

Guide to
Montclair African
American Collections

*Montclair History Center
Montclair Public Library*

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Volunteer

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This finding aid describes the archival holdings on Montclair's African American communities located at the Montclair History Center, 108 Orange Road, Montclair and Montclair Public Library, 40 South Fullerton Avenue, Montclair.

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GUIDE TO THE MONTCLAIR AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY COLLECTIONS AT MONTCLAIR HISTORY CENTER

To view material from the Montclair History Center’s collection, call 973-744-1796 or email mail@montclairhistory.org.

Provenance:

This collection is a compilation of various collections on African American history found in the archives.

Scope and Content.

The collection is divided into the following series: Montclair African American Heritage Project, MHS (2005-2007), Montclair African American Oral History Project, MPL (2000-2002), African American Oral History Project, MHS (2012-2013), African American YMCA (1909-1998), Joseph Greene Scrapbooks (1962-1997), African American Vertical Files: General (1907-2013), Vertical Files: African American Churches (1939-2006), and African American People Files (1957-2006)

Related Material

The Montclair Public Library also has materials on Montclair’s African American community. Please see the end of this finding aid for a list of collections held there.

Container List

Series I: Montclair African American Heritage Project, Montclair Historical Society, 2005-2007

Description

This series, arranged alphabetically, contains files on the Montclair Historical Society’s Montclair African American Heritage Project, 2005-2007. A special committee was formed to examine ways to explore African American history in Montclair. Stacy Patton was hired to lead the initiative which resulted in two exhibits: Black Churches in Montclair and Growing up Black in Montclair.

Box Number	Folder Number	Contents
1	1	African American Heritage Project, Budget, grants, and donor letters, 2005-2007.
1	2-4	Black Churches, 2005-2006
1	5	Black Churches: Bright Hope Baptist Church, n.d.
1	6	Black Churches: Directory, n.d.
1	7	Black Churches: Rising Mount Zion Baptist Church, 1976-1995
1	8	Black Churches: Trinity Presbyterian Church, n.d.
1	9	Black Churches: Trinity Temple Episcopal Church, n.d.
1	10	Black Churches: Union Baptist, 1987
1	11	Black Montclair Research, 1991-2005

1	12	Growing up Black in Montclair, 2006
1	13	Growing up Black in Montclair, Carol Dokes, 2006

Series II: Montclair African American Oral History Project, Montclair Public Library, 2000-2002

Description

This series, arranged alphabetically consists of oral history transcripts conducted for the Montclair Public Library Montclair African American Project led by Elizabeth Shepard. The Oral History Project was funded by the New Jersey Council for Humanities, 2000-2002. Also included is an unpublished history written by Elizabeth Shepard based on her research. *For the original tapes, files and additional oral histories interviews, please contact the Montclair Public Library.*

Box Number	Folder Number	Contents
2	1	Paper by Elizabeth Shepard, n.d.
2	2	Bolden, Theodore, April 2001
2	3	Cannady, William, July 2001
2	4	Connor, Mrs. L. M., Nov 2000
2	5	Credle, Maud, Jan 2001
2	6	Douglas, Elaine and Daisy, March 2001
2	7	Fletcher, Audrey, Feb 2001
2	8	Ford, Louise, Sept 2001
2	9	Hamm, Lawrence, Sept 2001
2	10	Lewis, Fannie, Jan 2001
2	11	Miller, Kassundra, Sept 2001
2	12	Price, John and Alice, April 2001
2	13	Shelton, Orene, Jan 2001
2	14	Smith, Leona, June 2001
2	15	Sterling, John, Nov 2000
2	16	Sturdivant, Louis, July 2001
2	17	Turner, Sharon and Lincoln, July 2001
2	18	Yarborough and Gwenda Williams, Sept 2001

Series III: African American Oral History Project, Montclair Historical Society, 2012-2013

Description

This series, arranged alphabetically, includes oral histories of African American women involved with the YWCA. The interviews provided background material for a documentary that was produced on the Montclair African American YWCA, "A Place to Become: Montclair Through the Eyes of Glenridge Avenue YWCA Women (1920-1965)" Added here is a clipping folder on the YWCA when located in the Crane's House.

