

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Small Collections in the James Weldon Johnson Collection

JWJ MSS SMALL COLLECTIONS



by George P. Cunningham and Beinecke Staff

August 1973

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New Haven, CT 06520-8330
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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: JWJ MSS SMALL COLLECTIONS

CREATOR: James Weldon Johnson Memorial Collection of Negro Arts and Letters (Yale University)

TITLE: Small Collections in the James Weldon Johnson collection

DATES: 1850-1976

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1.5 linear feet (3 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Correspondence, writings, memorabilia by and relating to Romare Bearden; Augusta Bird Courtney; Frederick Douglass; Alexandre Dumas, père and fils; Paul Laurence Dunbar; Rudolph Dunbar; Elsie Taylor DuTrieuille; Jack Flodin; Mifflin Wistar Gibbs; Angelina W. Grimké; Georgia Douglas Johnson; Le Roi Jones; Alain LeRoy Locke; Edgar Mittelholzer; Arthur Alfonso Schomburg; George Samuel Schuyler; Harriet Beecher Stowe; Booker T. Washington; and Frank Yerby.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.jwjsmall>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.jwjsmall>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Documents acquired by gift and purchase from various sources. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is closed for processing. For more information, please consult Access Services.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

[Name of Item]. JWJ MSS Small Collections, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

This finding aid, created before the advent of computer-generated files, has been converted into an ASCII data file by means of scanning and Optical Character Recognition software. While attempts have been made to retain the complete information from the original document, a number of format changes have been made to present the structure of this archive in accordance with current practice. In 1997, several groups of materials previously listed under "Small Collections" were removed and cataloged separately, and are noted as such in the body of the list. In 1998, the group of Miscellaneous Correspondence formerly included in this list was removed to a separate list: JWJ MSS FILE.

Scope and Contents

Small collections of correspondence writings and other material by or pertaining to African-American writers and other cultural figures, forming part of the James Weldon Johnson Collection.

Collection Contents**BEARDEN, ROMARE, n.d.**

b. 1, f. 1	Caresse To: 0 / From: 1	n.d.
b. 1, f. 2	Untitled, circular with colorprint inscribed to Mrs. J. W. Johnson	n.d.
b. 1, f. 3	Untitled, article concerning Bearden's "The Passion", handwritten	n.d.

BONTEMPS, ARNA

Small Collections in the James Weldon Johnson collection
JWJ MSS SMALL COLLECTIONS

BONTEMPS, ARNA

(Material now cataloged as [JWJ MSS 6](#))

BRAITHWAITE, WILLIAM STANLEY

(Material now cataloged as [JWJ MSS 72](#))

COURTNEY, AUGUSTA BIRD, 1934

b. 1, f. 29	Ikerd, L. W. To: 1 / From: 0	1934
b. 1, f. 30	Flint, Margaret V. To: 1 / From: 0	1934
b. 1, f. 31	Hunt, H. A. To: 0 / From: 1	1934
b. 1, f. 32	Correspondence with David I. Walsh includes carbon of letter from James Weldon Johnson to Walsh	1933-34
b. 1, f. 33	Untitled children's story typed manuscript with corrections	n.d.

CULLEN, COUNTEE

Small Collections in the James Weldon Johnson collection
JWJ MSS SMALL COLLECTIONS

CULLEN, COUNTEE

(Material now cataloged as [JWJ MSS 7](#))

DODSON, OWEN

Small Collections in the James Weldon Johnson collection
JWJ MSS SMALL COLLECTIONS

DODSON, OWEN

(Material now cataloged as [JWJ MSS Dodson](#))

DOUGLASS, FREDERICK

Correspondence

b. 1, f. 34	Barnside, J. A. P. To: 0 / From: 1	1869
b. 1, f. 35	Mr. Cook To: 0 / From: 1	1891
b. 1, f. 36	Coster, Robert To: 0 / From: 1	1886
b. 1, f. 37	Mrs. Dorsey To: 0 / From: 1	1865
b. 1, f. 38	Fortune, T. Thomas To: 0 / From: 4	1883-89
b. 1, f. 39	[Greenwood, Grace] To: 0 / From: 1	1887
b. 1, f. 40	Higginson, Thomas W. To: 0 / From: 1	1854
b. 1, f. 41	Johnson, Robert To: 0 / From: 1	1881
b. 1, f. 42	Mr. Koehler To: 0 / From: 1	1870
b. 1, f. 43	L. Praug and Co. To: 0 / From: 1	1873
b. 1, f. 44	Reynolds, F. H. C. To: 0 / From: 1	1879
b. 1, f. 45	Unidentified correspondents To: 0 / From: 3	1863-84
b. 1, f. 46	Unidentified correspondents (n.b. only 2 letters in folder) To: 0 / From: 3	n.d.
b. 1, f. 47	Autographs and photos	1881, 1893, n.d.

