



Guide to the Michael Francis Blake photographs, 1912-1934

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Summary

Collection Title:

Michael Francis Blake photographs, circa 1912-1934

Creator:

Blake, Michael Francis, -1934

Abstract:

Michael Francis Blake was one of Charleston, South Carolina's first African American studio photographers. Collection consists of 118 photographs, mostly studio portraits taken by Michael Francis Blake from about 1912 to 1934, with some outdoor settings. There is also a full set of copy prints. The great majority of the subjects appear to be African American; however, there are also individuals who are multi-racial, and possibly white and Asian. Formats comprise 91 photographic postcards and 28 black-and-white prints, many on card mounts but some in the form of more casual snapshots; there are also eight copy negatives. A few of the photographs may be taken by others. Thirty-six individuals in the photographs have been identified, including a portrait of the photographer. Acquired as part of the John Hope Franklin Research Center for African and African American History and Culture at Duke University.

Extent:

1.0 Linear Feet (3 boxes)

Language:

English .

Collection ID:

RL.00119

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m16k68>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Michael Francis Blake photographs, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Background

Scope and Content

Collection consists of 118 photographs of men, women, and children as single individuals, family groups, and other group shots. There is also a full set of copy prints (preferred for access) and eight copy negatives. The great majority of the subjects appear to be African American; however, there are individuals who are multi-racial, and possibly white and Asian. The photographs were taken by Michael Francis Blake, an African American photographer from Charleston, South Carolina, from about 1912 to 1934, mostly in his studio at 384 West Sumter Street. There are a few that may have been taken by another individual. Some of the photographs are stamped with Blake's name and studio addresses.

The majority of the photographs were originally housed in a photograph album entitled "Portraits of Members," also included in the collection, but have been rehoused for preservation purposes. Ninety-one of the photos are photographic postcards and the others are either mounted photographs or snapshots. The predominant style is the formal studio portrait, standing or seated. There are also some informal snapshots that may or may not have been taken by Blake. Some portraits were taken outdoors in front of a backdrop with props such as rugs, chairs and plants to recreate a studio setting. Others were taken on the street; the location of photograph #28 has been identified as just outside of Blake's studio. Some have what appear to be shopping lists and other notations written on the backs, and a few have names, ages, and street addresses, presumably of the sitter or their household.

Through existing captions and public input, thirty-six individuals in the photographs have been identified, including the photographer, Michael Francis Blake, who appears in one portrait.

Each original print has been assigned a unique institutional identifier. All but one have been digitized and are available online through the Duke Digital Collections website.

Biographical/Historical

Michael Francis Blake, a graduate of Avery Normal Institute, was one of Charleston, South Carolina's first African American studio photographers. He was born in 1879 on Johns Island, South Carolina, and married Cecelia Ford from Georgetown, S.C. in 1899. Blake moved to Charleston with his family around 1900 and began to work professionally as a photographer in 1912.

Blake had a studio and residence at 12 W. Sumter Street, which later became 384 W. Sumter Street after the street was renumbered in 1918. He also

regularly set up his camera on the northwest corner of Radcliffe and King Streets in Charleston. Blake died in Charleston in 1934 at age 55.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive
Duke University
Durham 27708

askRL@duke.edu

URL: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

Access Restrictions

Original film negatives are closed to use.

Due to the fragility of the original photographs, reference prints or the online digital images are the preferred use format.

Use Restrictions

Materials in this collection are in the public domain.

Alternative Form Available

All original prints from the Michael Blake Francis photographs collection have been digitized and are available on the Duke Digital Collections website.

The Museum of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina, holds original negatives of many of the prints.

Acquisition Information

The Michael Francis Blake photographs were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a gift in 1986 and 2020.

Processing Information

Processed by Beth Ann Koelsch, October 2006.

Description for boxes 2-3 added and original prints rehoused to mitigate acid migration and protect emulsions, Paula Jeannet, 2017.

One print added by Paula Jeannet, February 2020.

Accession(s) described in this collection guide: 1995-0045, 2020-0016.

