



FINDING AID FOR

**Eva Davis papers**

**2015.0003**

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## **Eva Davis papers. -- 2003-2012. -- 0.10 Cubic feet (Housed alphabetically with Papers--small collections)**

### **Scope and Content**

The collection consists of programs, articles, and biographical materials regarding Eva Davis.

#### **BIOGRAPHY:**

Eva Belle Favours Davis was among the earliest residents of East Lake Meadows and was elected the tenant association president soon after her arrival there in 1971. In the years that followed Eva Davis was a recognized spokeswoman and association leader. She served on the Atlanta Housing Board and was a passionate proponent of community revitalization. Over the years, East Lake Meadows became one of the most dangerous and crime-ridden public housing communities. As early as 1972, Davis was making requests for police protection to the aldermanic Police Committee. In 1990, when nightly gunfire was common, she demanded 24-hour police assistance, better recreational programs to entice youth away from crime and an immediate personal meeting with Mayor Jackson.

Revitalization of East Lake Meadows offered hope for those living in "Little Nam" as some had come to call it. Eva Davis said she didn't appreciate anyone having called it Vietnam, "because I am living here." Eva Davis said that she found Renee Lewis Glover to be a "a very good listener." Eva Davis wanted the residents to play a vital role in the redevelopment of a mixed-income community. That role was realized, with Eva Davis personally heading the effort.

Glover was once asked in an interview how she came to take over Atlanta Housing as its CEO in 1994, in which she stated that "someone made the suggestion, I don't remember who." In a separate interview with Atlanta Housing years later however in 2002, Eva Davis takes credit as the person having made that suggestion, telling Glover, "Let's make history." The feelings of respect must have been mutual. Renee Glover considered Davis an "extraordinarily gifted" person. For the revitalization effort of East Lake Meadows, Eva Davis engendered trust. "Mrs. Davis' contribution was crucial," Glover said.

Eva Davis continued her service on the AH Board and was a passionate proponent of community revitalization for the remainder of her life, using East Lake as a model. In her 2002 interview with Atlanta Housing, Eva Davis discussed the achievements which had brought about such significant change to the lives of the residents of the former East Lake community. She expressed her appreciation, "I am proud of being a part of public housing" Davis said.

In 2007, Eva Davis began fighting her last battle. She began a campaign to create more awareness for women's health issues after her discovery that, like her mother, she had developed ovarian cancer. She died in 2012.

#### **SOURCES:**

Volunteer Recognition Dinner program. Eva Davis papers--Awards and Recognitions. (Atlanta, Georgia: Atlanta Housing Archives, The Housing Authority of the City of Atlanta.)

"Whatever Happened to Eva Davis: A different battle for a tireless fighter." By S.A. Reid. The Atlanta Journal Constitution. July 9, 2007.

"Eva Davis, 76: Community leader, advocate for Villages at East Lake." The Atlanta Journal Constitution. June 10, 2012.

Eva Davis on Renee Lewis Glover, 2002. Eva Davis papers-Audiovisuals. (Atlanta, Georgia: Atlanta Housing Archives, The Housing Authority of the City of Atlanta.)

## **Restrictions**

### ACCESS RESTRICTIONS

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Please use the following format when citing: "Item," Date of item creation. Collection, Series. (Atlanta, Georgia: Atlanta Housing Archives, The Housing Authority of the City of Atlanta.)

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

## **Arrangement**

The collection is arranged into two series: 1. Awards and Recognitions and 2. Publications.

## **Other Codes**

2015.0003

## **2015.0003.1 Awards and Recognitions. -- 2003**

**2015.0003.1.1 Volunteer recognition dinner program. -- Nov. 20, 2003**

*Other Codes*

aha\_2016\_doc\_00182.pdf

## **2015.0003.2 Publications. -- 2007-2012**

**2015.0003.2.1 Newsclippings on Eva Davis. -- 2007-2012**

**2015.0003.2.1.1 "Whatever happened to Eva Davis: A Different Battle for Tireless Fighter" by S.A. Reid. The Atlanta Journal Constitution. -- July 9, 2007**

*Other Codes*

aha\_2016\_doc\_00183.pdf

**2015.0003.2.1.2 "Eva Davis, 76: Community leader, advocate for Villages at East Lake" Atlanta Journal Constitution . -- June 10, 2012**

*Other Codes*

aha\_2016\_doc\_00184.pdf

**2015.0003.2.1.3 Obituary for Eva Davis published in the Atlanta Journal Constitution. -- June 11, 2012**

*Other Codes*

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## **2015.0003.4 Audiovisuals**

**2015.0003.4.1 Eva Davis on Renée Lewis Glover. -- 2002. -- Moving image**

*Other Codes*

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