DUBOIS, W. E. B.

Small Collections in the James Weldon Johnson collection
JWJ MSS SMALL COLLECTIONS

DUBOIS, W. E. B.

(Material now cataloged as [JWJ MSS 8](#))

DUMAS, ALEXANDRE père, n.d.

b. 1, f. 48	Bocage, [Pierre Tousez] To: 0 / From: 2	n.d.
b. 1, f. 49	Granger, jeweler To: 0 / From: 1	n.d.
b. 1, f. 50	Guerville To: 0 / From: 1	18--? Jul 8
b. 1, f. 51	Hostein, [Hippolyte?] To: 0 / From: 1	n.d.
b. 1, f. 52	Nodier, Charles To: 0 / From: 1	n.d.
b. 1, f. 53	Prefect of Seine et Oise To: 0 / From: 1	1850 Mar 25
b. 1, f. 54	Correspondence, letters to unidentified correspondents To: 0 / From: 6	1857 May 17, 1857 Oct 9, n.d.
b. 1, f. 55	"Chronique du 19", autograph manuscript of article (3 p.)	
b. 1, f. 56	"Cour d'assise de Naples", autograph manuscript of article (4 p.)	
b. 1, f. 57	"De la nécessité d'un port franc aux manuscript of article (7 p.)	
b. 1, f. 58	"L'Autonomie Napolitaine", autograph manuscript of article (6 p.)	
b. 1, f. 59	"La colonne des Martyres", autograph manuscript of article (2 p.)	
b. 1, f. 60	"La Vice Royauté de Naples", autograph manuscript of article (7 p.)	
b. 1, f. 61	"Le Journal Napoli et l'Émeute de Ste. Lucie", autograph manuscript of article (4 p.)	
b. 1, f. 62	"Le Spectre de M. Conforti", autograph manuscript of article (2 p.)	
b. 1, f. 63	"Les bouts rimés", autograph manuscript of article in letter form (5 p., p. 2 missing)	
b. 1, f. 64	"Naples et Marseille", autograph manuscript of article (5 p.)	
b. 1, f. 65	"Pompeia", autograph manuscript of article (6 p.)	
b. 1, f. 66	"Prédictions réalisées", autograph manuscript of article (3 p.)	
b. 1, f. 67	"Victor Hugo", autograph manuscript of article (2 p.)	

DUMAS, ALEXANDRE fils, n.d.

b. 1, f. 68	Correspondence, letters to unidentified correspondents To: 0 / From: 5	n.d.
b. 1, f. 69	Correspondence, letters to unidentified correspondents To: 0 / From: 3	1892 Mar 9, n.d.
b. 1, f. 70	Autograph and photograph	n.d.

DUNBAR, PAUL LAURENCE

b. 2, f. 71	Correspondence, Alice Dunbar-Nelson to William F. Gable. 1 letter (photostat), 1915, includes photostat of one of Dunbar's poems	
b. 2, f. 72	Correspondence, Alice Dunbar-Nelson to Helen R. London (2 letters)	1926, n.d.
b. 2, f. 73	"On the Death of John Hay", poem, handwritten manuscript	
b. 2, f. 74	"Possum", poem, handwritten manuscript	
b. 2, f. 75	Untitled, autographed poem	
b. 2, f. 75a	Catalog of Dunbar papers in the Ohio State Archeological and Historical Society in Columbus, Ohio Includes: facsimiles of some papers	n.d.

DUNBAR, RUDOLPH

b. 2, f. 76	Invitations and telegrams to Dunbar	
b. 2, f. 77	Coleridge, Taylor, Avril (letters to Dunbar)	
b. 2, f. 78	Still, William Grant (letters to Dunbar)	
b. 2, f. 78a	Letters to Dunbar removed from a scrapbook (From Brendan Bracken and unidentified)	1943, n.d.

DuTRIEUILLE, ELSIE TAYLOR, 1937, 1942

b. 2, f. 79	Correspondence: letter from James Weldon Johnson to Carl Van Vechten	1937, 1942
b. 2, f. 80	"Ode to Celestial Voices", dramatic poem, mimeographed	
b. 2, f. 81	"Plymouth, An Allegory", carbon copy, "For Those Who March, in Memory of the Spirit of the Late James Weldon Johnson", handwritten note re: Toussaint L'Ouverture Society	

FLODIN, JACK, 1946

b. 2, f. 82	Johnson, Mrs. James Weldon To: 0 / From: 1	1946
b. 2, f. 83	"Girl of Fifteen", musical setting for James Weldon Johnson's poem, manuscript "The Glory of the Day Was In Her Face"	
b. 2, f. 84	Ditto copies of several musical arrangements Includes "Girl of Fifteen Years"	

GIBBS, MIFFLIN WISTER

(Material now cataloged as [JWJ MSS 20](#))

GRIMKE, ANGELINA W., 1936

b. 2, f. 89	Jackman, Harold To: 0 / From: 1	1936
b. 2, f. 90	Autograph, "In Memory of Archibald Grimke", poem, handwritten manuscript	
b. 2, f. 90a	"Hushed by the Hands of Sleep," poem, typescript	n.d.

