Collection Summary

Title: Carter G. Woodson Collection of Negro papers and related documents
Span Dates: 1803-1936
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1830-1927)
ID No.: MSS46342
Creator: Woodson, Carter Godwin, 1875-1950, collector
Extent: 5,000 items; 13 containers plus 1 oversize; 6 linear feet; 12 microfilm reels
Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Language: Collection material in English
Abstract: Historian, editor, and collector. Papers assembled by Woodson while collecting and preserving primary sources on African-American history as executive director of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, and editor of the association's Journal of Negro History. Chiefly the papers of John T. Clark as officer of the Urban League of Pittsburgh, papers of Whitefield McKinlay as a real estate broker and collector of customs, Washington, D.C., and papers of Benjamin T. Tanner, bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Also includes early papers of Woodson.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Names:
Woodson, Carter Godwin, 1875-1950, collector
Bruce, John E. (John Eldridge), 1856-1924
Carver, George Washington, 1864?-1943
Crum, William Demos, 1859-1912
Douglass, Frederick, 1817?-1895
Fleetwood, Christian A. (Christian Abraham), 1840-1914
Fortune, Timothy Thomas, 1856-1928
Greener, Richard Theodore, 1844-1922
Lodge, Henry Cabot, 1850-1924
Lynch, John Roy, 1847-1939
McCormick, Medill, 1877-1925
Revels, Hiram Rhodes, 1827?-1901
Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919
Rosenwald, Julius, 1862-1932
Scott, Emmett J. (Emmett Jay), 1873-1957
Smalls, Robert, 1839-1915
Starr, Frederick, 1858-1933
Stone, Melville Elijah, 1848-1929
Washington, Booker T., 1856-1915
Young, Charles, 1864-1922
African Methodist Episcopal Church
Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, inc.
Urban League of Pittsburgh
Journal of Negro History
Clark, John T., 1883-1949. Papers of John T. Clark (1921-1923)
McKinlay, Whitefield, 1857-1941. Papers of Whitefield McKinlay (1848-1913)
Tanner, Benj. T. (Benjamin Tucker), 1835-1923. Papers of Benjamin T. Tanner (1827-1872)

Subjects:
African American periodicals
African Americans--Employment
African Americans--History
Administrative Information

Provenance:

Processing History:
The Carter G. Woodson Collection was first arranged and described in 1968 and was further processed in 1976. This register was revised in 1976 and subsequently in 1997.

Copyright Status:
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Carter G. Woodson is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Microfilm:
A microfilm edition of these papers is available on ten reels from the Library's Photoduplication Service for purchase subject to the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.). A microfilm edition of the Whitefield McKinlay Papers (Containers 1-4) on two reels is also available. These microfilm editions may also be requested on interlibrary loan through the Library's Loan Division. No more than ten reels may be requested for each loan period of one month.

Preferred Citation:
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, The Carter G. Woodson Collection of Negro Papers and Related Documents, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Notes

Carter Godwin Woodson

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>Litt. B., Berea College, Berea, Ky.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>A.B., University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>A.M., University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1908-1918  High school teacher, Washington, D.C.
1912  Ph.D., Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
1916-1950  Executive director, Association for the Study of Negro Life and History
            Editor, *Journal of Negro History*
1918  Published *A Century of Negro Migration* (Washington D.C.: Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. 221 pp.)
1919-1920  Dean, School of Liberal Arts, Howard University, Washington, D.C.
1920-1922  Dean, West Virginia Collegiate Institute, Institute, W.Va.
1926  Published *The Mind of the Negro As Reflected in Letters Written During the Crisis, 1800-1860* (Washington, D.C.: Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. 672 pp.)
1937-1950  Editor, *Negro History Bulletin*
1950, Apr. 3  Died, Washington, D.C.