Box Number	Folder Number	Contents
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2	19	Darden, Norma Jean, March 2013
2	20	Douglas, Daisy, March 2013
2	21	Freeman, Laurette, April 2013
2	22	Janifer, Josephine, June 2012
2	23	Jones, Rosemary, June 2012
2	24	Lang, Sandra, May 2013
2	25	Morton, Dorothy, April 2013
2	26	Stone, Elberta Hayes, Sept 2012
2	27	Walton, Lucy, March 2013
Cabinet 3, Drawer 1		Newspaper clippings, paper on "YWCA Years, 1920-1965." 1933-1965 (2 folders)

Series IV: African American YMCA, 1909-1998

Description

This series, arranged alphabetically contains newspaper clippings and account ledgers for the African American YMCA.

Box Number	Folder Number	Contents
3		Cash Ledger, 1909-1920
3	2	Clippings, 1978-1998
Cabinet 3, Drawer 1		Clippings, undated
3		Diary, Ledger, 1925-1926

Series V: Joseph Greene Scrapbooks, 1962-1997

Description

This series, arranged alphabetically, consists of several scrapbooks with clippings and articles about African Americans in general. Joseph Greene was the president of the Montclair chapter of NAACP.

Scrapbook	Contents	Dates
A-M	Famous African American People	1990-1991
Bill Cosby and Michael Jackson	Articles about these two men	1967-1997
Black History and Civil Rights	Famous African American People	1980-1985, undated
Black History and Civil Rights	Historical cartoons on Famous African American People; Athletes and Sports Biographies	Undated
Clarence Thomas Supreme Court	Articles about Thomas	1984, 1991

Colin Powell, Racial Matters. Columnists	Articles, Clippings	1994-1996
Cover Stories	Cover stories from African American and national magazines on African Americans	1963-1987
Cover Stories	Cover stories from African American and national magazines on African Americans	1982-1994
King/Malcolm X/Amaya/Ray Brown/Nat Cole/Civil Rights/Kennedy	Articles on these topics	1962-1993
M-Z	Articles on Famous African Americans	1985-1991
Personal	Clippings on Abe Lincoln, African American people, Joseph Greene	1963, 1993
Quotations	Clippings of Quotes	Undated
South Africa	Articles on Apartheid and NAACP	1981-1994

Series VI: African American Vertical Files: General, 1907-2013

Description

This series, arranged alphabetically, includes newsclippings and papers on African American community in Montclair. These files are part of the Library Files.

Cabinet Number	Drawer Number	Folder Number	Contents
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 1	Birth books, 1989, 1992
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 1	Black History Month, 1990-1993
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 1	Busing 1960-70 (newspaper articles, integration)
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 1	Articles relating to children, 1957-1981, undated
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 1	James Howe House (369 Claremont Ave.), 1831-2013
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 2	Montclair African American Heritage Foundation, undated
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 2	Montclair Community Audit, 1947
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 2	<i>Montclair Times</i> Articles, 1920-2006
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 2	NAACP, Montclair Chapter, 1916-2003
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 2	Newspaper clippings, 1962-1999

3	1	African American Montclair Folder 2	NY Times articles, 1930s
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 2	NY Times articles, 1940s
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 2	NY Times articles, 1960s
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 2	NY Times articles, 1970s
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 2	Petitions, 1907-1956
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 3	Reports
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 4	Schooling, 1999, undated
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 4	Slavery, 1971-2004
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 4	Urban World Magazine, 1983
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 4	Underground Railroad, 1961-1971, undated
3	1	African American Montclair Folder 4	Black Lives Matter Movement

Series VII: Vertical Files: African American Churches, 1939-2006

Description

This series, arranged alphabetically, consists of files on African American Churches.

