S0698 Ambrose, Henrietta, Papers, 1887-1999
166 Folders, 673 Photographs

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

This collection is stored off site. Please allow 3-5 business days for retrieval.

The Henrietta Ambrose Papers were donated by Henrietta Ambrose on November 19, 1998.

Henrietta Smith Ambrose was born on February 26, 1928 in St. Louis, Missouri. She lived most of her life in Webster Groves, Missouri. In 1944, Ambrose graduated from Douglass High School and attended Tucker Business College. She married her husband, Walter L. Ambrose, Sr., in 1948. He died in 1998. Together they had two daughters, Karlah and Cheryl, and a son, Walter, Jr.

Ambrose was first employed by the Division of Family and Children's Services in Clayton, Missouri. In 1964, Ambrose joined the Social Security Administration and retired in 1985. In the mid-1960s, she became involved in the political life of Webster Groves. She participated in the planning and zoning process of the city, was appointed to the Webster Groves City Council, and was elected twice to the Council serving a total of ten years. During her council terms, she was named liaison to the Historic Preservation Commission, served as a member and president of the Board of Directors of the Webster Groves Historical Society and the Webster Groves Optimist Club, and was a trustee of the State Historical Society of Missouri in Columbia. In addition, Ambrose served on the boards of the Missouri Humanities Council, Friends of the Missouri Archives in Jefferson City, the North Webster Neighborhood Coalition, the Interfaith Housing Commission, and Friends of the Father Dickson Cemetery. In addition, Ambrose co-authored with Ann Morris and John Nagel the book *North Webster: A Photographic History of a Black Community*.

In 1991, Ambrose and her husband were named Citizens of the Year by the Webster Groves Area Chamber of Commerce. Ambrose was also the recipient of numerous distinctions and honors including the Missouri Historical Society Brownlee Fund Award and the St. Louis County Historical Society Book Award.

She died on January 14, 1999 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Her memorial service was held on January 20, 1999 at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church in Brentwood, Missouri.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT**
The Henrietta Ambrose Papers includes correspondence, newspaper clippings, awards, memorial service programs, scrapbook, graduation programs, meeting minutes, and photographs. Together they chronicle Henrietta Ambrose's interest in the public life of Webster Groves, Missouri.

This collection is divided into four series: (1) Henrietta Ambrose Ephemera, (2) Webster Groves, Missouri, (3) Subject Files, (4) Photographs.
SERIES DESCRIPTION

SERIES 1 ' HENRIETTA AMBROSE EPHEMERA, FOLDERS 1-16
This series includes awards given to Walter and Henrietta Ambrose, correspondence, newspaper clippings, business cards, memorial service programs for Walter and Henrietta Ambrose, and material from Henrietta Ambrose's election to Webster Groves City Council. Also included are research notes on African-Americans possibly for the book *North Webster: A Photographic History of a Black Community*. Arranged chronologically.

SERIES 2 - WEBSTER GROVES, MISSOURI, FOLDERS 17-97
This series contains materials involving Webster Groves, specifically North Webster. Included are commencement programs, class rosters, faculty rosters, history, scrapbooks, yearbooks, alumni meeting minutes for Douglass School. Also included are meeting minutes, correspondence, and programs for organizations including North Webster Neighborhood Coalition, Historic Preservation Commission and Centennial Committee, and Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Development. Also, the introduction to *North Webster A Photographic History of a Black Community* by Ann Morris and Henrietta Ambrose. Arranged alphabetically.

SERIES 3 - SUBJECT FILES, FOLDERS 98-141
This series includes newspaper clippings, pamphlets, brochures, conference programs, memorial services, calendars, Sumner High School student handbook, various history books such as *American Heritage*, *Landmarks*, and *Scouting Wants You*. Arranged alphabetically.

SERIES 4 ' PHOTOGRAPHS, FOLDERS 142-166
This series includes photographs, slides, and negatives. The majority concern North Webster Groves and many can be found in *North Webster A Photographic History of a Black Community* by Ann Morris and Henrietta Ambrose. See photo database for descriptions.

