

# John Henrik Clarke Book Collection

## Biographical Note

John Henrik Clarke was born John Henry Clark in Union Springs, Alabama, on January 1, 1915. He and his family moved to his mother's hometown of Columbus, Georgia, where he attended the Fifth Avenue School and Spencer High School. His experience in Columbus included caddying for Dwight Eisenhower and Omar Bradley. In the 1930s he then moved to New York City and enlisted in the U.S. Army, attaining the rank of Master Sergeant. Then, largely self-educated, yet highly motivated, Clarke became active in academia, teaching at Hunter College, Cornell, New York University, and the New School for Social Research. As a scholar and activist he wrote and lectured widely on Pan-African and Africana Studies. He died on July 16, 1998.

## Scope and Content

Some personal papers and articles, and seventeen books by Clarke (1.0 linear ft.)

## Permission to Publish

Permission to publish material from the **John Henrik Clarke Collection (MC 376)** must be obtained from the Columbus State University Archives at Columbus State University. Use of the following credit line for publication or exhibit is required:

John Henrik Clarke Book Collection (MC 376) Columbus State University Archives Columbus, Georgia

## Provenance

Gift of John Henrik Clarke in 1996.

## Box and Folder List

### Box 1

Folder 1 - Biographical Materials

Curriculum Vitae  
Service of Commemoration and the Initiation into Eternity (with autobiography)  
Copy of honorary doctorate from University of Denver  
"Saying Goodbye to John Henrik Clark and Dorothy West" (*American Visions*, October/November 1998)

Folder 2 - Articles by Clarke

"Pan-Africanism: A Brief History of an Idea in the African World" (*Presence Africaine* 145, 1988)  
"A Search for Identity" (May 1970; two copies)  
"Africa in Early World History" (*Ebony*, August 1976)  
"Why Africana History?" (*The Black Collegian* (January/February 1987))  
"The African People in World History" (New York: Caribbean Cultural Center, 1988)

Folder 3 - Exhibit Materials

Folder 4 - Publications

John Henrik Clarke, *The Middle Passage: Our Holocaust!* (Detroit: Walter O. Evans, 1991)  
Earl Sweeting and Lez Edmond, *African History: An Illustrated Handbook* (London Strategic Policy Unit, Race Equality Policy Group, 1988).

### Box 2 - Books

[Catalog link](#)