

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES:
Resources in the
University of Chicago Library

**An Exhibition on view in the Department of Special Collections
February 1 – June 11, 1999**

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES:
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University of Chicago Library**

From the opening of the University of Chicago in 1892, the holdings of the Library have grown to include a wide array of documentary resources essential to African-American studies. Acquired by gift, bequest, purchase, government deposit, and exchange, these research materials document the diverse experiences and complex history of African-Americans from the seventeenth century to the present.

Printed government documents and Americana were an important early focus of the Library's acquisitions program, and these materials contain much of significance on African-American history. Personal narratives of ex-slaves were joined by hundreds of reports, bills, petitions, and memorials dealing with the institution of slavery and its regulation, the destruction of slavery in the Civil War, and the trials of Reconstruction and Southern reaction. The Library also worked to build extensive collections of magazines, newspapers, scholarly journals, and monographs in United States history, many of them bearing on the social life and culture of African-Americans.

These printed sources were supplemented by the Library's acquisition of original manuscript materials documenting African-Americans in slavery and freedom. The Reuben T. Durrett Collection purchased in 1913 was among the first of these, and it was followed by the Barton Collection of Lincolniana, the Stephen A. Douglas papers, handwritten records of ante-bellum Southern plantations, and the papers of influential late nineteenth-century African-Americans such as Ida B. Wells, Orator Cook, and James E. O'Hara.

The development of the "Chicago schools" of sociology, political science, urban studies, and social welfare policy brought additional strengths to manuscript holdings on African-American issues. The Library acquired the papers of philanthropist Julius Rosenwald and the records of the Emil Schwarzhaupt Foundation, the Illinois Division of the ACLU, the Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference, and the Carnegie Council on Children. Holdings of papers of University faculty members grew to include sociologists Ernest Burgess and Louis Wirth, social welfare reformers Edith and Grace

Abbott, political scientist Harold Gosnell, educators Allison Davis and Robert Havighurst, and economic historian Robert Fogel. In 1976, these original resources in support of African-American studies were substantially enhanced by the Library's establishment of the Chicago Jazz Archive.

In recent years, the Library has built a particularly strong collection of more than thirty major documentary microfilm collections, containing more than two million pages of manuscripts and printed texts. Among the materials available are books, treatises, pamphlets, and speeches dealing with slavery; records from ante-bellum plantations ranging from the Chesapeake to Texas; government records on the Atlantic slave trade and African colonization; sets of abolitionist periodicals and African-American newspapers; and records and papers of W. E. B. Du Bois, the NAACP, the U.S. Department of Justice, and the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, among many others. Further information on these microfilm collections is available in the booklet accompanying this exhibition.

The World Wide Web and electronic databases also have dramatically expanded resources accessible to researchers. Abstracts and full texts of articles from hundreds of scholarly journals are now easily searchable through the Periodicals Contents Index, JSTOR, and ProQuest online sites. Information on African-American studies sources in other formats – from full-text documents, bibliographies, and guides to recordings, archives, and manuscripts – can be found on the Library's LibInfo Web site (<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu>).

Materials on display in this exhibition were selected by Frank Conaway, Bibliographer for the Social Sciences, and Daniel Meyer, Associate Curator of Special Collections. Contributions were also made by Chris Winters, Bibliographer for Geography, Anthropology, and Maps; Sem Sutter, Bibliographer for Modern Literatures; and Deborah Gillaspie, Curator of the Chicago Jazz Archive.

**U.S. Bureau of the Census. Maps of Chicago and Vicinity
by Census Tract, 1980-1990.**

Library Map Collection.

Beginning with the Census of 1900, the Bureau of the Census began publishing selected data, such as numbers of individuals by race, sex, or age groups, for areas as small as a single city block, thus permitting detailed analysis of demographic and racial shifts over time. The Library's Map Collection has sets of such data in digital form with the software and hardware that let users create their own customized geographical displays from the most recent census surveys. These maps are examples, showing the strikingly different patterns of movement of African-Americans and whites in the Chicago area between 1980 and 1990.

