

Collection #  
SC 3120

**LOUISE TERRY BATTIES  
COLLECTION, CA. 1981–2001**

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF  
COLLECTION: 6 folders

COLLECTION  
DATES: 1981 – 1998

PROVENANCE: Louise Terry Batties, 1998

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE  
FORMATS:

RELATED  
HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION  
NUMBER: 1998.1020

NOTES:

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Louise Terry Batties (9-13-1911–10-04-2014), the daughter of Curtis and Mary Ellen Terry, was born in Kosciusko, Mississippi. At a young age she moved with her parents and sisters, Vivian and Willa Mae, to Indianapolis. She attended local schools before receiving a BA and MA from Butler University.

Curtis Terry was a jeweler and watchmaker, who had a shop located on Indiana Avenue in Indianapolis for over 50 years.

Louise married Paul A. Batties after he completed his medical training. Paul Terry Batties was born to this union. The son, like his father, became a physician.

After the retirement of Mae Belcher, Batties became executive director of the Phyllis Wheatley YMCA, a position that she held for many years. She ended her professional career as an English teacher at Arlington High School. An active socialite, she took a leadership role in many areas of the community. She worked with the *Indianapolis Recorder* newspaper with their Christmas Cheer Fund. Her fundraising ability was so successful that it led to the establishment of the Recorder Women Sponsors, an auxiliary organization to the *Indianapolis Recorder* Charities in 1951. The Easter Parade for Tots, Tweens, and Teens grew from the Women Sponsors. Much of the money raised from this effort was awarded as scholarship funds to Crispus Attucks High School graduates. From the early 1950s, the *Indianapolis Recorder* was replete with images of Louise Batties and charity activities, especially the Easter Parade.

Batties was a member of the city's first Human Rights Commission. She was also one of the first African Americans to serve on the board of directors for the Family Services Association. She was also a board member of the Church Federation of Indianapolis.

A recipient of numerous awards, she was honored with a Testimonial Banquet on September 13, 1981.

Sources:

Materials in the collection

M 0485 Indianapolis Young Women's Christian Association Records, 1896-1986

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Most of the material contained within this collection pertains to Louise Terry Batties and her family members and their achievements. It includes correspondence, short biographical sketches of Batties and Terry family members, program booklets and a news clipping. Of particular note is the program booklet (folder 2) for Louise Terry Batties's Testimonial Banquet held on September 13, 1981 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Indianapolis. The other program booklets in folder 5 include a reference to "Interfaith Sunday" held at the Urban Life Center on April 25, 1993 and the "University United Methodist Church honoring the memory of loved ones and friends" at Shortridge Middle School Auditorium on April 3, 1998. A photocopied sheet that appears to be a cover from The President's Dinner (Butler University) dated November 13, 1981 is also included in this folder. Louise Terry Batties's picture and short bio, along with four other honorees (Achievement Award Winners) is on the reverse side of the cover.

## **CONTENTS**

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Correspondence

Louise Terry Batties Testimonial Banquet Booklet,  
1981

Family biographical sketches--Batties

Family biographical sketches--Terry

Program Booklets

News clipping, Louise Terry Batties, 1981

### CONTAINER

Folder 1

Folder 2

Folder 3

Folder 4

Folder 5

Folder 6