Cabinet Number	Drawer Number	Folder Number	Contents
4	1	Churches Folder 1	Miscellaneous Churches, 1999-2000
4	1	Churches Folder 1	Bright Hope Baptist Church, 1971
4	1	Churches Folder 1	Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, 1984-2000
4	1	Churches Folder 3	Mount Carmel Holy Church, undated
4	1	Churches Folder 4	Mount Zion Baptist Church, 1969, 1996
4	1	Churches Folder 5	New Calvary Baptist Church, Constitution, undated
4	1	Churches Folder 5	New Calvary Baptist Church, History, 1970-2005
4	1	Churches Folder 5	New Calvary Baptist Church, Constitution, undated Legal and Financial, 1970-2001

4	1	Churches Folder 6	New Calvary Baptist Church, Programs, 1980-1997
4	1	Churches Folder 6	New Calvary Baptist Church, Resolutions, undated
4	1	Churches Folder 7	St Mark's United Methodist Church, 1960, undated
4	1	Churches Folder 8	St Paul's Baptist Church, Articles, 1961, undated
4	1	Churches Folder 8	St Paul's Baptist Church, Booklets, 1939, 1982
4	1	Churches Folder 8	St Paul's Baptist Church, Newspaper Clippings and Photocopies, undated
4	1	Churches Folder 9	St Peter Claver Church, 1999-2001
4	1	Churches Folder 9	Trinity Temple Church of God, 1961
4	1	Churches Folder 9	Trinity United Presbyterian Church, undated
4	1	Churches Folder 10	Union Baptist Church, Booklets, 1952-2005
4	1	Churches Folder 10	Union Baptist Church, History, 1979
4	1	Churches Folder 10	Union Baptist Church, 100 th Anniversary Booklet, 1987
4	1	Churches Folder 11	Union Baptist Church, 100 th People, undated
4	1	Churches Folder 11	Union Baptist Church, 100 th Programs, 1949-2006

Series VIII African American People Files, 1957-2006

Description

This series, arranged alphabetically, contains vertical files on individual African American people from Montclair.

Cabinet Number	Drawer Number	Folder Number	Contents
3	2	People Folder 1	African American People, Miscellaneous, 1957-2006
3	2	People Folder 1	African American, Women, Miscellaneous, 1997-2006
3	2	People Folder 2	Baskerville, Charles, Sr, 1982-1999
3	2	People Folder 2	Belle, Martha and Josephine, 1949, 1969
3	2	People Folder 3	Bethea, Vivian, 2002

3	2	People Folder 3	Blair, James, undated
3	2	People Folder 3	Blanchard, Lottie, 1957, 1983
3	2	People Folder 3	Booker, Julius, 2003
3	2	People Folder 4	Britton, Joseph, 1988
3	2	People Folder 4	Bryant, Jewell Lee Patterson, 2004
3	2	People Folder 4	Butler, Clifton Alonzo, 1979
3	2	People Folder 4	Caines, Elinor, 2005
3	2	People Folder 5	Cole, Evelyn, 2004
3	2	People Folder 5	Cummings, Elizabeth Mills, 1984
3	2	People Folder 5	Davenport, Pamela Janine, 2000
3	2	People Folder 5	Davenport, Robert Ritter, 1992
3	2	People Folder 5	Debnaun, Morresa, 2002
3	2	People Folder 5	DeShong, Beryl May Stephenson, 2001
3	2	People Folder 5	Dickerson, Leroy, 2001
3	2	People Folder 5	Dickerson, Alma Picola Powell, 2005
3	2	People Folder 5	Doby, Larry, 1997-2006
3	2	People Folder 5	Dunn, Marlene Louise, 2006
3	2	People Folder 6	Edwards, John Henry, 1978
3	2	People Folder 6	Fitzgerald, John, 1998
3	2	People Folder 6	Foster, Alice Hooe, 1937
3	2	People Folder 6	Frye, Catherine Ellen Sinclair, 2000
3	2	People Folder 6	Futrell, George, Jr., 1999
3	2	People Folder 6	Garrett, John, Jr., 2005
3	2	People Folder 6	Garretson, Howard Ellsworth, 1988
3	2	People Folder 6	Garriss, Theophilus Madison, 1984
3	2	People Folder 6	Grisby, William Robert, undated
3	2	People Folder 7	Grace, Daddy, 1953-1960
3	2	People Folder 7	Greene, Agnes Beatrice, 1990
3	2	People Folder 7	Harris, Auretha Josephine, 1993
3	2	People Folder 7	Hatcher, Amanda Jane, 2005
3	2	People Folder 7	Hayes, Gregory, 1957
3	2	People Folder 7	Hayes, Hunter Reed, 2002
3	2	People Folder 7	Hodge, Loretta, undated
3	2	People Folder 7	Holmes, Margaret Elizabeth Flippen, 2001
3	2	People Folder 7	Holt, Mary Edith, 2000
3	2	People Folder 7	Holt, George Washington, Jr., 2001