**Martin Luther King, Jr. The Great March to Freedom:
Rev. Martin Luther King Speaks, Detroit, June 23, 1963.
Sound recording. Motown Records, 1963.**

Library General Collection.

**Black Women Oral History Project. Interview with
Pleasant Harrison, November 7 and 8, 1979. [Cambridge,
Mass.]: Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College, [1981].**

Gift of the Publisher. Library General Collection.

From 1976 to 1981, the Black Women Oral History Project interviewed 72 African-American professionals in education, government, the arts, medicine, law, and social work, and volunteers serving their communities or the nation. Seven of the interviewees had been students at the University of Chicago: Alfreda Barnett Duster, Zelma Watson George, Susie Williams Jones, Virginia Lacey Jones, Inabel Burns Lindsay, Miriam Matthews, and Bazoline Estelle Usher.

Ida B. Wells. The Memphis Diary of Ida B. Wells. Edited by Miriam DeCosta-Willis. Boston: Beacon Press, 1995.

Archival Reference Collection, Department of Special Collections.

CASE 2.

Great Britain. Board of Trade. *Report of the Lords of the Committee of Council Appointed for the Consideration of All Matters Relating to Trade and Foreign Plantations...* 1789.

Library General Collection.

Great Britain. *Substance of the Debates on a Resolution for Abolishing the Slave Trade...* London: Dawsons of Pall Mall, 1968. Reprint of 1806 ed.

Library General Collection.

Gideon Evans. Receipt for \$700.00 for sale of one Negro woman slave by the name of Matilda and her son George aged eighteen months, Barnwell, South Carolina, March 15, 1844.

Slavery and Indentured Servitude Documents Collection, Department of Special Collections.

U.S. Congress. *Documents and Reports. Report of the Committee to Which was Referred so Much of the President's Message as Relates to the Slave Trade.* February 9, 1821.

Library General Collection.

From the seventeenth century onward, Africans captured and shipped to the Americas as slaves were at the nexus of a powerful struggle for control of international markets and vast colonial empires. Governments repeatedly took up the matter of slavery, and politicians debated its growing influence in societies that claimed to be culturally enlightened and morally Christian. The Library's extensive sets of official government publications, a legacy of generous gifts from donors and careful cultivation by University faculty members and librarians for more than a century, provide a crucial base for any exploration of the early centuries of African-American history.

Thomas Trent. *Plantation Account Book, Buckingham County [now Appamattox County], Virginia, 1818-1841.* Includes entry for "exchange in swap of Horse & negro Dick," October 1, 1821.

Gift of Julius Rosenwald. Codex Manuscript Collection, Department of Special Collections.

The Library's manuscript collections preserve an array of original historical documents tracing the operation of the social and economic order that introduced and maintained slave labor in North America for more than two hundred and fifty years. From the early colonial period to the Civil War, records such as these often provide the only surviving written information on the birth, life, labor, and death of generations of African-Americans.

Thomas Bluett. *Some Memories of the Life of Job, the Son of Solomon the High Priest of Boonda in Africa.* London: Printed for Richard Ford, 1734.

William E. Barton Collection of Lincolniana, Department of Special Collections.

Beginning in the eighteenth century, slave narratives became an important source of information on the brutal experiences of those forced into a life of bondage. The deeply affecting stories of individual suffering also helped galvanize the growing movement for abolition of slavery and suppression of international commerce in forced labor.

Robert Kearney Moore. *Certificate of manumission for a slave named Nanny, Jefferson County, Kentucky, January 13, 1802.*

Reuben T. Durrett Collection, Department of Special Collections.

Purchased for the Library in 1913, the Durrett Collection has provided generations of University faculty and students with a rich array of published and documentary materials on the settlement of Kentucky and the Ohio River Valley. Among the Durrett historical accounts, documents, newspapers, transcripts, and pamphlets are thousands of manuscripts documenting the development of the region's social and economic institutions, including slavery.

