

Atlanta Gas Light Company records

Descriptive Summary

Repository:	Georgia Historical Society
Creator:	Atlanta Gas Light Company.
Title:	Atlanta Gas Light Company records
Dates:	1849-2002
Extent:	46.0 cubic feet (113 volumes, 19 boxes, 4 oversize folders, 1 oversize item)
Identification:	MS 1881

Biographical/Historical Note

The Atlanta Gas Light Company was established on 16 February 1856 by William Helme, Julius A. Hayden, William N. Kirkpatrick, Adolph J. Brady, William C Lawshe, and Cicero H. Strong. Several cities in Georgia already had gas service in 1856 including Athens, Augusta, Macon, and Savannah, but Atlanta had neither the capital nor the know-how until William Helme entered talks with Atlanta's city council in 1855. The company is the oldest corporation in Atlanta and the second oldest in the state of Georgia.

After a series of mergers beginning in 1927, Atlanta Gas Light Company acquired holdings in Macon, Augusta, Griffin, Rome, Athens, Brunswick, Valdosta, Waycross, and Savannah with Atlanta Gas Light prevailing as the continuing corporation.

Extracted from Keeper of the Flame: The Story of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, 1856-1985 by James H. Tate.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains agreements, annual reports, bonds, contracts, financial records, journals, ledgers, mortgages, photographs, registers, and resolutions of several gas companies in Georgia administered by the Atlanta Gas Light Company including Athens Gas Light and Fuel Company; Consumers Gas and Coke Company in Waycross; Georgia Public Utilities Company divisions in Augusta, Griffin, and Rome; Macon Gas Company; Savannah Gas Company; Savannah-St. Augustine Gas Company; Southern Atlantic Gas Company; United Gas Improvement Company; and Valdosta Gas Company. The records date from 1849 to 2002.

Many of the records in this collection were used by the Atlanta Gas Light Company during a law suit to recoup funds from companies affiliated with Savannah Gas Company during environmental remediation of the Savannah Gas Company facility. The Savannah Gas Company was located in Trustees' Garden (bordered by East Bay, East Broad, Randolph, and East Broughton streets and General McIntosh Boulevard). The site was in operation from 1853 to 1953 and was the first Manufactured Gas Plant in Georgia. Environmental clean-up of the site was completed in 2005. Notes and colored paper left by the attorneys remain in many of the ledgers.

Environmental remediation also took place at the following other facilities: Athens (in use 1860-1930), Augusta (in use 1852-1954), Griffin (in use 1915-1930), Macon (in use mid 1850s-1950s), Rome (in use circa 1860-1930), Valdosta (in use 1906-1945), and Waycross (in use 1916-1953).

Also included are scrapbooks of the Savannah Gas Light Company, Savannah Chamber of Commerce, and South Atlantic Gas Company, as well as James H. Tate's research files, drafts, reviews, and correspondence on the book, Keeper of the Flame: The Story of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, 1856-1985 published in 1985 by the Atlanta Gas Light Company.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into 113 volumes, 19 boxes, 4 oversize folders, 1 oversize item:

Volumes 1-5: Mutual Gas Light (Savannah) journals, 1874-1903.

Volumes 6-9: Mutual Gas Light (Savannah) ledgers, 1892-1902.

Volumes 10-12: Mutual Gas Light (Savannah) check stubs, 1884-1860.

Volume 13: Savannah Gas Light Company dividends, 1857-1860.

Volumes 14-31: Savannah Gas Company journals, 1904-1947.

Volumes 32-47: Savannah Gas Company ledgers, 1904-1928, 1948-1949.

Volumes 48-60: Savannah Gas Company financial reports, 1930-1943.

Volumes 61-64: Savannah Gas Company voucher register (1928-1931); continuing property record (1930s-1940s); unit cost analysis (1935); and building inventory (1934-1935).

Volume 65: Southern Atlantic Gas Company assets, 1948.

