

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

Guide to the

# **Owen Middleton Papers**

1945-1953 Sc MG 152

# **Summary**

Creator: Middleton, Owen

Title: Owen Middleton Papers

**Date:** 1945-1953

Size: 16 items (one folder)

Source: Middleton, Mary, 1982

**Abstract:** Born on March 3, 1888 in Cleveland, Ohio, Owen Middleton was an African-American furniture draftsman and graduate of the Art Institute of Chicago who worked as a quick sketch artist for the Chicago Tribune. Middleton also worked as a syndicated columnist for several African-American newspapers and wrote a weekly newsletter on United Nations issues relating to blacks. Additionally, he served as a volunteer art teacher at a Congress of Industrial Organizations' Community Center in Brooklyn. Owen Middleton died in 1954. Three certificates from the New York City Board of Elections designating Owen Middleton as a Delegate to the 1952 New York State Convention of the American Labor Party, and nine letters of recommendation supporting his application to the title of director of interracial relations at an unnamed institution (1953). Correspondents include: Howard Willard; Arthur Schutzer, New York State Executive Secretary of the American Labor Party; Rev. William Melish, minister of the Church of Holy Trinity in Brooklyn; Marvel Cooke, director of the National Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions; and others.

Access: Advance notice required.

**Preferred citation:** Owen Middleton Papers, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, The New York Public Library

### **Creator History**

Born on March 3, 1888 in Cleveland, Ohio, Owen Middleton was an African-American furniture draftsman and graduate of the Art Institute of Chicago who worked as a quick sketch artist for the Chicago Tribune. Middleton also worked as a syndicated columnist for several African-American newspapers and wrote a weekly newsletter on United Nations issues relating to blacks. Additionally, he served as a volunteer art teacher at a Congress of Industrial Organizations' Community Center in

Brooklyn. Owen Middleton died in 1954.

# **Scope and Content Note**

Three certificates from the New York City Board of Elections designating Owen Middleton as a Delegate to the 1952 New York State Convention of the American Labor Party, and nine letters of recommendation supporting his application to the title of director of interracial relations at an unnamed institution (1953). Correspondents include: Howard Willard; Arthur Schutzer, New York State Executive Secretary of the American Labor Party; Rev. William Melish, minister of the Church of Holy Trinity in Brooklyn; Marvel Cooke, director of the National Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions; and others.

# **Key Terms**

# **Subjects**

African Americans -- Suffrage -- New York (State) Race relations -- United States

### **Titles**

Schomburg NEH Automated Access to Special Collections Project

# **Geographic Names**

United States -- Politics and government -- Caricatures and cartoons

### **Names**

Middleton, Owen American Labor Party. New York State Committee