



The New York Public Library  
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,  
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

**Theodora Stewart Burnett collection**

1926 - 1978

Sc MG 614

## Summary

**Creator:** Burnett, Theodora Stewart

**Title:** Theodora Stewart Burnett collection

**Date:** 1926 - 1978

**Size:** 1.5 linear feet (1 large flat archival box)

**Source:** Gift of Beverly Stewart on April 11, 1997.

**Abstract:** Theodora Augusta Myers Stewart Burnett was born November 5, 1908, in Atlanta, Georgia. During her childhood her family moved to Iowa, where she was raised. Burnett attended Central High School in Sioux City, Iowa, and graduated in 1926. In 1933, she earned a B.S. Degree in education from the University of Nebraska and worked as a teacher. In Nebraska, Burnett met and married William Wallace Stewart II. They had one child, a son named William Wallace Stewart III. Burnett had no other children. In 1933, when William Wallace Stewart III was 3 years old, the couple divorced. She later married Donald Burnett and they remained married until his death in 1989. This collection contains a scrapbook of letters, photographs, and memorabilia about a trip Burnett took to Guatemala in July-August 1949. She was there during the uprising surrounding the assassination of the Chief of Guatemala's Armed Forces, Colonel Francisco Javier Arana. In addition, there is one folder of genealogical material on the family of Burnett's mother, the Myers, dating from 1731-1900s; Burnett's B.S. diploma; a 1926 Central High School yearbook; and a 1982 reunion booklet for the Central High School classes of 1926-1928. Burnett attended the reunion with her second husband Donald. Finally, the collection includes a program for the 1970-1971 Debutante Ball sponsored by the Beta Omega and Mu Omega Chapters of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Burnett and her husband sponsored Paula Rayford, one of the debutantes.

**Preferred citation:** [Item], Theodora Stewart Burnett collection, Sc MG 614, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

**Language of the Material:** English

**Processing note:** Accessioned by Rosalie P. Jeter on September 30, 1997.

**Separated Materials:**

Transferred to the Photographs and Prints Division: two photograph albums, one large photograph, and several loose items.

**Creator History**

Theodora Augusta Myers Stewart Burnett was born November 5, 1908, in Atlanta, Georgia. During her childhood her family moved to Iowa, where she was raised. Burnett attended Central High School in Sioux City, Iowa, and graduated in 1926. In 1933, she earned a B.S. Degree in education from the University of Nebraska and worked as a teacher. In Nebraska, Burnett met and married William Wallace Stewart II. They had one child, a son named William Wallace Stewart III. Burnett had no other children. In 1933, when William Wallace Stewart III was 3 years old, the couple divorced. She later married Donald Burnett and they remained married until his death in 1989.

**Scope and Content Note**

This collection contains a scrapbook of letters, photographs, and memorabilia about a trip Burnett took to Guatemala in July-August 1949. She was there during the uprising surrounding the assassination of the Chief of Guatemala's Armed Forces, Colonel Francisco Javier Arana. In addition, there is one folder of genealogical material on the family of Burnett's mother, the Myers, dating from 1731-1900s; Burnett's B.S. diploma; a 1926 Central High School yearbook; and a 1982 reunion booklet for the Central High School classes of 1926-1928. Burnett attended the reunion with her second husband Donald. Finally, the collection includes a program for the 1970-1971 Debutante Ball sponsored by the Beta Omega and Mu Omega Chapters of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Burnett and her husband sponsored Paula Rayford, one of the debutantes.

**Key Terms****Names**

Burnett, Theodora Stewart

## **Container List**

- b. 1 f. 1   Genealogical notes 1875 - 1978
  - b. 1   Scrapbook of trip to Guatemala 1949
  - b. 1   Sioux City Central High School Yearbook 1926
  - b. 1   Reunion booklet for the classes of 1926-1928 1982
  - b. 1   Debutante Ball program 1971