HURSTON, ZORA NEALE

Small Collections in the James Weldon Johnson collection
JWJ MSS SMALL COLLECTIONS

HURSTON, ZORA NEALE

(Material now cataloged as [JWJ MSS 9](#))

JOHNSON, GEORGIA DOUGLAS

Correspondence

b. 2, f. 91	Jackman, Harold To: 0 / From: 12	1936-42
b. 2, f. 92	Johnson, James Weldon To: 1 / From: 3	1929-34

Writings

b. 2, f. 93	"Brotherhood Marching Song", song, dittoed
b. 2, f. 94	"Frederick Douglass", one act play, carbon copy
b. 2, f. 95	"Interracial", poem, dittoed
b. 2, f. 96	"Plumes", one act play, handwritten manuscript
b. 2, f. 97	"The Starting Point", one act play, carbon copy
b. 2, f. 98	"Tomorrow's World", song by Georgia D. Johnson and Lillian Evanti, mimeograph

JONES, LE ROI

Correspondence

b. 2, f. 99	Loewinsohn, Ron To: 0 / From: 22	1958-63, n.d.
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Writings

b. 2, f. 100	<i>The Baptism</i> , a comedy in one act, mimeographed
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b. 2, f. 101	<i>The Toilet</i> , a play in one act, mimeographed
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LOCKE, ALAIN

Correspondence

b. 2, f. 101a	Cullen, Countee To: 1 / From: 0	1928 May 22
b. 2, f. 102	DeWitt, Josephine To: 0 / From: 1	1932
b. 2, f. 103	Jackman, Harold To: 0 / From: 4	1924-38

Writings

b. 2, f. 104	"The Negro in the Three Americas: Race, Culture, and Democracy" inaugural lecture in series called <i>The Negro's Contribution to the -- -- Culture of the Americas</i> , typed manuscript with revisions
b. 2, f. 105	"The Poetry of Negro Life", preface to <i>Four Negro Poets</i> handwritten manuscript See also: Zora Neale Hurston, <i>The Chick With One Hen</i>.

MITTELHOLZER, EDGAR

Correspondence

b. 2, f. 106	Markoe, F. H. To: 0 / From: 6	1952, 1958
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Writings

b. 2, f. 107	"At Forty-Three-A Personal View of the World" typed manuscript
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b. 2, f. 108	"At Forty-Three: A Personal View of the World" excerpts
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PETERSON, DOROTHY

Small Collections in the James Weldon Johnson collection
JWJ MSS SMALL COLLECTIONS

PETERSON, DOROTHY

(Material now cataloged as [JWJ MSS 10](#))

SCHOMBURG, ARTHUR A., n.d.

b. 2, f. 109	Jackman, Harold To: 0 / From: 1	n.d.
b. 2, f. 110	Megelin, Oscar To: 2 / From: 0	1915-16
b. 2, f. 111	Veith, Paul F. and letters re: Schomburg To: 8 / From: 0	1935-39
b. 2, f. 112	Review of James Weldon Johnson's Black Manhattan, typed	

SCHUYLER, GEORGE S., 1933

b. 2, f. 113	---- Jones (photocopy) To: 0 / From: 1	1933
b. 2, f. 114	"Remarks G. S. Schuyler at the 80th Remarks G. S. Schuyler at the 80th Birthday Dinner for Carl Van Vechten", typed	1960
b. 2, f. 114a	"Remarks G. S. Schuyler at the 75th Remarks G. S. Schuyler at the 75th Birthday Dinner for Carl Van Vechten", typescript carbon	[1955]
b. 2, f. 114b	[Critical commentary written for the reprint of Van Vechten's Nigger Heaven], typescript carbon	n.d.
b. 2, f. 114c	"The Van Vechten Revolution," typescript carbon, corrected	n.d.

SCHUYLER, JOSEPHINE, 1946, n.d.

b. 2, f. 114

Poems, typescript

1946, n.d.

Includes: "October," "A Saga of Songs
for Philippa [Prelude]," and
"Lililies of Our Valley"

SPINGARN, JOEL

(Material now cataloged as [JWJ MSS 11](#))

STOWE, HARRIET BEECHER, 1865

b. 3, f. 115	Mr. Bonner (damaged) To: 0 / From: 1	1865
b. 3, f. 116	Lady Hutherton To: 0 / From: 1	Aug 22, n.y.
b. 3, f. 117	Mr. Underwood To: 0 / From: 1	1859
b. 3, f. 118	Typed excerpts from "A Narrative of Sojourner Truth" by H. B. Stowe, autograph	
b. 3, f. 118a	[Autograph quotation from the Bible (Psalm 37:3)]	n.d.

