



# Smithsonian

*Anacostia Community Museum*

Laurence Potter Book Collection, circa 1885-1969.

ACMA.06-106

Carrie Gehrler

2011

Anacostia Community Museum Archives  
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<https://anacostia.si.edu/collection/archives>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Anacostia Community Museum Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Laurence E. Potter Book Collection
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1885-1969
<b>Identifier:</b>	ACMA.06-106
<b>Extent:</b>	17.1 Linear feet ((123 books))
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	This collection, which dates from circa 1885-1969, contains 123 books written by or concerning African-Americans and African-American history. The books are a mix of fiction and non-fiction; several volumes of the journal American Heritage are also present.

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

Donated by Mr. and Mrs. Terry McGurk in 2004.

### Preferred Citation

Laurence E. Potter book collection, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution, gift of Mr. and Mrs. Terry McGurk.

### Restrictions

Use of the materials requires an appointment. Please contact the archivist at [acmarchives@si.edu](mailto:acmarchives@si.edu).

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## Biographical Note

Laurence E. Potter (1917-1998) was an American economist and civil rights activist who was involved in a number of community organizations in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. He was actively engaged in the efforts to desegregate the National Theater in the 1940s and worked for several decades with the Goodwill of Greater Washington.

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## Formatted Contents

The Negro almanac, 1967 -- Black Genesis -- The magic island -- Black majesty, the life of Christophe, king of Haiti [2 copies] -- Tales of land of death: Igbo folktales -- To make a poet black -- God's trombones; seven Negro sermons in verse -- Uncle Tom's children, five long stories -- Native son [4 copies] -- Welcum hinges -- Wakaima and the clay man and other African folktales -- Black laughter -- Scarlet sister Mary [2 copies] -- Nigger heaven [2 copies] -- Lost morning... [2 copies] -- Bright skin [3 copies] -- The grass is singing -- The peculiar institution: slavery in the ante-bellum South -- The African slave trace, precolonial history 1450 to 1850 -- Polished ebony -- The Negro family in Chicago -- Tell me, Josephine -- Flight-- Twenty-two years of

freedom -- Playtime in Dixie -- American Heritage: the magazine of history -- Nigeria in costume -- Before the Mayflower: a history of Black America [2 copies] -- Goodbye to Uncle Tom -- Stars fell on Alabama [2 copies] -- Marching blacks, an interpretive history of the rise of the black common man -- South of freedom -- Black Hamlet -- Following the color line: American Negro citizenship in the progressive era -- The impending crisis, 1848 - 1861 -- Lincoln and his party in the secession crisis -- The autobiography of an ex-coloured man -- Little Mr. Thimblefinger -- The classic slave narratives -- Uncle Tom's cabin; or, life among the lowly -- Neighbor Jackson -- Black majesty -- In the land of Jim Crow -- Black boy, a record of childhood and youth [3 copies] -- A man called White, the autobiography of Walter White -- The power of black -- And then we heard the thunder -- The book of Negro folklore -- Shop and class at Tuskegee... -- Soul clap and hands sing -- The mark of oppression; explorations in the personality of the American Negro -- Black April [3 copies] -- Black Muslims in America -- Porgy [2 copies] -- Mamba's daughters [6 copies] -- Peter Ashley -- The road to Canaan -- The making of a statesman -- Brown Americans, the story of a tenth of the nation -- Daughter of strangers -- Jim Crow America -- The Negro family in the United States -- Mr. Lincoln and the Negroes; the long road to equality -- Dusk of dawn; an essay toward an autobiography of a race concept -- What the Negro thinks -- Tell me how long the train's been gone -- John Henry [3 copies] -- uncle Remus and his friends: old plantation stories, songs and ballads -- Uncle Remus returns -- Uncle Remus, his songs and his sayings; the folk-lore of the old plantation -- Faubus' folly; the story of segregation -- The uncalled -- Manchild in the promised land -- Black like me -- Desegregation and the law; the meaning and effect of the school segregation cases -- Message to the Black man in America -- Narrative of the life of Frederick Douglass -- Nat Turner's slave rebellion: together with the full text of the so-called "confessions" of Nat Turner -- Black ivory, being the story of Ralph Rudd... -- Mandingo -- The black sun -- Falconhurst fancy -- Drum [3 copies] -- The Southern temper -- Green winter -- The myth of the Negro past -- Readings from Negro authors, for schools and colleges, with a bibliography of Negro literature -- Free Joe, and other Georgian sketches -- From slavery to freedom; a history of American Negroes.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

### Subjects:

African Americans -- Fiction  
African Americans -- History  
African Americans -- Religion  
African Americans -- Social conditions  
American literature -- African American authors  
Slavery -- United States

### Types of Materials:

Books