

Special Collections at Yale

Are you looking for original primary sources for your senior essay? Take advantage of Yale's incredible holdings in the various special collections on campus.

- **Browse these resources to get a sense of what is available:**
 - Descriptions of Yale repositories: http://www.library.yale.edu/special_collections
 - Database of archival collections and manuscripts: <http://webtext.library.yale.edu/>
 - Orbis, the online catalog, which contains brief records describing collections at Yale (Use "More Limits" function and limit by "Item Type" to "Archives and Manuscripts"): <http://orbis.library.yale.edu>
- **Feel free to contact the reference staff at the libraries that hold materials relevant to your subject area (see reverse of this handout for contact info.) Tell them what you are interested in pursuing and they will alert you to relevant collections.**
- **See below for some examples of essays that have been written over the past few years based on special collections materials held at Yale.**
- **See on the reverse for some examples of collections that would be good candidates for senior essay research.**

BEINECKE RARE BOOK AND MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY:

"Schooling the Indian: Richard Henry Pratt and His Students at Carlisle"

"Mapping the West: Washington Hood and the Corps of Topographic Engineers"

"Mirabeau B. Lamar and the Republic of Texas"

"Creating Tacoma: The Northern Pacific Rail Road Selects a Western Terminus"

DIVINITY LIBRARY

"From Practical Philanthropy to Social Ethics: Jerome Davis, Liston Pope, and the Evolution of the Social Gospel"

"Ginling College: the Implicit Feminism of Women's Mission Work in China"

"To Save China: Wu Yi-fang and Christian Chinese Nationalism, 1927-1937"

"From Healer to Physician: The Hackett Medical College & Educating Chinese Women Doctors"

MEDICAL HISTORICAL LIBRARY

"Their Own Civil War: the Struggle of Homeopathic Physicians in the United States Army to Achieve Medical Pluralism, 1861-1865."

"Yellow Fever in New Haven, 1794"

YALE ART GALLERY

"Printmaking and Artistic Theory in the Venetian Renaissance"

MANUSCRIPTS & ARCHIVES

"From the 'Bland Leading the Bland' to the Mississippi Freedom Vote"

"Walking the Line of Diplomacy: The Mutual Failures of Chester Bowles and the United States in India, 1951-1969"

"What's in a Name: the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, 1965-1972"

"Disclosure of Holocaust Experiences: Reasons, Attributions, and Health Implications"

"Hiram Bingham and the Lost Treasures of Machu Pichu: Popular Archaeology, Imagined Imperialism and National Press in the Yale Peruvian Expeditions"

Use these email addresses to contact the reference staff at the various repositories.

ARTS LIBRARY

jae.rossman@yale.edu

BEI NECKE RARE BOOK & MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY:

beinecke.library@yale.edu

CENTER FOR BRITISH ART:

elisabeth.fairman@yale.edu

DIVINITY LIBRARY:

divinity.library@yale.edu

LEWIS WALPOLE LIBRARY:

walpole@yale.edu

MANUSCRIPTS & ARCHIVES
At Sterling Memorial Library

mssa.assist@yale.edu

MEDICAL HISTORICAL
LIBRARY:

toby.appel@yale.edu

MUSIC LIBRARY:

musiclibrary@yale.edu

ORAL HISTORY, AMERICAN
MUSIC:

deborah.bellmore@yale.edu

YALE ART GALLERY:

susan.matheson@yale.edu

BABYLONIAN COLLECTION:

ulla.kasten@yale.edu

Some examples of collections relevant to:

AFRICAN AMERICAN & ETHNIC AMERICAN HISTORY

See also: http://www.library.yale.edu/special_collections/essays.html

ORAL HISTORY, AMERICAN MUSIC:

Interviews with Eubie Blake: The Oral History, American Music archive (OHAM) holds hundreds of interviews with leading figures in American music, many of whom are African Americans or ethnic Americans. Eubie Blake, the son of slaves, grew up to be a leading ragtime pianist and composer. OHAM's director, Vivian Perlis, conducted a number of interviews with Eubie Blake, and OHAM holds all this material. Students and scholars point out that hearing the sound of the subject's voice brings a human dimension to their study.

