

African-American Materials Collection Finding Aid

Overview of the Collection

Creator:	The Onondaga Historical Association
Title:	African-American Materials
Inclusive dates:	1771-Present
Abstract:	The African-American Materials at OHA collects documentary evidence of the history, accomplishments, lifestyles, and individuals of the African-American community in Syracuse, New York and the surrounding areas.
Language:	English
Repository:	The Onondaga Historical Association, 321 Montgomery Street, Syracuse, NY 13202

Scope and Contents of the Collection

The African-American Materials Collection contains information on individuals, locations, and events related to the history of African-American citizens in Onondaga County. Among the topics covered by the collection are abolition, business, education, sports, entertainment, legal issues, fashion, publishing, welfare, military activity, politics, civil rights activism, urban renewal, and religion. The finding aid for the African American Materials Collection is **NOT CONCLUSIVE**.

Arrangement of the Collection

There are four primary components to the African-American Materials. First are the artifacts and exhibits displayed in the museum portion of OHA. Second are the books on African-American history which are available in the reading room/research center. These two components are not covered by the finding aid at this time.

Third are the materials available in the OHA archives. These materials represent the bulk of the artifacts and photographs available at OHA. Materials in the archives are arranged by accession number and box number. These details have been noted in the full inventory under the 'Archives' field. Finally, there are the vertical files located in the research center. The vertical files are divided into the following categories: photographs, individual names, subject files, block files, and towns. These materials are generally arranged alphabetically (by last name for individuals, by cemetery for cemetery records, etc.) or chronologically (census records). The

materials in the archives and many of the vertical files have been included in the present version of the finding aid.

The Abolition section uses the terms primary and secondary sources. By primary source we mean a document or recording that is created at that time, or the recollection of an individual. A secondary source is a document or recording that is created after the fact.

Restrictions

Access: Access to OHA materials in the archive and research center is available for a moderate usage fee. Alternatively, purchasing a membership with OHA will grant full access for a period of one year. Access is also limited to the business hours of OHA.

Duplication: Availability of duplication varies depending on the material being duplicated. Most items can be photocopied, but in the case of more delicate items or high quality photographic duplications the item must be scanned and specially printed by a staff member. These services are also subject to an additional fee.

Copyright: Use of all OHA materials must adhere to applicable copyright restrictions.

Hazards: Certain items are fragile, extremely rare, or dangerous. These items may not be handled except by an OHA staff member.

ARCHIVES – Title, box number, accession number

1. Resources on Native Americans and Black Artists 1998.28
2. PanAmerican/PanAfrican Association MS Box 2 1994.28
3. Local African American History Essays MS Box 2 2002.333
4. African American History in Syracuse Miscellany MS Box 1, MS Box 3, Box 1 2002.195
5. An Oral History Primer MS Box 1 1989.36
6. Robinson Family OHA7756
7. Leslie E Vorhees and Otis M. Bigelow Album Box 1 OHA 5840
8. Barbara Davis Collection (no box number) 2008.117
9. Adam Levine Collection 2017.102
10. George N. Sarkus Photo Album Collection (regarding the Patterson family) 2019.196
11. Tina P. Norton Collection Box 1, Box 5, Box 6 2010.140
12. Booker T. Washington Letter 2002.55
13. Oral History of the 20th Century Records 2002.540
14. Peter Cuddeback Papers MS Box 2 2002.505
15. Syracuse Council of Negro Women Records MS Box 2 2003.25
16. The Negro in Syracuse: A Study in Community Relations, 1937 MS Box 5 2003.150
17. Wesleyan Methodist Church Records MS Box 1, MS Box 3 2002.352
18. Jerry Rescue Collection Box 1 2002.508
19. David Keppel Papers MS Box 3 2002.43
20. Gerrit Smith Papers MS Box 4 OHA8665

- 21. Judith Wellman Underground Railroad Research Collection 2015.148
- 22. Henry Hahn and Jake Klein Collection 2022.131 (urban renewal)
- 23. Dick Case Collection Box 2 2009.132