3	2	People Folder 7	Hooe Family, Montclair, NJ, 1874-1940;presentation by Betty Holloway
3	2	People Folder 7	Hoskins, Sarah, 1979
3	2	People Folder 7	Huff, Ella, undated
3	2	People Folder 8	Jenkins, Edward, 1998
3	2	People Folder 8	Jenkins, Ivy Elaine, 2000
3	2	People Folder 8	John, Estella, 1986
3	2	People Folder 8	Jones, Rosemary Allen, 2016
3	2	People Folder 8	Jones, W. Earl, 1977
3	2	People Folder 8	Keitt, Wilhelmenia, 2005
3	2	People Folder 8	Lambert, Marie, 1997
3	2	People Folder 9	Leslie, Alfred Frederick, 1985
3	2	People Folder 9	Leslie, Christopher, 1994
3	2	People Folder 9	Leslie, Garriss, 1974
3	2	People Folder 9	Love, Gertrude, 1979
3	2	People Folder 9	Love, Gloria Louise Couch, 2004
3	2	People Folder 10	Marsh, Bessie, 1996
3	2	People Folder 10	McCain, Norma Lena, 1999
3	2	People Folder 10	McCoy, Louise, 2005
3	2	People Folder 10	McCroy, Carrie Allen, 1998
3	2	People Folder 10	McGill, John, Jr., 1991
3	2	People Folder 10	Meadows, Ethel, 1998
3	2	People Folder 10	Michaeux, Oscar
3	2	People Folder 10	Miller, Donald, 1991
3	2	People Folder 10	Miller, Kelly, undated
3	2	People Folder 10	Minfee, James, Jr, 2003
3	2	People Folder 10	Minfee, Millie, 1985
3	2	People Folder 10	Morgan, Ernestine, 2000
3	2	People Folder 10	Nicholl, Helen, 1981
3	2	People Folder 10	Paterson, Sylvia, 1995
3	2	People Folder 10	Pearman, Lynden, 1997
3	2	People Folder 10	Philpott, John, undated
3	2	People Folder 11	Ramapo Mountain People, 1958
3	2	People Folder 11	Ramsey, James, 2001
3	3	People Folder 12	Samuels, Cyril, 1990
3	3	People Folder 12	Samuels, Roslyn, 1996
3	3	People Folder 12	Scantlebury, Celeste, 1999
3	3	People Folder 12	Scantlebury, Patricio, 1991
3	3	People Folder 12	Smith, Michael, 2002
3	3	People Folder 13	Steed, Gladys, 1987
3	3	People Folder 13	Steed, William, 1980
3	3	People Folder 13	Stewart, Ethel, 1998

3	3	People Folder 13	Sydnor, Edythe, undated
3	3	People Folder 14	Tate, Herbert, Jr, 1987-1990
3	3	People Folder 14	Tate, Hortense, 1998-2006 includes dissertation by Birdie Wilson Johnson and a biography from the book "On Being 100"
3	3	People Folder 14	Taylor, Raymond, 1949
3	3	People Folder 14	Taylor, Samuel, 2003
3	3	People Folder 14	Thompson, Julia, 1991
3	3	People Folder 14	Thornhill, Arthur, 1999
3	3	People Folder 14	Thorton, Georgia, 2003
3	3	People Folder 15	Upperman, Dorothy, 2001
3	3	People Folder 15	Walker, George, 1996
3	3	People Folder 15	Wanamaker, Viola, 2003
3	3	People Folder 15	Watkins, William, 1998
3	3	People Folder 16	Wesley, Richard, 1991-1997
3	3	People Folder 16	Wilkinson, Benjamin, 2004
3	3	People Folder 16	Wright, Clifton, 1998
3	3	People Folder 16	Yearwood, Irving, 2002
3	3	People Folder 16	Yearwood, Vernon, 1990