MANUSCRIPTS & ARCHIVES, STERLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY:

Brown vs. the Board of Education Collection: Interview notes, correspondence, clippings, copies of court transcripts and briefs assembled by Richard Kluger for his book, *Simple Justice: Brown vs. Board of Education*. Kluger's interview notes, taken either in person or by mail, with over one hundred people make up the core of the collection. Especially full materials are available for Alexander Bickel, Hugo L. Black, Esther Brown, Linda Brown, John W. Davis, Felix Frankfurter, William H. Hastie, Kenneth B. Clark, Charles H. Houston, Thurgood Marshall, William H. Rehnquist, and Earl Warren. Kluger's copies of the correspondence files of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) relating to this case are also included in the collection, as are two unpublished manuscripts by Phyllis Kluger: an article, "A Short History of Education in the United States," and a book, *A Long History of Negro Education*.

John Collier Papers. John Collier was born on May 4, 1884 in Atlanta, Georgia. Collier also served as United States Commissioner of Indian Affairs from 1933-1945, established the Institute of Ethnic Affairs and served as its president in 1945, and taught sociology and anthropology at City College in New York City (1947) and Knox College in Illinois (1955-1956). He published several major books and articles on the American Indians until his death in Taos, New Mexico, on May 8, 1968. The papers consist of correspondence, subject files, writings, memoranda and reports, research materials, and miscellanea, documenting the personal life and professional career of John Collier. His service with the American Indian Defense Association (A.I.D.A.), as United States Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and as a teacher and author is detailed. Correspondence files include materials with leading political, literary, and social figures. Drafts of books, articles, essays, reviews, and poetry are supplemented with extensive subject files and research materials. Files relating to the Institute of Ethnic Affairs include substantive correspondence and memoranda. The papers of anthropologist Laura Thompson, Collier's second wife, are also arranged in the papers, and date from 1945-1956.

MUSIC LIBRARY:

John Rosamond Johnson Papers: Johnson (1873-1954) and his brother James Weldon Johnson composed "Lift Every Voice and Sing." The John Rosamond Johnson Papers document Johnson's varied career as a composer, actor, vaudeville performer, and administrator. The Papers contain sketches, manuscript scores, and published editions of Johnson's musical compositions and arrangements. The correspondence includes letters to and from Johnson and family members, musicians, writers, and political figures. Johnson's life and work are further documented by: programs, newspaper clippings, and advertisements; diaries and scrapbooks; photographs; business and financial records; and miscellaneous items.

BEINECKE RARE BOOK AND MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY:

James Weldon Johnson Papers: Correspondence files span the years 1904 to 1973 and include not only the correspondence of James Weldon Johnson, but also that of his wife, Grace Nail Johnson, and other members of his immediate family. For most of his life, James Weldon Johnson was at or near the center of black political and cultural activities in the United States; he counted among his friends and associates many leading blacks and whites who were involved in issues of race relations. His brother, J. Rosamond Johnson, was an important musical comedy performer, appearing in both the United States and Europe, and John B. Nail and John E. Nail, his father-in-law and brother-in-law, were leaders in the social and business life of Harlem. Johnson's interests and activities were centered in three principal areas: black literature and music, the political and social advancement of blacks, and education.

DIVINITY LIBRARY:

Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., Mission to American Indians: Microfilm collection of more than 14,000 written by Presbyterian missionaries describing their work among native Americans in the United States (1833-1893). The Board of Foreign Missions, in addition to the Indian Territory missions, established missions among the Chippewas, Ottawas, Dakotas and Sioux in the North; among the Iowas, Omahas, Otoes, Sac and Fox tribes in the Midwest; among the Nez Perce, Sioux and Spokans in the Northwest; among the Navajos, Apaches, Pueblos and Pimas in the far Southwest.