

Guide to the

Irving Garden Club Collection 1934-1996

1.4 linear feet

Accession Numbers: 0102-171; 0102-191

COLLECTION NUMBER: 89

**Prepared by Christopher Strange
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Citation: The Irving Garden Club Collection, Collection 89, Box number, Folder number, Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.

Historical Sketch

The Irving Garden Club (also known as “The Garden Club of Irving”) was founded in 1934 as the first social club for women in Irving. Mrs. C. P. Schulze was elected as the first president. The club held regular meetings with programs on gardening techniques, held flower shows, supported public parks in Irving by planting flowers and raising money, and supported other civic programs and charities.

In 1948, the club sponsored the creation of a Junior Garden Club. Mrs. Charles P. Schulze, Jr. was elected as the junior club’s first president. After 10 years of membership in the junior club, one would become eligible for membership in the Irving Garden Club.

Over the years, many additional garden clubs were formed in Irving. In 1951, the Irving Garden Club helped establish the Irving Council of Garden Clubs which coordinated larger events for the many garden clubs in the city. The council dissolved during the 1980s.

The Irving Garden Club began an effort to acquire their own clubhouse in 1948. After realizing that the club could not afford to build a clubhouse own its own, the ladies attempted to

get the Irving Council of Garden Clubs to adopt the project. This attempt failed, and the clubs that did want to build a clubhouse formed the Irving Garden and Arts Center Association. This new group opened Irving Garden and Arts Center in 1958. The center was managed by the association and used as a meeting place for its member clubs. In 1992, the association donated the building to the City of Irving. The association continued meeting as the “Irving Garden and Arts Club” which absorbed the few remaining members of the Irving Garden Club in 1998.

Sources:

Wyatt, Mona. “A Short History.” Retrieved from <http://sabinam01.wixsite.com/irvingartclub/about> on August 18, 2016.

Scope and Content

The Irving Garden Club Collection consists of material collected by the historians, treasurers, and other members of the Irving Garden Club. The material dates from 1934-1996. The material includes scrapbooks, minutes, financial records, photographs, newspaper clippings, and correspondence. The collection is housed in one flat box, one cubit foot box, and one half-size manuscript box. The collection is divided into two series.

Series I is titled “Scrapbooks.” It contains three scrapbooks and photocopies of the pages of one of the scrapbooks. The scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings, photographs, rosters, programs, yearbooks, bylaws, and histories of the club.

Series II is titled “Club Records” and consists mostly of minutes and financial records. The financial records include bank statements, receipts, insurance documents, incorporation documents, and account books. Series II also includes photographs, newspaper clippings, printed material, and correspondence.

Provenance Statement

The Irving Garden Club Collection comprises two accessions. Accession 0102-171 was donated to the Irving Archives by the Irving Garden Club on April 16, 2002. Accession 0102-191 was donated to the Irving Archives by Mary Fowler on April 27, 2002.

Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish from the Irving Garden and Arts Center Collection must be obtained from the Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.

Container List

Series I. Scrapbooks, 1934-1974

Box 1

Folder

- 1 Scrapbook vol. 1, 1934-1952, 1955, 1958-1959
Contains a scrapbook that includes: yearbooks with club rosters, constitution and bylaws, and financial reports; newspaper clippings; a history of the club written for its 10th anniversary; and two Junior Irving Garden Club yearbooks (1948-1949 and 1949-1950).

Box 2

- 1-6 Scrapbook vol. 2 – Original, 1952-1963
Contains a scrapbook that includes: the programs for monthly meetings; newspaper clippings; and photographs.
- 7 Scrapbook vol. 2 – Photocopy, 1952-63
Contains photocopies of the pages of the 1952-1963 scrapbook.
- 8-10 Scrapbook vol. 3, 1963-1974
Contains a scrapbook that includes: yearbooks with club rosters and the programs for monthly meetings; newspaper clippings; programs from shows presented by the Irving Council of Garden Clubs; and photographs.

Series II. Club Records, 1934-1989, 1994-1996, undated

- 11 Photographs, 1935, 1959, 1961, undated
Contains photographs of various club functions including: a 1935 meeting of the State Federation of Garden Clubs; the Silver Anniversary Tea in 1959; the 1961 Flower Show; and a “Woman-less Wedding” (undated).
- 12 Newspaper Clippings, 1954-1962, undated
Contains clippings of newspaper articles about the club’s activities.
- 13-18 Minutes, 1934-1956
Contains minutes from club meetings.

Series II. Club Records, 1934-1989, 1994-1996, undated

Box 2

Folder

19 Minutes, 1956-1960

Contains minutes from club meetings; and a draft of a deed transferring the clubhouse property to the Irving Garden and Arts Association.

20-25 Minutes, 1960-1989, 1994

Contains minutes from club meetings.

26 Treasurer's Notebook, 1957

Contains a notebook with records of various financial transactions.

27 Ledger, 1958-1964

Contains a ledger with records of financial transactions.

28 Receipt Books, 1963-1964, 1966-1968

Contains two receipt books with records of money received by the club.

29 Insurance, 1957-1961

Contains insurance documents.

30 Government Records, 1959-1963

Contains records related to: Dallas County and Irving Independent School District taxes; and the club's incorporation.

31 Receipts and Statements, 1955-1971

Contains receipts and billing statements from various businesses, utilities, and charities; and a copy of a letter written to a new member explaining that the club is separate from the Irving Garden and Arts Center.

32 Irving State Bank, 1958-1962

Contains bank statements and two checkbooks.

33 Irving Bank and Trust Company, 1962-1970

Contains deposit receipts; deposit envelopes; and a checkbook.

Series II. Club Records, 1934-1989, 1994-1996, undated

Box 2

Folder

- 34 Irving Bank and Trust Company Statements, 1962-1965
Contains bank statements.
- 35 Irving Bank and Trust Company Statements, 1966-1971
Contains bank statements.

Box 3

Folder

- 1 Yearbooks, 1953-1995
Contains a sheet of paper with notes on the year 1952-1953; and three yearbooks: 1960-1961; 1979-1980; and 1995-1996.
- 2 Correspondence, 1961-1986
Contains letters and cards.
- 3 Membership Lists, 1962-1989
Contains yearly lists of members and attendance records.
- 4 Flower Shows, 1948-49, 1961-1966
Contains records related to the club's annual spring flower show.
- 5 Bylaws, 1977
Contains a copy of the 1977 revised version of the club's bylaws.
- 6 Dallas Woman's Forum Yearbook, 1938
Contains a yearbook for the year 1938-1939 with notes written on the pages.
- 7 Irving Council of Garden Clubs, 1965-1967
Contains Irving Council of Garden Clubs yearbooks for the years 1965-1966 and 1966-1967; and a program for the council's 1967 flower show.
- 8 Irving Council of Garden Clubs, 1974-1977
Contains programs for the council's annual flower shows.

Series II. Club Records, 1934-1989, 1994-1996, undated

Box 3

Folder

9 Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., 1966-1970

Contains printed material and correspondence related to the state federation of garden clubs.