

**Roanoke Public Libraries  
Virginia Room  
Papers of the Spade and Trowel Garden Club**

**Collection Description:**

**Repository:** Roanoke Public Libraries, Virginia Room

**Title:** Papers of the Spade and Trowel Garden Club

**Physical Characteristics:** 3 record storage boxes

**Donated by:** unknown

**Arrangement:** Documents are arranged by document type and chronologically thereafter.

**Creator:** Members of the Spade and Trowel Garden Club

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

**Processor:** Dyron Knick, 6 December 2016

**Historical Note:**

The Spade and Trowel Garden Club was organized in July 1941 with the following charter members: Mrs. Winston Gilbert, president; Mrs. Kyle Whitescarver, vice-president; Mrs. Harry Myles, secretary; Mrs. W.J. Kraige, corresponding secretary; Mrs. N.H. Key, treasurer; Mrs. J.E. Davis, parliamentarian; and Mrs. Robert McNeil, publicity. Spade and Trowel was sponsored by the Grandin Court Garden Club. In 1942, Spade and Trowel joined the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs. The club met in the homes of various members until the Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs purchased "Fairacres" in 1964. In addition to many efforts to beautify the Roanoke Valley and educate its citizens on gardening, the Spade and Trowel contributed to the community through various service projects and has also supported projects on the state and national level. The Spade and Trowel Garden Club disbanded in the 1990s, not long after celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1991.

**Scope and Content:**

The Papers of the Spade and Trowel Garden Club consists of organizational records throughout the club's existence. Records in this collection include meeting minutes, treasurer's reports, club yearbooks, news clippings, correspondence, awards and scrapbooks. Records are well-kept and span 1941-1991, with the bulk of records ranging from the 1960s-1980s. Meeting minutes were kept in record ledgers for a number of years, before being recorded on loose-leaf paper. Scrapbooks were kept intact and are stored chronologically in separate boxes from the remainder of the collection.

**Container List:**

**Box 1 of 3**

Folder 1: Annual Reports

Folder 2: Awards

Folder 3: Brochures, flyers, handouts

Folder 4: Correspondence – general, 1946-1991, with undated materials filed after

Folder 5: Correspondence – Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs

Folder 6: Member rolls

Folder 7: Minutes, July 1941-April 1946

Folder 8: Minutes, April 1946-March 1955  
Folder 9: Minutes, April 1955-February 1963  
Folder 10: Minutes, April 1963-March 1973  
Folder 11: Minutes, April 1973-December 1975  
Folder 12: Minutes, January 1976-December 1979  
Folder 13: Minutes, 1980-December 1985  
Folder 14: Minutes, January 1986-November 1989  
Folder 15: Minutes, January 1990-April 1991?  
Folder 16: Miscellaneous documents  
Folder 17: News clippings  
Folder 18: Newsletters, various  
Folder 19: President's Reports, 1969-1991  
Folder 20: Press releases  
Folder 21: Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs, miscellaneous  
Folder 22: Treasurer's reports, April 1964-February 1972  
Folder 23: Treasurer's reports, March 1972-December 1979  
Folder 24: Treasurer's reports, January 1980-August 1987  
Folder 25: Treasurer's reports. February 1988-April 1991

Yearbooks – located in compartment behind folders:

Item 1: 1947-1948  
Item 2: 1949-1950 (3 copies)  
Item 3: 1954-1955  
Item 4: 1965-1966  
Item 5: 1966-1967  
Item 6: 1968-1969  
Item 7: 1969-1970  
Item 8: 1970-1971  
Item 9: 1972-1973  
Item 10: 1973-1974  
Item 11: 1976-1977  
Item 12: 1987-1988  
Item 13: 1989-1991  
Item 14: 1991-1993  
Item 15: Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs yearbook, 1989-1991

## **Box 2 of 3**

### **Scrapbooks\***

Scrapbook 1: 1941-1966  
Scrapbook 2: 1963-1964  
Scrapbook 3: 1965-1966  
Scrapbook 4: 1966-1967  
Scrapbook 5: 1967-1968  
Scrapbook 6: 1968-1969

\*Handle with care

**Box 3 of 3**

**Scrapbooks\***

Scrapbook 1: 1969-1975

Scrapbook 2: 1981

Scrapbook 3: 1982-1983

Scrapbook 4: 1984-1990

\*Handle with care