



ArchivesSpace

# **Woodson (Minnie S. ) Family Genealogical Collection**

## **An inventory of Minnie S. Woodson Family Genealogical Collection at DC Public Library**

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on September 08, 2020.

English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

DCPL Special Collections - MLK Library

901 G Street NW

Washington, DC

[archives.dcpl@dc.gov](mailto:archives.dcpl@dc.gov)

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	DCPL Special Collections - MLK Library
<b>Creator:</b>	Woodson, Minnie Shumate, 1921-1994
<b>Title:</b>	Minnie S. Woodson Family Genealogical Collection
<b>ID:</b>	091
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1842-1994
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1 Linear feet
<b>Physical Description:</b>	2 Boxes
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English

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## Biographical / Historical

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For many years, the Woodson family has contended that their relative, Thomas Woodson, was the oldest son of President Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings. Oral tradition and correspondence lent credence to this claim and helped bring it to the attention of the administrators of Jefferson's estate, Monticello. Although DNA tests were inconclusive, after much research and discussion, Thomas Woodson was added as a potential child of Jefferson. This was due, in part, to Minnie Shumate Woodson's research and writings. After graduating from Dunbar High School in 1937, Woodson went on to attend Miner's Teacher College and George Washington University. She later worked as an elementary school teacher and served as the president of the Washington, D.C. School Board. Minnie became part of the Woodson family when she married John Stanton Woodson, son of noted civil engineer Howard Woodson (the namesake of Woodson High School). She became intrigued by the family stories about Thomas Woodson and Thomas Jefferson. She began research into the family's history and eventually published two works: *The Sable Curtain* and *The Woodson Family Source Book*.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection consists of materials collected by Minnie S. Woodson while researching the history of the Woodson family, including items such as clippings, census records, family trees, articles, photographs, correspondence, and newsletters. Of particular interest is information regarding the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society newsletter.

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## Arrangement

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Processed without series. The folders are arranged alphabetically by topic.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

DCPL Special Collections - MLK Library

901 G Street NW  
Washington, DC  
[archives.dcpl@dc.gov](mailto:archives.dcpl@dc.gov)

### Revision Description

Finding aid title changed from Minnie S. Woodson and Woodson Family Collection to Minnie S. Woodson Family Genealogical Collection. Finding aid revised to be more evergreen. 2020-08-5

### Custodial History

John Woodson donated the collection of his wife's research materials to the DC Public Library in July 1994.

### Processing Information

Basic archival processing procedures were applied to the collection when it was processed.

## Conditions Governing Use

No known restrictions.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Materials

Collection 093, H. D. Woodson and Metropolitan A. M. E. Church Collection.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Genealogy
- African American families
- African Americans
- Photographs
- Newsletters
- Correspondence

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## Collection Inventory

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Series 1		
Title/Description	Instances	
Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society - Book Order Forms, 1982-1986	Box 1	Folder 1
Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society - Journal, 1986	Box 1	Folder 2
Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society - Newsletter, 1978-1986	Box 1	Folder 3
Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society - Newsletter Notes, 1980-1986	Box 1	Folder 4

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society - Programs, 1985	Box 1	Folder 5
Brodie, 1974-1980	Box 1	Folder 6
Callaloo (Poetry about Ally Hemmings), 1983	Box 1	Folder 7
Clewell Family, Undated	Box 1	Folder 8
Clippings, 1980-1991	Box 1	Folder 9
Reverend John Lewis Cohorn, 1989	Box 1	Folder 10
Correspondence, 1944-1985	Box 1	Folder 11
Family Tree - Jefferson Family, Undated	Box 1	Folder 12
Family Tree - Woodson, Undated	Box 1	Folder 13
Family Tree - Woodson - Smith Branch, Undated	Box 1	Folder 14
Famous Black Americans (autographed), 1975	Box 1	Folder 15
"The Fort Robinson YMCA, 1974	Box 1	Folder 16
Goochland County - Virginia, Undated	Box 2	Folder 1
Greenbriar Family Line, Undated	Box 2	Folder 2
Lewis A. Leach, 1934	Box 2	Folder 3
Library of Congress - Searching the Local History and Genealogy Room, Undated	Box 2	Folder 4
List of Free Black Heads of Families in the First Census, 1973	Box 2	Folder 5
New Images - Newsletter, 1986	Box 2	Folder 6
Officer's Clubs, 1985	Box 2	Folder 7
Pennsylvania Abolition Society Guide, 1976	Box 2	Folder 8
Personal Property Tax Studies, Undated	Box 2	Folder 9
Record of Black and Mulatto Persons in Jackson County - Ohio, 1961	Box 2	Folder 10
Carter G. Woodson, Undated	Box 2	Folder 11
Woodson Family - Alabama, Undated	Box 2	Folder 12
Woodson Family - Article, 1977	Box 2	Folder 13
Woodson Family - Article, 1994	Box 2	Folder 14
Woodson Family - Cumberland County, Undated	Box 2	Folder 15
Woodson Family - Frances Line, Undated	Box 2	Folder 16
Woodson Family - Highgate Branch – Canada, 1981	Box 2	Folder 17
Woodson Family - Jemima Line, Undated	Box 2	Folder 18

Woodson Family - Lewis Line (with photographs), 1842-1980	Box 2	Folder 19
Woodson Family - Link to Thomas Jefferson, 1991-1992	Box 2	Folder 20
Woodson Family - Newsletter, 1987-1991	Box 2	Folder 21
Woodson Family - Photographs (copies, Undated	Box 2	Folder 22
Woodson Family - Source Book - Bills, 1982	Box 2	Folder 23
Granville Lewis Woodson (with photograph), 1974	Box 2	Folder 24
Minnie S. Woodson - Obituary, 1994	Box 2	Folder 25
Minnie S. Woodson - Oral History, Undated	Box 2	Folder 26
Minnie S. Woodson - The Sable Curtain - Outline, 1981	Box 2	Folder 27
Minnie S. Woodson - The Sable Curtain - Research, 1981	Box 2	Folder 28
Thomas Wesley Woodson, 1916	Box 2	Folder 29

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