CANDLER, ASA GRIGGS, 1851-1929.
Asa Griggs Candler papers, 1821-1951

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

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Candler, Asa Griggs, 1851-1929.
Title: Asa Griggs Candler papers, 1821-1951
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 1
Extent: 8.75 linear ft. (18 boxes), 8 bound volumes (BV), and 1 oversized papers box and 2 oversized papers folders (OP)
Abstract: Papers of businessman, philanthropist, mayor of Atlanta, Georgia, and founder of the Coca-Cola Company Asa Griggs Candler, including personal correspondence; speeches; material related to Candler's personal, civic, and religious activities; correspondence and other material concerning Emory University; business papers, mainly relating to Candler's real estate dealings in the United States and Canada; clippings; photographs; and memorabilia.
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.

Source
Gift, 1946, with subsequent additions.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Asa Griggs Candler papers, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.
Collection Description

Biographical Note
Asa Griggs Candler (1851-1929), businessman, philanthropist, mayor of Atlanta, Georgia, and founder of the Coca-Cola Company, was born December 30, 1851, near Villa Rica, Carroll County, Georgia. Candler married Lucy Elizabeth Howard (1859-1919) in 1878. They had five children: Charles Howard Candler (1878-1957), Asa Griggs Candler, Jr. (1880-1953), Lucy Beall Candler Owens Heinz Leide (1883-1962), Walter Turner Candler (1885-1967), and William Candler (1890-1936). After Lucy's death in 1919, Candler married Mary Reagan Little in 1923. As an Atlanta druggist (1873-1890), Candler became the sole owner and manufacturer of the Coca-Cola elixir. After the sale of the company to Ernest Woodruff and other businessmen in 1919, he invested in real estate and opened banks in Atlanta and elsewhere. He also founded Atlanta's Chamber of Commerce, and served as mayor of Atlanta (1916-1919). Candler helped organize and fund activities of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, including Wesley Memorial Enterprises, Emory College, and Emory University, serving as president of the Board of Trustees of the college (1906-1919) and of the university (1915-1929). Candler died in Atlanta, Georgia, on March 12, 1929.


Scope and Content Note
The collection consists of the papers of Asa Griggs Candler from 1821-1980. The papers contain personal correspondence; speeches; material related to Candler's personal, civic, and religious activities; correspondence and other material concerning Emory University; business papers, mainly relating to Candler's real estate dealings in the United States and Canada; clippings; photographs; and memorabilia. The correspondence, arranged chronologically, concerns Emory College, Emory University, business matters including the Coca-Cola Company, and family life. Correspondents include Charles Howard Candler, Lucy Elizabeth Howard Candler, Warren Akin Candler, Charles Edward Dowman, Andrew Jackson Lamar, Gordon Lee, George Samuel Sexton, George Gilman Smith, and Harry Harlan Stone. Other papers that are concerned with Candler's personal life and with his family include miscellaneous family documents and various material about his civic, political, charitable, and church-related activities. Contained here are deeds and documents of Candler's ancestors; biographical sketches of his life; items from his 1916 mayoral campaign; and material concerning civic organizations, church work, and the YMCA.

Asa Griggs Candler's personality is further revealed in the many speeches he made (Box 2). He spoke to many different groups on many different occasions, yet his speeches sounded similar themes, and often contained identical words and phrases. Recurring themes included patriotism, reverence for democracy, pride in the rebuilding South, praise for the church, faith in God, respect for education and hard work, emphasis on moral goodness, and faith in American business ingenuity and free enterprise. These speeches are filled with personal anecdotes and historical examples.
Emory University was one of Asa Candler's main interests throughout his life. He sent his sons to Emory College, served as a trustee for nearly thirty years, and made many generous gifts to the college and the university. This collection contains approximately 180 letters, mostly concerned with financial matters, exchanged between 1900 and 1911 by Candler and various Emory officials including James Edward Dickey (bp., 1864-1928), college president, and Harry Harlan Stone (1861-1932), college treasurer (Box 4). Other Emory material includes financial documents; papers relating to those parts of Wesley Memorial Enterprises that became affiliated with Emory University; items concerning the Asa Griggs Candler Library; reprints of the "Million Dollar Letter;" the 1930 Emory Campus yearbook dedicated to the memory of Asa Griggs Candler; and material relating to the 1951 celebration of the centennial of Asa Candler's birth (Boxes 4).

