

North Carolina Collection

Frankie Perry Collection

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| Title: | Frankie Perry Collection, 1953-1978 |
| Inclusive Dates: | 1953-1978 |
| Extent of Materials: | 1 oversized box, 8.75x14.5x3.5 |
| Location: | NC Office, Shelf 31 |
| Date of Accession: | 2014 |
| Donor: | Frankie Perry |
| Relationship of donor or materials to the DCL/NCR | |
| Processor: | Kristen Merryman |
| Description: | The Frankie Perry Papers consist of a scrapbook created by Ms. Perry documenting her school years, 1953-1965. Materials from Lyon Park School, Whitted Junior High School, and Hillside High School include award programs, playbills, school portraits, and certificates that Perry earned. The collection also includes some loose photographs of a graduation and a debutante ball program from Whitted Junior High School in 1964. |
| Subject Headings: | Performing arts--North Carolina--Durham. |
| | Hillside High School (Durham, N.C.) |
| Scope and Content: | |
| Related Materials: | |
| Restrictions: | This collection is open for research. |
| Biographical/Historical Note: | Frankie Perry is a Durham native. Growing up, she attended Lyon Park School, Whitted Junior High School, and graduated from Hillside High School in 1964. She was active in theater throughout high school. Perry describes herself as being involved in the "back room planning" for civil rights protests in Durham organized by people such as Howard Fuller and Benjamin Ruffin. She helped make copies and signs for the protesters on the front lines. Perry notes in her oral history that her mother did not want her to be involved in the actual protests and that the staff at Hillside High School supported the students's planning efforts, allowing them to make copies on the school's mimeograph machines for handouts at protests and teaching them how to be involved in nonviolent protests. Perry, through assistance from newspaperman Louis Austin, attended Bennett College in Greensboro. She transferred to UNC-Chapel Hill in 1966. While at UNC, she experienced discrimination as a black female student. She received a degree in social sciences in 1968. Following graduation, she taught school in Nash county. She returned to Durham in the early 1970s and worked at Wachovia Bank for forty years before retiring as a senior vice-president in 2006. While at the bank, she assisted well-known Durhamites such as John Hope Franklin and his wife Aurelia. Perry has served as president of the North Carolina Central University Foundation board since 2003. An oral history with Ms. Perry recorded in January 2015 and available in the NC Collection covers topics including Frankie Perry and her family's history in Durham and her memories of the civil rights protests and attending UNC-Chapel Hill. |
| Container List | |
| Box 1 | Scrapbook (can also be seen online here.), 1953-1978 |
| | Graduation photographs, 1962 |
| | Program for Debutante Ball held at Whitted Junior High School, 1964 |