Series IX: Photographs

Please contact the History Center to search the photo collection

GUIDE TO THE AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY COLLECTIONS
AT
MONTCLAIR PUBLIC LIBRARY

Contact the Montclair Public Library reference desk for more information by calling 973-744-0500 or emailing reference@montclairlibrary.org.

AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCHES

Bright Hope Baptist Church, Montclair Subject Vertical Files, 1959-1985, 1 folder

Montclair Times articles on Bright Hope Baptist Church include biographical information on Rev. Richard Wood and the unpublished history, "The History of Bright Hope Baptist Church."

Loc: File Cab #F3

Rising Mt Zion Baptist Church Collection, 1966-2001, 1 folder

Includes a program booklet, two memorial programs, and by-laws which have information about the church and its founding ministers, Revs. James and Myrtle Jackson.

Loc: Deed Room

St. Mark's United Methodist Church Collection, 1899-2001, 2 folders

The collection includes programs (1899-2001), an annual conference report (2000) and histories of the St. Mark's United Methodist Church. The church donated a copy of a scrapbook kept by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Owens (1946-1978).

Loc: Deed Room

St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Montclair Subject Vertical Files, 1937-1975, 1 folder

Newspaper clippings from the *Montclair Times* include articles about the fire that destroyed the original church building and the rebuilding of the church at its current location.

Loc: File Cab #F3

St. Paul's Baptist Church, Montclair Subject Vertical Files, 1909-1963, 1 folder

Newspaper articles from the *Montclair Times* include an exterior sketch and interior view of the original church on Hartley Street, picture of the groundbreaking ceremony for the Elm Street church and description of the Elm Street church dedication.

Loc: File Cab #F3

St. Paul's Baptist Church Collection, 1977, 1 folder

Includes the history of St. Paul's Baptist Church.

Loc: Deed Room

St. Peter Claver Church Collection, 1984-2001, 1 folder

The collection has brochures and a church directory, 2001. Also, a copy of the article "St. Peter Claver: Race and Catholicism in the Formation of an African-American Parish." in New Jersey History Fall/Winter 1999 written by Elizabeth Milliken.

Loc: Box A19

St. Peter Claver Church, Montclair Subject Vertical Files, 1939-1976, 1 folder

The file contains articles about the church activities and the dedication of the current building in 1939.

Loc: File Cab #F3

Union Baptist Church, 1908-1987, 1 folder

The collection contains an "Oratorical Contest Literary Union Speech" by Thomas Jackson, 1908, Rev. John C. Love Day Program, 1977 and 100th Anniversary of Union Baptist Church Booklet (1987) and a "History of Union Baptist Church".

Loc: Box A18

Union Baptist Church, Montclair Subject Vertical Files, 1890-1975, 1 folder

The file contains articles from the *Montclair Times* about the church. Also included is a copy of Whitemore's History of Montclair Township description of the church.

Loc: File Cab #F3

Montclair Subject Vertical Files

Churches-Episcopal-Trinity, 1954, 1 item

An article from the *Montclair Times* showing a picture of the church's sanctuary.

Loc: File Cab #F3

Trinity United Presbyterian Church Collection, 1940-1997, 1 folder

Anniversary booklets for the Trinity United Presbyterian Church donated by Louise Ford. The collection also includes an "Inventory of the Church Archives of New Jersey," 1940.

Loc: Deed Room

AFRICAN AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS

Crawford Crews American Legion Post 251 Collection, 1995-1997

The collection contains Chronicles, (1997), a history written by John Garrett and annual dance programs (1995-1996) donated by The Crawford Crews American Legion Post 251.

