

**WHITE, WALTER FRANCIS, 1893-1955.**  
**Walter and Gladys Powell White family papers, 1890-2010**

Emory University  
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### **Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** White, Walter Francis, 1893-1955.  
**Title:** Walter and Gladys Powell White family papers, 1890-2010  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 1171  
**Extent:** 1.5 linear feet (3 boxes, 2 oversized papers boxes (OP), and AV Masters: .25 linear feet (1 box))  
**Abstract:** Family papers of Walter and Gladys Powell White, and their children, Jane White and Carl Darrow White, including audiovisual material, baby books, correspondence, legal material, and photographs.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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### **Administrative Information**

#### **Restrictions on Access**

Unrestricted access.

#### **Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

#### **Related Materials in Other Repositories**

[Jane White papers](#), Sophia Smith Collection, Smith College and [Walter Francis White and Poppy Cannon papers](#), Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

#### **Source**

Gift, 2011.

#### **Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], Walter and Gladys Powell White family papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

#### **Processing**

Unprocessed collection.

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## Collection Description

### Biographical Note

Walter Francis White (1893-1955), was an African American civil rights activist and leader of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) from 1931-1955. Walter White married Leah Gladys Powell (1893-1979) in 1922, and they had two children, Jane (1922-) and Walter Carl Darrow (1927-1975). Gladys Powell White worked as a stenographer in the NAACP offices in New York City, and also performed on stage, most notably in the Broadway production *Deep River*, in 1926. In 1948, Walter and Gladys White divorced, and shortly after Walter White married Poppy Cannon, a magazine editor. Jane became an actress and performed in the theater, and on television and film, from the 1940s through the 1990s. Jane White married Alfredo Viazzi in 1962. He died in 1977 of a heart attack. Walter Carl Darrow was also an actor, and lived in Germany for the majority of his life.

### Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of the family papers of Walter and Gladys Powell White from 1890-2010, including audiovisual material, baby books for Jane and Carl White, correspondence, legal material, and photographs. Correspondence consists primarily of letters to Jane White regarding permissions for her father's estate. There are few pieces of correspondence between family members. Legal material contains birth certificates, marriage announcements, divorce papers, and death certificates of various family members. The photographs are primarily of Gladys Powell's family and the children, Jane and Carl.

### Arrangement Note

Unprocessed collection.

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## Container List

| Box | Folder | Content   |
|-----|--------|---|
| 1   | 1      | Address book and calendar   |
| AV1 | -      | Audiovisual: Darrow (White), Carl, baritone, undated [original: open reel tape]<br>[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rs435][Digital/<br>digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rs41w] |
| AV1 | -      | Audiovisual: White, Walter, American Radio Works, 1947 June 29 [original:<br>audiocassette]<br>[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id rs421]   |
| 1   | 3      | Baby book: Jane White   |
| 1   | 4      | Baby book: Walter Carl Darrow White (1)   |
| 1   | 5      | Baby book: Walter Carl Darrow White (1) - loose items   |
| 2   | 1      | Baby book: Walter Carl Darrow White (2)   |
| 2   | 2      | Correspondence  |
| 2   | 3      | Correspondence  |
| 2   | 4      | Correspondence  |
| 2   | 5      | Correspondence, Great Blacks in Wax museum unveiling  |
| 2   | 6      | Correspondence, Walter White biography in <i>Ebony</i>  |
| 2   | 7      | Correspondence, Walter White panel  |
| 2   | 8      | <i>Deep River</i> material  |
| 2   | 9      | Drawings  |
| 2   | 10     | Legal (marriage, divorce, death) material   |
| 2   | 11     | Miscellaneous   |
| 2   | 12     | Notes   |
| 3   | 1      | Photographs: 1890-1910  |
| 3   | 2      | Photographs: 1920s  |
| 3   | 3      | Photographs: 1930s  |
| 3   | 4      | Photographs: 1940s  |
| OP1 |        | Photograph: 1940s   |
| 3   | 5      | Photographs: 1950s  |
| 3   | 6      | Photographs: 1960s  |
| 3   | 7      | Photographs: 1970s  |
| 3   | 8      | Photographs, undated  |
| 3   | 9      | Photographs, Great Blacks in Wax museum unveiling   |
| 3   | 10     | Printed material  |

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