

MS-267: Charles M. Austin Collection

Collection Number: MS-267

Title: Charles M. Austin Collection

Dates: 1871, 1981-1999

Creator: Austin, Charles Mosley, 1938-2016

Summary/Abstract: The Charles M. Austin Collection documents the results of Mr. Austin's extensive research on African-American history in the Miami Valley, and particularly in Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio. His papers include recorded speeches, interviews and articles.

Quantity/Physical Description: .75 linear feet and 181 Megabytes

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, OH
45435-0001, (937) 775-2092

Restrictions on Access: Due to preservation concerns, original audiocassettes cannot be played in the reading room. Patrons may have access to reference copies. Items without reference copies can be digitized at the request of a patron for the cost of creating a digital copy. Please provide us at least two weeks advance notice if you would like to request an audio reference copy. Call (937) 775-2092 or e-mail us at archives@www.libraries.wright.edu. Use of digitized content is subject to conditions governing use.

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Preferred Citation:

[Description of item, Date, Box #, Folder #], MS-267, Charles M. Austin Collection, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Acquisition: The items were purchased by Wright State University Special Collections and Archives from Charles M. Austin on a variety of dates, the most recent items were received in February 2005.

Existence and Location of Copies:

Four of the audiocassette tapes are available as MP3 digital files in the E-archives (ms267_e0001).

Other Finding Aid:

The finding aid is available on the Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries web site at <https://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms267.pdf>. It is also available in the OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository at <http://ead.ohiolink.edu/xtf-ead/>.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements: A computer is needed to access the MP3 files.

Related Material:

The following publications by Charles Austin are available in the reading room:

Austin, Charles M. *Historical Record of African Americans in Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio: Beginning in 1802*. Dayton, OH: The author, 1997. Print. Oversize F497.M7 A97 1997

Austin, Charles M. *Paul Laurence Dunbar's Local Roots*. Dayton, Ohio: C.M. Austin, 1988. Print. PS1557 .A87 1988

Austin, Charles M, and James B. George. *Paul Laurence Dunbar's Roots and Much More: A Scrapbook of His Life and Legacy*. [Miamisburg, OH] (230 S., Second St., Miamisburg 45342: Miamisburg News, 1989. Print. PS1557 .A88 1989.

Austin, Charles M. *A Detailed and In-Depth Talk About African-American History in Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio*. Dayton, OH: Sense of Roots Publications, 1987. Sound recording. E185.93 .O2 A97 1987.

Austin, Charles M. *History of Black People in Dayton and Montgomery County: 1802 November - 1887 July*. Place of publication not identified: publisher not identified, 1986. Print. E185.93 .O2 1986.

Processed by: John L. Armstrong, March 2005

Revisions: Finding aid revised to DACS standards and digital files of four audiocassettes added to the collection by Toni Vanden Bos, April 2019.

Arrangement: Arranged chronologically.

Biographical/Historical Note:

Charles M. Austin was born in 1938 in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He moved Dayton, Ohio as a child in 1942 and lived there until his death on January 13, 2016. He attended Roosevelt High School, graduating in 1955, and served in the U.S. Air Force. Charles was a Dayton-area African-American historian, author, and guest lecturer. As an author, he wrote a number of newspaper articles, pamphlets, and books on African-American history in the Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio area. His books include a nine volume set entitled "The Historical Record of African American in Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio: Beginning in 1802-1920." Other books include "Black People in Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio from

November 1802-July 1887: The Beginning of a Legacy,” and “Paul Laurence Dunbar’s Roots and Much More: A Scrapbook of His Life and Legacy.” He has also written articles for newspapers on historical themes including the repeal of Ohio’s “Black Laws,” crime in the Dayton area during the 1800s, the history of the segregated school district in the Dayton Public School System, and major events and celebrations in the Dayton area during the 1800s. Finally, he has written a number of booklets including “Travelin’ in Th’ Footsteps: Fourth and Main Streets...Memories, Pride, Honor, A Corner of Respect,” “Cast Down Your Bucket Where You Are,” and “Travelin’ in Th’ Footsteps...The Dayton Youth Movement.”

Along with being an author, Mr. Austin guest lectured for local colleges and high schools, and appeared at community events to discuss Afro-American history and politics. He also discussed African-American history and politics as a guest expert for a number of local radio and Television stations. Many of these lectures and guest appearances are documented in this collection.

Scope and Content Note:

The Charles M. Austin Collection documents the results of Mr. Austin’s extensive research on African-American history in the Miami Valley, and particularly in Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio. The radio programs and lectures recorded on the audiocassettes cover a wide-range of topics including African-American social history, achievements of African-Americans in the Dayton area, particular Paul Laurence Dunbar, and the racial climate in the Miami Valley beginning in the early part of the 19th century. A detailed description of the topics on the tapes can be found in Box 1, File 2.