Equiano. *Equiano's Travels: His Autobiography.* Abridged and Edited by Paul Edwards. London and Ibadan: Heinemann Educational Books, Ltd., 1967.

Library General Collection.

Born in western Africa about 1745, Equiano was captured by raiders and sold to slavers bound for the West Indies. After servitude in Barbados and Virginia, he was sold to a sea captain, who took him along on numerous voyages. Equiano eventually purchased his freedom, learned how to read and write, and wrote an autobiographical account of his life. The work went through nine editions in his lifetime and was a major precursor of the slave narratives of the nineteenth century.

Mary Prince. *The History of Mary Prince, a West Indian Slave, Related by Herself.* Edited with an Introduction by Moira Ferguson. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1987.

Acquired on the Herman Dunlap Smith Book Fund. Library General Collection.

Mary Prince was born into slavery on Bermuda in 1788 and was subsequently sold to masters on Turks Island south of the Bahamas and on the island of Antigua. Her account follows a pattern that was to become common for slave narratives: information on birth and childhood, a description of the conditions that provoked escape attempts, the perilous escape from slavery, and the narrator's subsequent life in freedom.

Kenneth M. Stamp, General Editor. *Records of Ante-Bellum Plantations from the Revolution to the Civil War.* Frederick, Maryland: University Publications of America, 1985- .

Library Microform Collection.

Based on the holdings of ten research libraries and historical societies, this microfilm collection includes plantation records dated as early as the mid-seventeenth century, such as those of the Berkeley family of Virginia. The document reproduced from microfilm here is a deed of manumission made by Sambo Bellestre, a free man of color, in favor of Susanne, aged about 55, dated July 6, 1829.

CASE 4.

William Goodell. *The American Slave Code in Theory and Practice.* London: Clarke, Beeton, and Co., 1853.

William E. Barton Collection of Lincolniana, Department of Special Collections.

***The Uncle Tom's Cabin Almanack, or Abolitionist Memento.* London: John Cassell, 1853.**

William E. Barton Collection of Lincolniana, Department of Special Collections.

Acquired for the Library in 1932 as a research resource for faculty and students in American history, the Barton Collection of Lincolniana is more than a memorial to the sixteenth President. It contains a fascinating wealth of rare books, manuscripts, and ephemeral material documenting the corrosive effects of slavery on the American political system, the struggle to free the slaves and preserve the Union, and the mythic imagery of freedom that developed in the aftermath of emancipation.

**Sojourner Truth. *Narrative of the Life of Sojourner Truth.*
Boston: Published for the Author, 1875.**

Library General Collection.

Sojourner Truth (ca. 1797-1883), born a slave in New York State, escaped from bondage at the age of twenty-nine. After undergoing a spiritual conversion, she became a Methodist and established a reputation for her extraordinary preaching. In 1846 she joined the Abolitionist speaking circuit, and in 1850 she published her *Narrative* (as told to Olive Gilbert). After the Civil War she remained active in reform causes, notably rights for women.

**Frederick Douglass. *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass.*
Hartford, Conn.: Park Publishing Co., 1882.**

William E. Barton Collection of Lincolniana, Department of Special Collections.

Frederick Douglass (1818-1895) wielded broad influence as editor of *The North Star* (1847-1851), *Frederick Douglass' Paper* (1851-1860), *Douglass' Monthly* (1859-1863), and *New National Era* (1870-1874). He published three versions of his autobiography, the *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave* (1847), *My Bondage and My Freedom* (1855), and this somewhat fuller account, *The Life and Times of Frederick Douglass*, first published in 1881.

Map Showing the Distribution of the Slave Population of the Southern States of the United States, Compiled from the Census of 1860. Washington, D.C.: 1861.

Library Map Collection.

Abraham Lincoln. Emancipation Proclamation.

[Philadelphia: F. Leypoldt, ca. June 6, 1864]. Printed signed document and photographic facsimile.

