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Advanced Search

NCC > Physical Collections > Papers of Individuals and Organizations > John Schelp Collection

North Carolina
Collection

John Schelp Collection

Title:	John Schelp Collection
Inclusive Dates:	1897-2009. The majority of the collection is from 1998-2009.
Extent of Materials:	6 Hollinger boxes
Location:	NC Office Shelf 33
Date of Accession:	October 29, 2014, 7/21/2015
Donor:	John Schelp
Relationship of donor or materials to the DCL/NCR	
Processor:	Lucy VanderKamp
Description:	
Subject Headings:	Citizens' associations -- North Carolina -- Durham.
	Community development, Urban--United States--Citizen participation.
	Community life--North Carolina--Durham.
	Durham (N.C.)--History.
	Historic buildings--North Carolina--Durham.
	Neighborhoods--North Carolina--Durham.
	Pollutants.
Abstract:	
Scope and Content:	The collection primarily documents John Schelp's work in the Old West Durham Neighborhood Association (OWDNA), including agendas and newsletters as well as projects taken on by the association. Research files about the neighborhood, buildings, businesses, and people are included as well as personal documents and documents concerning Schelp's work in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).
Related Materials:	Old West Durham Neighborhood Association Records, 1996-2002. North Carolina Collection, Durham County Library.
Restrictions:	The collection is open for research.
	John Schelp was born July 2, 1961 in Washington, D.C. He received Bachelor's degrees from St. Lawrence University in government and French, worked in the Peace Corps and USAID in the Congo for seven years, and received a master's degree from UNC-Chapel Hill in public administration in 1990. He's worked at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences since 1991, where he organizes community forums around the country. He's also served as an elections observer with Jimmy Carter in Liberia. Inspired by his work in the Congo, Schelp has been an activist in Durham for 25

Biographical/Historical Note:	<p>years. He was president of the Old West Durham Neighborhood Association (OWDNA) from 1998 to 2003 and helped build community in a neighborhood that didn't have a name – identifying, protecting, and advocating for its heritage. He led clean-ups of the Erwin Mills Cemetery, thwarted plans to build asphalt plants in poor Durham neighborhoods, rallied the community to challenge Duke's attempts to expand on-campus retail, stopped a cement plant from being built on the Eno River, prevented digital billboards from being erected along Durham roadways, and influenced business people, developers, and local officials to improve construction plans and regulations.</p> <p>Schelp and neighbor Pam Spaulding started the OWDNA website, whose history pages were named a "Local Legacy" by the Library of Congress in 2000 and recognized by Preservation Durham with the Pyne Preservation Award. Schelp helped the OWDNA win a Herald Sun Grit Award in 2000, was named "Tarheel of the Week" by the News and Observer in 2002, and won another Grit Award in 2005. He has served as vice-president of People's Alliance, vice-president of the Durham branch of the NAACP, and president of the North Carolina Peace Corps Association.</p> <p>Schelp now volunteers on the Pauli Murray steering committee, the People's Alliance Fund board, the Museum of Durham History advisory board, and is chair of the Parent Council at UNC-Greensboro.</p>
Condition Notes:	
Organization of Collection:	<p>Materials are organized into subjects or projects and arranged alphabetically. Most subject names were derived from Schelp's original files. Within each topic, papers are ordered chronologically. A few folders contain clippings at the end of the folder (these are often undated and therefore not arranged chronologically). Historical Research, Oral Histories, and School Histories are arranged in original order since these topics primarily consist of reproductions of older materials.</p>
Container List	
Box 1 (1966-2005)	
	1. Agendas (folder 1), 1998-2001
	2. Agendas (folder 2), 2001-2005
	3. Asphalt plant battle (folder 1), 1999-2002
	4. Asphalt plant battle (folder 2), 2002-2003
	5. Awards and press, 1998-2003
	6. Blind Boy Fuller marker, 2000-2001
	7. Blind Boy Fuller research, 1966-2000
Box 2 (1994-2007)	
	1. BP campaign/cement plant, 1998-2000/2003
	2. Cemetery clean-ups, 1999-2004
	3. Community, 1994-2007
	4. Correspondence (folder 1), 1996-1998
	5. Correspondence (folder 2), 1999-2000
	6. Cotton mill reunion, 2003-2005
	7. Development (folder 1), 1998-2001
Box 3 (1982-2007)	
	1. Development (folder 2), 2002-2003
	2. Development (folder 3), 2004-2005

	3. Duke central campus, 2006-2007
	4. Duke--general materials (contains some older research materials), (1986, 1993) 1999-2004
	5. Duke rezoning (includes research materials), (1982) 2000-2005
	6. Duke rezoning, 2003-2006
	7. EK Powe Elementary park, 1999-2003
	8. Eno Drive prevention--press clippings at end, 2002-2003
Box 4 (1897-2009)	
	1. Historic Preservation Society of Durham, 1996-2003
	2. Historic registry, 1997-2003
	3. Historical research (folder 1), 1897-2002
	4. Historical research (folder 2), 1909-2004
	5. Historical research (folder 3), 1913-2003
	6. Historical walking tours, 2014 and undated
	7. Home tour, 2009
Box 5 (1930-2009)	
	1. Houses/home inspections, 1995-2004
	2. "Local Legacies", 1999-2000
	3. NAACP-Durham, 1997, 2001-2004
	4. Newsletters, 1995-2009
	5. Ninth street plan, 2007
	6. Non-Old West Durham materials (NIEHS, Congo, editorials), 1996-2003
	7. Notebook titled "Old West Durham Neighborhood Association", 1995-1997
	8. Old West Durham Neighborhood Association press clippings, 1996-2003
	9. Oral histories--originally included "An Oral History of West Durham, North Carolina" submitted to the Durham Bicentennial Committee, December 1975, by Richard Franck, Duke University (already present in the North Carolina Collection, Durham County Library), 1930-2004
Box 6 (1897-2005)	
	1. Park/green space/Ellerbe Creek (folder 1), 1999-2000
	2. Park/green space/Ellerbe Creek (folder 2)--website printouts at end, 2001-2005
	3. Partnerships, 1999-2005
	4. Peace Corps, 1995-2001
	5. School histories, 1897-1964
	6. Tar Heel of the Week, 2002
	7. Thank you notes/personal, 2003-2005 (most undated)

	8. Traffic , 1994, 1999-2004
	9. Website materials , 1999-2003

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