

THE MATTHEWS-HOWARD FAMILY PAPERS

MS-248

Wright State University  
Department of Special Collections and Archives

Processed by:  
Kristina Sullivan  
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Revised by:  
Kent Jaehnig  
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## INTRODUCTION

The papers of Reverend Wesley Matthews, Roy Howard, Wendell Houston Howard, Pat Matthews Howard, and Reverend and Pat Matthews' children were accessioned into the Wright State University Department of Special Collection and Archives in 1992. They were donated by Pat Matthews Howard.

The papers in this collection date from 1893-1992 and fill eight Hollinger boxes, eighty-eight file folders and two oversized folders. The collection is arranged in seven series and twenty-eight subseries as follows:

**Series 1: Roy Howard**

- subseries 1: business correspondence
- subseries 2: occupational correspondence
- subseries 3: personal correspondence
- subseries 4: WPA
- subseries 5: miscellaneous - real estate papers, scrapbooks

**Series 2: Wendell Houston Howard**

- subseries 1: business correspondence
- subseries 2: pharmacy records, prescriptions
- subseries 3: real estate
- subseries 4: private papers
- subseries 5: miscellaneous - school publications, books, etc.

**Series 3: Reverend Wesley Matthews**

- subseries 1: SCC program records
- subseries 2: SCC reports
- subseries 3: SCC financial reports
- subseries 4: SCC constitution
- subseries 5: SCC personnel files
- subseries 6: SCC correspondence
- subseries 7: SCC conferences, outside publications, announcements
- subseries 8: SCC newsletter
- subseries 9: Carver Community Center
- subseries 10: AME Church miscellaneous
- subseries 11: Miscellaneous biography
- subseries 12: Greene County Commission on Aging

**Series 4: Photographs**

**Series 5: Pat Matthews Howard**

- subseries 1: Family and personal memorabilia
- subseries 2: Newspaper clippings
- subseries 3: Black history

**Series 6: Children of Reverend Wesley Matthews and Pat Matthews Howard**

- subseries 1: Domina Matthews

**Series 6 (cont.)**

- subseries 2: Westina Matthews
- subseries 3: Kriza Matthews Jennings

Series 7: Miscellaneous

There are no restrictions on the use of this collection.

## SCOPE OF CONTENT NOTE

The records within the Matthews-Howard Papers fall into seven series and twenty-eight subseries. (I) Roy Howard, (II) Wendell Houston Howard, (III) Reverend Wesley Matthews, (IV) Photographs, (V) Pat Matthews Howard, (VI) Children of Reverend Wesley Matthews and Pat Matthews Howard, (VII) Miscellaneous.

Series I contains the papers of Roy Howard. Its divided into five subseries, including business and personal correspondence, WPA course outlines and papers, and real estate licenses from the 1940's and early 1950's. Also included in this series is a scrapbook that Roy Howard kept of his years at Tuskegee Institute.

Series II contains the papers of Wendell Houston Howard, Pat Matthews Howard's second husband. His papers include business correspondence, real estate transaction records, pharmacy licenses and private correspondence concerning his uncle Clifford Howard, who had served in World War I. This series is divided into five subseries.

Series III is divided into twelve subseries. Contains the papers of Reverend Wesley Matthews, which includes business and personnel records of the Senior Citizens Center in Yellow Springs, papers from the Annual Conference on Aging, AME reports, papers from the Greene County Commission on Aging, biographical information on the Reverend Matthews.

Series IV contains the photographs of both the Howard family and the Matthews family.

Series V contains the papers of Patricia Matthews Howard. Divided into three subseries, it includes personal papers and family memorabilia, newspaper clippings, and papers concerning black history. Of particular interest are papers concerning black history in Yellow Springs, Ohio.

Series VI contains the papers of Reverend and Patricia Matthews's children, Domina Matthews, Westina Matthews, and Kriza Matthews Jennings. Of particular interest are the papers of Westina Matthews, who was the first black Homecoming Queen at the University of Dayton and later became a vice-president at Merrill Lynch.

Series VII contains an assortment of materials. Included are materials concerning black history and a press kit for the 1990 Our First Day - First Day Back to School activities in New York City.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES**

### **PAT MATTHEWS HOWARD**

Ruth "Pat" Matthews Howard was born as Ruth Marie Fields in 1918 in Oberlin, Ohio. She was the daughter of George Fields and Marvyl Berry Fields. She graduated from Wilberforce University. While at Wilberforce, she married Reverend Wesley Matthews. The couple had three daughters: Domina, Westina, and Kriza.

Mrs. Matthews Howard worked closely with Reverend Matthews throughout his career. She assisted him in his work at the Carver Community Center in Chillicothe and the at the Senior Citizens Center in Yellow Springs.

Mrs. Matthews Howard worked for the Yellow Springs News on the clerical staff and as a writer. After the civil rights riot in Yellow Springs in March 1964, she wrote an article entitled "What the Negro is Trying to Say", which was published throughout the country and attracted national attention. From 1966-1976, she wrote a column entitled "A Chat with Pat".

