**Creator:** Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, Museums, and Press

**Title:** Black Portrait Photograph Collection

**Collection Number:** GRA0140

**Date:** 1860s-1880s; 1920s

**Physical Description**: .2 linear feet [1 box]; 1 oversize box

**Language of the Material:** English

**Abstract**

The Black Portrait Photograph Collection is comprised of eleven portraits of unknown persons in the United States at various times from the 1860s through the 1920s. The collection is made up of both tintypes and hand-colored crayon enlargements.

**Contents**

The Black Portrait Photograph Collection contains purchases from 2019 through 2021. The eleven photographs which make up the collection was curated by the University of Delaware. All of the sitters at the time of purchase and currently are unidentified Black individuals. Like the sitters the location(s) of the photographs is also unknown. However, given the clothing, poses, and settings of the photographs they are likely to have been taken at a photography studio. The clothing of the individuals of the tintypes looks to be styles worn between the 1860s and 1880s. While the clothing of the two crayon-enlargement photographs looks to be of similar styles that would have been worn around the 1920s. All eleven photographs suggest by their clothing that may have been of middle-class status when these photographs were taken.

**Access**

The collection is currently open for research

**Rights**

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University of Delaware Library

Special Collections

Newark, Delaware 19717-5267

Phone: (302) 831-2229

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**Collection Items**

**Title:** Tintypes

**Date:** 1860s-1880s

**Object Name(s):** [Portrait of four men, two seated, two standing]; [Portrait of a man and woman]

**Folder 1, Box 1**

**Object Name(s):** [Portrait of a woman]; [Portrait of a woman in a calico dress, seated on a chair]

**Folder 2, Box 1**

**Object Name(s):** [Portrait of a seated woman]; [Portrait of a woman]

**Folder 3, Box 1**

**Object Name:** [Portrait of a man with a book]; [Portrait of a seated woman and standing child]; [Portrait of a seated young man wearing a felt hat]

**Folder 4, Box 1**

**Title:** Crayon Enlargements

**Date:** 1920s

**Object Name:** [Hand-colored waist-up portrait of a man in a bowler hat]

**Folder 1, Box 2**

**Object Name:** [Hand-colored portrait of a standing woman in a black dress]

**Folder 2, Box 2**

**Subjects**

Photographs

Tintypes

Crayon Enlargements

Black—Portraits

Black women—Photographs

Black men—Photographs

Black children—Photographs

Black families—Photographs

**Related Materials**

GRA0135 Baltimore Collection