Volume 66: Savannah-St. Augustine Gas Company ledger, 1945.

Volume 67: United Gas Improvement Company ledger, 1882-1884.

Volumes 68-70: Athens Gas Light and Fuel Company records, 1912-1921, 1929-1931.

Volumes 71-75: Georgia Public Utilities Company - Augusta, Georgia, records, 1916-1929.

Volume 76: Georgia Public Utilities Company - Griffin, Georgia, records, 1928-1932.

Volume 77: Macon Gas Light Company stock certificates, 1884-1885.

Volumes 78-90: Macon Gas Company records, 1881-1936.

Volumes 91-95: Georgia Public Utilities Company - Rome, Georgia, records 1915-1923, 1929-1934.

Volumes 94-100: Valdosta Gas Company records, 1871-1901, 1927-1934.

Volumes 101-102: Consumers Gas and Coke Company, Waycross, Georgia, records, 1927-1935.

Volume 103: Savannah Gas Company scrapbook, 1933-1941.

Volume 104: Savannah Gas Company I scrapbook, 6/28/1944-12/28/1947.

Volume 105: Savannah Gas Company II scrapbook, 1/7/1948-2/14/1949.

Volume 106: South Atlantic Gas Company and Trustees Garden Village, Inc. no. III scrapbook, 2/24/1949-8/18/1950.

Volume 107: South Atlantic Gas Company no. IV scrapbook, 8/31/1955-1953.

Volume 108: Unidentified scrapbook, 1958-1959.

Volume 109: Savannah Chamber of Commerce I scrapbook, 4/24/1947-11/30/1947.

Volume 110: Savannah Chamber of Commerce II scrapbook, 12/1/1947-5/24/1948.

Volume 111: Savannah Chamber of Commerce III scrapbook, 5/24/1948-9/13/1950.

Volume 112: Voucher register Rome, Georgia, October 1922-October 1923.

Volume 113: Atlanta Gas Light Company street main record, no. 1, 1880s-1890s.

Box 1: Mutual Gas Light Company, Savannah Gas Company, and Savannah Gas Light Company contracts, agreements, bonds, resolutions, and mortgages, 1877-1928.

