INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION

Collection Title: Jacob Lawrence: The Migration Series; exhibition records
Author/Creator: The Phillips Collection Curatorial Department. Elizabeth Hutton Turner, Curator.
Size: 6 linear feet
Inclusive Dates: 1930-1997
Repository: The Phillips Collection Archives

INFORMATION FOR USERS OF THE COLLECTION

Restrictions: The collection contains restricted materials. Please contact Karen Schneider, Librarian, with any questions regarding access.
Preferred Citation: The Phillips Collection Archives, Washington, D.C.
Publication and Reproduction Rights: See Karen Schneider, Librarian, for further information and to obtain required forms.

ABSTRACT

Jacob Lawrence: The Migration Series exhibition records contain materials created by the Curatorial Department of The Phillips Collection, during the course of organizing the exhibition. Included are planning records for the catalogue, exhibition, video and a children’s book.

HISTORICAL NOTE

As stated by museum director Charles Moffett in the forward to the exhibition’s catalogue, “This exhibition commemorates an important moment in the history of American painting, in the history of The Phillips Collection and The Museum of Modern Art, and in the history of this country.” This exhibition was the first since 1971 to re-unite the entire 60-panel Migration Series.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION

Duncan Phillips was impressed by Jacob Lawrence’s combination of abstraction and socially relevant subject matter and felt it would fit in well with his ever-expanding definition of American Modernism. The Migration Series, although focused on the migration of African Americans from the South to the North, it, as Charles Moffett writes in the exhibition catalogue’s forward, “also addressed matters of migration and immigration that are part of the experience of the nation as a whole.” This is made abundantly clear in this curatorial collection,
particularly in the interviews with and essays by Jacob and Gwendolyn Lawrence, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Lonnie Bunch, Ill and Spencer Crew, Diane Tepfer (a portion of her doctoral thesis on Edith Halpert and the Downtown Gallery may be found in Box 1, folder 12 of the Catalogue Series), Deborah Willis and others. These consultants and others were brought in for planning meetings and interviews that involved not only the exhibition catalogue and the exhibition itself, but also the children’s book and video based on the exhibition. Please note that most of the records of the consultants who wrote essays are in the catalogue series. Additional material on these and the other consultants and some other subjects, including education and events, will be found throughout all five series, due to this crossover.


Records in this collection were created and collected by curatorial staff of The Phillips Collection.

The collection consists of the catalogue, exhibition, children’s book, video planning and production and the research files of The Phillips Collection. These records consist of research materials assembled, as well as catalogue, exhibition, children’s book and video planning and execution documents such as checklists, correspondence, legal and financial records, loan requests and responses, publicity, publishing, reviews, schedules and audio/visual records.

**CUSTODIAL HISTORY AND ACQUISITION INFORMATION**

This collection is owned by The Phillips Collection, and was accessioned from the curators’ offices in accordance with the museum’s records schedule.

**PROCESSING AND DESCRIPTION INFORMATION**

**Date Processed:** December 6, 2010 through February 7, 2011

**Processed By:** Valerie Vanden Bossche, Volunteer, supervised by Karen Schneider, Librarian

**Processing Notes:** After an initial survey of the collection, some duplicate materials were identified and a number of documents were identified as of no future reference value for the collection. In discussion between the librarian and the processor, approval was given to weed these documents. Boxes and folders containing restricted materials were marked with a red dot (see note above re ‘restrictions’). Metal paperclips were removed and replaced with plastic
clips. Post-lts were copied if necessary, otherwise removed. All documents were re-folded in acid free folders and placed in acid-free boxes.

**NOTE:** Lender files are restricted and have been omitted from this version of the Finding Aid; they may be viewed at The Phillips Collection Library with the permission of Karen Schneider, Librarian.

**Finding Aid Written By:** Valerie Vanden Bossche, Volunteer, supervised by Karen Schneider, Librarian  
**Encoded By:** Sarah Osborne Bender, Cataloging and Technical Services Librarian  
**Encoding Method:**

**RELATED MATERIAL**

Milwaukee Art Museum  
700 N. Art Museum Drive  
Milwaukee, WI 532002  
Tel: 414-224-3200  
e-mail: mam@mam.org  
website: [www.mam.org](http://www.mam.org)  
Library: 414-224-3270 or library@mam.org

Portland Art Museum  
1219 SW Park Ave.  
Portland, OR 97205  
Tel: 503-226-2811  
e-mail: info@pam.org  
website: [www.portlandartmuseum.org/index/cfm](http://www.portlandartmuseum.org/index/cfm)  
Library: 503-276-4215 or library@pams.org