**Whitefield McKinlay**

**Date**  **Event**
1857, Sept. 15  Born, Charleston, S.C.
1873  Attended Avery Institute, Charleston, S.C.
1874  Attended United States Military Academy, West Point, N.Y.
1882  Attended Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa
1887  Attended University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.
       Married Kate Wheeler
1887-1941  Real estate broker
1907  Appointed to Housing Commission, District of Columbia, by President Theodore Roosevelt
1910  Appointed collector of Port of Washington, D.C. by President William Howard Taft
1941, Dec. 14  Died, Washington, D.C.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1835, Dec. 23</td>
<td>Born, Pittsburgh, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1857-1860</td>
<td>Attended Western Theological Seminary, Allegheny, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1858</td>
<td>Married Sarah Elizabeth Miller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>Ordained, deacon and elder, African Methodist Episcopal Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1868</td>
<td>Chief secretary, African Methodist Episcopal Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1868-1884</td>
<td>Editor, <em>Christian Recorder</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1884</td>
<td>Editor and cofounder, <em>A.M.E. Church Review</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1888</td>
<td>Bishop, African Methodist Episcopal Church</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Benjamin Tucker Tanner**

**John T. Clark**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1883, July 21</td>
<td>Born, Louisville, Ky.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>A.B., Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907-1913</td>
<td>Instructor, Central High School, Louisville, Ky.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1913-1916</td>
<td>Secretary, Housing Bureau of the National League on Urban Conditions Among Negroes, New York, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1916-1917</td>
<td>Field Secretary, National Urban League</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1917</td>
<td>Married Patricia Ferguson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1917-1926</td>
<td>Executive Secretary, Urban League of Pittsburgh, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926-1949</td>
<td>Executive Secretary, Urban League of St. Louis, Mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>Died, St. Louis, Mo.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scope and Content Note**

The Carter G. Woodson Collection of Negro Papers and Related Documents was assembled by Woodson as an outgrowth of his interest in collecting and preserving primary sources on African-American history during his tenure as executive director of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History and as editor of the Association’s principal organ, the *Journal of Negro History*. The collection includes papers of Whitefield McKinlay, Washington, D.C., realtor and collector of the Port of Washington; Benjamin Tucker Tanner, Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church; and John T. Clark, officer of the Pittsburgh Urban League; as well as some early papers of Carter G. Woodson. The collection is dated 1803-1936, but...
the bulk of the material falls in the period 1830-1927. The papers consist principally of correspondence on African-American history, the *Journal of Negro History*, appointment of blacks to federal office, race relations, racial discrimination, employment opportunities, state and national politics, and business matters. Addresses, diaries, clippings, and nineteenth-century legal documents complete the collection.

In the Whitefield McKinlay and Carter G. Woodson papers, correspondents who generated a large number of letters are represented by separate folders. Persons represented by correspondence or other papers include John E. Bruce, George Washington Carver, William D. Crum, Frederick Douglass, Christian A. Fleetwood, T. Thomas Fortune, Richard Theodore Greener, Henry Cabot Lodge, John R. Lynch, Medill McCormick, Hiram Rhoades Revels, Theodore Roosevelt, Julius Rosenwald, Emmett J. Scott, Robert Smalls, Frederick Starr, Melville E. Stone, Booker T. Washington, and Charles Young.

**Organization of the Papers**

The collection is arranged in seven series:

- Whitefield McKinlay Papers, 1848-1913
- Benjamin Tucker Tanner Papers, 1827-1972.
- Miscellany, 1803-1936, n.d.
- Oversize, 1860-1931
## Description of Series