The collection contains miscellaneous papers relating to some of Asa Candler's many business interests including Asa G. Candler and Co.; Central Bank and Trust Corporation; Atlanta Warehouse Company; and the Coca-Cola Company (Box 5, BV1).

Asa Candler became progressively more interested in real estate dealings. His early ventures centered around the Druid Hills corporation which was chartered in 1908. Much of the Druid Hills land came from the property of the Kirkwood Land Company, and some of the original Kirkwood Land Company papers are preserved in the collection (Box 5) as are the minute book, organization papers, and charter of the Druid Hills Corporation (Box 6). Land transactions for the land lots in Druid Hills along with papers such as abstracts of title and wills are included (Boxes 6). The collection also contains documents concerning road building, utilities, and corporation finances (Boxes 6 and 7) as well as some original plans, maps, and land plots for the Druid Hills Subdivision. Some of these plans are unlabeled blueprints; others are of Kirkwood Land Company and Druid Hills property designed by Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903) and the Olmsted Brothers Landscape Architects of Brookline, MA. (OP2)

There are four other boxes of business papers concerned with Atlanta: Miscellaneous real estate papers (Boxes 9 and 11); those concerned with the Ansley Hotel (Box 10); and those concerned with the Point Peachtree Company and the Forsyth Building and (Box 11 and 12).

Business papers from places other than Atlanta include those related to dealings in Chicago, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Washington (Box 12), and New York (Box 13), and papers related to the business of Asa G. Candler, Ltd., in Montreal and Toronto, Canada (Box 13).

Box 14 contains most of the clippings found in the collection. Included are clippings about Candler and his family, Emory University, the Coca-Cola Company, the Atlanta Warehouse Company, various other business interests, and civic and political activities. There are also two folders of clippings apparently collected by Asa Candler himself; these clippings are not directly related to him, but interested him in some way.

The final portion of the collection consists of family photographs (Box 15), miscellaneous items concerned with business and civic activities, family memorabilia, clippings about the many Candler family homes (Box 14), several large certificates entitling Asa Candler to membership in the Chamber of Commerce, the Governor's House Guard, and other similar organizations (OP2), and a various personal items belonging to Asa Candler (Boxes 16 and 17).
Arrangement Note
Arranged by record type.

Finding Aid Note
An index to correspondents is available.
### Container List

#### Correspondence, 1872-1926

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<td>1914 July 14 (ALS, 4p. and typescript, 5p.)</td>
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#### Speeches (by title, group or occasion)

