

Truman K. Gibson Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2007

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm95083215>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms007119>

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Collection Summary

Title: Truman K. Gibson Papers

Span Dates: circa 1900-1994

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1940-1956)

ID No.: MSS83215

Creator: Gibson, Truman K. (Truman Kella), 1912-2005

Extent: 900 items

Extent: 3 containers

Extent: 1.2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm95083215>

Summary: Lawyer, business executive, and boxing promoter. Correspondence, memoranda, newspaper clippings, printed matter, photographs, and other papers reflecting the social life of the Gibson family in Chicago, Illinois. Also included in the papers is Gibson's correspondence with his wife, Isabelle Carson Gibson, written while he served as an adviser on African-American affairs to the United States War Department in Washington, D.C., during World War II.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Gibson family.

Gibson, Isabelle Carson--Correspondence.

Gibson, Truman K. (Truman Kella), 1912-2005.

Organizations

International Boxing Club.

United States. War Department.

Subjects

African Americans--Illinois--Chicago--Social life and customs.

African Americans--Military service.

African Americans--Segregation.

Boxing.

Racism.

World War, 1939-1945--Participation, African American.

World War, 1939-1945--Washington (D.C.)

Titles

Truman Kella Gibson papers

Occupations

Executives.

Lawyers.

Sports promoters.

Provenance

The papers of Truman K. Gibson, lawyer, businessman, civilian aid to the War Department, and boxing promoter, were given to the Library of Congress by Gibson in 1995.

Processing History

The papers of Truman K. Gibson were arranged and described in 1996. The finding aid was revised in 2007.

Transfers

Photographs have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of the Truman K. Gibson Papers.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Truman K. Gibson Papers is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Truman K. Gibson are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Truman K. Gibson Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1912, Jan. 22	Born, Atlanta, Ga.
1932	B.A., University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.
1935	J.D., University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.
1935-1940	Law practice, Chicago, Ill.
1939	Married Isabelle Carson
1940	Executive director, American Negro Exposition, Chicago, Ill.
1940-1943	Assistant to the civilian aide to the secretary of war regarding Negro affairs
1943	Acting civilian aide to the secretary of war regarding Negro affairs
1943-1945	Civilian aid to the secretary of war regarding Negro affairs
1945	Awarded Legion of Merit
1946	Consultant to the secretary of war Member, President's Advisory Committee on Universal Military Training Member, President's Committee on Morals, Character Development and Religion in the Armed Services
	Reentered private legal practice, Chicago, Ill.
1949-1959	Secretary and later president (1958), International Boxing Club
1956	Appointed to the advisory board of the National Citizens for Eisenhower
2005, Dec. 23	Died, Chicago, Ill.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Truman Kella Gibson, Jr. (1912-2005), span the years circa 1900-1994, with the bulk of the items from the period 1940-1956. The papers consist of correspondence, memoranda, newspaper clippings, printed matter, and miscellaneous material. They reflect the social life and activities of the Gibson family in Chicago and feature Gibson's correspondence to his wife when he was with the War Department in Washington, D.C., during World War II. Other topics include discrimination and segregation confronting African Americans in the military; relations with friends and associates in Washington; political and civic events in which Gibson participated; and the International Boxing Club, an organization he helped found to promote boxing matches.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Family papers
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1939-1964, undated (8 folders)
BOX 1	Education, 1929-1958
BOX 1	Gibson, Karen
BOX 1	Gibson, Truman K.
BOX 2	Miscellany, 1939-1961
BOX 2	Scrapbook, 1937-1943
BOX 2	Social
BOX 2	Miscellaneous, 1939, 1955-1958
BOX 2	Newspaper clippings, 1943-1961
BOX 2	Supreme Liberty Life Insurance Co., 1943-1959
BOX 2	General correspondence, 1941-1946, 1955-1958, 1989-1994
BOX 2	Miscellany, 1935-1981, undated
BOX 2	Subject file
BOX 2	American Negro Exposition, Chicago, Ill.
BOX 2	Miscellaneous, 1940
BOX 2	Newspaper clippings, 1940, undated
BOX 2	Cayton, Irma, 1941
BOX 2	DuBois, W. E. B., 1948, 1963
BOX 2	International Boxing Club
BOX 2	Correspondence, 1951-1958, undated
BOX 2	Miscellaneous, 1955-1962, undated
BOX 2	Newspaper clippings, 1943-1960, undated
BOX 3	Politics, 1940-1943, 1957, 1965
BOX 3	War Department
BOX 3	Correspondence and related material, 1940-1963, undated (2 folders)
BOX 3	Newspaper clippings, 1940-1943, undated