

Register of the Stone Church Annexation Committee Records 1966-1968

Stone Church Annexation Committee Records, 1966-1968

Mss 251, .5 cu. ft.

1 box

1 folder containing photographs

Introduction

This collection consists of records relating to the Stone Church Annexation Committee, formed in 1966 in order to annex the Old Stone Church community from Oconee County into Pickens County, SC. These records document the activities of the Committee between the years 1966-1968.

Annexation Committee member Dr. William H. Davis McGregor, who served as Treasurer of the organization, donated this collection to Clemson University in 1998. This collection was formerly accession number 98-121. There are no restrictions on the use of this collection beyond those of Special Collections. This register was prepared by Carl Redd in 2003.

Brief History

Dr. William H. Davis McGregor was a professor and Dean of the College of Forestry and Recreation at Clemson University. Dr. McGregor is a native of South Carolina, born in Florence in 1927. Dr. McGregor served as Treasurer of the Stone Church Annexation Committee.

The Stone Church Annexation Committee was formed on March 29, 1966. The aim of this group was to remedy an ongoing school district boundary problem that had plagued the Old Stone Church community for some time prior. The members of the Stone Church Annexation Committee were Chairman James P. Whitlock, Vice-Chairman Hugh Wilson, Secretary Jim Halpin, and Treasurer Dr. William H. Davis McGregor.

Many residents in the Old Stone Church community had for some time been concerned over the constant uncertainty of where their children would attend school. An agreement had been reached whereby Old Stone Church students would attend geographically closer Pickens County schools despite the fact that they lived in Oconee County. The agreement between the two school districts allowed for these residents to pay Pickens County school taxes, while paying Oconee County land taxes.

This agreement was never made permanent, and a general uneasiness set in with parents of the children affected. On the occasions that the agreements' renewal vote was tabled, Old Stone Church parents pushed for a permanent solution, while the two school districts opted for periodic review on a year to year basis. Federal Civil Rights and desegregation laws rendered this set of agreements moot. African American students who were bused to Easley schools would now attend Daniel high school, it being the closer school. This

meant that the Old Stone Church residents would have to be moved to Oconee County schools. Since the school districts could no longer assure any agreement, the residents sought to solve the issue through annexation. The Stone Church Annexation Committee was formed in order to annex the Old Stone Church community from Oconee County to Pickens County, solving once and for all the troublesome school district line problem.

Scope and Content

The Stone Church Annexation Committee Records document the activities of the group dedicated to annexing the Old Stone Church land. The collection details financial statements and donations, relevant laws and court case research, letters and correspondence, speeches, press releases, and news clippings.

In addition to this collection, researchers should be directed to the James P. Whitlock Papers (Mss 250) in order to get a thorough chronicle of the events.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>
1	1	Census-Registered Voters
	2	Laws, Court Cases, Legal Opinions
	3	Letters & Correspondence; October 11, 1965-March 29, 1968
	4	Newspaper Clippings; March 29-November 10, 1966
	5	Newspaper Clippings; January 7-February 17, 1967
	6	Newspaper Clippings; January 26-March 7, 1968
	7	Oconee County Planning Commission-Letters & Correspondence to Stone Church Residents; September 16, 1966-November 6, 1966
	8	Press Releases & Letters Addressed to Local Editors
	9	Stone Church Annexation Committee-Speeches, Letters & Correspondence
	10	Stone Church Annexation Fund-Bills Received/Bills Paid; April 6, 1966-March 29, 1968
	11	Stone Church Annexation Fund-Check Book Expenditures; April 6, 1966-April 15, 1968
	12	Stone Church Annexation Fund-Contributors & Single Entry Ledger
	13	Stone Church Annexation Fund-Deposit Slips; April 1-November 11, 1966, January 4, 1967, & March 21, 1967
	14	Stone Church Annexation Fund-Financial Statements/Bank Records; March 31, 1966-April 15, 1968

SEPARATION LIST

Photographs

1. 5 x 7 black-and-white glossy photograph depicting "1975 Daniel High Senior Class"