Guide to the Emma Lee and Jimmie Adams Papers

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Guide to the Emma Lee and Jimmie Adams Papers

Collection number: MS 63

African American Museum & Library at Oakland
Oakland, California

Processed by: Sean Heyliger
Date Completed: 09/18/2013
Encoded by: Sean Heyliger

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Emma Lee and Jimmie Adams papers
Dates: 1951-1959
Collection number: MS 63
Creator: Adams, Emma Lee.
Creator: Adams, Jimmie.
Collection Size: 1 linear foot (2 boxes)
Repository: African American Museum & Library at Oakland (Oakland, Calif.)
Oakland, CA 94612

Abstract: The Emma Lee and Jimmie Adams Papers include personal and business correspondence, financial records, legal records, programs, postcards, business cards, and printed material documenting the personal and business activities of Emma Lee and Jimmie Adams. The papers are organized into five series: correspondence, financial records, legal records, religious activities, and printed material. The bulk of the papers is personal correspondence written to Emma Lee Adams from various relatives in Louisiana, Texas, Ohio, and Chicago, Illinois. Many of the letters are from Emma Lee’s sisters, parents, and cousins and discuss general family matters such as weddings, births, illnesses, and work life.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access
No access restrictions. Collection is open to the public.

Access Restrictions
Materials are for use in-library only, non-circulating.

Publication Rights
Permission to publish from the Emma Lee and Jimmie Adams Papers must be obtained from the African American Museum & Library at Oakland.

Preferred Citation
Emma Lee and Jimmie Adams papers, MS 63, African American Museum & Library at Oakland, Oakland Public Library. Oakland, California.

Processing Information
Processed by Sean Heyliger, 09/18/2013.

Scope and Content of Collection
The Emma Lee and Jimmie Adams Papers include personal and business correspondence, financial records, legal records, programs, postcards, business cards, and printed material documenting the personal and business activities of Emma Lee and Jimmie Adams. The papers are organized into five series: correspondence, financial records, legal records, religious activities, and printed material. The bulk of the papers is personal correspondence written to Emma Lee Adams from various relatives in Louisiana, Texas, Ohio, and Chicago, Illinois. Many of the letters are from Emma Lee’s sisters, parents, and cousins and discuss general family matters such as weddings, births, illnesses, and work life.
The financial and legal records largely relate to Jimmie Adams’ work as a junk and salvage dealer in Oakland, California. The records include bill of sales, insurance policies, and registrations for salvaged vehicles, receipts from various auto mechanics and scrap dealers, and Adams’ pay stubs and tax statements from employers. The religious activities series includes church programs from Ebenezer Baptist Church and an usher ribbon from Mt. Calvary Baptist Church. The printed material series includes an union contract booklet, an insurance policy booklet from the American Cyanamid Company, blank keno cards and rule book, and one issue of the *The Plumb Line G*, a newsletter of the African American masonic temple in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

**Arrangement**

Series I. Correspondence Series II. Financial records Series III. Legal records Series IV. Religious activities Series V. Printed material

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.

African American families--California--Oakland.

**Correspondence**

**Physical Description:** 28 folders

**Series Scope and Content Summary**

Includes correspondence to Emma Lee and Jimmie Adams from various family members and friends. A majority of the letters are from Adams' sisters and cousins living in Homer, Louisiana, Jonesboro, Louisiana, and Chicago, Illinois and discuss general family matters, Emma Lee's health after an operation in 1951. Also included is one folder of junk mail and general business correspondence related to Jimmie Adams' work as a junk dealer.

**Arrangement**

Arranged by correspondent.

Box 1:1 Adams, Jimmie to Emma Lee Adams 1951
Box 1:2 Albert, Mitchell and Bessie 1951-1959
Box 1:3 Barnes, Pearl 1957
Box 1:4 [-], Barnett 1958
Box 1:5 Bell, Isabel 1951, 1958
Box 1:6 [-], Beth and Curtis 1955
Box 1:7 Boggs, Hale 1951
Box 1:8 Chatman, Ivory 1958
Box 1:9 [-], Cleo 1951-1959
Box 1:10 Copeland, Calvin E. 1959
Box 1:11 Copeland, Donzelle 1957-1959
Box 1:12 Cousin Willie 1951-1952
Box 1:13 Duncan, Gladys 1951
Box 1:14 [-], Ellen 1957
Box 1:15 Envelopes 1951-1959
Box 1:16 Green, Preston and Margie 1951-1958
Box 1:17 Greeting cards 1951-1959
Box 1:18 Harris, Rev. H.D. and Velma 1951-1959
Box 1:19 Haskins, Mrs. P.E. 1957
Box 1:20 Littler, Effie 1953
Box 1:21 Mack, Mary K. 1951
Box 1:22 Monk, L.C. 1953
Box 1:23 Powell, Lubertha B. 1957
Box 1:24 Preston, Lithana 1951
Box 1:25 Rainer, Elenora 1951-1957
Box 1:26 White, Edna 1951-1958
Box 2:1 Business correspondence and junk mail 1951-1959
Financial records

Physical Description: 6 folders
Series Scope and Content Summary
Includes bill of sale, pay stubs, receipts, insurance policies, and tax statements related to Jimmie Adams' work as a junk and salvage collector in Oakland, California.

Arrangement
Arranged by format.

Box 2:3 Bill of sale 1956-1958
Box 2:4 Insurance policies 1955-1956
Box 2:5 Notes 1953-1956
Box 2:6 Pay stubs 1952-1958
Box 2:7 Receipts 1953-1958
Box 2:8 Tax statements 1953

Legal records

Physical Description: 3 folders
Series Scope and Content Summary
Includes Jimmie Adams' car registrations and junk dealer license with the city of Oakland.

Arrangement
Arranged by format.

Box 2:9 California Dept. of Motor Vehicles registrations 1954-1957
Box 2:10 City of Oakland junk dealer's license 1956-1957
Box 2:11 Traffic tickets 1953

Religious activities

Physical Description: 1 folder
Series Scope and Content Summary
Includes two church programs from Ebenezer Baptist Church and a Mt. Calvary Baptist Church usher ribbon.

Arrangement
Arranged by format.

Box 2:12 Ebenezer Baptist Church programs 1952-1953
Box 2:12 Mt. Carmel Baptist Church usher ribbon undated

Printed material

Physical Description: 2 folders
Series Scope and Content Summary
Includes blank Keno cards and rule book, an American Cyanamid Company insurance policy booklet, assorted Oakland business cards, two California postcards, and one issue of the *Plumb Line G*, the newsletter of an African American masonic temple in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Arrangement
Arranged by format.

Box 2:14 Assorted Oakland business cards circa 1950s
Box 2:14 California postcards circa 1950s
Box 2:13 Keno cards 1956
Box 2:13 Keno rule book circa 1950s
Box 2:13 Laborers' master agreement between Northern California Chapter and Central California Chapter, *The Associated General Contractors of America, Inc.* and *Northern California District Council of HOD carriers, building and construction laborers 1956*
Box 2:13 American Cyanamid Company major medical expanse plan 1953
Box 2:13 *The Plumb Line G*, Vol. XXXX, No. 9 1953