



The New York Public Library
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

Arnold P. Johnson papers

1937-1995 [bulk 1971-1977]

Sc MG 686

Summary

Creator: Johnson, Arnold P., 1910-1994

Title: Arnold P. Johnson papers

Date: 1937-1995 [bulk 1971-1977]

Size: 0.42 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Unknown provenance; received March 2001.

Abstract: Arnold P. Johnson (1910-1994), a native of Cuba, was a businessman, labor organizer, community activist, a World War II veteran, founder of the Harlem Small Business Chamber of Commerce, and resident of Harlem. The Arnold P. Johnson papers are comprised of printed meeting minutes for community organizations in which Johnson held official or volunteer positions.

Preferred citation: [Item], Arnold P. Johnson papers, Sc MG 686, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Accessioned by Nurah-Rosalie Jeter, September 2001.

Creator History

Arnold P. Johnson (1910-1994), a native of Cuba, was a businessman, labor organizer, community activist, a World War II veteran, and resident of Harlem. Johnson was known as "Mr. Harlem" because of his "tireless efforts to encourage economic self-empowerment and entrepreneurship in the Harlem community". He presided over, or held memberships, in several community organizations and corporations. In addition to his involvement in organizations represented in the papers, Johnson founded the Harlem Small Business Chamber of Commerce; co-founded the State, County, and Municipal Workers of America Trade Union; and co-owned Etienne's Fashions boutique with his wife, Etienne Johnson. He was also the first Black trustee of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Scope and Content Note

The Arnold P. Johnson papers are comprised of printed meeting minutes for community organizations in which Johnson held official or volunteer positions. Among these organizations are Community Board 11 of Manhattan, the Greater New York Coordinating Committee for Employment, the Harlem Urban Development Corporation, the New York State Urban Development Corporation, the Small Business Development Association, and the United Negro Bus Association. There are also a few newspaper clippings about Harlem.

Arrangement: Arranged in chronological order.

Key Terms

Subjects

African American businesspeople -- New York (State) -- New York
African American labor union members -- New York (State) -- New York
African American political activists -- New York (State) -- New York
Black author
Business enterprises -- New York (State) -- New York
Businesspeople -- New York (State) -- New York
Community activists -- New York (State) -- New York
Community organization -- New York (State) -- New York
Labor unions -- Organizing -- New York (State) -- New York
Small business -- New York (State) -- New York

Geographic Names

Harlem (New York, N.Y.) -- Economic conditions
Harlem (New York, N.Y.) -- Race relations
Harlem (New York, N.Y.) -- Social conditions

Names

Johnson, Arnold P., 1910-1994
Harlem Urban Development Corporation
New York State Urban Development Corporation

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Emergency Relief Bureau dismissal 1936-1937
- b. 1 f. 2 Greater New York Coordinating Committee for Employment 1941
- b. 1 f. 3 The Rivertonian/Riverton 1955-1956
- b. 1 f. 4 Resume 1964
- b. 1 f. 5 Small Business Development Association 1965
- b. 1 f. 6 Community Planning Board, no. 11 1965
- b. 1 f. 7 HARYOU-Act, Board of Directors meeting minutes 1966
- b. 1 f. 8 Uniform Fashion Show (BARCO) 1968
- b. 1 f. 9 Community Involvement in Creative Education, Inc 1970
- b. 1 f. 10 New York State Urban Development Corporation (UDC) 1971
- b. 1 f. 11 Proposed ten year development program for Harlem 1973
Boards of Directors meeting minutes
- b. 1 f. 12 1972
- b. 1 f. 13 1973
- b. 1 f. 14 1974
- b. 1 f. 15 1975
- b. 1 f. 16 1976
- b. 1 f. 17-18 Executive Committees meeting minutes 1976-1977
- b. 1 f. 19 Board of Directors list 1986
- b. 1 f. 20 Community Education, Visiting Committee 1982
- b. 1 f. 21 Newspaper clippings on Harlem 1967-1995