Birmingham Museum of Art  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
Tel: 205-254-2565  
e-mail: museum@artsbma.org  
website: [www.artsbma.org](http://www.artsbma.org)  
Library: 204-254-2565 x3944 or library@artsbma.org

St. Louis Art Museum  
One Fine Arts Dr.  
Forest Park, MO 63110-1380  
Tel: 314-721-0072  
contact form: [http://www.slam.org/Visit/contactForm.php](http://www.slam.org/Visit/contactForm.php)  
website: [www.slam.org](http://www.slam.org)  
Library: 314-655-5252 or library@slam.org
Museum of Modern Art
11 West 53 St.
New York, NY 10019
Tel: 212-708-9400
e-mail: info@moma.org
website: www.moma.org/
Archives: 212-708-9617 or archives@moma.org

High Museum of Art
1280 Peachtree St., NE
Atlanta, GA 90309
Tel: 404-733-4444
e-mail: www.high.org/main.ta?p=8,7
website: www.high.org/

Denver Art Museum
100 W 14th Ave. Pkwy
Denver, CO 80204
Tel: 720-865-5000
e-mail: www.denverartmuseum.org/contact
website: www.denverartmuseum.org/

Chicago Historical Society
Clark St. at North Ave.
Chicago, IL 60614-6099
Tel: 312-642-4600
e-mail:
website: www.chicagohs.org/

Dixon Galleries and Gardens
4339 Park Ave.
Memphis, TN 38117
Tel: 901-761-5250
e-mail: www.dixon.org/index.php?option=com_wrapper&Itemid=65
website: www.dixon.org/

Arkansas Art Center
9th and Commerce
P.O. Box 2137
Little Rock, AR 72203-2137
Tel: 501-372-4000
e-mail: info@arkarts.com
website: www.arkarts.com/

Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
515 Malcolm X Blvd.
ARRANGEMENT OF THE COLLECTION

The collection is organized as five series:

Series 1: Catalogue planning and production
Series 2: Exhibition planning and production
Series 3: Children’s book planning and production
Series 4: Video planning and production
Series 5: Research

The original alphabetical arrangement of all Series was retained. Documents within all folders have been arranged chronologically. The Catalogue Planning and Production Series is comprised of 2 document boxes; the Exhibition Planning and Production Series is comprised of 5 document boxes; the Children’s Book planning and production Series is comprised of one-half of a document box; the Video planning and production Series is comprised of one-half of a document box and one large box of audio/visual physical elements; the Research Series is comprised of 2 document boxes.

Box Inventory

Series 1 Description: Catalogue Planning and Production 1991–1994 and undated

Series 1 consists of correspondence, essayists, financial, legal, publisher records and rights and permissions files.

Box 1

Folder 1 Catalogues sent, 1993 and undated
Folder 2 Consultant – possible – Lewis, David, 1992
Folder 3 Correspondence – general, 1991-1994 and undated
Folder 4 Education consultant – Spinner, Connie, 1992
Folder 5 Essayist – Bunch, Lonnie, 1991-1993 [restricted]
Folder 6 Essayist – Crew, Spencer, 1991-1993 [restricted]
Folder 7 Essayist – Gates, Dr. Henry Louis, Jr., 1991-1993 [restricted]
Folder 9 Essayist – possible – Nathanson, Nick, 1992
Folder 10 Essayist – Steele, Elizabeth, 1991-1993 [restricted]
Folder 14 Lawrence, Jacob – re-production rights, 1993
Folder 15 Photographs, 1992 and undated
Folder 16  Publisher proposals, 1992-1993 and undated  
Folder 17  Publisher – Rappahannock Press correspondence and review, 1992-1993  
Folder 18  Publisher – Rappahannock Press – signed contract, 1993 [restricted]  

Box 2  
Folder 1  Rights and Permissions – general correspondence and reports, 1993 and undated  
Folder 2  Rights and Permissions - Amistad Research Center, 1993  
Folder 3  Rights and Permissions – Archives of American Art [Smithsonian], 1993 and undated  
Folder 4  Rights and Permissions - Bettman Archive, 1993 and undated  
Folder 5  Rights and Permissions – Fisk University (Rosenwald Fund Application), 1993  
Folder 6  Rights and Permissions – Fortune Magazine, 1993  
Folder 11  Rights and Permissions – National Archives, 1992-1993  
Folder 12  Rights and Permissions – National Audio Visual Center, 1993  
Folder 15  Rights and Permissions – Steele, Elizabeth, 1993  
Folder 16  Rights and Permissions – Terry Dintenfass, Inc., 1993  
Folder 17  Rights and Permissions – Van Der Zee, James, 1992-1993 and undated  
Folder 19  Southwest Art Magazine request, 1993  

