

Henry Butler collection
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Finding aid prepared by Dustin Witsman

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Shorefront Legacy Center

May 31, 2012

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Summary Information

Repository Shorefront Legacy Center

Title Henry Butler Collection

Date [inclusive] 1880-1989

Extent 0.25 Linear feet

Language English

Abstract Henry Butler (1860-1957) was an African American businessman who lived most of his life in Evanston, Illinois. From 1891 to 1912 he ran the Butler Livery, a livery and teaming business. In 1912, Butler switched to automobiles and ran a fleet of taxis until his retirement in 1922. The Henry Butler collection consists of photocopied material gathered together by Shorefront Legacy Center from various sources concerning Butler and the failed 1980s push to preserve his building. It also includes original photographs.

Biographical/Historical note

Henry Butler (1860-1957) was an African American businessman who lived most of his life in Evanston, Illinois. From 1891 to 1912 he ran the Butler Livery, a livery and teaming business. In 1912, Butler switched to automobiles and ran a fleet of taxis until his retirement in 1922. Butler was also a long-time member of Evanston's Second Baptist Church.

Scope and Contents note

The Henry Butler collection is arranged into two series: "Research Files" and "Photographs." The majority of the collection consists of photocopied material gathered together by Shorefront Legacy Center from various sources. It includes genealogical and biographical materials on Butler as well as photographs, news clippings, and DVD interviews.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Shorefront Legacy Center May 31, 2012

Processing Information note

Processed by CLIR funded Black Metropolis Research Consortium "Color Curtain Processing Project."

Controlled Access Headings

Personal Name(s)

- Butler, Henry, b. 1860

Subject(s)

- African Americans--Illinois--Evanston.
- Taxicabs--United States--History.

Cited Sources

“Henry Butler and the American Dream,” Shorefront Journal. Volume 8, Number 4, Fall 2007.

Series I. Research Files,

Collection Inventory**Series I. Research Files,****Scope and Contents note**

“Research Files” contains material related to Henry Butler's life and family. It also covers the push to preserve his building in Evanston, Illinois.

	Box	Folder
Genealogy Notes, undated	1	1
Biographical, 1906-1992	1	2
Census, Directories, 1880-1909	1	3
Butler Building Preservation, 1982-1989	1	4-5
News Clippings, 1959-1990	1	6
Interview with Christine Dobson by Carol Lems-Dworkin, undated	1	7

Series II. Photographs, undated**Scope and Contents note**

This series contains original photographs of Henry Butler's buildings in Evanston, Illinois.

Series II. Photographs,

	Box	Folder
Photographs	1	8