RESEARCH CENTER

ABOLITION

- Abolition and Anti-Slavery Activity
 - Primary Sources-Onondaga County- 1840s-1869
 - Onondaga Various Petions to Congress 1840-1850s
 - Slavery-General, Statistics, Biographical
 - NYS and Onondaga County
 - Secondary Sources-Onondaga County
- Jerry Rescue Events and Trials
 - General Accounts and Research
 - Primary Sources
 - Eyewitness Accounts After 1865
 - Commemoration/Exhibits/Monuments
- Abolition and Slavery Activity
 - Primary Sources-Non-Onondaga County 1830-1865
 - Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation
 - Canada (pre-1865)
 - 1870s-1890s Recollections, Obituaries of Leaders and Participants
 - Secondary Sources-Non-Onondaga County
- Prominent Individuals-Non-Onondaga County-Biographical
 - John Brown
 - Sojourner Truth
 - Harriet Tubman
 - Daniel Webster
- Underground Railroad and Fugative Slaves
 - Secondary Sources-Non-Onondaga County
 - Primary Sources-Onondaga County
 - Harriet Powell Escape
 - Suicide/Escape of William and Catherine Harris
 - Syracuse Fugitive Aid Society
 - Secondary Sources-Onondaga County
 - Primary Sources-Non-Onondaga County
- Freedman's Relief and Education Activity

ACCIDENTS/CATASTROPHES

- General
- Automobile 1929-1979, 1990s
- Horse Drawn
- Rail Road

AGRICULTURE & FARMING

Pre-1930s, 1930s-1984 and After
Migrant Labor

ART

General
Artists – Local
Exhibitions

ARTISTS AND SCULPTORS

General
Local- Pre-1860 to 1860-2010s

ASSOCIATIONS

Miscellaneous
Aleppo Shrine
American Legion Post 1642
Black Leadership Congress
Central City Business Men's Association
Daughters of the American Revolution
Dunbar Association
Dunbar Spartans
Elks
Masons
 Eastern Star
National Council of Negro Women
National Association for Colored People
Shonnard Street Boys Club
Southwest Community Center
The Syracuse Inter-Racial Group
Westside Inner-city Association
Onondaga Historical Association
Boy Scouts
Girl Scouts
Girls' Club
Boys and Girls Club
Boys Club
Urban League
YMCA
YWCA
National Organization for Women (NOW)

AUTHORS

- General
- Authors to 1920
- Authors 1920-1999

BUILDINGS

- General
- Houses, Historical and Old
- Syracuse Landmarks

BUSINESSES

- Barbers and Hairdressers
 - Ambrose Dunbar
 - New York Barbershop
 - Malone's Barbershop
- Dance Studios
- Grocery
 - Williams Bros. Grocery
- Lawyers
- Music
- Photographers
 - Jordan Bros. Ferrottype Rooms
 - Loring & Green's Picture Palace
 - Sun Beam Gallery
- Restaurants
 - Frank's Restaurant and Grill
 - Hymie's Grill

CELEBRATIONS AND HOLIDAYS

- Arts and Crafts Festival
- Christmas
- Columbus Day
- Black History Month
- Gay Pride March
- Junteenth
- Martin Luther King Day
- Memorial Day

CHURCHES AND RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

- African-American Community
- AME Zion Church
- Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ
- Bethany Baptist Church
- Greater New Testament Baptist Church
- Hopps Memorial Colored Methodist Episcopal Church

Payton Temple
St. Phillips Episcopal church
Wesleyan Methodist church
Roman Catholic
Islam
Church of God in Christ
Church of God and Saint of Christ
Council of Churches

COMMUNICATIONS

Radio

 General

Television

CONVENTIONS

Colored People's State Convention-Syracuse, 1864- National Equal Rights League

COURTS AND BAR

Judges and Lawyers

Juries

CRIME

B. Ray Thompson Murder 1970

Bobby Harrison

Dennis Collins Police Brutality

Electrocutions

Hangings

Juvenile Delinquency

Lyles Murder

Marshal, Lorraine Murder

Precious Bedell Murder Case Nov 1979

Tarkowsk, Arlene Murder Mar 1981

Wallie Howard

Zachariah Freeman Execution

EDUCATION

Public Schools-General and Miscellaneous

Central Tech High School

Croton (later Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School)

Lemoyne College

Northeast High School [Sunnycrest, Henninger]