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<td>At Atlanta National Automobile Exposition - Opening, 1909</td>
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<td>&quot;The Church and the City&quot;</td>
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<td>Decatur Orphans' Home - 30th Anniversary [1899]</td>
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<td>&quot;Do Missions Pay?&quot;</td>
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<td>To Emory College Board of Trustees [1914?]</td>
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<td>To Emory University visitors</td>
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<td>Fragments re Methodism with quote from Theodore Roosevelt</td>
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<td>Franklin, Benjamin - Birthday Observance</td>
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<td>Galloway, Charles Betts - Eulogy, 1909</td>
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<td>To Georgia State Sunday School Association</td>
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<td>&quot;Historic Statement of the [Decatur] Orphans' Home of the North Georgia Conference at Decatur&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Home!&quot;</td>
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<td>To Medical Convention</td>
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<td>To Methodist Episcopal Church, South, General Conference in Atlanta, May 1918</td>
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<td>&quot;Our Crisis - We Must Meet It&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Pegs and Holes&quot; - at Martha Berry School, 1918 April 30</td>
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<td>2 27</td>
<td>&quot;Real Estate from the Banker's View Point&quot;</td>
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<td>To Rural Sunday School Celebration</td>
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<td>2 29</td>
<td>Southern Business Power</td>
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<td>2 30</td>
<td>&quot;Southern Patriotism in Business Endeavor&quot; (1)</td>
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<td>&quot;Southern Patriotism in Business Endeavor&quot; (3)</td>
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<td>2 33</td>
<td>&quot;The South's Commerce - Past and Future&quot;</td>
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<td>Stewardship (1)</td>
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<td>&quot;The Sunday School is the Hope of the Church&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;The Sunday School - Its Past, Present, and Future&quot;</td>
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<td>Taft, William Howard - Introduction of Speakers at Chamber of Commerce Banquet in his Honor at New Atlanta Auditorium, 1909</td>
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<td>2 39</td>
<td>To Tennessee Municipal League</td>
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<td>2 40</td>
<td>Twentieth Century Movement re Southern Education</td>
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<td>2 41</td>
<td>&quot;The Value of Association Work in Sunday Schools&quot;</td>
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<td>2 42</td>
<td>&quot;What this Movement Means to the Church&quot;</td>
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<td>2 43</td>
<td>&quot;Who We Teach, What We Teach, and Why&quot;</td>
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<td>2 44</td>
<td>&quot;The Worth of the Sunday School Teacher to the Community&quot;</td>
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**Personal Information; Family History; Civic and Political Activities**

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<tr>
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<td>Samuel Candler and Silas Dobbs - Deeds and Records, 1827-1866</td>
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<td>3 2</td>
<td>Family Records - Miscellaneous Documents and Land Papers</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Family Information</td>
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<td>3 4</td>
<td>Biographical Sketches of Asa Griggs Candler</td>
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<td>3 5</td>
<td>Decatur Orphans' Home - 1909 Political Controversy</td>
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<td>Masons Certificate, 1896 - Georgia Lodge No. 96</td>
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<td>3 7</td>
<td>Governor's Horse Guard, 1887-1903</td>
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<td>3 10</td>
<td>James Beavers' Case, 1915-1917</td>
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<td>3 11</td>
<td>Georgia Railway and Power Company, 1918 - Rate Case</td>
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<td>3 12</td>
<td>Mayoral Election, 1908 and 1916</td>
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<td>3 13</td>
<td>Presidents' Club Dinner in honor of Asa G. Candler, 1916</td>
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<td>3 14</td>
<td>Presidents' Club Dinner in honor of Asa G. Candler, 1923</td>
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**Church and Charitable Activities**

| 3 15 | Billy Sunday |
| 3 16 | Records of Miscellaneous Charitable Contributions |
| 3 17 | Inman Park Methodist Church |
| 3 18 | Sunday School Conventions |
| 3 19 | Assistance to Presiding Elder - Dahlonega District, 1899 |
| 3 20 | Sabbath Observance Issue, 1918 |
| 3 21 | Miscellaneous YMCA and Religious Pamphlets |
| 3 22 | Miscellaneous Items re Church Activity |

**BV2**

Scrapbook - clippings re Wesley Memorial Enterprises

| 3 23 | Edgewood Church Building Committee, 1896-1903 |
| 3 24 | Sunday School Superintendents' Union Minute Book, 1899-1900 |
| 3 25 | Autograph Album - "Given to Asa G. Candler January 24, 1905 by Charles P. Pitchford who was a page at the General Conference held in Atlanta, Georgia 1878" |

