

North Carolina Collection

Steed and Mozette Rollins Collection

Title:	Steed and Mozette Rollins Collection
Inclusive Dates:	1906-1996
Extent of Materials:	2 Hollinger boxes, 1 large box (17.5x11.5x3.5)
Location:	Duke Storage
Date of Accession:	2014
Donor:	Steed Rollins, Jr.
Relationship of donor or materials to the DCL/NCR	
Processor:	Lucy VanderKamp
Description:	Papers and photographs from the personal collections of Steed and Mozette Rollins. Also contains ancestral photos, press photos, and newspaper clippings.
Subject Headings:	American newspapers.
	Clippings.
	Fencing--Training.
	Historic Preservation Society of Durham.
	Historic Preservation Society of North Carolina.
	Newspaper editors--United States.
	Newspaper publishing--United States--History--20th century.
	Photographs.
	Publicity photographs.
Abstract:	
Scope and Content:	
Related Materials:	Durham Morning Herald and Durham Sun Special Editions
	Hope Valley Country Club Records
	Debutante Cotillion and Christmas Ball Collection
	Friday Morning Music Study Club Records
Restrictions:	The collection is open for research

Biographical/Historical Note:	<p>of preparatory school, college years at Vanderbilt, and Army service during World War II, lived in Durham all his life. His father, Edward T. Rollins, was one of the founders of the Durham Herald Company (publisher of the Durham Morning Herald and Durham Sun, now merged into one paper, the Herald-Sun) and president of that company until his death in 1931. He was succeeded by Carl C. Council, who was succeeded in 1964 by Steed Rollins. Steed Rollins was managing editor for the Herald after college and before the army, returned to work after the war and became the executive editor of the Herald and Sun, was appointed executive vice-president in 1957, and was elected president in 1964. He served on various Southern Newspaper Publishers Association (SNPA) committees, the SNPA board of directors, and as its president. He was president of the North Carolina Associated Press Club and the North Carolina Associated Dailies. He was a member of the School of Journalism Foundation of North Carolina from its beginning in 1950 until his death in 1985 and a member for 18 years of the North Carolina Board of Corrections and Training. Rollins also served on numerous local boards and commissions. He was chairman of the Durham-Duke Committee and an honorary member of the Duke University chapter of Omicron Delta Kappa. In 1996 he was named to the North Carolina Journalism Hall of Fame at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.</p>
	<p>Mozette Riggsbee Rollins was born on December 8, 1918, on Trinity Avenue, in the same neighborhood in which her future husband grew up. After graduating from Durham High School in 1936, she taught kindergarten at Mrs. Twadell's preschool for a number of years. While husband Steed served in the Southwest Pacific during World War II, Mozette was secretary to Frederick Koch (founder of the Carolina Playmakers) and sat in on seminars with playwright Paul Green. As a young girl, she sang in the choir of First Presbyterian Church under the direction of Mr. William P. Twadell, who was instrumental in raising the standards of choral music in Durham. As a member of First Presbyterian, she continued to sing in the choir and support the music program, serving on committees and donating a harpsichord to the church. Steed and Mozette were married on December 30, 1944, shortly before his discharge from the Army in 1945. After their marriage, Mozette became very active in the Durham community as a charter member of the Historic Preservation Society of Durham, a board member of the YWCA, the Durham Arts Council, the Festival for the Eno, the American Dance Festival, and several other organizations. She was a member of the Junior League of Durham and Orange County, the Debutante Ball Society, the Town and Campus Book Club, the Friday Morning Music Study Club, and Hope Valley Country Club. She died in 2013.</p>
Condition Notes:	
Organization of Collection:	The collection is divided into correspondence, historical preservation materials, newspaper clippings, and photographs.
	Correspondence is divided into sections and arranged chronologically.
	Historic preservation materials derive primarily from Mozette's involvement in the Historic Preservation Society of Durham. Also included are church materials and bulletins from memorial services and music performances--often performances in which Steed or Mozette took part. An undated, hand-written draft of an essay or speech on 20th century orchestral music is included along with an undated draft of an essay about Durham historic district history. These materials are arranged by topic and chronologically.
	Newspaper clippings are divided into sections and ordered chronologically.
	Photographs include a dismantled scrapbook kept by Mozette (first three folders). The rest of the materials are divided into rough groupings and ordered chronologically.
	Oversized items occupy box 4.
Container List	
Box 1--Correspondence, historic preservation, newspaper clippings	
Correspondence 1934-1996	
	1. Vanderbilt days--correspondence and school papers, 1934-38
	2. Herald days (early)--bills, correspondence, copy, 1938-40, undated

	4. Army days , 1939-45, undated
	5. Community involvement/honors (folder 1) , 1961-66
	6. Community involvement/honors (folder 2), 1979-86, 1996
Historic preservation 1949-1982	
	7. Music performances and writing, 1949-69, undated
	8. Memorial services and church materials (First Presbyterian), 1965-80
	9. Pamphlets from places and events, 1974-81, undated
	10. Society newsletters, correspondence, and roster, 1975-82
	11. Durham historic district history--drafts and sources, ca. 1975, 1980
Newspaper clippings 1941-1996	
	12. World War II and spoof paper , 1941
	13. Obituaries , 1964-80
	14. Honors and accomplishments, 1964-96
	15. Historic preservation articles, 1965-84
	16. Obituary clippings (Steed), November 1985
Box 2--Photographs 1906-1981	
	1. Scrapbook (folder 1)--photos, clippings and ephemera from banquets, camps, competitions, dances, performances, and school, 1930-36
	2. Scrapbook (folder 2)--photos, clippings and ephemera from banquets, camps, competitions, dances, performances, school, and travels, 1936-42
	3. Scrapbook (folder 3)--photos, clippings and ephemera from banquets, camps, competitions, dances, performances, school, travels, and from Steed during World War II, 1938-43
	4. Old photos--only one is dated, 1906-?
	5. Family photos, 1930-65
	6. Publicity photos--sent by authors and actors to the Herald, 1938-39
	7. Herald photos and portraits, ca. 1940-81
	8. Fencing--Steed as fencing coach, ca. 1964-65
Box 3 (large box)	
	1. Durham High School diploma (Mozette), June 4, 1937
	2. The Brookings Institution certificate for participation in the Piedmont Crescent Urban Policy Conference, June 15, 1967
	3. Scan of The Herald-Sun (story about Hall of Fame induction), March 27, 1996
	4. Three photographs (portrait of Mozette, German river scene?, Parthenon in Nashville), undated

Get help with your account

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