – Education 343	1	8
Course Notes and Papers – Education 455	1	9
Course Notes and Papers – History 308	1	10
Course Notes and Papers – Philosophy 409	1	11
Course Notes and Papers – Political Science	1	12

Course Notes and Papers – Psychology 301	1	13
Course Notes and Papers – Psychology 452	1	14
Course Notes and Papers – Religious Orientation	1	15
Course Notes and Papers – Social Psychology	1	16
Course Notes and Papers – Social Work	1	17
Course Notes and Papers – Sociology 327	1	18
Course Notes and Papers – Sociology 428	1	19
Course Notes and Papers – Sociology 460	1	20
Course Notes and Papers – Spanish 212	1	21
Course Notes and Papers – Strategic Changes in Religion and Religious Beliefs*	1	22
Admission Papers	2	1
Alumnae Journal Summer 1949	2	2
Alumnae Journal Winter 1949	2	3

Alumnae Journal Fall 1951	2	4
"Attitude Toward the Church" Survey	2	5
Bulletin January 15, 1946	2	6
Calendar 1946-1947	2	7
Chicago President's School Handbook	2	8
The Corinthian Fall 1946	2	9
The Corinthian Fall 1947	2	10
The Corinthian Fall 1948	2	11
Correspondence – 1945, 1948, 1949	2	12
Correspondence – Chicago President's School	2	13
Diploma	2	14
International Relations Club Constitution - January 20, 1948	2	15
League of Women Voters Pamphlets – March-May 1948	2	16
Newspaper Clippings	2	17

Pay Records September 1945-June 1946	2	18
Photo Album and ID	2	19
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Photographs – GMC Band	2	23
Photographs – Golden Slipper 1950	2	24
Photographs – Natalie Hines	2	25
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Photographs – Spectrum	2	27
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Programs – Commencement 1949	2	32

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Future Teachers of America Yearbook 1949	3	3

Student Handbook 1946-1947	3	4
Student Handbook 1948-1949	3	5
Textbooks – Agriculture	3	6
Textbooks – Psychology 301	3	7
Alumni Association – Alumnae Achievement Award 1967	4	1
Alumni Association – Cards and Pamphlets	4	2
Alumni Association – Class Secretaries 1965	4	3
Alumni Association – Columns-Fall 1965	4	4
Alumni Association – Columns-1966	4	5
Alumni Association – Columns-Fall 1968	4	6
Alumni Association – Correspondence 1966	4	7
Alumni Association – District Directors 1965	4	8
Alumni Association – Financial Records 1966-1967	4	9
Alumni Association – Fund Agents 1965	4	10

Alumni Association – Fund Agents 1966	4	11
Alumni Association – Meeting Agenda	4	12
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