

**BETHESDA HOME FOR BOYS (SAVANNAH, GA.)**  
**Bethesda Home for Boys (Savannah,**  
**Ga.) records, 1871-1976 (bulk 1915-1945)**

Emory University  
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library  
Atlanta, GA 30322  
404-727-6887  
rose.library@emory.edu

---

## **Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Bethesda Home for Boys (Savannah, Ga.)  
**Title:** Bethesda Home for Boys (Savannah, Ga.) records, 1871-1976 (bulk 1915-1945)  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 551  
**Extent:** .75 linear feet (2 boxes), 1 oversized papers box (OP), and 5 microfilm reels (MF)  
**Abstract:** Microfilm copies, photocopies and select original documents from the Bethesda Home for Boys of Savannah Georgia.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

---

## **Administrative Information**

### **Restrictions on Access**

Unrestricted access.

### **Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

### **Related Materials in Other Repositories**

Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, Georgia.

### **Source**

Gift, 1976, with subsequent additions.

### **Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], Bethesda Home for Boys (Savannah, Ga.) records, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

## **Collection Description**

### **Biographical Note**

The Bethesda Home for Boys was founded in Savannah, Georgia, in 1740, by Reverend George Whitefield. It suffered three fires before it was sold (1805) and rebuilt (1854) on land donated by the Union Society. It has been known as "Whitefield's House of Mercy," the Orphan House Estate, Bethesda College, the Bethesda Orphan House (1902), Bethesda Orphan Asylum, the Bethesda School for Boys, and Bethesda Orphanage. Ole W. Burroughs was the school's director, 1915-1945. A Mr. Quarterman was superintendent, 1871-1876.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The collections consists of letters, diaries, a journal, a scrapbook, clippings, a report, printed materials, visual materials, and a broadside. O.W. Burroughs's diaries, Quarterman journal, Mrs. Burroughs's scrapbooks, and Report of Committee on Conditions at Bethesda are available on microfilm only. O.W. Burroughs's letters and Bethesda letters are available as photocopies only.

Letters (ca. 1920s - 1945) are Burroughs's and relate to the Rotary and Cosmos clubs, Telfair Academy, and South Georgia Teachers College (now Georgia Teachers College); some are from Mrs. A.R. Lawton (Ella B. Lawton). Diaries (1915-1945) were compiled by Burroughs and the journal (1871-1876) was kept by Superintendent Quarterman. Report is of the Committee on Conditions at Bethesda (1915). The scrapbook was kept by Mrs. O.W. Burroughs and contains clippings related to the school; printed material includes copies of the *Bethesda News*, clippings on the school, and clippings on George Whitefield; visual materials include images of the original Bethesda and Christmas celebrations; the broadside was produced by the National Society of Colonial Dames of America.

Previously known as the Bethesda Orphan Asylum Records.

### **Arrangement Note**

O.W. Burroughs' diaries and letters arranged in chronological order.

---



---

## Container List

Box	Folder	Content
MF1		Diaries 1915, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924 through February 6
MF2		Diaries, 1924 (February 27-December 31), 1931, 1932, Scrapbook kept by Mrs. Burroughs, Report of Committee on Conditions at Bethesda, 1915
MF3		Diaries, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935 through July 6
MF4		Diaries, 1935 (July 7-December 31), 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939 (through October 13)
MF5		Diaries, 1939 (October 14-December 31), 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945 (two volumes), Journal of Superintendent Quarterman, 1871-1876, scrapbook kept by Mrs. Burroughs (1923-October 1930)
OP1	1	Bethesda Portfolio, 1973-1974
	1	<i>Bethesda News</i> , 1942-1976
	2	Picture of Bethesda Orphan Asylum, rebuilt in 1854
	3	Clippings
	4	Photograph, Bethesda Orphan Asylum, rebuilt in 1854
	5	Program, unveiling and dedication ceremonies of George Whitfield Historical Marker, North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, January 18, 1976
	6	Correspondence, O.W. Burroughs, 1920s and 1941 concerning Rotary Club, Bethesda and Cosmos Club
	7	Correspondence, O.W. Burroughs, 1930
	8	Correspondence, O.W. Burroughs, 1940s
	1	Correspondence, O.W. Burroughs, 1944 and 1945
	2	Correspondence, Bethesda

---



---