William E. Barton Collection of Lincolniana, Department of Special Collections.

The Library's printed copy of the Emancipation Proclamation bears the signatures of President Abraham Lincoln, Secretary of State William H. Seward, and presidential aide John G. Nicolay. It is one of forty-eight copies printed at the initiative of Charles Godfrey Leland and George H. Boker and offered for sale at the Great Central Sanitary Fair in Philadelphia in June 1864. The photographic facsimile shown here can be compared with the signed original on display in the inner Special Collections gallery alcove case.

Abraham Lincoln. Emancipation Proclamation.

[Philadelphia: F. Leypoldt, ca. June 6, 1864]. Printed signed document.

Barton Collection of Lincolniana, Department of Special Collections.

The Library's printed copy of the Emancipation Proclamation bears the signatures of President Abraham Lincoln, Secretary of State William H. Seward, and presidential aide John G. Nicolay. It is one of forty-eight copies printed at the initiative of Charles Godfrey Leland and George H. Boker and offered for sale at the Great Central Sanitary Fair in Philadelphia in June 1864.

Vincent Colyer. *Brief Report of the Services Rendered by the Freed People to the United States Army in North Carolina.* New York: Vincent Colyer, 1864.

William E. Barton Collection of Lincolniana, Department of Special Collections.

Ira Berlin, Thavola Glymph, Steven Miller, Joseph P. Reidy, Leslie S. Rowland, and Julie Saville, editors. *Freedom: Documentary History of Emancipation, 1861-1867. Selected from the Holdings of the National Archives of the United States. Series I, The Destruction of Slavery. Volume III. The Wartime Genesis of Free Labor. The Lower South.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990.

Library General Collection.

Ira Berlin and his associate editors, including Julie Saville of the University of Chicago faculty, have selected hundreds of historical documents for publication in five thematic series: the destruction of slavery; relations of land, capital and labor; race relations; the African-American community; and the military experience. This project includes much newly discovered material from the African-American community.

U.S. Senate. *Reports. Testimony taken by the Joint Select Committee to Inquire into the Condition of Affairs in the Late Insurrectionary States. The Ku Klux Klan Conspiracy. South Carolina, Volume III.* Washington. D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1872.

Library General Collection.

The U.S. Senate's Joint Select Committee's report on affairs in several former Confederate states was commonly called the "Ku-Klux Conspiracy Report." The final document comprised thirteen volumes with testimony taken in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, and Alabama. Witnesses provided vivid accounts of organized brutality, lynching, and intimidation of southern blacks.

"On Negro Schools." Illustrated by Porte Crayon. *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*, September 1874.

Gift of J. S. Marshall. Library General Collection.

Harper's New Monthly Magazine was one of the most widely circulated and influential magazines of mid-nineteenth-century America. Flourishing most notably prior to the development of the cheap daily press, it functioned very much as a news magazine of the day, with brief stories, political reports, etc., in addition to longer articles on literature, science, art, travel and exploration, and history.

Thomas Holt. *Black Over White: Negro Political Leadership in South Carolina During Reconstruction.* Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1979.

Purchased from the Benjamin E. Gallup Memorial Fund. Library General Collection.

University of Chicago professor Thomas Holt is a specialist in the history of the African diaspora. His study of Jamaica's economy, politics, and society after slavery, *The Problem of Freedom: Race, Labor, and Politics in Jamaica and Britain, 1832-1938*, was awarded the Elsa Goveia Prize by the Association of Caribbean Historians. Holt's work on the comparable period in the American South after emancipation, *Black Over White: Negro Political Leadership in South Carolina during Reconstruction*, was awarded the Charles S. Sydnor Prize by the Southern Historical Association.

Charles Vincent. *Black Legislators in Louisiana During Reconstruction.* Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1976.

Purchased from the Benjamin E. Gallup Memorial Fund. Library General Collection.

The New Orleans Tribune = La Tribune de la Nouvelle-Orleans, August 31, 1866.

Gift of the Library Society. Library Microform Collection.