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Series</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1-4</td>
<td><strong>Whitefield McKinlay Papers, 1848-1913</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REEL 1-2</td>
<td>Letters received, with related materials, and a few copies of letters sent, principally 1893-1911. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 5-6</td>
<td><strong>Carter G. Woodson Papers, 1916-1927, n.d.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REEL 3-4</td>
<td>Letters received. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 7</td>
<td><strong>Benjamin Tucker Tanner Papers, 1827-1972</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REEL 4</td>
<td>Diaries, deeds, and a record book. Arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically thereunder.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 8-9</td>
<td><strong>John T. Clark Papers, 1921-1923, n.d.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REEL 4-6</td>
<td>Letters received by Clark as an official of the Pittsburgh Urban League from African-Americans seeking information on employment in the North. Arranged chronologically.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 9-12</td>
<td><strong>Additional Manuscripts, 1807-1935, n.d.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REEL 6-9</td>
<td>Letters, addresses, notes and other papers by, to, or about a specific individual or subject. Arranged alphabetically by name or subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 13</td>
<td><strong>Miscellany, 1803-1936, n.d.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REEL 9-10</td>
<td>Certificates, deeds, petitions, broadsides, bills of sale, and other legal documents relating to slavery or African-Americans; reference lists; and newspaper clippings. Arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically thereunder.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 14</td>
<td><strong>Oversize, 1860-1931</strong></td>
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# Container List

Microfilm shelf no. 17,071. The Whitfield McKinlay Papers, Containers 1-4, are also available on two reels of microfilm, shelf no. 16,462.

<table>
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<tr>
<td>REEL 1-2</td>
<td>Letters received, with related materials, and a few copies of letters sent, principally 1893-1911. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| BOX 1     | "A" miscellaneous **Correspondents include** Titus N. Alexander and Charles W. Anderson |
| REEL 1    | Adger, Robert M. |
|           | Allison, W. B. |
|           | Andrews, W. T. |
| "B" miscellaneous **Correspondents include** Henry E. Baker, W. H. Berney, Arthur A. Birney, Henry W. Blair, L. C. W. Blalock, Martha Brown, John E. Bruce, and James F. Bundy |
| Barquet, Liston W. and Pierre |
| Bennett, S. W. |
| Blackwell, G. L. |
| Brooke, Mark |
| Church, R. R. |
| Clarkson, H. R. |
| Clarkson, James S. |
| Clinton, George W. |
| Cortelyou, George B. |
| Cromwell, John W. |
| Crum, William D., including copies of two Theodore Roosevelt letters |
| "D" miscellaneous **Correspondents include** John C. Dancy, R. C. Douglas, and Paul Lawrence Dunbar |
| Davis, John A. |
| Deas, E. H. |
| Dickey, George W. |
| Dudley, James B. |
| Durham, John S. |
| Edson, John Joy |
| Edwards, John B. |
| "F" miscellaneous **Correspondents include** Christian A. Fleetwood, Bettie G. Francis, John R. Francis, and Perri W. Frisby |
| Fortune, T. Thomas |
| Fur bush, Edgar |
| Furniss, H. W. |
| "G" miscellaneous **Correspondents include** Abraham Grant and James M. Gregory |
Grant, T. L.
Greener, Richard T.


"J" miscellaneous Correspondents include Charles C. Jacobs, D. E. Johnson, E. A. Johnson, and James Weldon Johnson

"K" miscellaneous Correspondents include A. C. Kaufman and John C. Keelan

Kealing, H. T.

"L." miscellaneous Correspondents include Charles C. Leslie, James A. Lunn, John R. Lynch, and Judson W. Lyons Lodge, Henry Cabot

"M" miscellaneous Correspondents include Douglass B. McCary, A. C. McClennan, Ricley W. McClennan, Isaiah J. McCottie, Frederick L. McGhee, F. R. McKinlay, Isadore Martin, James H. Meriwether, Kelly Miller, Thomas E. Miller, and J. Minges

McKinlay, A. Reid
McKinlay, George
McKinlay, Mary E. (mother)
McKinlay, Sarah
Merritt, John A.
Minton, T. J.
Murray, George W.
Myers, W. F.
Napier, J. C.