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Names and Subjects

- African American families -- Portraits
- African American photographers -- South Carolina -- Charleston
- African Americans -- Photographs
- African Americans -- Portraits
- African Americans -- South Carolina -- Charleston
- Asian Americans -- South Carolina -- Charleston -- Portraits
- Photography -- South Carolina
- Portrait photographers -- South Carolina
- Racially mixed people -- South Carolina -- Portraits
- Charleston (S.C.) -- History
- Charleston (S.C.) -- Social life and customs
- South Carolina -- History
- Black-and-white photographs
- Negatives (photographs)
- Photograph albums
- Photographic postcards
- Blake, Michael Francis, -1934

Collection Inventory

Original photographs, circa 1912-1934

Physical Description: .25 Linear Feet

1 box 118 prints

Scope and Contents

Series consists of one box of 118 original photographic prints, many of them photographic postcards with the rest mounted on cardstock. Most have been stamped or have been otherwise identified as produced by Michael Francis Blake's photography studio in Charleston, South Carolina. Dates are

approximate unless marked on the photograph. In some cases, the studio address reveals the time period. All measurements are in inches.

Copy prints are available in box 2 and are the preferred format for access to avoid overuse of the originals.

Additionally, the original prints have been digitized and are available on the Duke Libraries Digital Collections website.

Access Restrictions:

Due to the vulnerability of the original photographs, the modern copy prints or the digital collection images are the preferred format for access.

Studio photograph, seated male adult, identified as Michael Francis Blake, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB001

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Scope and Contents

3.5 x 5.5. The photographer is unknown, or it may have been taken by Blake with a remote shutter release.

Snapshot, female adult standing by an automobile, unidentified, undated (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB002

Physical Description: 3.25 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female adult holding a book, unidentified, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB003

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, female adult, identified as Lillie Ford, 4 August 1926 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB004

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "Lillie Ford taken Aug 4 1926"

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing male child, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB005

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female adult holding a basket of flowers, identified as Francis Smalls, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB006

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "Frances Smalls / my niece Frances / Georgetown S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Snapshot, male child, unidentified, undated (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB007

Physical Description: 3 x 4.5. Writing on photograph: "To my dear Aunt Rosa your Nephew Edwin." Stamped "469".

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing young male adult, unidentified, undated (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB008

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Snapshot, male adult standing by a porch, identified as "Frederick," undated (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB009

Physical Description: 2.75 x 4.25. Writing on photograph: "Frederick"

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing male adult and female adult, unidentified, circa 1912-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB010

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated male adult, identified as Jesse E. Beard, a pastor of Morris Brown AME Church and vice president of the People's

Federal Bank in Charleston, S.C., circa 1910s
(online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB011

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing child, unidentified,
circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB012

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated infant propped up on
a chair, unidentified, 1933 June 29 (online item
available)

Box 1 > Print MFB013

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "Taken Thursday 29/33 -
June Age 3 months." Embossed with Blake's studio address.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, male adult, unidentified,
circa 1912-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB014

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake
View Photographer 12 W. Sumter Street. Phone 1341-L, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated female adult,
unidentified, circa 1912-1918 (online item
available)

Box 1 > Print MFB015

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, child standing on a chair
and an infant seated on a chair, identified as
Bennie children, circa 1926-1934 (online item
available)

Box 1 > Print MFB016

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated male adult and a
standing female adult with her arm around his
shoulders, unidentified, circa 1926-1934 (online
item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB017

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated elderly male adult, identified as James W. White, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB018

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M. Blake Night and Day Photographer 384 W. Sumter Street, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing male adult, identified as Philips Michael Smalls, circa 1912-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB019

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, male child standing on a chair, unidentified, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB020

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, male adult, identified as E. H. Coit, circa 1912 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB021

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. This man appears in several other portraits. E.H. Coit is listed as a "mulatto preacher" born about 1860 in the 1910 Federal census. He may have been about 50 in this photograph.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, male child standing on a chair, unidentified, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB022

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address. Duplicate of image MFB020.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated male adult and a standing female adult with her arm around his shoulders, "Bennie and wife," circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB023

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "Bennie and wife." Embossed with Blake's studio address at 384 W. Sumter Street.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated male adult, identified as Eddie Ford, 1932 June 10 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB024

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "Eddie Ford. Taken June 10th 1932." Embossed with Blake's studio address at 384 W. Sumter Street.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female child holding a flower, unidentified, circa 1912-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB025

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female adult wearing a hat and a coat, identified as D. F. Murray, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB026

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "D.F. Murray, Sumter St., Columbia SC." Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M. Blake Night and Day Photographer, 384 W. Sumter Street, Charleston, S.C." Negative on file.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Snapshot, two female adults sitting on the front porch of a house, unidentified, undated (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB027

Physical Description: 3.5 x 2.75. Stamped on verso "10011".

