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Introduction

The American Negro Historical Society was founded in 1897 by a group of Philadelphia blacks to study and preserve materials documenting the American black experience. Among the founders and early members were Robert Adger, W. M. Dorsey and Jacob C. White, Jr., who donated materials to the society, some of which are present in the collection. Included are minutes of the society, 1897-1904; incoming correspondence and drafts, 1897-1905; membership lists [1897] and 1904; bills and receipts, 1900-1904; and land accession books.

Among the materials collected by the society and presented by Leon Gardiner, Philadelphia printer, are the records of several civic and philanthropic organizations: Banneker Institute, minutes kept by Jacob C. White, Jr., 1854-1859, roll books, 1854-1872, first begun as the roll of the Alexandrian Institute, receipts, 1855-1868, checkbook, 1867-1872, and record of lectures and debates, 1859-1861, some of which dealt with the place of the black in American society; Benezet Joint Stock Association of Philadelphia, a mutual beneficial society, minutes, 1854-1885, share records, 1871-1889, and payment orders, 1871-1885; Agricultural and Mechanics Association of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, constitution, 1839, continued as stock transfer book, 1840-1846, and stock certificate book, 1840-1844; Cultural, Social and Statistical Association of the Colored People of Philadelphia, constitution, by-laws, roll and minutes, 1860-1867, and payment orders, 1860-1867; Lebanon Cemetery, Philadelphia, letterbooks, Jacob C. White, Jr., secretary, 1874-1886, accounts, 1849-1867, burial vouchers, 1855-1901; Benjamin Lundy Philanthropic Society, roll book, 1830-1842; Daughters of Africa, beneficial society, minutes, 1822-1838, and payment order book,

1821-1829; Pennsylvania State Equal Rights League, executive board minutes, 1864-1872; and Frederick Douglass Memorial Hospital (Philadelphia), records, 1895-1901.

Also included are the records of several schools and churches: First African Presbyterian Church, miscellaneous correspondence and accounts, 1832-1846; Second African Presbyterian Church, correspondence, bills and receipts about its Sabbath School, 1832-1838; Zoar Sabbath School, catalogue of the library, 1844, continued as circulation record; records of the Roberts Vaux Consolidated School, 1870-1901.

Also included are correspondence and schedules of the Philadelphia Pythians, a black baseball club, 1867-1870; miscellaneous correspondence and broadsides of such organizations as the Philadelphia Library Company and the Colored People's Union League Association, and several letters and speeches of Isaiah C. Wares, 1856-1901, and Jacob C. White, Sr. and Jacob C. White, Jr., 1832-1899, some autographed material of Benjamin Banneker, 1790-1891, and Frederick Douglass, 1870-1875.

Gift of Leon Gardiner, 1934.

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	0191	Sep-Dec 1865
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	0504	Reprinted League material
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		and NJ
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	0539	List of Shareholders
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		Rules, and Index
		Bannecker Institute
	0690	Minute Book, 1853-1855
	0720	Minute Book, 1855-1859
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	0856	Roll Book, 1866-1872
	0878	Treasury Receipt Book, 1855-1868
	0916	Order Book, 1867-1872
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4	Ameri	can Negro Historical Society Collection, 1790-1905
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	0061	Minutes and Reports, Jan-Apr 1857
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	0131	Minutes and Reports, Jan-Feb 1858
	0199	Minutes and Reports, Mar-Jul 1858
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	0830	Bills & Receipts, Jun 1861-Feb 1863
	0854	Fragmentary material relating to the Institute
	0913	Printed programs
	0929	Manuscript of John H. Johnston (incomplete)
	0963	Anonymous Lectures
	1015	Lectures by Prof. Jacob C. White, Jr.
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		Daughters of Africa Society
	1051	Minute Book, 1822-1838
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2 (cont	t'd) 1145	Benjamin Lundy Philanthropic Society 1120 Roll Book, 1830-1842 Account Book, 1838-1842
		Addendum Bannecker Institute, 1853-1855
3	0002 0060 0123 0157	Benezet Joint Stock Association Minutes, 1854-1855 Board of Directors Minutes, 1854-1885 Record Book of Shares, 1871-1889 Order Book, 1871-1885
	0193 0217 0239 0546 0692	Lebanon Cemetery Receipt Book, 1848-1853 Account Book, 1851-1867 Letterbook of J. C. White, 1874-1881 Letterbook of J. C. White, 1881-1886 Cemetery notes, 1825-1869
4	0002 0052 0087 0215 0323 0433 0511 0619 0667 0676 0720	Cemetery notes, 1870-1875 Cemetery notes, 1875-1879 Cemetery notes, 1880-1883 Cemetery notes, 1884-1885 Cemetery notes, 1886-1892 Cemetery notes, 1894-1897 Cemetery notes, 1898-1901 Cemetery notes, n.d. Copies of death certificates, 1864-1884 Letters and misc. correspondence, 1859-1901 Printed material, 1873-1901
	0732	lave Holders Ledger, 1835-1841

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4 (cont'd)	Social, Civic, and Statistical Association of the Colored People of PA
`	0845	Circular, Preamble & Constitution, Minutes Exec. Committee
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	1018	Negro Soldiers of Pennsylvania
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5	0002	Bills & Receipts, 1836-1838
9	0064	Bills & Receipts, 1839-1841
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	1165	Letters to J. C. White, as principal of R. Vaux School, 1893-1894
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6	0002	Letters, 1872-1898
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	0113	R. Vaux School miscellaneous
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6 (cont'd	0380 0) 0409	Bills & Receipts, 1875-1898 Personal Papers
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	0533 0553	Biographical Information Envelopes, Postcards & Scrapbooks
		Isaiah C. Wears
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	0661	Letters, 1855-1891
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•	0028	Membership, 1867-1869
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	0732	Miscellany
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	0861	Misc. printed matter
	0901	Misc. tickets and flyers
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