Subject Terms

Persons/Families

Dunbar, Paul Laurence, 1872-1906

Austin, Charles Mosley, 1938-2016

Places

Dayton (Ohio) -- History

Subjects (General)

African American – Ohio – Montgomery County -- History

African American – Ohio – Dayton -- History

African American authors – Ohio -- Dayton

Material Types

Speeches

Audiocassettes

Files (digital files)

Collection Inventory

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	General Information about Charles M. Austin	undated
1	2	Detailed description of audiocassette tape topics	undated
1	3	Booklet with Articles—Black History Month, “Cast Down Your Bucket Where You Are”	undated
1	4	Dayton Journal clippings related to 15 th Amendment	1871 April 21
2	1	“Black History Awareness, An In-Depth Talk” From a Radio Program on WYSO-FM (30 Min.)	1981 February 4
2	2	“Dayton, Ohio: Black History—Neighborhood Patterns” Radio Program: Community Contact on WTUE-FM (30 Min.) <i>MP3 available in E-Archives ms267_e0001.</i>	1981 February 2-March 1
2	3	“Dayton, Ohio Area’s Black History” WDAO-FM “Back Page” Program (60 Min.) <i>MP3 available in E-Archives ms267_e0001.</i>	1981 June 14
2	4	“Dayton, Ohio Area’s Black History—Before 1900’s” WDAO-FM “Back Page” Program (Parts 1 & 2)	1984 January 22
2	5	“Dayton, Ohio Area’s Black History—Before 1900’s” WDAO-FM “Back Page” Program (Parts 3 & 4)	1984 January 22
2	6	“Methodology Used to Research African American History” “WHIO Report,” Radio Station WHIO-FM (30 Min.)	1986 October 26
2	7	“Why the African American Church is Relevant” Black History Month Speech at Wright-Patterson AFB (15 Min.)	1989 February 7
2	8	Black History Month Speech, “Dayton’s Black Legacy” Tabernacle Baptist Church (30 Min.)	1989 February 12
2	9	“Dayton, Ohio Area Black History” WHIO-AM “John Rapp” Program (60 Min.) <i>MP3 available in E-Archives ms267_e0001.</i>	1989 February 19
2	10	“Dunbar and Race Relations,” Speech at Wright-Patterson AFB (30 Min.)	1991 May 8
2	11	“Paul L. Dunbar’s Message, Race Relations—A Role Model—Family Structure,” Speech at Carillon Historical Park (60 Min.)	1991 July 28
2	12	“Paul L. Dunbar: The Spiritual Meaning of His Legacy,” Speech at Dunbar Homestead, Dayton, OH (32 Min.) <i>MP3 available in E-Archives ms267_e0001.</i>	1991 November 25
2	13	“Paul Laurence Dunbar’s Trials and Tribulations to Publish <i>Oak and Ivy</i> ”	1992
2	14	“Paul Laurence Dunbar: The Man and His Message—His Meaning and Significance to the Ages,” Speech at Greater Dayton Library (Main Branch) (65 Min)	1992 March 8

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
2	15	“Paul L. Dunbar’s Trials and Tribulations to Publish his First Literary Works,” City of Dayton’s Centennial Year Celebration of Dunbar’s Book, <i>Oak and Ivy</i> (30 Min.)	1992 December 22
2	16	“Paul L. Dunbar and his marriage”, Speech to an English Class at Sinclair College (35 min.)	1993 February 25
2	17	“The True Historical Relationship Between Paul Laurence Dunbar and the Wright Brothers”	1994
2	18	“The Link Between Crime of African Americans in Dayton in 1940’s and the 1990’s,” Speech to the Concerned Christian Men (An Advocacy Group to Help Youth) (30 Min.)	1994 February
2	19	“Paul L. Dunbar’s Determination to Achieve Success Over Adversity,” Speech to Class at Dayton Job Corps Center (27 Min.)	1994 February 11
2	20	“History of Black People Within the Dayton, Ohio Area,” DATV Program “A Few Good Men” (60 Min.)	1994 February 13
2	21	“Education in the Colored School District in Dayton, Ohio” During the 1800’s, Speech at McClendon Institute (35 Min.)	1994 September 29
2	22	“African American Presence in the Following Townships: Butler, Wayne, Mad, Harrison—in the 1800’s,” Speech to Members and Guests at Victory United Methodist Church, Northridge, OH (30 Min.)	1997 September 17
2	23	“Searching for African American Roots: A Methodology,” Talk at Miami Valley Genealogical Jamboree, Piqua, OH (40 Min.)	1998 April 5
2	24	“History of Black Politics Within the Dayton Area: From 1820’s through 20 th Century.” (A Lecture/Talk to a Political Science Class at Wright State University) (40 Min.) (2 Copies)	1999 June 2
2	25	“True Relation Ship Between Paul L. Dunbar and the Wright Brothers (Orville and Wilbur),” Report to the 2003 Committee	undated
2	26	Truths: Revealed, Myths: Exposed” Lecture/Talk to a Political Science Class at Wright State University	undated
2	27	Revisited, “Paul L. Dunbar, Role Model to Emulate” Lecture/Talk to a Political Science Class at Wright State University	undated