

Roanoke Public Libraries
Virginia Room
Huff Lane Elementary Time Capsule Contents

Collection Description:

Repository: Roanoke Public Libraries, Virginia Room

Accession Number: 2014.6.18

Title: Huff Lane Elementary Time Capsule Contents

Physical Characteristics: 1 record storage box and unboxed time capsule

Donated by: City of Roanoke

Arrangement: Documents are arranged alphabetically by document type.

Creator: Huff Lane Elementary

Reproduction Restrictions: No known restrictions on publication. Virginia Room copy fees apply.

Processor: Lynsey Allie, 6/20/2014

Introduction:

This collection is comprised of different items that were set in a cornerstone of Huff Lane Intermediate School in Roanoke City in 1950. The creator of the collection chose items that portray several aspects of Roanoke life and Roanoke City Public Schools.

Biographical Note:

Huff Lane Elementary was located in the northwestern part of Roanoke City and was named after the farm of Peter Huff, which dominated the area. The Huff Lane School operated from 1950 to 2010 when it was closed due to the budget. The school was razed in 2014 after the property was sold in February of that year to NDRA II, LLC to make room for commercial development in the Valley View Mall area. According a Roanoke Times article from April 2014, a Roanoke citizen that remembered the 1950 ceremony, made a call to alert the demolition crew that a time capsule was in the foundation somewhere. A worker later found the sealed metal box among the debris.

Scope and Content:

- The collection is made up of 1 record storage box and the time capsule.
- The materials contained in this collection are varied, but include different reports and pamphlets associated with the city and the schools.
- The collection includes several newspaper sections, small stamps, coins, brochures, reports, and directories
- The collection focuses specifically on 1949-1950 to commemorate the year the time capsule was sealed within the Huff Lane cornerstone, while there are a few items that fall outside of that time range, most are from 1950
- While the collection provides a fairly well-rounded perspective of 1950s Roanoke, it does not include photographs from the time. Perhaps the most interesting piece is the Chamber of Commerce statistical report. It details remarkable facts in a relatively short document.

Container List:

Box 1 of 2

Folder 1 - artifacts; coins, stamps (5), and small tin that was used to house them.

- Folder 2 - Copy of book Roanoke: Story of County and City
- Folder 3 – Directory of Oakland and William Fleming student names for the 1949-1950 year.
- Folder 4 – Directory for Roanoke City Schools for 1949-1950.
- Folder 5 – Phone directory for Roanoke-Salem
- Folder 6 – Industrial directory for Roanoke-Salem-Vinton
- Folder 7 – *The Roanoke Times* for Sunday, June 11, 1950
- Folder 8 – *The Roanoke Times* for Sunday, June 11, 1950
- Folder 9 – *The Roanoke Times* for Sunday, June 11, 1950
- Folder 10 - *The Roanoke Times* for Sunday, June 11, 1950, the Society and Women’s Activities section.
- Folder 11 –*The Roanoke Times* for Sunday, June 11, 1950, the Comics section
- Folder 12 – Map of Roanoke City showing locations of schools, 1949
- Folder 13 – “Avisco News” brochure from American Viscose Corporation, 1950
- Folder 14 – *Norfolk and Western Magazine*, 1950
- Folder 15 – School building bond program brochure, 1949
- Folder 16 - Roanoke tourism brochure
- Folder 17 – Traffic laws brochure from 1947
- Folder 18 – Program for cornerstone laying ceremony and contents list of cornerstone capsule.
- Folder 19 – Chamber of Commerce statistical report, 1950
- Folder 20 – City budget report, 1950
- Folder 21 – City Government directory and financial report, 1949
- Folder 22 – School budget report, 1950
- Folder 23 – School building program report, 1949-1954

Box 2 of 2

Metal box that housed contents from Box 1