Nottingham High School

Syracuse University

On Point for College

Onondaga Community College

Putnam

Say Yes

Teachers

EPIDEMICS

AIDS

FAIRS

New York State Fair

FIRES AND FIRE DEPARTMENT

1850-Present

Syracuse Fires

GENEALOGY

Genealogy I

HISTORICAL SERIES

OHA History Highlights

Changing Face of Syracuse

HOTELS AND INNS

Miscellaneous

Leland House

HOUSING, PUBLIC

15th Ward 1954-1968

Housing Study 1969

Syracuse Housing Authority

Syracuse Housing Authority Pioneer Homes Folder 2

HOSPITALS

General and Miscellaneous

Community General

Crouse Irving

St. Joseph's

State University

Syracuse Psychiatric Hutchings

INDUSTRY

Air Conditioning

Carrier

Steel

LABOR AND LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

Labor and Labor Organizations

Employment and Unemployment

MEDICAL HISTORY

Health- Inequality in Care, 2007- Onondaga Citizens League Report
Nursing

MILITARY HISTORY

Miscellaneous
Reserves
Civil War- Miscellaneous
Spanish American War
World War II- Day of Infamy
Korean War
Vietnam
Persian Gulf
Markers and Monuments
National Guard Hancock
Private Military Company- The Palmer Guard (Colored)
Recruiting
Veteran Affairs

MONUMENTS

Abolition Sites
Jerry Rescue

MUSEUMS

Everson
Community Folk Art Gallery

MUSIC AND MUSICIANS

General
Folk
Jazz
Bands, local
Local Musicians
Local Musicians and Performers
Music Festivals

NEWSPAPERS

The Impartial Citizen
The Progressive Herald
The Syracuse Constitution
The Syracuse Gazette
The Syracuse Post-Standard
Post Standard Achievement Awards
History of Black Press in NYS “Freedom’s Journals”

NEW YORK STATE

Onondaga County- General Historical
Duany Project/Urbanism

POLICE

Police Department 1850s-2010s
Brutality
Brutality and Corruption
Central New York Drug Enforcement Task Force

POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

Syracuse Commission on Human Rights
City Planning Commission
Public Housing and 15th Ward
Post War Commission
Planning Commission Bulletins
Regional City Planning
Salina St. 1973
Syracuse Improvement Society
University Hill Corp 1960s and 70s
Syracuse Common Council
Syracuse City Officials
Syracuse Minorities and Government Minorities and City
Urban Renewal 1956-1968, 1970-1974, 1990s
FOCUS
South Side
Proposed Plans
Proposed Downtown Plans
Knight Thesis
Urban Improvement Plans
Zoning
2001 Study

POPULATION

Census 18th-21st century
Naturalization
Patterning in Syracuse
Black/African-American
General
Local and Firsts
Pamphlets and Articles
Pre-1860s to 2020
Enslaved/formerly enslaved pre-1865 and enslaved/formerly enslaved post-1865
2020 Protests, Black Lives Matter
Bibliography I and II
“Black Syracusans” by Clark

Civil Rights Demonstrations 1963-1965
Civil Rights Demonstrations- C.O.R.E. (Congress of Racial Equality) Fall 1963
Columns from Progressive Herald 1954-1957
“A History of the Black Community of Syracuse” parts I, II, III
“History of the Black Press” Pamphlet
Hometown News 67
Liberated Voice 68
Job Series 1965-1966 by Roseburgh
Negro Community Relations in Syracuse as Related to Service Program of Dunbar Center 1943
“The Negro in Syracuse” by Darby 1937
Onondaga
“Syracuse: How Far From Birmingham” published by C.O.R.E 1963
Kwanza
Wall Street Journal Series 1967
Information on Black Women
Charles Willie Article on Human Rights in 1965
Caribbean
Somolian/Sudanese
Nonagenarians (+90) and Centenarians (100+)
Senior Citizens/Elderly
Twins, Triplets, Quads, Quints
Community Survey 1965-1966

POST OFFICES

Postmasters and Postal employees

PRISON AND PRISONERS

General and Miscellaneous
City Jail
Penitentiary Salina Block 117
Jamesville Penitentiary

PUBLIC UTILITIES

General
Niagara Mohawk 1950s-1986

PUBLIC WELFARE

Miscellaneous
Adoption
ARC of Onondaga
Arthritis Foundation
Big Brothers, Big Sisters
Child and Family Service
Community Foundation
Consolidated Industry of Greater Syracuse