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Snapshot, female adult standing and holding an infant at street address 384, identified possibly as Mrs. Blake, undated (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB028

Physical Description: 2.5 x 4.5. The location's address number, 384, visible on a brick wall to the left of the subject, is the same as Blake's studio address. A lower portion of the border is missing.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, female adult, identified as Irene Green, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB029

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "Johns Island SC. Mrs. Irene Green." Same woman as in MFB004 but identified with a different name.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female adult, unidentified, circa 1912-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB030

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated child, identified as Leon Ignatius Ford, Jr., circa 1921 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB031

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "Leon Ignatius Ford Jr. 1 yr 2 wks."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Outdoor portrait, female adult standing on a path, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB032

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female adult, unidentified, circa 1912-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB033

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated female adult, identified as Helen Ford, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB034

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "Mrs. Helen Ford." Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M. Blake Night and Day Photographer 384 W. Sumter Street, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Snapshot, dog lying down on ground, undated (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB035

Physical Description: 3 x 4.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female adult, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB036

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated male adult, unidentified, circa 1912-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB037

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake View Photographer 12 W. Sumter Street. Phone 1341-L, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, female child and standing female adult with her arm around the shoulders of an older seated female adult, unidentified, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB038

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address at 384 W. Sumter Street.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated male adult, identified as Eddie Ford, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB039

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake View Photographer 384 W. Sumter Street Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, two standing female adults, unidentified, circa 1912-1915 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB040

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, female adult, unidentified, undated (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB041

Physical Description: 1.375 x 1.75

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, two standing female young adults leaning on older male child, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB042

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Stamped with Blake's studio address: " M. Blake Night and Day Photographer 384 W. Sumter Street, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female adult, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB043

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M. Blake Night and Day Photographer 384 W. Sumter Street, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing male child dressed in formal wear, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB044

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated child, unidentified, undated (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB045

Physical Description: 3.25 x 5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, male adult standing by a door, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB046

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake, 384 W. Sumter Street, View Photographer, Phone 1341-W, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing male child, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB047

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake, 384 W. Sumter Street, View Photographer Phone 1341-W, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated infant, unidentified, undated (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB048

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female adult, unidentified, circa 1912-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB049

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated female adult, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB050

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address at 384 W. Sumter Street.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, infant posed on a bench, unidentified, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB051

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address at 384 W. Sumter Street.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated male adult, Jesse E. Beard, pastor and banker, circa 1910s (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB052

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Same photograph as MFB011, identified as Jesse E. Beard, a pastor of Morris Brown AME Church and vice president of the People's Federal Bank in Charleston, S.C.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing young female, identified as Jessie Rodrigues, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB053

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake, Night and Day Photographer, 384 W. Sumter Street, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Scope and Contents

Jessie Rodrigues and older members of her family, also located in another Blake photograph, are listed as "mulatto" in the 1880, 1910 and 1920 Federal Censuses; in the 1930 and 1940 censuses, the family appears as "Negro (Black)."

Studio photograph, standing female adult, unidentified, circa 1912-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB054

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, female adult, identified as Lucy Meyers, circa 1912-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB055

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "Mrs. Lucy Meyers".

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated elderly male adult, identified as Sandy Simmons, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB056

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, child standing on a chair and an infant seated on a chair, identified as Bennie children, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB057

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "Bennie Children". Embossed with Blake's studio address.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated male adult, identified as J. Donovan Moore, a music teacher, circa 1926-1939 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB058

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address at 384 W. Sumter Street.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, male adult, unidentified, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB059

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, male adult, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB060

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing male adult in formal wear, unidentified, undated (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB061

Physical Description: 3.25 x 5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, male adult standing next to female adult who is wearing pants and holding a cigar, identified as Olivia Edith Garrett Wilson and Gustavius Sinkler Wilson, circa 1910-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB062

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Outdoor photograph, adult male sitting on a chair, identified as M.A. Hollins, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB063

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address at 384 W. Sumter Street.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Snapshot, standing female adult and four younger females, identified as Allane Rodrigues, Henrietta Jones Rodrigues, Daisy Rodrigues, Dorothy, Hortense, circa 1930 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB064

Physical Description: 3.75 x 3. Embossed with Blake's studio address.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Scope and Contents

The family of Henry and Henrietta Rodrigues, whose daughter Jessie is also the subject of another Blake photograph, is listed as "mulatto" in the 1880, 1910 and 1920 Federal Censuses; in the 1930 and 1940 censuses, they appear as "Negro (Black)."

