



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Toussaint Louverture Collection

NMAH.AC.0781

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Toussaint Louverture Collection
Date:	1801-1805 undated
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0781
Source:	National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Cultural History (Collector)
Creator:	Toussaint Louverture, Francois Dominique, 1743-1803 (Author)
Extent:	8 Items
Language:	Original manuscript letter in French; captions on portraits in French.

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition unknown.

Provenance

Collection transferred to the Archives Center by the Division of Cultural History (now Division of Cultural and Community Life), May 18, 2001.

Processing Information

Collection unprocessed.

Preferred Citation

Toussaint Louverture Collection, undated and 1801-1805, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted research access on site by appointment.

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Biographical / Historical

Haitian slave revolt leader. Alternate spelling of name: L'Ouverture.

Scope and Contents

Eight items relating to the Haitian slave revolt leader Toussaint L'Ouverture: a manuscript letter signed by him (accompanied by translation), and seven portraits of him (two watercolors and five prints).

Scope and Contents

Letter, cat. no. 1980.0679.08:,Manuscript, 1 sheet, pre-printed official letterhead stationery, to Mr. Tobias Lear, general agent of U.S. trade in Santo Domingo, 25 November 1801, in which he thanks Lear for a translation of a letter concerning obtaining a horse for him. Toussaint Louverture emphasizes several times that the color of the horse is of no significance as long as the horse is swift.

Arrangement

1 series.

Bibliography

Some of the portraits are illustrated in the exhibition catalog by Fritz Daguillard, "Enigmatic in His Glory: Toussaint Louverture (1743-1803)", Musee du Pantheon National Haitien, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, 28 March-22 April 2003 (copy in collection control file).

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Haiti -- History -- Revolution, 1791-1804
Prints -- 19th century
Slavery -- Haiti

Types of Materials:

Correspondence -- 1800-1810
Holographs
Paintings
Portraits
Signatures (names)
Watercolors

Names:

National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Cultural History

Places:

Haiti