



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

Guide to the

Booker T. Washington Center for Servicemen records

1943 - 1946

Sc MG 362

Processed by Diana Lachatanere on July 12, 1997 and Janice Quinter on July 15, 2009 and July 8, 2010.

Summary

Creator: Booker T. Washington Center for Servicemen (Staten Island, New York, N.Y.)

Title: Booker T. Washington Center for Servicemen records

Date: 1943 - 1946

Size: .6 linear feet (1 archival box and 1 flat box)

Source: Gift, Dr. John Williams, July 1997

Abstract: The Booker T. Washington Center for Servicemen, located in Stapleton in Staten Island, New York City, opened in 1943. The Center received funding from the New York City Defense Recreation Committee and operated much like a USO club. It provided welfare and recreational facilities for black soldiers and their families who were stationed on or visited Staten Island. The Booker T. Washington Center for Servicemen Records include by-laws, incorporation papers, and minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors (1943 - 1946). The majority of the records, however, are financial, including cashbooks and ledger listing expenditures and receipts as well as budget reports presented to the New York City Defense Recreation Committee. A description of the activities sponsored by the Center is not included in the collection, although occasionally some activities are mentioned in the minutes.

Preferred citation: [Item], Booker T. Washington Center for Servicemen records, Sc MG 362, 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: Processed by Diana Lachatanere on July 12, 1997 and Janice Quinter on July 15, 2009 and July 8, 2010.

Separated Materials:

A large number of financial records consisting of check stubs and receipts for petty cash and purchases made for routine items and services were either donated to the Staten Island Museum or discarded because they were repetitive or did not explain the function and activities of the Center. A small sampling were kept because they mention certain programs sponsored by the Center, such as dances;

indicate purchases of playing cards or table tennis balls; or indicate items that were purchased in Harlem. The dates are 1944 - 1946.

Creator History

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Scope and Content Note

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Key Terms

Subjects

African Americans -- Recreation -- New York (State) -- New York
Canteens (Establishments) -- Recreation -- New York (State) -- New York
Recreation areas -- New York (State) -- New York

Geographic Names

Staten Island (New York, N.Y.)

Names

Booker T. Washington Center for Servicemen (Staten Island, New York, N.Y.)

Container List

Board of Directors

- b. 1 f. 1 Minutes 1943 - 1946
- b. 1 f. 2 Executive Committee

Financial records

- b. 1 f. 3-4 Journals, cash books, and passbook 1944 - 1946
- b. 1 f. 5 Receipts 1944 - 1946
- b. 1 f. 6 Check stubs 1945
- b. 1 f. 7 New York City Defense Recreation Committee budget reports 1943 - 1946
- b. 1 f. 8 Payroll 1944 - 1946
- b. 2 General journals (2) 1944 - 1946
- b. 2 General expense ledger 1944 - 1945
- b. 2 "Hostesses of Booker T. Washington Servicemen's Center" 1944 July 1 - November 7