Snapshot, standing female adult and four younger females, identified as Allane Rodrigues, Henrietta Jones Rodrigues, Daisy Rodrigues, Dorothy, Hortense, circa 1930 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB065

Physical Description: 3.75 x 3. Embossed with Blake's studio address. Same photograph as MFB064.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, male adult, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB066

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, five standing children, unidentified, circa 1910-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB067

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake View Photographer 12 W. Sumter Street. Phone 1341-L, Charleston, S.C." Negative on file.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female adult, unidentified, circa 1926-1939 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB068

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address at 384 W. Sumter Street.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, male adult, identified as John McQueen, circa 1926-1939 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB069

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "John McQueen".

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, male adult, identified as Jesse E. Beard, a pastor of Morris Brown AME Church and vice president of the People's Federal Bank in Charleston, S.C., circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB070

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address at 384 W. Sumter. Same photograph as MFB011 and MFB052.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, female adult, identified as Olivia Edith Garrett Wilson, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB071

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "Ollsey Garett". Photograph of a small nearly square photograph of a stylishly dressed woman, approximately 1.5 x 1 inch, placed on top of a larger mount with oval. Identified as by Blake, 384 W. Sumter.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, female adult, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB072

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated female adult, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB073

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated female adult, unidentified, circa 1910-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB074

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated female adult using a telephone as a prop, unidentified, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB075

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address at 384 W. Sumter. Two negatives on file.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, two seated adult males playing checkers at a table outdoors and four adult males standing behind them, unidentified, circa 1913-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB076

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Negative on file.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, male adult, identified as Isaiah Nathaniel Aiken, 1922 April 23 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB077

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "Sunday April 23 1922".

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing male adult, unidentified, circa 1910-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB078

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Outdoor photograph, seated elderly female adult holding a small dog, standing child and

two standing female adults, unidentified, circa 1910-1918 (online item available) Box 1 > Print MFB079

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Negative on file.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated female adult with two children, identified as Anna Beatrice Aiken, Isaiah Nathaniel Aiken, Jr., Arthur Aiken, circa 1918-1922 (online item available) Box 1 > Print MFB080

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female adult, unidentified, circa 1910-1918 (online item available) Box 1 > Print MFB081

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Same photograph as MFB030.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated female adult, unidentified, circa 1910-1918 (online item available) Box 1 > Print MFB082

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, two male adults, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available) Box 1 > Print MFB083

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake, Night and Day Photographer, 384 W. Sumter Street, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Outdoor photograph, portrait of standing female adult, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available) Box 1 > Print MFB084

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female adult and standing male adult, unidentified, circa 1910-1918 (online item available) Box 1 > Print MFB085

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female young adult with her arm around seated male young adult, unidentified, circa 1926-1939 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB086

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address at 384 W. Sumter Street.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, female adult, unidentified, 20 February 1925 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB087

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "Feb. 20th day 1925". Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake View Photographer 384 W. Sumter Street Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female child next to a doll seated on a chair, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB088

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address. Negative on file.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated male adult, unidentified, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB089

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's 384 W. Sumter studio address.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Outdoor photograph, elderly man standing by a screen door or window, holding an open book, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB090

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake, Night and Day Photographer, 384 W. Sumter Street, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, elderly man standing by a tall stool with a hat on it, holding a book, identified as Rev. Lowry Alston, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB091

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "Rev. Lowry Alston - #413 - Orange St. Georgetown S.C." Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F."

Blake, Night and Day Photographer, 384 W. Sumter Street, Charleston, S.C."
Negative on file.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing adult female and standing adult male on either side of a seated child in a chair, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB092

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing child, unidentified, circa 1910-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB093

Physical Description: 3.25 x 5.25

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing child, unidentified, circa 1910-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB094

Physical Description: 3.25 x 5.25

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing female adult holding a book, unidentified, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB095

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address. Same photograph as MFB003.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated infant propped up on a chair, unidentified, 1933 June 19 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB096

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Writing on photograph: "June Thursday 1933 Pass - 3 months old". Embossed with Blake's studio address. Same photograph as MFB013.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, adult male, identified as E. H. Coit, circa 1912 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB097

Physical Description: 3.25 x 4.25. E.H. Coit is listed as a "mulatto preacher" born about 1860 in the 1910 Federal census. He may have been about 50 in this photograph.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, adult male, identified as E. H. Coit, circa 1912 (online item available) Box 1 > Print MFB098