THURMAN, WALLACE

Small Collections in the James Weldon Johnson collection
JWJ MSS SMALL COLLECTIONS

THURMAN, WALLACE

(Material now cataloged as [JWJ MSS 12](#))

WASHINGTON, BOOKER T.

Correspondence

b. 3, f. 119	<i>Albany Times-Union</i> , to the editor To: 0 / From: 1	n.d.
b. 3, f. 120	Alexander, Charles Extracts from letters from BTW	1904–05
b. 3, f. 121	Beers, Le Grand To: 0 / From: 1	1903
b. 3, f. 122	Dodson, N. B. To: 0 / From: 1	1912
b. 3, f. 123	Edgerton, Sata T. To: 0 / From: 1	1900
b. 3, f. 124	Farnum, Henry W. To: 0 / From: 1	1915
b. 3, f. 125	Fortune, T. Thomas To: 0 / From: 1	1904
b. 3, f. 126	Garrison, Francis J. To: 0 / From: 33	1899-1908
b. 3, f. 127	Holt, Hamilton To: 1 / From: 11	1901–09
b. 3, f. 128	Jacoby, Henry S. To: 0 / From: 1	1907
b. 3, f. 129	Lord, Mrs. --- Includes photo of BTW To: 0 / From: 1	1900
b. 3, f. 130	Luke, Arthur F. To: 0 / From: 1	1901
b. 3, f. 131	Meyer, Isaac To: 0 / From: 1	1911
b. 3, f. 132	Milbank, Albert J. To: 0 / From: 1	1903
b. 3, f. 133	Moody, Paul D. To: 0 / From: 1	1915
b. 3, f. 134	Moore, [Fred R.] Includes letter to R. C. M. Simmons from Emmett J. Scott To: 0 / From: 1	1904

Correspondence (continued)

b. 3, f. 135	Nast, Thomas To: 0 / From: 1	1901
	<i>New York Independent</i> , to the editor See: Holt, Hamilton, Box 3, folder 127	
b. 3, f. 136	<i>New York Times</i> , to the editor To: 0 / From: 1	1909
b. 3, f. 137	Ovington, Mary White To: 0 / From: 1	1905
	Peterson, Jerome B. To: 0 / From: 0	
b. 3, f. 138	Peterson, Jerome B. To: 0 / From: 1 See also: Fortune, T. Thomas, Box 3, folder 125	1903
b. 3, f. 139	Pierrepont, John Jay To: 0 / From: 1	1903
b. 3, f. 140	Schener, Florence To: 0 / From: 1	1912
	Simmons, R. C. M. See: Moore, [Fred. R.], Box 3, folder 134	
b. 3, f. 141	Thomas, M. L. To: 0 / From: 1	1896
b. 3, f. 142	6 checks signed by BTW	1899
b. 3, f. 143	Fragment of letter by BTW	n.d.
b. 3, f. 143a	Eulogy for BTW by Unidentified, typescript	n.d.
b. 3, f. 143b	Signature [Removed from first edition of <i>Up From Slavery</i>]	n.d.

YERBY, FRANK, 1944-45

b. 3, f. 144	Cousins, John S. (from Cousins = typed copies) To: 1 / From: 2	1944-45
b. 3, f. 145	Six poems, typed and handwritten	

Miscellaneous Correspondence

Miscellaneous Correspondence formerly listed here has been transferred to a separate list: [James Weldon Johnson Collection Files \(JWJ MSS FILE\)](#).

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.

Subjects

African American authors -- 19th century --
Archives
African American authors -- 20th Century --
Archives

Corporate Body

James Weldon Johnson Memorial Collection of
Negro Arts and Letters (Yale University)

Contributors

James Weldon Johnson Memorial Collection of
Negro Arts and Letters (Yale University)
Bearden, Romare, 1911-1988
Braithwaite, William Stanley, 1878-1962
Courtney, Augusta Bird
Douglass, Frederick, 1818-1895
Dumas, Alexandre, 1802-1870
Dumas, Alexandre, 1824-1895
Dunbar, Paul Laurence, 1872-1906
Dunbar, Rudolph, 1899-1988
DuTrieuille, Elsie Taylor
Flodin, Jack
Grimké, Angelina Weld, 1880-1958
Johnson, Georgia Douglas, 1886-1966
Baraka, Amiri, 1934-2014
Locke, Alain, 1885-1954
Mittelhölzer, Edgar, 1909-1965
Schomburg, Arthur Alfonso, 1874-1938
Schuyler, George S. (George Samuel), 1895-1977
Stowe, Harriet Beecher, 1811-1896
Washington, Booker T., 1856-1915
Yerby, Frank, 1916-1991