Series 2 Description: Exhibition Planning and Production 1987–1997 and undated  
Series 2 consists of checklists, consultants, correspondence, education and events, financial and legal, funding, installation, lender, meeting, press release and publicity, research, schedule and venue files.
Box 3

Folder 1 Brochure, 1993 and undated
Folder 2 Budgets, 1991-1993 and undated [restricted]
Folder 3 Captions, 1993 and undated
Folder 4 Checklists, 1993 and undated [restricted]
Folder 5 Comment book, 1993-1994
Folder 6 Conservation, 1994 and undated
Folder 7 Consultant – Lawrence, Jacob, 1991
Folder 8 Consultant packets, 1992
Folder 9 Consultants – possibles, 1987-1992
Folder 11 Consultant – Sims, James, 1991-1993
Folder 12 Correspondence – general, 1992-1996 and undated
Folder 13 Correspondence – Lawrence, Jacob and Gwen, 1990-1993
Folder 14 Education and Events Planning – correspondence and reports, 19990-1993
Folder 15 Education Events – budget, 1992, 1993 and undated [restricted]
Folder 16 Education Events – funding, 1990-1994 and undated
Folder 17 Events – brochure, 1993
Folder 18 Events – children’s art exhibit, 1993 and undated
Folder 19 Events – Congressional Black Caucus reception, 1993
Folder 20 Events – D.C. Schools Programs, 1993 and undated

Box 4

Folder 1 Events – An Evening with Jacob Lawrence and Gwendolyn Knight Lawrence, UDC, 1993 and undated
Folder 2 Events – An Evening with Jacob Lawrence and Gwendolyn Knight Lawrence, UDC – contracts, 1993 [restricted]
Folder 3 Events – Family Free Day, 1993, 1994 and undated
Folder 4 Events – Opening guest lists, 1993
Folder 5 Events – Patron’s dinner, 1993
Folder 6 Events – Research, 1987-1994 and undated
Folder 7 Francine Seders Gallery – materials requested, 1993
Folder 8 Funding – D.C. Community Humanities Council, 1990-1993 and undated
Folder 9 Funding – Henry Luce Foundation grant – correspondence, 1992-1993
Folder 10 Funding – Leon and Ruth E. Yochelson, 1993
Folder 11 Funding – NEA grant, 1991-1993 and undated
Folder 12 Funding – NEH grant 1 of 2, 1991-1993
Folder 13 Funding – HEH grant 2 of 2, 1993 and undated

Box 5

Folder 1 Funding – Philip Morris, 1991-1994 and undated
Folder 2  Installation – Final wall text, 1993 and undated
Folder 3  Installation – Object labels, story boards, 1993 and undated
Folder 4  Installation – Plans, specifications, schedules etc. 1 of 2, 1993 and undated
Folder 5  Installation – Plans, specifications, schedules etc. 2 of 2, 1993 and undated
Folder 6  Interviews – Lawrence and Henry Louis Gates, transcript, 1992 and undated
Folder 7  Interviews – Lawrence and Studs Turkel, correspondence, 1992
Folder 8  Interviews – Lawrence and Turner, notes, 1992 and undated
Folder 9  Interviews – Lawrence and Beth Turner, transcripts, 1992

Box 6
Folder 1  Katonah Museum of Art – TPC loan to, 1991
Folder 2
Folder 3
Folder 4
Folder 5
Folder 6
Folder 7
Folder 8  Marketing plan, 1993
Folder 9  Merchandise proposal, 1993
Folder 10  Philip Morris License for “Horace Pippin and Jacob Lawrence” video, 1994
Folder 11  Planning meeting 1/15/93 etc., 1990-1993 and undated
Folder 12  Planning notes – Turner, Dr. Elizabeth, undated
Folder 13  Press – releases, banners etc., 1993 and undated
Folder 14  Publicity, 1992-1995 and undated
Folder 15  Reviews, 1993-1994
Folder 16  Schedules – meetings and events, 1993
Folder 17  Tour Schedule, 1993 and undated

Box 7
Folder 1  Venue – Arkansas Art Center, 1995 [restricted]
Folder 3  Venue – Chicago Historical Society, 1993-1996 and Undated [restricted]
Folder 4  Venue - Denver Art Museum, 1993 [restricted]
Folder 6  Venue – High Museum of Art, Atlanta, 1994-1995 [restricted]
Folder 8  Venue materials and memos, 1993 and undated
Folder 10 Venue – MOMA, NY – contracts, 1993 [restricted]
Folder 12 Venue – Portland Art Museum, 1993 [restricted]
Folder 13 Venues – possible, correspondence, 1993-1994

Series 3 consists of awards, publishers, financial and legal documents, proposals and reviews.