Loc: Deed Room

Hollow Day Care Center Collection, 1969-1999, 1 folder

The collection contains miscellaneous brochures, histories, award certificates and fact sheets on the Hollow Day Care Center and its founder, Mrs. L. M. Connor.

Loc: Deed Room

Junior League of Montclair Collection, 1927-1993, 5 lin. inches

The Junior League of Montclair founded and owned the Neighborhood Center, which served the African American and Italian communities until 1953. The Junior League collection contains annual reports from 1927-1982 and publications from 1937-1993 that contained information on the Neighborhood Center.

Loc: Box A24-25

Montclair Civil Rights Coalition Collection, 1996-2000, 1 folder

The collection contains articles from the *Montclair Times* and papers relating to the Montclair Civil Rights Coalition, mostly copied from the collection of Nancy Winkler of the Coalition.

Loc: Deed Room

Montclair Civil Rights Commission Collection, 1947-1999, 1 folder

The collection includes the 1947 audit, fair housing information (1966), profiles of the commission activities (1973) and flyers (1999).

Loc: Deed Room

Montclair Grassroots Inc., 1971-1981, 1 folder

The collection contains Annual Reports for the Montclair Grassroots organization for 1971, 1974 and 1981.

Loc: Box A37

Montclair Grassroots, Montclair Subject Vertical Files, 1973, 1996, 1 folder

The collection contains articles from the *Montclair Times* about the Montclair Grassroots organization, 1973, 1996.

Loc: File Cab #F4

NAACP Collection, 1924-2000, 1 folder

The collection includes branch histories, clippings of NAACP activities against the film "Birth of a Nation", KKK activities and school segregation in Montclair.

Loc: Deed Room

Montclair Council of Social Agencies Collection, 1929-1959, 5 lin. inches

The Montclair Council of Social Services occupied the Neighborhood Center, which served the African American and Italian communities in the 1940's. The collection includes annual reports (1934-1959), minutes (1933-1942), board reports (1929-1959), brochures and publications. The board reports discuss some of the Council studies involving the Neighborhood Center.

Loc: Box A40

Neighborhood Center, Montclair Subject Files, 1940-1981, 1 folder

Newspaper clippings on the Neighborhood Center.

Loc: File Cab #F4

Neighborhood Council Collection, 1941-1988, 5 linear inches

The Neighborhood Center served the African American and Italian communities. The Neighborhood Council Collection consists of minutes (1941-1946), annual reports (1941-1949), and miscellaneous (1942-1988)

Loc: Box A41

North Jersey Men's Club (Nor Jer Men) Collection, 2001, 1 folder

This file includes articles on the Nor Jer Men Club from the Star Ledger and Positive Community Magazine, 2001

Loc: Deed Room

Townswomen Collection, 1946-1952, 1 folder

Histories on the Townswomen Club, an African American women's group of Montclair natives who were interested in Montclair history.

Loc: Deed Room

YMCA Collection, 1903-2001, 1 folder

The collection includes brochures and programs on the Washington Street YMCA.

Loc: Box A31

YMCA-Washington Street Branch, Montclair Subject Vertical Files, 1930-1978, 1 folder

The file includes articles from the *Montclair Times* on the branch activities.

Loc: File Cab #F3

YWCA of Montclair-North Essex Collection, 1944-1995, 5 linear inches

The collection has annual reports (1944-1962), brochures (1958-1978), programs (1945-1967) and the newsletter, "YWCA Montclair-North Essex" (Fall 1995).

Loc: Box A32

YWCA, Montclair Subject Vertical Files, 1930-1971, 1 folder

The vertical files have clippings from the *Montclair Times* about the YWCA activities.

Loc: File Cab #F3

ADDITIONAL COLLECTIONS

Bruce Tyler Collection, 1989-1997,

Bruce Tyler is a well-known drummer, arts activist and music producer in Montclair.

