



FINDING AID FOR

Earl Phillips papers

2016.0008

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Earl Phillips papers. -- 1992-2015. -- 0.25 Cubic feet (1 box)

Scope and Content

The collection consists of correspondence and other records related to Earl Phillips's activities as Executive Director of Atlanta Housing.

BIOGRAPHY:

Born in Richmond, formerly Newark, New Jersey where he grew up as a child of public housing, Earl Phillips was the executive director of a number of housing authorities across the country. After receiving his bachelor's degree in psychology and history from Howard University and serving in the military, he became President of the Urban League. He worked 5 years as the Director of the Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RHA) in Newark and developed a reputation for successfully running public housing agencies in Houston and Dade County.

Phillips initially came to Atlanta at the request of former President Jimmy Carter and Mayor Maynard Jackson. In 1992, Mayor Jackson sought to improve the reputation and performance of Atlanta Housing by hiring Phillips, then the Executive Director of the Miami Housing Authority. Phillips had been credited with turning around dire conditions in that city's housing authority.

Earl Phillips served as Atlanta Housing's Executive Director for the years 1992-1994. One of the major changes Phillips implemented at Atlanta Housing was to create better efficiency in implementing automation and bringing computers to Atlanta Housing's employees, where before almost all work had been done manually. Additionally, Phillips abandoned the plan to convert the two complexes into mixed-income housing. Instead, he proposed to sell a small portion of Techwood Homes to provide space for the Olympic Village and to raise money to finance renovations of Techwood and Clark Howell Homes. Though his plans won approval from HUD, the election of November 1993 changed local as well as national housing policy priorities.

Mayor Maynard Jackson decided not to seek re-election as mayor, clearing the way for a successful campaign by former city council member, Bill Campbell. Campbell's views on public housing differed radically from those of Mayor Maynard Jackson's and Earl Phillip's views. Campbell held the view that public-housing developments exacerbated the problems arising in poverty and Campbell would later work with Phillip's successor, Renee Glover, to transform Atlanta Housing's public housing into mixed-income communities, privatizing these redeveloped communities. Within a few weeks of Campbell's inauguration as mayor, Earl Phillips resigned as Executive Director of Atlanta Housing.

In 2005, Phillips retired from the Peace Corps as the County Director of the Eastern Caribbean. Phillips died March 11, 2015 at the age of 81.

SOURCES:

"Earl Phillips: Turnaround Artist." *Governing*, Oct. 1992 (17).

Browning, Lolita. "New AHA Director Takes Lead and Wants to Improve." *Atlanta Daily World*, Apr. 2-3, 1992.

Keating, Larry. *Atlanta: Race, Class and Urban Expansion*. Temple University Press, May 3, 2010.

Earl Phillips Obituary, Joseph Jenkins, Jr. Funeral Home, 2015.

"Tribute to Earl Phillips of New Jersey in the House of Representatives." *Congressional Record* Volume 151, Number 74 (Tuesday, June 7, 2005).

Restrictions

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS

Appointments are required when conducting research with this collection. Please contact the Archivist to make an appointment at AHAArchives@atlantahousing.org Atlanta Housing is required to legally review all records prior to admitting access to ensure they do not contain information that violates the privacy of its program's participants.

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Finding aid prepared by and described by Atlanta Housing Archives, Records & Information Management, Meredith E. Torre, Archivist.

Arrangement

This collection consists of five series: 1. Biological Materials and Awards; 2. Correspondence; 3. Publications; 4. Photographs; and 5. Audiovisuals.

2016.0008.1 Biographical Materials and Awards

2016.0008.1.1 East Lake Meadows Certificate of Appreciation presented to AHA Executive Director Earl Phillips by Eva Davis Woods, President of the East lake Meadows Resident Association. -- Mar. 8, 1994

2016.0008.1.2 "Tribute to Earl Phillips of New Jersey in the House of Representatives." Congressional Record Volume 151, Number 74. -- June 7, 2005

2016.0008.1.3 Obituary. -- 2015

2016.0008.2 Correspondence. -- 1992-1993

2016.0008.2.1 Dean, Douglas, President of Summerhill Neighborhood, Inc.. -- 1992

2016.0008.2.2 Dekalb County Housing Authority. -- June 3, 1993

2016.0008.2.3 Elite Management Corporation. -- 1993

2016.0008.2.4 Orrock, Nan, House of Representatives. -- May 20, 1993

2016.0008.2.5 Sessions, Lee M., Jr., Bank South Corporation. -- Apr. 1, 1993

2016.0008.2.6 Sweet, John F., AHA Commissioner . -- 1993

2016.0008.3 Publications. -- 1992

2016.0008.3.1 Newsclippings. -- 1992

2016.0008.3.1.1 Newsclipping: "Earl Phillips: Turnaround Artist". -- Oct. 1992

Other Codes

aha_2016_doc_00181.pdf

2016.0008.3.1.2 "New AHA Director Takes Lead and Wants to Improve." Atlanta Daily World. -- Apr. 2-3, 1992

Other Codes

aha_2017_doc_00199.pdf

2016.0008.4 Photographs

2016.0008.4.1 Portrait of Earl Gray Phillips. AHA 2016.00106

2016.0008.4.2 Portrait of Earl Gray Phillips. AHA 2016.00107

2016.0008.4.3 Portrait of Earl Gray Phillips. AHA 2016.00108

2016.0008.4.4 Portrait of Earl Gray Phillips. AHA 2016.00109

2016.0008.4.5 Portrait of Earl Gray Phillips. AHA 2016.00110

2016.0008.4.6 Portrait of Earl Gray Phillips. AHA 2016.00111

2016.0008.4.7 Earl Phillips and President Jimmy Carter. AHA 2016.00112

2016.0008.5 Audiovisuals

2016.0008.5.1 Earl Phillips. -- 1992. -- Moving image

Other Codes

aha_2015_av_00097

2016.0008.5.2 Channel 2 Earl Phillips. -- undated. -- Moving image

Other Codes

aha_2015_av_00100