Published daily in French and English, the *Tribune* was a published voice of New Orleans black residents of mixed African and French descent. The *Tribune* is part of a collection of African-American newspapers on microfilm held by the Library. The microfilm set, comprising 169 reels, was a recent gift of the Library Society.

CASE 7.

Henry Ossian Flipper. *The Colored Cadet at West Point: Autobiography of Lieut. Henry Ossian Flipper, U.S.A., First Graduate of Color from the U.S. Military Academy.* New York: Homer Lee & Co., 1878. Reproduction from microfilm of reprint edition by Johnson Reprint Corporation.

Library Microform Collection.

Born a slave in Georgia, Henry Flipper (1856-1940) won an appointment to West Point and in 1877 became the first cadet to graduate and win a commission. Flipper later served in an all-black cavalry regiment on the Texas frontier. There Flipper was court martialed and dismissed from the Army for allegedly mismanaging funds. In 1976 the Army granted him a posthumous honorable discharge.

George W. Williams. *History of the Negro Race in America, 1619-1880*. New York: Arno Press and The New York Times, 1968. Reprint of 1883 edition.

Acquired on the Benjamin E. Gallup Memorial Fund. Library General Collection.

George Washington Williams (1849-1891) the first significant African-American historian, published his two-volume *History of the Negro Race in America, 1619-1880* in 1882. In his last years Williams became active in international anti-slavery work. His tour of the Congo and condemnation of King Leopold's harsh rule marked one of the earliest attacks on Belgian colonialism in Africa.

John Hope Franklin. *George Washington Williams: A Biography*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1985.

University of Chicago Press Collection, Department of Special Collections.

John Hope Franklin (1915-), John Matthews Manly Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus in the Department of History, is the author of many monographs, among them an influential account of African-American history, *From Slavery to Freedom: A History of Negro Americans*. Early in his career Franklin read George Washington Williams' landmark *History of the Negro Race in America*, and for years sought material on Williams' poorly documented but intriguing life and career. After decades of research, Franklin at last published his biography of Williams in 1985.

Ida B. Wells. "Chapter IV: The Lynching," Ida B. Wells manuscript autobiography.

Ida B. Wells Papers, Department of Special Collections.

Ida B. Wells (1862-1931) began writing for an African-American weekly in Memphis and then became co-owner of a black newspaper. When her press was destroyed by a white mob, she moved on to write for the *New York Age* and other papers, exposing lynching and injustices suffered by African-Americans. Frequently consulted by researchers using the Ida B. Wells Papers, her vivid autobiography and the diary on which it was based have been republished in several recent editions.

Booker T. Washington and the Tuskegee Institute, newspaper clippings, 1913.

Scrapbook 14, Julius Rosenwald Papers, Department of Special Collections.

Chicago philanthropist Julius Rosenwald devoted much of his energy and fortune to social reform organizations, civil rights issues, the NAACP, and the construction of schools in the isolated rural black areas of the South. Rosenwald's papers reveal his close association with a wide range of progressive social and political leaders and his enduring friendship with Booker T. Washington.

CASE 8.

W. E. B. Du Bois. *The Philadelphia Negro: A Social Study*. Philadelphia: Published for the University of Pennsylvania, 1899.

Library General Collection.

“Along the Color Line.” *The Crisis*, December 1913.

Library General Collection.

“The Saga of L’Amistad: The Woodruff Frescoes, Savery Library, Talladega College.” *Phylon: The Atlanta University Review of Race & Culture*. Volume II, 1941.

Library General Collection.

The lengthy career of W. E. B. Du Bois (1868-1963) produced notable works such as *Suppression of the African Slave-Trade to the United States* and *The Souls of Black Folk* as well as the pioneering sociological study *The Philadelphia Negro*. As editor of *The Crisis*, the official journal of the NAACP, and founder of *Phylon* at Atlanta University, Du Bois extended his thought and influence through periodical literature to a wide middle-class black and progressive white audience.