Physical Description: 3.25 x 4.25. E.H. Coit is listed as a "mulatto preacher" born about 1860 in the 1910 Federal census. He may have been about 50 in this photograph. Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake View Photographer 12 W. Sumter Street. Phone 1341-L, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, two seated adult females, identified as Evelyn Read and Agnes Read, circa 1926-1934 (online item available) Box 1 > Print MFB099

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated adult male, unidentified, undated (online item available) Box 1 > Print MFB100

Physical Description: 3.75 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, adult female, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available) Box 1 > Print MFB101

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Has Blake's 384 W. Sumter address.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, adult female dressed in a man's suit, identified as Mary Buckingham Brown, circa 1926-1934 (online item available) Box 1 > Print MFB102

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Negative on file.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing adult female, unidentified, before 1918 (online item available) Box 1 > Print MFB103

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake, View Photographer, 12 W. Sumter Street. Phone 1341-L, Charleston, S.C." Date of photograph is derived from address, which changed to 384 when the street was renumbered in 1918.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, adult female, unidentified, after 1918 (online item available) Box 1 > Print MFB104

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake, Night and Day Photographer, 384 W. Sumter Street, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated adult female, identified as Pauline Buckingham, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB105

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, elderly female, unidentified, circa 1918-1922 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB106

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, adult male, unidentified, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB107

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address at 384 W. Sumter Street.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing male child next to an infant seated on a chair, unidentified, circa 1926-1939 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB108

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing adult female dressed in bridal wear, unidentified, circa 1926-1934 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB109

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5. Embossed with Blake's studio address at 384 W. Sumter Street.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, adult male, unidentified, circa 1910-1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB110

Physical Description: 3.5 x 5.5

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, standing adult female, unidentified, undated, not taken by Blake (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB111

Physical Description: 4.25 x 6.25. Mounted photograph is identified as produced by William D. Clarke, a white photographer in Charleston, S.C.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Snapshot, adult male standing by a house,
unidentified, undated (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB112

Physical Description: 4 x 6. Mounted snapshot.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, head shot of adult female,
unidentified, before 1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB113

Physical Description: 5 x 7 (mount size). Small circular photograph,
approximately 1 inch, mounted within larger embossed mount with oval frame.
Stamped with Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake, View Photographer, 12 W.
Sumter Street. Phone 1341-L, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, adult male, unidentified,
after 1918 (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB114

Physical Description: 5 x 7 (mount size). Mounted oval portrait. Stamped with
Blake's studio address: "M.F. Blake, Night and Day Photographer 384 W. Sumter
Street, Charleston, S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Studio photograph, seated adult male between
two boys holding rifles and a younger male
child in front of them, unidentified, before 1918
(online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB115

Physical Description: 5 x 7 (mount size). Stamped with Blake's studio address:
"M.F. Blake View Photographer 12 W. Sumter Street. Phone 1341-L, Charleston,
S.C."

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Snapshot, elderly man seated in a doorway
holding a cane, unidentified, undated (online
item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB116

Physical Description: 5 x 7 (mount size). Mounted photograph.

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Group portrait, uniformed nurses, possibly
a class picture at the Hospital and Training
School for Nurses, Charleston, S.C.,
unidentified, undated (online item available)

Box 1 > Print MFB117

Physical Description: 5 x 7

Digital Object: [No known title](#)

Scope and Contents

Mounted photograph, stamped with Blake's studio address: "M. F. Blake Night and Day Photographer 384 W. Sumter Street, Charleston, S.C." Possibly an albumen print.

Portrait, probably out of doors, older male, standing, identified as Silas Abrams, Newberry, S.C., 1920s

Box 1 > Print MFB118

Physical Description: 5 3/8 x 3 3/8 inches. Identified by donor of photograph. This print was a later addition and has not been digitized.

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Modern reference prints set (preferred for use access)

Physical Description: .25 Linear Feet
1 box 117 copy prints

Scope and Contents

These copy prints were produced by library staff; most are black-and-white but some are color reproductions of Blake's black-and-white prints.

Reference prints

Box 2

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Photograph album (photographs have been removed)

Physical Description: .5 Linear Feet
1 box 1 volume

Scope and Contents

Photograph album (empty) originally housing most of the photographs in this collection. The album title reads "Photographs of members."

Album

Box 3

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