Crusade for Opportunity
Day Care
Day Nursery
Diabetes Foundation
Drug Control
Dunbar Association, Inc
Eastside Cooperative Council
Ernie Davis Youth Center
Food Stamps
Foster Homes
Rosamond Gifford Charitable Group
Head Start
Hillbrook
Halfway Houses
Literacy Volunteers
Syracuse Health Center
Onondaga Health Department
Onondaga Neighbor Legal Services
Organization of Organizations
PEACE Anti-Poverty Agency
Planned Parenthood
Rescue Mission
Spanish Action League/La Liga
United Way
Urban Crisis Fund
"Yes '68!"
Youth Community Service
Youth Development Center

ROADS, STREETS, THRUWAYS

Arterial Highway (I-690)
Interstate 81 1960-1980s, 2010s

SPORTS

Baseball
 Early All-Black Baseball
 Negro Professional Baseball League
Basketball
Football
Olympics
Wrestling

THEATER

Miscellaneous
Amateur
Syracuse Stage

Theater Seasons 1980s

TRADES AND CRAFTS

General

TRANSPORTATION

Railroads

Erie Canal

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

General

NOW

1970-1977, 1980-1982

Brochure 1985

INDIVIDUALS (Only surnames are provided to ensure privacy. Individuals can have their own folder or be grouped under surnames. Grouped names not listed, e.g. Jam-Jan or Brown, A-D. List of full names is at the Research Center under Population– Black/African American– Local and Firsts.)

Ackley

Ali

Allah

Ames

Anderson

Barker

Barnam

Bartee

Bayje (stage name)

Bell

Belt

Benn

Benton

Bernard

Berry

Boseman

Bostic

Boston

Bostwick

Bradford

Branch

Breland

Brooks

Brooks-Mahon

Broome

Brown

Brown-Benn-Heard

Brown-Edwards

Bryant

Buck

Caldwell

Cameron

Cambell

Campbell

Carter

Chandler

Chiles

Clair

Claire

Clanton

Clanton

Clark

Cohen

Cole

Collins
Cooper
Cotton
Craner
Cummings-Brown
Curry
Darby
Davidson
Davis
Dawson
Denham
Dewan
Dewberry
Dorsett
Dorsey
Douglas
Dowdell
Dunham
Edwards
Ellis
Eudell
Eure
Fagan
Felton
Fletcher
Ford
Ford-Moody
Fox
Fraser
Freeman
Gilbert
Gladden
Gladney
Goldstein
Goodrich
Graham
Grass
Guy
Guyton
Guzzardo

Gwaltney
Hagan
Hamm
Hammons
Hare
Harithas
Harlow
Harris
Harrison
Hasbrouck
Haskins
Hawkins-Turner
Hayes
Henderson
Hightower
Hightower-Montgomery
Hill
I'anson
Ibrahim
Ingram
Jackson
Jamison
Jenkins
Jennings
Johnson
Johnston
Jones
Jones-Lauro
Jones-Moore.
Jordan
Joyner
Kharas
Kuchta
Larkie
Lauersons
Lawrence
Legette
Leigh
Loguen
Mack

Malone
Mathis
May
Maye
Mays
McDowell
McKensie
McKinney
Melchor
Merrick
Mitchell
Mobley
Modeste
Moody
Moody-Owens
Moore
Moore-James
Morgan
Morrison
Nash
Nelson
Norton
Patterson
Pertilla
Pinkard
Pinkston
Pritchard
Proctor
Raines
Reiner
Richardson
Rivers
Rivizzigno
Robinson
Robinson-Gyder
Robinson-Melchor
Roland
Ross
Rouse
Rudolph

Sands
Schuler
Scoggins
Scott
Scruggs
Sebastian
Sheard
Shealy
Shepard
Sheppard
Simmon
Simpson
Smith
Spease
Speights
Spence
Stancil
Stanfield
Stanley
Stevens
Stokes
Sykes
Sylvahn
Taft
Taylor
Thirill
Thornton
Tillis
Tillman
Torrance
Trapp
Turner
Warren
Warren-Moore
Washington
Watson
Wells
Wert
White
Whiteside

Wilkins

Wilkins-Mitchell

Williams

Wolseley

Wood

Woods