FOLDER LIST

BOX 1 (102063)
FOLDERS 1-64
6. Correspondence, n.d.
11. Henrietta Ambrose Webster Groves City Council Business Cards, n.d.
17. Application for Building Permit, 1910.
18. Black History in Webster Groves, n.d.
22. Commencement Program for Douglass High School Class of 1898, 1898.
23. Commencement Program for Douglass High School Class of 1944, 1944.
25. Committee to Elect Emmy McClelland Members, n.d.
32. Douglass High School Class Roster, 1929-1956.
33. Douglass High School 1943-1944 Faculty, n.d.
34. Douglass High School History, n.d.
35. Douglass High School Scrapbook 'Sent to Ambrose by Patricia Hunter, 1938-1941.
40. General Warranty Deed, 1924.
41. Hail to Douglass, n.d.
42. Harvey James Simms, 1918-1967.
44. Historic Preservation Commission and Centennial Committee Correspondence, 1995-1998.
46. A Historic Profile of Webster Groves, n.d.
50. In the Matter of the Petition of the First Baptist Church of Webster Groves for Incorporation, 1887.
52. Julia Rebecca Brefford School Certificates, 1924-1928.
55. Marriage Certificate of Mr. Press (?) Rogers and Miss Eleanor E. Brown, 1914. Located in oversize box.
56. Memories by Imelda Thomas Wyatt, n.d.
58. Missouri Humanities Council Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes, 1992-1996.
60. Nellie G. Salmon 'A Webster Groves Pillar,' n.d.

BOX 2 (102064)
FOLDERS 65-106
67. North Webster Neighborhood Coalition Black History Programs, n.d.
74. North Webster Neighborhood Coalition Organizational Goals, n.d.
83. 75th Anniversary of Webster Groves United Methodist Church, 1983.
84. A Short History of Webster Groves by Henrietta Ambrose, n.d.
85. Strategic Planning for Old Webster, n.d.
86. Ticket to 'Pride and Prejudice' Presented by the Senior Class of Douglass High School, 1944.
87. Ways to Unite Webster Groves by Kevin Wicks, n.d.
89. Webster Groves City Charter, 1970.
90. Webster Groves City Council Meeting Minutes, 1951-1953.
93. Webster Groves Map, n.d.
96. Webster Groves Restaurant Merchants, 1996.

100. American Heritage Volume XXVII, Number 6, 1976.
105. Conference on Affordable Housing for Community Organizations and Nonprofit Corporations, 1996.

BOX 3 (102065)

FOLDERS 107-134
110. Eulogy/Memorial Services Held in the House of Representatives for Missouri Representative John Berchmans Sullivan, 1951.
111. Fort Road USO Club 2nd Anniversary Program, 1944.
112. Gospel Pearl Hymnal belonging to Eliza Smith, n.d.
118. Landmarks 10 St. Louis Area Landmarks: Then and Now, 1995-1996.
119. Lift Every Voice and Sing Song Lyrics, 1921.
121. Memorial Addresses Delivered in the Senate and the House of Representatives for Ohio Senator Marcus A. Hanna, 1904.
122. Missouri: Images from the Past, Teaching with Documents, n.d.
130. Pamphlets and Brochures, 1991-1996
132. Pamphlets and Brochures, n.d.
134. The Regal Quartet Program Poster, 1950.

BOX 4 (102066)
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141. We Hold These Truths...Complied and Published by the Cavalcade of Democracy of the B'nai B'rith Men's and Women's Council of St. Louis, Missouri, 1942.

142. 698.1-698.134 ' Slides
143. Prints of slides 698.8-698.92 ' A print is not available for every slide within this range.
144. Prints of slides 698.94-698.133 ' A print is not available for every slide within this range.
145. 698.135-698.150
146. 698.151-698.169
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151. 698.229-698.241
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158. 698.364-698.370 - Photos 698.366-398.373 may contain 1x1 prints on contact sheet placed behind photo 698.373.
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161. 698.514-698.664 ' Contains 1x1 prints and 1x1 negatives for photographs 698.1-698.510. A print and negative is not available for every photograph within this range.
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166. Xeroxed copies of various photographs.

BOX 5, OVERSIZE
Contains materials from folders 28, 43, 55, 102, 156. Not stored off site.


43. Harvey James Simms' Lincoln University Diploma, 1916.

55. Marriage Certificate of Mr. Press (?) Rogers and Miss Eleanor E. Brown, 1914.


156. Photograph 698.330

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