He was the chairman of the Entertainment Committee/Production Manager for the African-American Heritage Parade and Festival, founder of the Montclair Blues and Jazz Festival and on the Board of the Montclair Arts and Cultural Alliance. He also has been the producer for several music groups in Montclair. He has been the drummer for Tayata Jazz Prophets and the Richard Banks Trio and board member of the Garden State Music Awards. He also participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Summit.

The Bruce Tyler Collection contains his files on the African-American Heritage Parade and Festival, 1990-1997; Montclair Blues and Jazz Festival, 1989-1997; and Montclair Arts and Cultural Alliance (MACA), 1991-1996. In addition, there are files on his production company, B. T. Tayata Productions and on local bands including, Tayata, Rhythm Method, B. D. Eyz and Sinister Force.

Loc: File Cab #F2

Civil Rights, Montclair Subject Vertical Files, 1 folder, 1946-1997

Articles and papers relating to the Montclair Branch of the NACCP and its civil rights activities.

Loc: File Cab #F#

Fischer, Bill

Paper on Montclair's African American history.

Loc: Deed Room

Montclair African American Oral History Project, 2000-2002, 10 linear inches

These oral histories were funded by the New Jersey Council for Humanities. The collection includes the original transcripts. See the list in the History Center section.

Loc: Deed Room

Montclair Biography Files, 1920-1950

The Montclair Biography files contain biographical information on many African Americans. The files are arranged alphabetically by surname.

Montclair Photographic Collection, 1890's-2001

The Montclair photographic collection contains over 10,000 images of Montclair. There are photographs of some of the African-American churches and organizations as well as the Montclair High School Gospel Choir, the "Slave House" on Claremont Avenue and "Aunt Polly" house on Orange Road. Photographs of Montclair African-American residents include: James Howard Page (the fourth African-American policeman); Mary Rice Hayes Allen (Civil Rights Activist, Head of New Jersey-NAACP); Matthew Carter (first African-American Mayor of Montclair); Dr. Frederick Douglas (first African-American physician at Mountainside Hospital); Jessie Faucet Harris (author); Oscar Micheaux (filmmaker); Gil Noble (TV anchor, longest running African-American public affairs program, "Like it is"); George Walker (Pulitzer award winning composer); Dr. John Fitzgerald (one of the first African-American dentists in Montclair); Leonard Coleman (New Jersey Commissioner of Energy, 1982, President, National League (Baseball, 1994); and Mayor James Ramsey. The collection also includes photographs of people attending the African-American Nostalgic Day and Washington Street Branch YMCA Homecoming Celebration programs.

Loc: Patrons should consult the online Montclair Image Collection for photographs

NICHE Collection, 1974-1977, 6 folders, 3 binders

Three binders include program reports, flyers, photographs, promotional materials and letters. Six folders contain reports, correspondence, and newsletters regarding NICHE activities. NICHE was an outreach program sponsored by the Montclair Public Library.

Loc: Deed Room

Schools-School Desegregation, Montclair Subject Vertical Files, 1960-1977, 1 folder

The file contains newspaper clippings from the *Montclair Times* on the issue.

Loc: File Cab #F4

Township of Montclair Collection, Board of Education, 1962-1974, 1 folder

The collection contains material on the Board of Education desegregation plans including the Plan of Action, Taylor Plan, Rice vs. Board of Education ruling of the New Jersey Commissioner of Education, statements regarding the high school demonstration and letters regarding anti-busing groups.

Loc: Box-A2

Township of Montclair Collection, Board of Education, Affirmative Action Reports, 1990-1999, 2 folders

The collection contains the Affirmative Action Report, School and Classroom Practices, 1985-1986 and Affirmative Action Reports, Employment Contract Compliance, 1985-1989.

Loc: Deed Room

Township of Montclair Collection, Sponsored Events, African-American History Month, 1990-1999, 1 folder

The collection contains calendars about the town's African-American History Month events, 1990-1999; program for the Committee for the Coordination for African-American History Month; and historical information about the Montclair African-American community.

Loc: Box A12

YWCA of Montclair-North Essex Archives, 1871-2003

This collection includes newspaper clippings, programs, brochures, photographs and other miscellaneous material. [Please see separate finding aid here.](#)