U.S. Senate. *Affray at Brownsville, Texas, August 13 and 14, 1906: Proceedings of a General Court-Martial...*
Washington: Government Printing Office, 1908.

Library General Collection.

On the night of August 13, 1906, hundreds of shots were fired into buildings in Brownsville, Texas, killing one man and injuring two others. President Theodore Roosevelt's inspector general concluded that at least some of the black soldiers at nearby Fort Brown must have been guilty and recommended that they all be discharged on the assumption that even the innocent must have had guilty knowledge. Roosevelt dismissed all the African-American soldiers without honorable discharges. Not until 1973 were the soldiers granted honorable discharges, although by then only one was still alive.

The Journal of Negro History. Volume I, 1916. Carter G. Woodson, editor.

Library General Collection.

Carter Woodson (1875-1950), a graduate of the University of Chicago, founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915. With the sponsorship of the Association, and using his own resources, he founded the *Journal of Negro History*, remaining its editor until his death. The *Journal* quickly became a well-respected and influential professional serial. Woodson also published four monographs on African-American history, five textbooks, five collections of source materials, and numerous articles and special studies.

Marcus Garvey. *The Marcus Garvey and Universal Negro Improvement Association Papers. Volume II: 27 August 1919 - 31 August 1920.* Robert A. Hill, editor. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1983.

Acquired on the Benjamin E. Gallup Memorial Fund. Library General Collection.

Marcus Garvey (1887-1940) founded the largest mass movement in black history, the Universal Negro Improvement Association. By 1920 the UNIA had hundreds of chapters worldwide, and Garvey's Black Star shipping line was carrying passengers between the United States and the Caribbean and Africa. The financial collapse of the Black Star Line in 1921 and the failure of Garvey's expansive plan for a Liberian colony contributed to the unraveling of the UNIA. Though his last years were spent in obscurity, Garvey's ideal of a redeemed and emancipated Africa continued to carry influence.

CASE 9.

I. C. Harris. *The Colored Men's Professional and Business Directory of Chicago.* Chicago: I. C. Harris, 1885, 1886.

Purchased from the Herman and Fannie Feldstein Memorial Book Fund. Rare Book Collection, Department of Special Collections.

The Chicago Defender, December 11, 1920. Reproduction from microfilm.

Library Microform Collection.

Founded in Chicago in 1905, and covering Chicago events fully, the Chicago Defender systematically covered brutal incidents of racism in the South. By encouraging southern blacks to come north for better paying jobs and living conditions, it became a significant factor in the Great Migration. Despite the efforts of Southern whites to try to stop distribution of the Defender by preventing its sale or harrasing those who possessed a copy, the Defender was distributed by railroad porters and was shipped to more than 1,500 Southern town. The Defender continues as a Chicago and national institution.

Chicago Commission on Race Relations. The Negro in Chicago: A Study of Race Relations and a Race Riot. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1922.

University of Chicago Press Collection, Department of Special Collections.

St. Clair Drake. Churches and Voluntary Associations in the Chicago Negro Community. Chicago: Work Projects Administration, 1940.

Library General Collection.

St. Clair Drake and Horace R. Cayton. *Black Metropolis: A Study of Negro Life in a Northern City*. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1945.

Rare Book Collection, Department of Special Collections.

St. Clair Drake and Horace Cayton, two of a significant group of black scholars trained at the University of Chicago, contributed important new perspectives to the study of contemporary African-American life and institutions. The University of Chicago supported the development of African-American studies in other essential ways, especially through the publication of works in history, sociology, and public policy that have appeared under the imprint of the University of Chicago Press.

CASE 10.

***The Messenger: The World's Greatest Negro Monthly*, November 1923.**

Library General Collection.

