

# BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT

## **Birmingham Public Library. Wylam Branch Wylam History Files, 1898-1967**

### **Background:**

Wylam, Alabama, to the west of Birmingham, originated as a mining town housing employees of the nearby coal mines and steel mills. It was incorporated in 1900. It later became part of the City of Ensley and in 1910 was incorporated into the City of Birmingham. The material in this collection was compiled by librarians at the Wylam Branch Library of the Birmingham Public Library.

### **Scope and Content:**

The first half of this collection contains materials recounting the history of several institutions and churches in the Wylam community. The second half is devoted to material relating to World War II. Most of the items are photographs and newspaper clippings.

### **Related Collections:**

Birmingham Project Papers  
Birmingham Project Photographs

### **Subject Areas:**

Birmingham Public Library.  
World War, 1939-1945 – Alabama.  
World War, 1939-1945 – Casualties – Alabama.  
Wylam (Birmingham, Ala.) – History.  
Wylam Branch Library – History.  
Wylam School – History.

**Size:** 1/2 linear foot (1 box)

**Source/Provenance:** Wylam Branch Library

**Restrictions:** Standard preservation and copyright restrictions.

**Guide Prepared by:** Regina Ammon (October 2002)

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<b>File Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
324.1.1	“History of Wylam” owned by Mr. J. M. Walker copied in 1959; a typewritten sheet.” (4 pages).
324.1.2	Letter to Representative George Huddleston from Wayne Grover, Archivist of the United States. Concerns history of post office at Wylam. Dated April 15, 1959.
324.1.3	Photocopy of “History of Wylam School, 1935.” (21 pages).
324.1.4	Photocopy of “The History of Wylam School, 1935-58.” (8 pages).  Photocopy of "P.T.A. History by Years, 1935-58." (15 pages).
324.1.5	Typewritten account of the celebration of the Wylam Branch Library's opening, held on April 7, 1921. Original and photocopy. Original has penciled-in list of Wylam librarians at bottom.
324.1.6	Carbon copies of 13 letters of thanks sent by Library Director Fant Hill Thornley to contributors to the new Wylam Branch Library. Dated August 23, 1962. (13 pages).
324.1.7	Photocopy of “Wylam Baptist Church History, January 10, 1979.” (4 pages).  3 church bulletins: October 11, 1942; January 3, 1943; September 5, 1943. Laminated originals.
324.1.8	Photocopy of “A History of the Martin Memorial Methodist Church, Wylam, Alabama.” (37 pages).
324.1.9	Photocopy of the “Minutes of the Session of the Presbyterian Church, Wylam, Alabama, April 1898-June 1922. (87 pages).
324.1.10	Wylam Presbyterian Church 1967 pictorial directory.  Bound photocopied booklet on the John Milner Memorial Educational Building of the Wylam Presbyterian Church.

- 324.1.11 Two pages of notes from Masonic membership records. Originals and photocopies.
- 324.1.12 Photograph of WWII P-51 Mustang fighter plane named *Spirit of Wylam, Alabama*.
- 324.1.13 Photograph of WWII P-51 Mustang fighter plane named *Invictus, Wylam, Alabama*.
- 324.1.14 Two photographs of WWII soldier Archie Barr from Wylam.
- 324.1.15 Photograph of Billy Barr, WWII soldier from Wylam.
- 324.1.16 Copy of photograph of Jimmy Barr, WWII soldier from Wylam.
- 324.1.17 Laminated copy of *Steel City: The Community Newspaper for the Steel District*, Fairfield, Alabama, September 10, 1943. Story on James Barr receiving a Purple Heart.
- 324.1.18 Two photographs of Kenneth Barr, a WWII soldier from Wylam.
- 324.1.19 Laminated newspaper clippings on soldiers from Wylam.
- 324.1.20 Laminated newspaper clippings on soldiers from Wylam.
- 324.1.21 Laminated newspaper clippings on soldiers from Wylam.
- 324.1.22 Laminated newspaper clippings on soldier from Wylam.
- 324.1.23 Illustrated story on Captain Jimmy Denig from *Look Magazine's American Heroes Series*. Laminated. Undated.
- 324.1.24 Laminated newspaper clippings on soldiers from Wylam.
- 324.1.25 Laminated newspaper clippings on soldiers from Wylam.
- 324.1.26 Snapshot of John Strengter, March 18, 1942.
- 324.1.27 Snapshot of Billy Watts in navy uniform, February 26, 1942.
- 324.1.28 Postcard photograph of young man in navy uniform

324.1.29

Postcard photograph of floral arrangement in the shape of the American flag. On back is written 'Flag made in Dedication of the boys, and men from Wylam in service of their country.'