**Emory University**

| 4 1 | Finance Committee of Emory College, 1900 |
| 4 2 | Finance Committee of Emory College, 1901 |
| 4 3 | Finance Committee of Emory College, 1902 January-July |
| 4 4 | Finance Committee of Emory College, 1902 August-December |
| 4 5 | Finance Committee of Emory College, 1903 January-June |
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| 4 7 | Finance Committee of Emory College, 1904 |
| 4 8 | Finance Committee of Emory College, 1905 |
| 4 9 | Finance Committee of Emory College, 1906-1911 |
| 4 10 | Wesley Memorial Enterprises - Hospital, Nursing School, General Enterprises |
| 4 11 | Wesley Memorial Hospital - Laying of the Cornerstone, Annual Reports |
| 4 12 | List of Notes Transferred to Emory University, 1948 December 14 |
| 4 13 | Miscellaneous Financial Documents re Emory University |
| 4 14 | Candler Library - Groundbreaking, Laying of the Cornerstone, Asa Griggs Candler Centennial Exhibit |
| 4 15 | Biographical Sketch of Asa Griggs Candler by Richard Harwell |
| 4 16 | Shining Light Award, 1970, draft of letter nominating AGC by George Mew, Treasurer Emeritus, Emory University |
| 4 17 | Pamphlets - "'For the Blessing of Man and the Glory of God,' A Letter from Asa Griggs Candler, July 16, 1914," Emory University, Georgia, 1951 [3 copies] |
### Business Papers: Various Business Ventures and Activities

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<td>Asa G. Candler and Co.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Asa G. Candler - Financial Statement 1890 January 1</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Central Bank and Trust Corporation, opened 1906</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Atlanta Warehouse Company, opened 1915</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Association of Building Owners and Managers</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>The Coca-Cola Company vs. The Koke Company of America, 1920</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Coca-Cola Advertisements</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Coca-Cola Bottler Magazine</td>
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<td>Coca-Cola Miscellany</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Candler Buildings</td>
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<td>BV1</td>
<td>Ledger [daybook] - Candler Bank, 1907 and Coca-Cola Company, 1911-1913</td>
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### Business Papers: Atlanta-Druid Hills – Kirkwood Land Company

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<td>13</td>
<td>E. M. Brand Property, 1901</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Joel Hurt Property, 1893-1908</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Johnson Property, 1851-1912, n.d.</td>
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<td>Kirkpatrick Property, 1849-1892, n.d.</td>
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<td>Lowry Property, 1862-1890</td>
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<td>Porter Property, 1893</td>
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<td>John G. Reynolds Property, 1894</td>
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<td>Lowry/Porter Land, 1901</td>
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<td>Price List of Lots</td>
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<td>Lots for Sale or Exchange</td>
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<td>Topographical Map of Property in DeKalb County</td>
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### Business Papers: Atlanta - Druid Hills

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<th>Druid Hills Minute Book, 1908-1926</th>
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<td>Druid Hills Corporation - Organization and Incorporation</td>
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<td>Druid Hills Corporation - Charter, 1908; Renewal, 1928</td>
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<td>Land Grant, 1821 August 28 - Nancy Cosby to Felix Betts</td>
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Druid Hills - Miscellaneous Papers
Sanitary Sewer Map for a part of Druid Hills, 1926-1928
Druid Hills: General plan of Druid Hills, 1905 - original photocopy of original glossy print negative; General plan of western portion of Druid Hills, 1905; General plan of western portion of Druid Hills, Olmsted Brothers, landscape architects - blueprint; Intersection of Ponce de Leon and Ferry Road; Miscellaneous Plans - Kirkwood Land Company

