

Booker T. Washington Home Collection

Table of Contents
Collection Information
Brief History
Scope Note
Box and Folder Inventory

Collection Information

Volume of Collection:	1 Box
Collection Dates:	1890-1968
Restrictions:	None
Reproduction Rights:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
Location:	Archives
Notes:	None

History

The Booker T. Washington Home was founded in 1918 by Mr. and Mrs. Alex Barker. They housed six children in a small house in the 500 block of West Jackson Street in Bloomington. In 1920, women from various Bloomington-Normal churches decided to help with the daunting task of feeding, housing, and clothing the young children at the home. Eventually the home was chartered by the State of Illinois on December 22, 1920, as the McLean Home for Colored Children.

The chartered home was located at 1203 West Moulton Street in Bloomington. The six-room home, in poor condition and with no modern conveniences, opened with thirty children ages one to sixteen. The home was then able to purchase additional adjoining lots to provide for a yard and garden and a second structure. A new brick building was erected in 1935, and the name was changed to the Booker T. Washington Home in 1942. The home last appears in the City Directory in 1968.

Scope Note

This collection includes correspondence, brochures, newspaper articles, titles of abstract, and records books.

Folder 1: History

- 1.1 "Booker T. Washington Home," summary, 1 pg
- 1.2 "Booker T. Washington Home," by Mrs. Harold E. Walsh as taken from the records of Mrs. George Monroe, from *Home Town in the Corn Belt*, vol. V pp. 191-198 (2 photocopies)

Folder 2: Organizational Papers

- 2.1 Rules and Regulation of the Home, ca. 1927, 1 pg (original and photocopy)
- 2.2 Constitution and By-Laws, revised and adopted, March 1, 1956, 4 pp

Folder 3: Newspaper Articles (*Pantagraph* unless noted)

- 3.1 "Mrs. Monroe is Re-Elected," *Pantagraph?* 1921, (no month or date given)
- 3.2 "Annual Report By Mrs. Monroe," *Pantagraph?* 1922, (no month or date given)
- 3.3 "M'Lean County Home For Colored Children a Worthy Institution," *Pantagraph?* 1923, (no month or date given)
- 3.4 "Deserves Credit For the Success Of Colored Home," June 5, 1925
- 3.5 "Building Home For Children," November 17, 1935
- 3.6 "Home for Colored Children Nears Completion," newspaper photo, June 28, 1936
- 3.7 "Mrs. Monroe Heads Board," January 10, 1938
- 3.8 "Colored Children Feted at Dinner," September 9, 1938
- 3.9 "Colored Children's Home Helps Build Happy and Useful Lives," October 26, 1939
- 3.10 "Cares for Colored Children," October 7, 1940, p. 12
- 3.11 "Know Your Community Chest, The Booker T. Washington Home," *McLean County Courier*, July 28, 1950, p. 3
- 3.12 "Children Admire Lander Plaque," January 4, 1951
- 3.13 Photograph and caption, September 28, 1968, p. 10

Folder 4: Correspondence

- 4.1 Chas. E. Hall to Mrs. Elmer Folsom, November 7, 1923
- 4.2 West Side Planning Mill Co. Bid, December 4, 1923, incl. envelope
- 4.3 Betty Ebo to dear friends, postmarked November 30, 1945, incl. envelope, 2 pp
- 4.4 Open letter from Mattie Green, superintendent, Spring 1966

Folder 5: Abstract of Title

- 5.1 Warranty deed in the names of Stella and Arthur Swope to Robert and Amanda Rowlett dated May 9, 1952
- 5.2 Warranty deed in the name of Amanda Rowlett to Oswell Smith dated April 1, 1930
- 5.3 Abstract of Title for certain lands in sections 5 and 8, includes maps
- 5.4 Abstract of Title for Lot One Hundred and Twenty Three in Citizens' Addition to City of Bloomington, in McLean County, 1890

Folder 6: Promotional Material

- 6.1 "A Credit to their Community!" undated brochure
- 6.2 "Booker T. Washington Home, Tomorrow's Citizens," undated brochure

Folder 7: Record Book, 1920-1951

Includes list of original contributors and board members; includes list of children admitted to the Home between 1921-1950; includes contents of safety box at the People's Bank

Folder 8: Account Book, 1923-1934

Includes itemized list of debits and credits including balances for 1923-1934