

Collection #
M 0497

**DEBORAH GODWIN STARKS
PAPERS, 1948–1986**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript box, 6 photograph folders

COLLECTION DATES: 1948-1986

PROVENANCE: Deborah Starks, Churubusco, Indiana

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1984.0621

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Deborah Godwin Starks was born in Birmingham, Alabama on June 16, 1950. She was the second of Beatrice and Jennie Godwin's three children. Jennie Godwin worked for the United States Steel Corporation. Deborah Starks lived in Fairfield, Alabama for twenty-two years until 1972 when she moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana. That same year, she married John Wesley Starks, a mechanic at Phelps Dodge Magnet Wire, and the couple moved to Churubusco, Indiana in 1977. Starks attended Booker T. Washington Junior College of Business in Birmingham, Alabama, Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, and Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne (IPFW).

Mrs. Starks has been involved in a wide variety of activities. In 1973 she was the school community liaison for the Fort Wayne Community Schools. Starks has been affiliated with the East Creighton Neighborhood Association, the boy scouts, Gamma Phi Delta sorority, Fort Wayne Women's Bureau, and the Minority Women's Network. She has been a staff writer for *The Communicator*, the campus newspaper for IPFW. She has received awards from Gamma Phi Delta, the Fort Wayne Community Schools, and the Missionary Society of Turner Chapel AME Church. Deborah Starks has been a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church since 1976.

Source: *Black Women in the Middle West Project: A Comprehensive Resource Guide Illinois Indiana*, p. 136.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection is a combination of various materials from six different women. The material was collected during the Black Women in the Middle West Project, under the auspices of Mrs. Deborah Starks in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The folders contain papers that deal primarily with the Fort Wayne area: news, organizations, and people. All the collections here are from people who have lived a large part of their lives in Fort Wayne.

Box 1, Folders 1-8 contains Deborah Starks's papers, including short stories, poems, letters, awards, and newspapers clippings. Also in this box, there are the transcriptions of the life of Maddy Bruce, a native of Chester, Georgia who moved to Fort Wayne in 1936.

Box 2, Folders 9-15 has the C. Maxine Hall papers. Included in this collection are a family history, speeches, letters of commendation, church programs, correspondence, and newspaper clippings. The Hall collection spans a time period from 1948 to 1986. Also found in this box are Corrine Brooks's papers, which consist of newspaper clippings, a certificate of appointment, and a letter of commendation from the mayor of Fort Wayne. Genois Wilson was an active member of the Fort Wayne Fire Department, and in her collection there are newspaper clippings and congratulatory letters from the city for her community service. The last collection in this box is the Marjorie Wickliffe collection. There is material on the Fort Wayne Urban League, a seminar pamphlet, and banquet programs.

The collection also contains six photograph folders featuring Deborah Starks, political activity, the Fort Wayne Urban Alliance, Entre Nous Club, Corrine M. Brooks family, and Maxine C. Hall.

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Deborah Starks: short stories and poems

Deborah Starks: miscellaneous 1982-1985

Deborah Starks: clippings 1975-1985

Maddy Bruce: transcript of tape 1

Maddy Bruce: transcript of tape 2

Maddy Bruce: transcript of tape 3

Maddy Bruce: transcript of tape 4

Maddy Bruce: transcript of tape 5

Hall Family: biography 1948-1982

Maxine Hall Papers: 1951-1983

Maxine Hall: correspondence 1951-1986

Maxine Hall: clippings 1956-1959

Corrine Mudd Brooks Papers: 1956-1984

Genois Wilson Papers: 1975-1985

Marjorie D. Wickliffe Papers: 1981-1984

Photographs – Deborah Starks

Photographs - C.M. Brooks, Political Activity

Photographs – C.M. Brooks, Fort Wayne Urban League

Photographs – C.M. Brooks, Entre Nous Club

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 3

Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

Box 1, Folder 6

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Visual Collection:
Photographs, Folder 1

Visual Collection:
Photographs, Folder 2

Visual Collection:
Photographs, Folder 3

Visual Collection:
Photographs, Folder 4

Photographs – C.M. Brooks, Family

Visual Collection:
Photographs, Folder 5

Photographs – Maxine C. Hall

Visual Collection:
Photographs, Folder 6