Box 8
Folder 1  Awards, 1994
Folder 2  Correspondence – general internal, 1993-1994
Folder 3  Harper Collins publisher – contract, 1993 [restricted]
Folder 5  Lawrence, Jacob – contract, correspondence with TPC, MOMA and Harper Collins, 1992-1993 [restricted]
Folder 6  Lawrence, Jacob – signature, 1993 and undated
Folder 7  MOMA, NY and TPC – contracts, 1993 [restricted]
Folder 8  MOMA, NY and TPC – correspondence, 1991-1993
Folder 9  Proposal and notes, 1992 and undated
Folder 10 Reviews, 1993-1994

Series 4: Video Planning and Production  1992-1994
Series 4 consists of correspondence, credits, financial and legal documents, images laser disc, notebook, planning, proposal, and rights and permissions records.

Folder 11  Correspondence – general, 1992-1994 and undated
Folder 12  Credits, 1993
Folder 13  Images, 1993 and undated
Folder 14  Laser Disc equipment, 1993 and undated
Folder 15  Notebook, 1992 and undated
Folder 16  Planning – correspondence and notes, 1992-1994 and undated
Folder 17  Proposal, 1993 and undated
Folder 18  Rights and permissions, releases, 1993-1994 [restricted]
Folder 19  Staniski Media – contract, 1992-1993 and undated [restricted]
Box 9

28 standard Video Cassettes - titles:
  Jacob Lawrence Phillips Interior sample
  Jacob Lawrence Rough cut without cover footage
  Jacob Lawrence Migration Series Rough Cut June 7, 1993
  Migration Series Seattle Int. w/Jacob Lawrence Reel #1 no time code
  Migration Series Seattle Int. w/Jacob Lawrence Reel #2 no time code
  Migration Series Seattle Int. w/Jacob Lawrence Reel #3 no time code
  Migration Series Seattle Int. w/Jacob Lawrence Reel #4 no time code
  Migration Series Seattle Int. w/Jacob Lawrence Reel #5 no time code
  Migration Series Seattle Int. w/Jacob Lawrence Reel #6 no time code
  Migration Series Seattle Int. w/Jacob Lawrence Reel #7 no time code
  The Phillips Collection Interview with Jacob Lawrence
  Staniski Mono 1/93 Lawrence
  Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series Rough Cut July 7, 1993
  "Migration Series" Interview with Gwen Reel #8 no time code
  Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series Rough Cut With Music 6/21/93 2 copies
  Migration Series Master TPC Installation 11/93
  Project Team Planning Meeting with Jacob Lawrence 9/3/92 Tapes 1 and 2
  Project Team Planning Meeting with Jacob Lawrence 9/3/92 Tapes 3 and 4
  Project Team Planning Meeting with Jacob Lawrence 9/3/92 Tapes 5 and 6
  # 19 and # 20 Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series Int. w/Spencer Crew, 6/14/93
    VHS copy 2 copies
  # 16, # 17 and # 18 "Migration Series" Int. w/Rick Powell, 2/11/93 Copy from betacam 2 copies
  The Making of the Migration Series
  "Jacob Lawrence and the Making of the Migration Series" 18:26
  An evening with Jacob Lawrence, G.K. Lawrence & H.L. Gates, Jr. 10/14/93

2 Beridox commercial video tapes – titles:
  Jacob Lawrence: American Artist
  Jacob Lawrence: American Artist 9 min. Dub

15 standard audio cassettes – titles:
  Jacob Lawrence 6/3/92 Side A tape 1, side B tape 2
  Jacob Lawrence 6/3/92 Side A tape 3, side B tape 4
  Jacob Lawrence 6/3/92 Side A tape 5, side B tape 6
  Jacob Lawrence 6/3/92 Side A tape 7, side B tape 8
  Tape #1 J. Lawrence 1/15/92
  Jacob Lawrence “Migration Series” #2 and #3
  Jacob Lawrence “Migration Series” #4 and #5
  # tapes interview JL Seattle 3 Oct 92 # 6 and #7
  #1 Meeting 1/15/93
  Tape # 2 Lawrence 1/15/93
  Tape #3 1/15/93
Large Reel tape titled:
- Tones @ Tail 1K, 10K, 100Hz
- OVu = t6 (370 nwb/m)
- Tails out
- 0 N.R.