A. Philip Randolph and Chandler Owen, editors of *The Messenger*, claimed that it was "The Only Radical Negro Magazine in America." Randolph and Owen championed socialism and decried mainstream African-American leaders, conservative black Republican politicians, and pastors who preached that "the meek will inherit the earth." *The Messenger* ran numerous stories, poems, and sketches by principals in the Harlem Renaissance. By 1928, when the periodical was discontinued, Randolph had turned his energy to organizing the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

***The Brownies' Book*, April 1920. Reproduction from microfilm.**

Library Microform Collection.

W. E. B. Du Bois and his business manager, Augustus Dill, organized a company in 1920 to publish *The Brownies Book*, a children's magazine promoting universal brotherhood and self-respect among African-American children. Du Bois wanted to educate black children about African-American history and accomplishments, and to instill a "code of honor and action in relations with white children." Du Bois was satisfied with enthusiastic reception of *The Brownies Book*, but the economic depression following World War I brought the publication to an end.

"When a Negro Moves Next Door," *Saturday Evening Post*, April 4, 1959.

Library General Collection.

"John Hope Franklin at Cambridge," *Ebony*, September 1963.

Library General Collection.

Chicago publisher John H. Johnson launched *Ebony* in November 1945, patterning it after *Life* and *Look*, the leading photo-journalistic magazines of the period. *Ebony* reported on the everyday achievements of blacks in every walk of life from Harlem to Hollywood. More than mirroring the brighter side of African-American life, however, Johnson's editorials encouraged *Ebony's* readers to think politically in terms of economics rather than race. *Ebony* came to be one of the most reliable sources of news on the civil rights movement and was recognized as a leader in African-American media.

CASE 11.

Malcolm X. *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*. New York: Grove Press, 1965.

Library General Collection.

The posthumously published *Autobiography* of Malcolm X (1925-1965) is one of the most famous life stories of any American. A petty criminal until his life was transformed in prison by the teachings of Elijah Muhammad, Malcolm became a minister of the Nation of Islam. Malcolm X's powerfully expressed message of black self-esteem and independence made him a major transforming cultural figure.

Philip S. Foner, editor. *The Black Panthers Speak*. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1970.

Library General Collection.

Organized in Oakland, California in 1966, the Black Panther Party captured instant media attention by combining militant Black Power rhetoric with overt brandishing of automatic weapons and confrontations with police. Pressured by the FBI's covert counterintelligence program and local police raids, and crippled by the violent deaths of several leaders and the imprisonment of many more, the Black Panthers by 1968 had lost much of their influence.

***Black Elected Officials: A National Roster.* Washington, D.C.: Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies Press, 1990.**

Library General Collection.

The 1990 edition of the *Roster* listed 7,370 black elected officials, more than five times the number in 1970, when the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies began its surveys. In 1970, the South had 53 per cent of the black population, but only 39 per cent of the black elected officials. Under the impact of the Voting Rights Acts, by 1990 the South had 60 per cent of the African-American population of the nation and 68 per cent of the black elected off

Michael S. Durham. *Powerful Days: The Civil Rights Photography of Charles Moore.* New York: Stewart, Tabori & Chang, 1991.

Gift of Belle Friedman. Library General Collection.

Martin Luther King, Jr. *The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr. Volume I: Called to Serve, January 1929-June 1951.* Clayborne Carson, Senior Editor. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1992- .

Library General Collection.

As the founding president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968) led the largest civil rights demonstrations in American history. King's leadership and devotion to Gandhian non-violence dramatized the struggle for equal rights and was a key factor in bringing about the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The published set of King's papers includes letters and school papers from his early years, formal addresses and sermons, and impromptu talks and daily memoranda from the civil rights movement.

Langston Hughes. *A New Song: A Collection of Poems.* New York: International Workers Order, 1938.

Modern Poetry Collection, Department of Special Collections.

The Library's Modern Poetry Collection began as a bequest of Harriet Monroe, the founder and editor of *Poetry*, a Chicago magazine that led and promoted a revolutionary transformation in modern verse. Included with the Modern Poetry Collection's books, magazines, and editorial records are the letters, manuscripts, and published works of the freshest new voices of their day, Langston Hughes (1902-1967) among them. Reflecting his unswerving admiration for African-American culture, Hughes's poems showed rich invention in fusing the rhythms of jazz and blues with the traditions and patterns of black speech and imagery.