After leaving her job at the newspaper, she worked as a secretary and taught journalism at Morgan Middle School in Yellow Springs. She also pursued her interest in black history by interviewing many of the black people in Yellow Springs.

After the death of Reverend Matthews, she married Wendell Houston Howard in late 1979. The marriage lasted until Mr. Howard's death on October 7, 1984.

### **REVEREND WESLEY MATTHEWS**

The Reverend Wesley S. Matthews was the first husband of Pat Matthews Howard. He was born on January 28, 1912 in Cartersville, GA. He graduated from Wilberforce University and received his degree from Payne Theological Seminary in 1935. He also held a L.L.D. from Monrovia College in Liberia.

The Reverend Matthews married Pat Fields in the 1930's and they worked together throughout his career. The couple had three daughters: Domina, Westina, and Kriza.

Reverend Matthews pastored a variety of churches during his career. These churches include Lee Chapel AME in Cincinnati, Central AME in Yellow Springs, Quinn Chapel AME in Chillicothe, Trinity AME in Springfield, and St. Paul AME in Urbana.

In the 1940's, Reverend Matthews was the first black recreation supervisor in the City of Dayton, serving at the Linden Community Center as Boy's Work Secretary.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES**

### **REVEREND WESLEY MATTHEWS (Cont.)**

Reverend Matthews was also active in Chillicothe and Urbana. He founded the Carver Community Center in Chillicothe in the 1940's. He was recognized by the Chillicothe Junior Chamber of Commerce for his work at the CCC in 1949. In the 1960's, he organized the Head Start Program for 45 children in Urbana.

In the 1970's, Reverend Matthews was active in senior adult programs. He was director of the Senior Citizen Center in Yellow Springs, helped found the Greene County Commission on the Aging, and was an active participant in the first several National Conferences on Aging.

The Reverend Wesley Matthews passed away on May 30, 1979.

### **ROY HOWARD**

Roy Howard was born in Ohio on January 31, 1883. He married Julia Ford on January 22, 1912. The couple moved to Tuskegee, Alabama shortly after their marriage, where Mr. Howard took a job as a faculty member of Tuskegee Institute. The Howards had one child, Wendell Houston Howard, who was born on November 5, 1912.

In 1921, the Howards moved to Atlanta, Georgia. While in Atlanta, Roy worked for an insurance company. Later, the Howards moved to Springfield, where he obtained his real estate license and sold real estate in the 1930's and 1940's.

Mr. Howard was also involved with the Works Project Administration as an adult education instructor. These classes were held at the Center Street YMCA in Springfield.

Roy Howard passed away in 1958.

### **WENDELL HOUSTON HOWARD**

Wendell Houston Howard was the second husband of Pat Matthews Howard. He was born in Tuskegee, Alabama on November 5, 1912 and was the only child of Roy Howard and Julia Ford Howard. Mr. Howard graduated from Springfield High School and attended Tuskegee Institute, Wilberforce University, and Howard University in pursuit of his degree in Pharmacology. He graduated from Howard University School of Pharmacy in Washington D.C.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES**

### **WENDELL HOUSTON HOWARD (Cont.)**

Wendell Howard served as a Pharmacy Specialist with the United States Army during World War II. He owned and operated Howard's Pharmacy in Springfield and later worked for Buell Pharmacy. He retired from pharmacy work in 1983.

Wendell Houston Howard married Pat Matthews in late 1979. He passed away on October 7, 1984.

## BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

### Series I: Roy Howard

#### Sub-series 1: Business Correspondence

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Business Correspondence	1909-1916
	2	Business Correspondence	1917-1919
	3	Business Correspondence	1920-1925
	4	Business Correspondence	1926-1929
	5	Business Correspondence	1930-1936, 1938-1939, 1945
	6	Business Correspondence	undated

#### Sub-series 2: Occupational Correspondence

1	7	Occupational Correspondence	1908, 1910-1911, 1913, 1915-1918
	8	Occupational Correspondence	1919-1929

#### Sub-series 3: Private Correspondence

2	1	Private Correspondence	1909, 1914-1916
	2	Private Correspondence	1917-1921
	3	Private Correspondence	1922, 1924, 1928-1929, 1932-1936
	4	Private Correspondence	1937-1939
	5	Private Correspondence	1940-1942
	6	Private Correspondence	1943-1945

#### Sub-series 4: WPA

3	1	WPA Course Outlines	undated
	2	WPA Guidance Memos	undated
	3	WPA Guidance Memos and Notes	undated
	4	WPA Guidance Memos and Notes	undated
	5	WPA Personal Teaching Notes	undated
	6	WPA Reports	undated, 1937-1939
	7	WPA Tests and School Reports	undated
	8	WPA Foundation Field Rosters	1937-1938
	9	WPA Programs and Announcements	undated
	10	WPA Inter-office Memos	undated, 1935-1939
	11	WPA Miscellaneous	undated