Business Papers: Atlanta
Will of Everett Sapp, 1845-1850
Guess Property (Paden Estate), 1876-1914, n.d.
Terry Estate, 1928-1935
J. T. Holleman Estate, 1880-1912
J. T. Holleman Estate, 1913-1920
Hannah Property, 1913-1923
Hannah Property, 1924-1927, n.d.
A. B. Steele Lot on Decatur Street near Bell Street, 1861-1921, n.d.
86 Hood Street, 1869-1924, n.d.
Krag Street Coal Yard, 1908-1927, n.d.
Stonewall and Bail[e]y Streets, 1886-1944
471 [No. 1] Wilmer Street, NE, 1930-1946
Sandy Beaver Property on Edgewood Avenue, 1918-1919
Marietta Street Warehouse, 1906-1920, n.d.
Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co., 1939-1946
255 Peachtree Street - Bailey Property, 1909-1918
Peachtree Street between Baker Street and Ivy Street, 1916-1921, n.d.
109 West Peachtree Street, 1913-1923, n.d.
Peachtree Street at Edgewood Avenue, 1902-1927
Peachtree Street at Edgewood Avenue, n.d.
Peachtree Street at Aleander Street, 1899-1923
Lake Avenue Property, 1873-1907

Business Papers: Atlanta - Ansley Hotel
High property - Ansley Hotel site, 1868-1911
High property - Ansley Hotel site, 1913-1916
High property - AnsleyHotel site, 1917-1923, n.d.
General Mortgage - Ansley Hotel Investment Company and Hillyer Trust Company, 1912, January 1
Miscellaneous Business Papers, 1912-1925, n.d.
10 6 Southern Hotel Company to J. R. Smith, 1917 February 1
10 7 Dinkler Hotels, 1917-1928, n.d.
10 8 Insurance, furnishings, equipment, modifications, 1917-1939, n.d.
10 9 Inventories, 1919 and 1921
10 10 Payment requests (Ansley Hotel Addition), 1922-1923
10 11 Utilities, 1938-1939
10 12 Specifications for additions and alterations, 1939
10 13 Plans and blueprints

**Business Papers: The Point Peachtree Company**

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**Business Papers: Washington Street Block - Washington, Fair, Crew, and Trinity Streets**

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**Business Papers: Forsyth Building - Forsyth and Luckie Streets**

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**Business Papers: Chicago, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Washington**

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**Business Papers: New York**

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<td>223 to 229 West 41st Street, 1936</td>
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<td>223 to 229 West 41st Street, 1942-1946, n.d.</td>
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<td>West 27th Street, 1907-1920</td>
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<td>West 27th Street, 1927-1937, n.d.</td>
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<td>Properties, mainly West 27th and West 42nd Streets, 1911-1932</td>
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<td>Properties, mainly West 27th and West 42nd Streets, 1934-1950, n.d.</td>
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**Business Papers: Canada**

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<td>Toronto - Minerva Building Property, 1907-1917</td>
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<td>Toronto - Minerva Building Property, 1925-1941, n.d.</td>
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<td>Canada - Miscellaneous insurance policies and correspondence</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Canada - Asa G. Candler, Ltd. record book, 1931-1950</td>
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**Newsclippings**

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<td>14</td>
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<td>Personal re Asa Griggs Candler</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Emory University - contemporary with Asa Griggs Candler</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Emory University - not contemporary with Asa Griggs Candler</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<td>Business re Coca-Cola</td>
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<td>Business re Atlanta Warehouse Company</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Business re banking, railroads, other business</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Civic activities, mainly re Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mayor of Atlanta</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Miscellaneous - Political activities</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Miscellaneous - Awards, honors, general information, etc.</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>12-13</td>
<td>Miscellaneous - Clippings saved by Candler (miscellaneous subjects)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Candler Family homes – clippings [preservation photocopies]</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>&quot;The Candler's Indelible Mark,&quot; <em>Atlanta Journal Constitution</em>, December 6, 1992</td>
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OP3  -  Obituary, Utica Daily Press, Utica, New York, March 13, 1929
BV7  -  Asa Griggs Candler's clipping scrapbook

