

THE JAMES H. WILLIAMS COLLECTION

Papers, 1947-1971
(Predominantly, 1961-1971)

3.5 linear feet

Accession Number 462
L.C. Number MS

The papers of James H. Williams were deposited in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs from 1971 through 1974 by James H. Williams and were opened for research in April of 1984.

James H. Williams was active in radical, student, and labor organizations during the 1960s and 1970s. From 1962 through 1964, while a political science student at the University of Louisville, Williams founded the Students for Social Action, the Louisville branch of the Students for a Democratic Society, and was on the editorial staff of the student newspaper, the Cardinal. While in college, Williams was also active in the Louisville Student Peace Union, he helped organize the March 1964 March on Frankfurt, Kentucky, for civil rights, he sought support among Louisville students for the Hazard, Kentucky, Miners for Democracy, and he edited the New South Review, a journal of radical politics.

During the early and mid 1960s Williams also worked with the Southern Student Organizing Committee, an organization which attempted to coordinate student activism in Southern states, he sat on the National Council of the SDS and was the SDS's Political Education Project director, and he was on the Board of Directors of Operation Freedom, a civil rights organization. Williams was also a member of the Americans for Democratic Action and the Young Peoples' Socialist League.

After leaving college, Williams served on the staff of IUE News, was director of research and publications for the West Virginia Federation of Labor, was assistant editor of The Guild Reporter and assistant director of research and information for the American Newspaper Guild, and acted as chairman of the West Virginia chapter of Workers' Education Local 189, AFT.

In 1970 Williams worked for the National Education Association and was active in the NEA Staff Organization, the negotiating unit for NEA staff members. He served as a member of the strike steering committee in the NEASO strike against the NEA in May and June of 1971. Williams left the NEA in 1974 and went to work for the newspaper Labor Today.

The papers of James H. Williams reflect his involvement in various student and radical organizations in the early and mid 1960s, and, to a lesser degree, his activities in the NEASO in the early 1970s.

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Important subjects covered in this collection are:

Blacks	Poverty
Committee for Miners	Student Peace Union
Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party	Students for a Democratic Society
NEA Staff Organization	Union Staff Organizations
Nuclear Weapons	Vietnam War Protests
Police Harassment	

Among the important correspondents are:

Robb Burlage	Steve Max
Rennie Davis	Don McKelvey
Todd Gitlin	Sue Thrasher

An index to subject and correspondents will be found on page 11.

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Correspondence, position papers, newsletters and other material collected by Williams while he was active in various student and radical organizations in the 1960s. This series includes information on the relations among these organizations, the civil rights and anti-Vietnam War movements, poverty in the South, police and government harassment, nuclear weapons and disarmament, and university reform and academic freedom.

Series II, National Education Association Staff Organization, 1970-1971, Box 7:

Correspondence, agreements, leaflets, press releases, and notes relating to the negotiations between the National Education Association and the NEA Staff Organization in which Williams was involved. Included in this series is information on other union staff organizations.

Non-manuscript Material:

About a dozen photographs and negatives of the March 1964 March on Frankfurt, Kentucky, and the Appalachian Committee for Full Employment, and two posters have been turned over to the Archives Audio-Visual Collection. In addition, three linear feet of radical and labor newspapers and pamphlets received with this collection have been placed in the Archives Library. (A complete list of library material will be found on page 8.)

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Series I

Student and Radical Organizations, 1947-1970
Boxes 1-7

Correspondence, position papers, newsletters, leaflets and newspaper clippings collected by Williams while he was active in various student and radical organizations in the 1960s. Included in this series is information on the structure, membership, and functioning of these organizations, and their relations with each other. Other subjects of interest are the civil rights and anti-Vietnam war movements, poverty in the South, police and government harassment, nuclear weapons and disarmament, university reform and academic freedom. The files for boxes 1-5 are arranged alphabetically by the name of the organization; boxes 6-7 contain general background information arranged alphabetically by subject.