#### Sub-series 5: Miscellaneous

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
3	12	Scrapbook: Reports, Stories, Etc.	undated
	13	Scrapbook: Parents Magazine	1919
	14	Correspondence: Death of Julia Howard	undated
	15	Real Estate Licenses	undated

## **Series II: Wendell Houston Howard**

### **Sub-series 1: Business Correspondence**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
4	1	Business Correspondence	1935-1939

### **Sub-series 2: Pharmacy**

4	2	Pharmacy Certificates	undated
	3	Prescriptions	undated

### **Sub-series 3: Real Estate**

4	4	Real Estate Transactions	undated
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### **Sub-series 4: Private Papers**

4	5	School Publications	undated
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### **Sub-series 5: Miscellaneous**

4	6	School Textbook	undated
	7	Godman Field, Ft. Knox, KY Field Yearbook	undated
	8	Miscellaneous Private Papers	
	9	Tuskegee Institute Scrapbook	undated
	10	Certificate of Graduation - Eighth Grade - Oglethorpe Practice School	undated

Oversized - Location 10 File 2 - Pharmaceutical Certificates 1940-1967

## **Series III: Reverend Wesley Matthews**

### **Sub-series 1: SCC Programs**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
5	1	SCC Project Objectives	undated
	2	SCC Child Care	undated
	3	SCC Housing	undated
	4	SCC Outreach	undated

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
5	5	SCC Visitation	1970-1971, 1973-1974
<b>Sub-series 2: SCC Reports</b>			
5	6	SCC Reports	1959-1960, 1965-1966
	7	SCC Reports	1961-1962, 1968, 1970-1974, 1976
	8	SCC Quarterly Reports	1967-1974
	9	Report on Services for Aging	1967
<b>Sub-series 3: Financial Reports</b>			
5	10	SCC Financial Report	1970, 1973, 1976
6	1	SCC Grant Forms	undated
<b>Sub-series 4: Constitution</b>			
6	2	SCC Constitution	undated
<b>Sub-series 5: Personnel Files</b>			
6	3	SCC Personnel Files	undated
<b>Sub-series 6: Correspondence</b>			
6	4	SCC Correspondence	undated
<b>Sub-series 7: SCC Miscellaneous</b>			
6	5	Miscellaneous - Conferences	undated
<b>Sub-series 8: SCC Newsletters</b>			
6	6	SCC Newsletters	undated
	7	Outside Publications	undated
	8	SCC Announcements, Program	undated
	9	SCC Miscellaneous	undated
<b>Sub-series 9: Carver Community Center</b>			
6	10	Carver Community Center	undated
<b>Sub-series 10: AME Church</b>			
6	11	AME Reports and Sermons	undated
	12	AME Church Miscellaneous	undated

### **Sub-series 11: Miscellaneous Biography**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
6	13	Biography by Jackie Vernot	undated
	14	Resumes	undated
	15	Memorials and Obituaries	undated
7	1	Mortgage and Deed	1966, 1968
	2	Newspaper Clippings	1931-1979
	3	Miscellaneous	1938-1971

### **Sub-series 12: Greene County Commission on Aging**

7	4	Greene County Commission on Aging	1969-1979
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### **Series IV: Photographs**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
7	5	Howard Family Photographs	undated
	6	Matthews: Church Photographs	undated
	7	Matthews: YMCA, Community Center Photographs	undated
	8	Matthews: Family and Friends	undated
		<u>Oversized</u> - Location 10 File 1 - Oversized Photographs	undated

### **Series V: Pat Matthews Howard**

#### **Sub-series 1: Family and Personal Papers**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
7	9	Family and Personal Memorabilia	1918-1991
	10	Edwin (Bill) Berry - Pat's Uncle	1967-1991

#### **Sub-series 2: Newspaper Clippings**

7	11	Newspaper Clippings	1941-1980's
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#### **Sub-series 3: Black History**

7	12	Black History - School Projects	1964-1981
	13	Oral History Interviews and Local History	1956-1971
	14	Wheeling Gaunt Papers	1893-1960's

**Series VI: Children of Reverend Wesley Matthews and Pat Matthews Howard**

**Sub-series 1: Domina Matthews**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
8	1	Education and Career	1977-1991

**Sub-series 2: Westina Matthews**

8	2	Education	1966-1990
	3	Professional Career	1980's-1990's
	4	Publications and Speeches	1982-1989
	5	Awards and Honors	1985-1990
	6	Scrapbook Page	1970's-1980's
	7	Newspaper Clippings	1957-1990

**Sub-series 3: Kriza Matthews Jennings**

8	8	Education and Career	1976-1990
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**Series VII: Miscellaneous**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
8	9	Miscellaneous	1932-1985
	10	Our First Day - First Day Back to School - New York City	1990