**Photographs**

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<tr>
<td>15 1</td>
<td>Asa Griggs Candler</td>
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<tr>
<td>OP1 3</td>
<td>Asa Griggs Candler and wife with &quot;Bacon Rind and Squaw&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>OP1 4</td>
<td>Asa Griggs Candler, head portrait</td>
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<td>OP1 5</td>
<td>Asa Griggs Candler, full-length portrait</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 2</td>
<td>Candler family</td>
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<td>15 3</td>
<td>Lucy Elizabeth Howard Candler</td>
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<td>15 4</td>
<td>James G. Woodward</td>
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<td>15 5</td>
<td>Atlanta Chamber of Commerce founders</td>
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<td>15 6</td>
<td>Houses - Birthplace of Asa Griggs Candler</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 7</td>
<td>Houses - Other</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 8</td>
<td>Asa G. Candler and Co., 1888</td>
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<td>15 9</td>
<td>Candler Building, n.d.</td>
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**Miscellany**

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<tr>
<td>15 10</td>
<td>Miscellaneous pamphlets, leaflets, directories</td>
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<td>15 11</td>
<td>Miscellaneous notes, poems, etc.</td>
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<td>15 12</td>
<td>Business envelopes</td>
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<td>15 13</td>
<td>Coca-Cola - &quot;The Passing of the Chief&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 14</td>
<td>Memorabilia</td>
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<td>OP1 1</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Certificates: 7 certificates - Chamber of Commerce, Governor's Staff, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>OP1 2</td>
<td>Inman Park calendar, 1978 [includes photograph &quot;The Candler Home debuts with a wedding feast&quot;]</td>
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**Ephemera**

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<tr>
<td>16 1</td>
<td>Blotter, Lycett souvenir</td>
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<td>16 2</td>
<td>Blotter, New Year 1910</td>
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<td>16 3</td>
<td>Blotter, New Year 1916</td>
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<td>16 4</td>
<td>Blotter, New Year 1918 (2)</td>
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<td>16 5</td>
<td>Blotter, New Year 1919</td>
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<td>16 6</td>
<td>Bookmark, embroidered by Martha Bernetta Candler</td>
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<td>16 7</td>
<td>Buttons, Atlanta mayoral campaign 1916</td>
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<td>16 8</td>
<td>Button, Boy scouts</td>
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<td>16 9</td>
<td>Button, Georgia Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<td>16 10</td>
<td>Button, Past President Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, 1908-1909</td>
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<td>16 11</td>
<td>Copper letterhead plate of &quot;Asa G. Candler &amp; Co. Successors to Hallman &amp; Candler Wholesale Druggists, 47 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, GA.&quot;</td>
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Glass cutter, P.H. Sinse
Jewelry, pins, cuff links
Jewelry, wedding ring
Keys, set
Key, single unknown
Letter opener, Kent Sign Co.
Letter opener, The R.C. Maxwell Co., Trenton N.J.
Pen, Whal Eversharp, engraved A.G.C.
Pen, Whal Eversharp, engraved Asa Griggs Candler
Ribbon, Sunday School Association delegate, 1892, 1895
Ribbon, Governor's Horse Guard Association, 1900, 1917
Wallet, monogrammed "C"
Wallet, Candler Building
Coca-cola bottle, gold
Pharmaceutical kit, Lundborg's Triple Extracts
Jar, kola nuts
Jar, coca leaves
Watch belonging to Asa Griggs Candler
Watch engraved A.G.C.

Lucy Beall Candler papers

Correspondence: 1895
Correspondence: 1897 May-September
Correspondence: 1897 October-December
Correspondence: 1898
Correspondence: 1899
Correspondence: 1900
Correspondence: 1901 January-February
Correspondence: 1901 March
Correspondence: 1901 April-May
Correspondence: 1902-1915
Correspondence: Undated
Correspondence: Envelopes
Invitations, cards announcements, etc., 1897-1901
Report card, Lucy Beall Candler's record at West End Institute, December 22, 1897
Servants list [position and pay], 1913