- Box 2: Annual reports of American Gas and Power, Georgia Railway and Power Company, and South Atlantic Gas Company; digital image prints of Athens and Augusta facilities; photographs of Atlanta, Athens, and Augusta facilities, 1903-1985.
- Box 3: Macon Gas Light and Water Company ledger (1899-1905) and Savannah Gas Company ledger (1920-1940).
- Box 4: James H. Tate files on Keeper of the Flame: The Story of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, 1856-1985 including typescript chapters, correspondence, and reviews, 1988.
- Box 5: James H. Tate files on Keeper of the Flame: The Story of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, 1856-1985 including typescript chapters and reviews, 1989-1991.
- Box 6: James H. Tate files on Keeper of the Flame: The Story of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, 1856-1985 including typescript chapters with reviews/comments, 1990-1991.
- Box 7: James H. Tate files on Keeper of the Flame: The Story of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, 1856-1985 including typescript chapters, notes, and clippings, 1903-1991.
- Box 8: James H. Tate research Keeper of the Flame: The Story of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, 1856-1985 including clippings, notes, chronologies, correspondence, 1850-1991.
- Box 9: James H. Tate research files for Keeper of the Flame: The Story of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, 1856-1985 including clippings, notes, chronologies, correspondence, 1860s-1991.
- Box 10: James H. Tate research files for Keeper of the Flame: The Story of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, 1856-1985 including clippings, notes, chronologies, correspondence, 1849-1991.
- Box 11: James H. Tate research files for Keeper of the Flame: The Story of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, 1856-1985 including Georgia Railway annual reports, appraisal of gas properties, Atlanta Gas Light Company correspondence, Georgia Power history, Stone and Webster proposed services contract, 1880s-1970s (all photocopies).
- Box 12: James H. Tate research files for Keeper of the Flame: The Story of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, 1856-1985 including source documents on Athens, Macon, Rome, Augusta, Brunswick, Griffin, Savannah, and Valdosta facilities and the 1926 merger, 1915-1990s (all photocopies).
- Box 13: James H. Tate research files for Keeper of the Flame: The Story of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, 1856-1985 including source documents on Athens, Augusta, and Brunswick, 1850s-1980s.
- Box 14: NUI Utilities/Elizabethtown Gas history files and annual reports, and Illuminations cartoon, 1951-2003.
- Box 15: Atlanta Gas Light Company Blue Flame News (bound), 1942-1946, 1949-1959.
- Box 16: Savannah Gas Light scrapbooks, 1917-1948, and South Atlantic Gas Company scrapbooks, 1956-1957, 1959-1960.
- Box 17: Includes photo album with Atlanta, GA, Mobile, AL, Aiken, SC, Athens, GA, Brunswick, GA, West Palm Beach, FL, Charleston, SC, and Port Arthur, TX facilities, 1930s-1940s; slides, advertising, 1930s-1950s; Two Bells, 1921-1922, 1927 (photocopies); Georgia Power newspaper snapshots, 1920s (photocopies); photos of property/facilities, 1947; clippings and correspondence, 1929; Southern Gas Association proceedings, 1915; "Another Decade of Progress" correspondence, 1940-1952; and "Macon Narrative".
- Box 18: South Atlantic Gas Company annual reports, 1946-56, 1958-1963; Savannah Gas Company annual report, 1964; Atlanta Gas Light Company annual reports, 1952-1986, 1990; and South Atlantic Gas Company financing study and financial statements, 1950, 1953.
- Box 19: Mutual Gas Light Company of Savannah and United Gas Improvement Company agreement, 1882; Index for old record book, no. 1; photographs of Savannah facilities; and South Atlantic Gas Company annual reports, 1949-1965.

Oversize folder 1: Savannah Gas Company report, December 1912.

Oversize folders 2-4: Savannah Gas Company facility photographs, 1866-2002.

Oversize loose item: Savannah Gas Company birds eye photograph of facility, including river and downtown Savannah, undated.

Index Terms

Agreements.
Annual reports.
Athens Gas Light and Fuel Company.
Atlanta Gas Light Company.
Bonds (legal records)
Clippings (information artifacts)
Consumers Gas and Coke Company (Waycross, Ga.)
Contracts.
Financial records.
Gas industry--Georgia--Athens.
Gas industry--Georgia--Atlanta.
Gas industry--Georgia--Augusta.
Gas industry--Georgia--Griffin.
Gas industry--Georgia--Macon.
Gas industry--Georgia--Rome.
Gas industry--Georgia--Savannah.
Gas industry--Georgia--Valdosta.
Gas industry--Georgia--Waycross.
Georgia Public Utilities Company (Augusta, Ga.)
Georgia Public Utilities Company (Griffin, Ga.)
Georgia Public Utilities Company (Rome, Ga.)
Journals (accounts)
Ledgers (account books)
Macon Gas Company.
Macon Gas Light Company.
Macon Gas Light and Water Company.
Mortgages.
Mutual Gas Light Company (Savannah, Ga.)
Photographs.
Resolutions (administrative records)
Savannah Gas Company.
Savannah Gas Light Company.
Savannah-St. Augustine Gas Company
Scrapbooks.
Slides (photographs)
Southern Atlantic Gas Company.
Tate, James H.
United Gas Improvement Company.
Valdosta Gas Company.

Administrative Information

Processing Information

This collection is processed at the Basic Level (or collection level). There is no detailed inventory for this collection as it is not fully processed. To request that this collection be added to our priority list of collections to be fully processed as staffing and funding allow, please contact the Library and Archives staff.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Sponsorship

Encoding funded by a 2008 Archives-Basic Projects grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.