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17. Student Peace Union, Literature and Speakers Lists, 1961-63
18. Student Peace Union, Miscellaneous Newsletters, 1962
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21. Student Peace Union, Position Papers, 1961-62
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National Education Association Staff Organization, 1970-71
Box 7

Correspondence, agreements, bulletins, press releases, leaflets, notes and other items relating to the negotiations between the National Education Association and the NEA Staff Organization in which Williams was involved. Included in this series is material from the NEASO strike in May and June 1971, and information on other union staff organizations.

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American Textile Reporter, 19597
American Federationist, Apr 1969
American Teacher (AFT), Sep-Oct 1969 (2)
ADA World (Americans for Democratic Action), Aug-Nov 1969 (2)
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Bird, May 1968 (2)
Black Panther (Black Panther Party), Feb 1969
Canadian Tribune, Mar 1969
Civil Liberties (ACLU), Dec 1969
Crocodile (in Russian), 1968
CTU; Review of Czechoslovak Trade Unions, Nov 1968-Apr 1969 (5)
Democratic German Report, Jan 1968
Dispatcher (ILWU), Dec 1969
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Gramma (CP-Cuba), Jan-Oct 1969 (24)
Green Revolution, Sep 1968
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Laborer (Laborers' Industrial Union of North America), 1969
Lithopinion (Amalgamated Lithographers of American), 1968 (2)
Logos, 1969
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Mayday/Hard Times, Mar-Dec 1969 (6)
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Movement (SNCC), Oct 1967-Oct 1968 (10)
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New America (Socialist Party), Feb 1968-Nov 1969 (7)
New Left Notes (SDS), Feb 1966-Oct 1969 (138)
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New Politics News, 1967
New South Student (Southern Student Organizing Committee), 1967-1968 (5)
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Peace and Freedom News, 1968
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International Socialist Review (SWP), 1969 (5)
IUSY Survey, 1967 (2)
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Studies on the Left, Summer 1964
Trans-Action, Apr 1969
Venture (SDS), 1960
Views and Comments (Libertarian League), Nov 1955-Winter 1965 (33)
War/Peace Report, 1963-1964 (6)
World Marxist Review, Jun 1969
World Revolution (Progressive Labor Party), 1969

Pamphlets

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An Enemy of the People, 1969
Anti-Labor Activities in the US, David Saposs, Elizabeth Bliss, 1938
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Appeal to the Young, Peter Kropotkin, 1948
Beyond New Leftism, Steve Kelman, 1968
Black Revolution and the Jewish Question, Earl Raab, 1969
British General Strike, Tom Brown
City Worker's Family Budget, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1967
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Class Road to Negro Equality, 1957
Defense Spending and Employment in Michigan Since WWII
Democracy in the Labor Movement, Joel Seidman, 1958
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Ethics and American Unionism, Sam Weiner, 1958
Freedom Riders Speak for Themselves, 1962
Freedom's Electrocution, Irwin Edelman

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Genocide in Mississippi
Grape Strike, 1966
Historians of the New Deal, Brad Wiley
How Labor Governed, 1951
Indiana Subversion Speech, Leroy McRae, 1963
Labor Party Illusion, Sam Weiner, 1961
Listen Marxists, Anarchos (2)
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Neither Victims Nor Executioners, Albert Camus
New Program of the Communist Party, USA, 1966
1969-1970 Catalogue: AFL-CIO Labor Studies Center
Out of Their Mouths
Provisional Statement of Principles; Libertarian League
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Revolutionary Warfare, Eqbal Ahmad
Revolution in Mississippi, Tom Hayden, 1962
Road Ahead, Harry W. Laidler, 1950
Russia-Democracy or Dictatorship, Norman Thomas, Joel Seidman, 1939
Sixth Convention Report of the West Virginia Federation of Labor, 1967
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What's Wrong With the Unions, Tom Brown
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