"P" miscellaneous Correspondents include Jeanie Maury Patten, Friend Pitts, Jr., John D. Posten, W. P. Powell, J. C. Prioleau, and Isaac L. Purcell

Pinchback, P. B. S.
Purvis, Charles B.
(2 folders)
Rainey, Susan E.
Reynolds, James B.
Richardson, R. H.
Roosevelt, Theodore, 1903-1906 See Crum, William D. (Container 1)

"S" miscellaneous Correspondents include I. B. Scott, Oscar J. Scott, John A. Simkins, Lula F. Singleton, Lillie Smith (Mrs. T. Marshall), and McCants Stewart

Scott, Emmett J.
Smalls, Robert
Smith, J. W.
Smith, S. E.
Smith, William Alden
Stewart, William M.

"T" miscellaneous Correspondents include C. H. J. Taylor, H. L. Thomas, and J. W. Thompson

Taylor, John E.
Terrell, Robert H.
Thompson, John E. W.
Thorne, Weston
Toomer, Nathan
### Carter G. Woodson Collection of Negro papers and related documents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
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</table>
Hartzell, Joseph C.
Ingham, Harvey
"J" miscellaneous Correspondents include Luther P. Jackson, Annie Straith Jamieson, M. S. Jamison, M. J. Jaramillo, Albert E. Jenks, Theodore D. Jervey, John Albert Johnson, M. Viola Johnson, and Harry H. Johnston

BOX 6
REEL 3-4

Kitchin, S. M.

Knowlton, Annie Rogers
"L" miscellaneous Correspondents include Rosetta Lawson, Victor F. Lawson, and Robert B. Lindsay
Lynch, John R.
Miller, Thomas E.
"N" miscellaneous Correspondents include Henry C. Niles, Kodwo Nsaaku, and T. G. Nutter
Post, Louis F.
"R" miscellaneous Correspondents include John E. Rastall, J. Edwin Reeves, S. G. Rich, Fannie M. Richards, Abigail L. Richardson, Florida Ruffin Ridley, W. A. Robinson, Isabel Rogers, Jules Rosemond, and Julius Rosenwald
Riley, Benjamin F.
Smith, Anna Bustill
Starr, Frederick
Talbert, Mary B.
Verde, A. P.
"W" miscellaneous Correspondents include Edmund Walker, Albert G. Weidler, Waldermar Westergaard, L. E. Wilkes, William G. Willcox, Edward Christopher Williams, Talcott Williams, S. R. Wood, John W. Work, Monroe N. Work, and Henry A. Wyman
Wallace, Henry A.
Washington, Booker T.
Washington, Margaret
Werner, Alice
Young, Charles