Toni Morrison. *Beloved.* New York: Penguin Group, 1987.

The William Vaughn Moody Collection, Presented by Mrs. Edward Morris. Library General Collection.

Beginning with her novels of the 1970s, Toni Morrison (1931-) has demonstrated a remarkable ability to interweave literary, mythic, and folk elements as she writes about significant periods in black history and formative experiences of black characters. Her compellingly poetic prose style adds to the power of her stories. *Beloved*, which won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction, depicts the haunting aftermath of slavery for a people and an individual. In 1993 Morrison became the first African-American to win the Nobel Prize for Literature. She is currently in the first year of a three-year appointment as Visiting University Scholar that will bring her to campus for six weeks each year to lecture and to participate in workshops and conferences.

James Baldwin. *Blues for Mister Charlie: A Play.* New York: Dial Press, 1964.

Library General Collection.

Much of the writing of James Baldwin (1924-1987) – novels, short stories, plays, essays, and poems – was autobiographical, drawing on the tensions of his strict religious upbringing, his battles with a disapproving father, the forces of race and sexuality, and the smothering effects of conventional assumptions of American life. Baldwin left Harlem for Paris when he was twenty-four, and in the last decade of his life he commuted between American college campuses, where he was a frequent lecturer, and his home in St. Paul de Vence in the south of France.

Lenwood G. Davis. *A Paul Robeson Research Guide: A Selected Annotated Bibliography.* Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1982.

Purchased from a Fund Established through the Generosity of the Sterling Morton Charitable Trust. Library General Collection.

Actor and singer Paul Robeson (1898-1976) was a staunch friend of the Soviet Union, an opponent of Fascist forces in the Spanish Civil War, and a defender of the rights of oppressed European Jews. Denounced by the House Un-American Activities Committee during the McCarthy period and held under close scrutiny by U.S. government agencies, Robeson nonetheless lived long enough to see himself rediscovered as a cultural and political hero.

Stephen Longstreet. *New Year's Nite, Hi Low Club, Chicago, 1938.*

Stephen Longstreet Collection, Department of Special Collections.

Stephen Longstreet provides his readers with sharp observations of Chicago's most respected and notorious figures: the politicians, playboys, gamblers, reformers, madams, hoodlums, preachers, and tycoons who have given the city its unmistakably distinctive character. Longstreet's colorful night club sketches are equally adept at depicting a world of singers and jazz players making a new kind of music that perfectly captured the rhythms of its time.

Art Ensemble of Chicago. *Live at Mandel Hall.* Recorded live at Mandel Hall, University of Chicago, January 15, 1972. Sound recording. Delmark Records, 1974.

Gift of Robert G. Koester, Jazz Institute of Chicago Collection. Chicago Jazz Archive.

***Chicago Front for Jazz Presents Joseph Jarman & the Art Ensemble of Chicago in Concert.* Ticket. Mandel Hall, University of Chicago, January 15, 1972.**

Gift of Jamil B. Figi, Jazz Institute of Chicago Collection. Chicago Jazz Archive.

Established in 1976, the Chicago Jazz Archive is one of the Library's newest and fastest growing research collections. Its holdings document the birth of "Chicago style" jazz from the late 1910s through the 1920s, as well as more recent styles and variations found in Chicago's jazz clubs, festivals, and music halls. Among the Archive's collections are oral histories; sound recordings, audio and video tapes; printed and manuscript parts for stock arrangements; piano sheet music; correspondence; interviews; scrapbooks, photographs, books, and periodicals; and many other forms of original jazz material.

***Art Ensemble of Chicago, Sat. April 26, Mandel Hall.* Poster. University of Chicago, Festival of the Arts, 1975.**

Gift of Jamil B. Figi, Jazz Institute of Chicago Collection. Chicago Jazz Archive.
