



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Susie Paige Afro-American Greeting Card Collection

NMAH.AC.0263

Vanessa Broussard-Simmons



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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Susie Paige Afro-American Greeting Card Collection
Date:	1900-1984 (bulk 1960-1984)
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0263
Creator:	Paige, Susie (bookseller) (Collector)
Extent:	0.3 Cubic feet (1 box)
Language:	English .
Summary:	Collection primarily consists of greeting cards and postcards but also includes political literature and a high school diploma relating to African Americans and their history and culture in American society.

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

National Museum of American History purchased the collection from Susie Paige, of the Corner Store, in 1985. The collection includes a single card (circa 1918) and a rhyme book donated by Mr. Russell C. Carey.

Related Materials

Materials in the Archives Center

Program in African American Culture NMAH.AC0408

African American Portrait Tintypes NMAH.AC0515

African American Snapshots NMAH.AC0732

African American Cosmetic and Food Label Collection NMAH.AC0480

Warshaw Collection of Business Americana, subject Afro-Americana NMAH.AC0060

African American Family Photograph Collection NMAH.AC1127

Scurlock Studio Records NMAH.AC0618

David Hoffman/Boaz Postcard Collection NMAH.AC0281

Processing Information

Collection processed by Vanessa Broussard-Simmons, 1985.

Preferred Citation

Susie Paige Afro-American Greeting Card Collection, 1900-1984, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Restrictions

The collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

Susie Paige, a Philadelphia bookseller, collected the materials over three decades.

Scope and Contents

The collection documents African American people, their history, and culture in American Society. Most of the materials are greeting cards and postcards. These materials contain both positive and negative images of African Americans with a few items illustrating how white society portrayed them for mainstream culture. Most of the materials, however, are intended for the African American consumer market and present black people and their customs in a more favorable light. Many of the images are of people that were considered the leaders of the black community including political, religious, and cultural figures. It is also notable for the holidays and events in African American history that are documented. There are also hand-held fans used as advertisements on one side and images of black Americans on the other side. In addition, there is a high school diploma, political literature, and sheet music. The bulk of the material was created after 1960 with images of events and people dating from the turn of the 20th century.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in one series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Political literature

Types of Materials:

Diplomas
Greeting cards
Postcards

Names:

Corey, Russell C.
King, Martin Luther, Jr., 1929-1968

Container Listing

Box 1, Folder 1	Graham Colored High School, diploma, undated
Box 1, Folder 3	Greeting card, image of Martin Luther King Jr. , undated
Box 1, Folder 5	Greeting cards, all occasion, undated
Box 1, Folder 6	Greeting cards, images of African American personalities, undated
Box 1, Folder 9	Greeting cards, Kwanza, undated
Box 1, Folder 2	Hand fans, images of African Americans, undated Image(s): Fans with Afro-American Images
Box 1, Folder 1	<p>Advertising hand fan, images of African American leaders, black-and-white photographic reproductions, circa 1970-1980 1 Item (Ink on paper.; 12" x 8".) Image(s): New Black Leaders [hand fan with six black-and-white photo reproductions] Collector: Paige, Susie (bookseller) Advertiser: North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company Language: English. Notes: AC0263-0000001 (AC Scan) Obverse contains reproductions of portraits of African American mayors Howard N. Lee, Robert B. Blackwell, Carl B. Stokes, Clyde Foster, Charles Evers, and Walter Washington. On reverse of fan is an advertisement for North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company; photographers unidentified.</p> <p>Names: Lee, Howard N. Blackwell, Robert B. Stokes, Carl B. Foster, Clyde Evers, Charles Washington, Walter, Mayor</p> <p>Topic: Politicians -- 1970-1980 Mayors -- 1970-1980</p> <p>Genre/Form: Photographs -- 1970-1980 -- Reproductions Portraits -- African American men Fans (costume accessories)</p>
Box 1, Folder 10	Nursery rhymes card, stereotypical image of African Americans
Box 1, Folder 4	Political literature and song sheet, undated
Box 1, Folder 7	Postcards, images of African American personalities, undated
Box 1, Folder 8	Postcards, images of events in African American history, undated