BOX 7
REEL 4

Benjamin Tucker Tanner Papers, 1827-1972

Diaries, deeds, and a record book.
Arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically thereunder.
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<td>BOX 7</td>
<td>Trenton, N.J., circuit record book, 1827-1848</td>
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</table>
| REEL 4    | Diary  
1851-1853  
May-Aug. 1860  
Nov. 1860-Apr. 1861  
1860-1868 and "Memories of Eden"  
Deeds and certificates, 1858-1872 |
| BOX 8-9   | John T. Clark Papers, 1921-1923, n.d.  
Letters received by Clark as an official of the Pittsburgh Urban League from African-Americans seeking information on employment in the North.  
Arranged chronologically. |
| REEL 4-6  | Information requests for Northern industrial employment  
1921-1923  
(6 folders) |
| BOX 9     | Undated  
Fragments |
Letters, addresses, notes and other papers by, to, or about a specific individual or subject.  
Arranged alphabetically by name or subject. |
| BOX 9-12  | African Methodist Episcopal Church, copy of Articles of Association, 1925 |
| REEL 6-9  | Bustill-White family, 1862-1870  
Corprew, A. A., family letters, 1884-1903  
Cromwell, John W., speech, 1891  
Cromwell, Willis, 1849-1901  
Douglass, Frederick, family letters, 1862-1895, n.d.  
Dunbar, Paul Lawrence, letters, poems, contract, and play, 1900-1908, n.d.  
Education, notes and education association proceedings, n.d.  
Episcopal Church, letters and writings, 1877-1917  
Fleetwood, Christian A., letters and papers, 1807-1931  
Flipper, Henry Ossian, correspondence, 1922-1923  
Garrison, William Lloyd, letter, 1870  
Gray, Hannah, correspondence, 1827-1876  
Grimké, Francis J., letters and writings, 1913-1935  
Henson, Josiah, biographical sketch, n.d.  
Higginson, Thomas W., correspondence, 1885-1906  
Holmes, Booker T., family papers, 1826-1844  
Hood, James Walker, correspondence and writings, 1892-1916  
Leary, John S., pension papers, 1891 |
Leary, Matthew N., testimonial, 1857
Le Moyne, Francis Julius, 1848-1850
Lynch, John R., writings, n.d.
Mehlinger, Louis R., papers and message book, 1918-1919
Merritt, Emma Frances Grayson, 1905-1930, n.d.
Migration, transcripts of letters, 1916-1917
Miller, Caroline, essays, 1847-1862
Miller, John, workbooks, 1822-1824
Miscellaneous, 1846-1927
  Alexander, John H.
  Bassett, E. D.
  Batchellor, Albert S.
  Cheatham, H. P.
  Colding, Thomas R.
  Davis, James R.
  Dickerman, G. S.
  Du Bois, W. E. B.
  Eden, William
  Edwards, John B.
  Gunter, J. B.
  Harris, Louise B.
  Howard, William J.
  Hubbard, William Peyton
  Jessye, Eva A.
  Murray, Ella Rush
  Richardson, R. H.
  Stewart, T. McCants
  Stokes, Mary
  Stuart, Carter A.
  Walker, William J.
  Werner, Alice
  White, George H.
  Young, Charles
Olivet Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill., correspondence, 1917
Patents, 1858-1924
Portlette-Southall, family papers, 1809-1853
Presbyterian Church, Washington, D.C., proceedings, 1841
Price, Joseph C., speech, n.d.
Revels, Hiram Rhoades, autobiography, n.d.
Scott, C. C., family papers, 1896
Scott, Emmett J., speech, n.d.
See, William, judicial proceeding, 1863
Starr, Frederick, article, 1924
Still, William, correspondence, 1872-1898, n.d.
Teamoh, George, autobiography and photograph books, 1818-1883, vols. 1-19
<table>
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**REEL 8**

(2 folders)

**BOX 12**

Thomas, William Hannibal, report, 1901

**REEL 8**


Turfley family, 1851-1920, n.d.

**BOX 12**


**REEL 9**

(3 folders)

Walker, Sophia A., article and poems, 1876-1927, n.d.

Washington, Booker T., address at Shaw monument, Boston, Mass., 1897

Whipper, William J., commission, 1873

Wilson, Hiram, letters, 1853-1859

**BOX 13**

**Miscellany, 1803-1936, n.d.**

Certificates, deeds, petitions, broadsides, bills of sale, and other legal documents relating to slavery or African-Americans; reference lists; and newspaper clippings. Arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically thereunder.

**REEL 9-10**

Accession lists for Woodson collection

**REEL 9**

American Revolution, reference citations to black soldiers, 1925, n.d.


Petitions, copies, 1810-1848

Receipts, deeds, and wills, 1804-1934

Slavery

- Bills of sale, 1827-1931
- Broadsides, copies, 1827-1931
- Certificates of freedom, 1803-1936
- Insurance policy on cargo of slaves, 1822

Survey of Washington, D.C. press, 1931, compiled by Lynette E. Mulholland

- Report
- Scrapbook of newspaper clippings See Oversize

Tappan, Lewis, reference list of 1839-1858 letters, n.d.

Vermont antislavery resolutions, 1850

**BOX 14**

**Oversize, 1860-1931**


**BOX 14**

"Free Colored Book," kept by H. L. Pinckney, Charleston, S.C. 1860 (Container 13)

Survey of Washington, D. C. press, 1931, compiled by Lynette E. Mulholland

- Scrapbook of newspaper clippings (Container 13)