



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

Guide to the

Aubrey Howard Bowser papers

1885-1943

Sc MG 287

Summary

Creator: Bowser, Aubrey Howard, 1886-1979

Title: Aubrey Howard Bowser papers

Date: 1885-1943

Size: 1.4 linear feet

Source: Gift, Bowser, Elizabeth, 03/20/90

Abstract: The Aubrey Howard Bowser Papers consist primarily of writings, academic and school related papers, and letters. Bower's writings include a manuscript entitled "Black Pilgrim: A Novel of Harlem's Early Life," a short story "Maryelle Rose," poetry, book reviews and critiques. There are also two full runs of the "Rainbow," a weekly literary magazine he edited, 1919-1920.

Access: Advance notice required.

Preferred citation: Aubrey Howard Bowser papers, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, The New York Public Library

Creator History

Aubrey Howard Bowser was a writer, editor and educator. Bowser was born in La Mott, Pennsylvania, a town founded by African American Civil War veterans that were led by his grandfather. He is a 1907 graduate of Harvard College, and later worked at the New York "Age" where he met and subsequently married Jessie Fortune, the daughter of T. Thomas Fortune, editor of the "Age." Bowser's writings included book reviews and literary criticism for the "New York Amsterdam News," poetry, and an unpublished novel entitled "Black Pilgrim: A Novel of Harlem's Early Life." Bowser also taught in the New York City public schools, including at New York Vocational High School, eventually becoming dean of that school. He died in 1979.

Scope and Content Note

The Aubrey Howard Bowser Papers consist primarily of writings, academic and school related papers,

and letters. Bower's writings include a manuscript entitled "Black Pilgrim: A Novel of Harlem's Early Life," a short story "Maryelle Rose," poetry, book reviews and critiques. There are also two full runs of the "Rainbow," a weekly literary magazine he edited, 1919-1920. Academic papers consist of a Harvard College notebook; course lecture notes; papers written for courses taken for his Master's degree and to qualify for a New York City high school teacher's license, 1943; and the publication, "Harvard College Class of 1907 Twenty-fifth Anniversary Report" (1935) in which his picture appears. Included are T. Thomas Fortune's book of poetry, "Dreams of Life" (1905).

Key Terms

Subjects

African American authors
African American college students
African American journalists
African American periodicals
African Americans in the newspaper industry

Titles

Arcobaleno. English
Schomburg NEH Automated Access to Special Collections Project

Names

Bowser, Aubrey Howard, 1886-1979
Fortune, Timothy Thomas, 1856-1928