1 Laser Videodisc titled:
- The Making of the Migration Series

**Series 5: Research 1930-1997**
Series 5 consists of research including articles, bibliography, correspondence, images, reviews and copies of miscellaneous items such as a complementary invitation to the Downtown Gallery’s American Negro Art exhibition.

**Box 10**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>“And the Migrants Kept Coming” <em>Fortune</em> XXIV, 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 2</td>
<td>Acquisition records, 1942</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 3</td>
<td>Archival correspondence – Alain Locke to Edith Halpert, 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 4</td>
<td>Archival correspondence – Alain Locke to JL, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 5</td>
<td>Archival correspondence – Downtown Gallery Migration Series Press Release, 1941</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 6</td>
<td>Archival correspondence – Edith Halpert and the <em>Fortune</em> Magazine staff, 1941</td>
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<td>Folder 7</td>
<td>Archival correspondence – Edith Halpert and Mrs. David Levy, 1941, 1942</td>
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<td>Folder 8</td>
<td>Archival correspondence – Edith Halpert to Alain Locke, 1941</td>
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<td>Folder 9</td>
<td>Archival correspondence – Edith Halpert to JL, 1941-1942</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 10</td>
<td>Archival correspondence – from Diane Tepfer, 1940-1946 and undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 11</td>
<td>Archival correspondence – <em>Fortune</em>, 1941, 1942</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 12</td>
<td>Archival correspondence – <em>Fortune</em> to JL July 1, 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 13</td>
<td>Archival correspondence – JL to Edith Halpert, 1941-1942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 14</td>
<td>Archival correspondence - microfilm notes re Migration Series correspondence TW. Edith Halpert and TPC, 1942-1943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 15</td>
<td>Articles, book excerpts, notes, 1937-1992 and undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 16</td>
<td>Baltimore Museum of Art – “<em>Contemporary Negro Art</em>,” 1939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 17</td>
<td>Bibliography, 1944-1995 and undated</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Folder 18 Brown, Milton W., 1938
Folder 19 Chronology Edith Halpert Downtown Gallery, Jacob Lawrence Migration Series by Diane Tepfer, 1992
Folder 20 Chronology of the Harlem Renaissance, undated
Folder 21 Criticism 1938-45, 1938-1945
Folder 22 “Dream Time: Art, Photography and Popular Culture in American during the 1940’s” summary, undated
Folder 23 Exhibition history, 1942, 1944
Folder 24 Exhibition history – newspapers clippings copied from Research Office, 1941-1987
Folder 26 Hills, Patricia – Jacob Lawrence’s Expression of Cubism” [Jacob Lawrence: American Painter], [1986] and undated
Folder 27 Hills, Patricia – Picturing Progress in the Era of Westward Expansion [The West as America], 1991
Folder 28 Jacob Lawrence materials copied from Resource Center, 1940-1992 and undated

Box 11
Folder 1 Lawrence lecture, Philadelphia Museum of Art – notes, 1991
Folder 2 Locke, Alain – The Negro in Art, 1940
Folder 3 on Migration – Downtown Gallery complementary invitation to “American Negro Art” exhibition, [1941]
Folder 5 on Migration – list of the Phillips panels, undated
Folder 6 on Migration – Migration captions, undated
Folder 7 on Migration – Panel No. 1, supplementary text, undated
Folder 8 on Migration – South Today – And the Migrants Kept Coming, 1942
Folder 9 Photo Notes April 1939, 1939
Folder 10 Photo research – images considered, 1992 and undated
Folder 11 Photo research – Fortune Magazine images, 1930-1940
Folder 12 Photo research – Life Magazine articles / images, 1937
Folder 13 Related works, 1991 and undated
Folder 14 Reviews, 1941-1963
Folder 15 Since the Harlem Renaissance: 50 Years of Afro-American Art [exhibition catalog], [1985]
Folder 16 Syracuse University Library materials,
Folder 17 Wheat, Ellen Harkins, undated
Folder 18 Wheat, Ellen Harkins re series format, 1987 and undated
Folder 19 Washington History article, 1992
Folder 20 Woodson, Carter G. – A Century of Negro Migration, 1970