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Descriptive Summary :

Creator: Rita Karan Thompson,

Title: Rita Karan Thompson Collection

Dates: 2007

Quantity: 0.5 feet

Abstract: This collection contains research notes, data sheets, and photocopied excerpts from documents pertaining to the life and background of Satchel Paige and to the history of tradespeople in Mobile. This research was conducted by Rita Karan Thompson during her time as a graduate student at the University of South Alabama. Thompson took on this research under guidance from Dr. Michael Thomason.

Accession: 737 -2021

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Biographical Note :

Rita Thompson is a former University of South Alabama student who earned her MA in History. Thompson did her assistantships in the Archives under Dr. Michael Thomason. In 2007, Thompson completed one semester of research as a graduate student for the Mobile Historic Development Commission on early builders in Mobile. This research was used to write a short book on Builders of Mobile. The book and databases are accessible on the web at [http://www.mobilehd.org/publications\\_builtcity.html](http://www.mobilehd.org/publications_builtcity.html). These were financed by a grant from the Sybil H. Smith Charitable Trust.

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Scope and Content :

The Rita Karan Thompson Collection consists of handwritten notes, printouts of spreadsheets, and photocopied documents. These documents are broken up into two series —Thompson's research on Satchel Paige on behalf of Larry Tye and Thompson's research on the history of tradespeople in Mobile on behalf of the MHDC.

The Paige material largely revolves around his family history, including details about his



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Guide prepared by: Christopher Stanford, 2022  
Guide updated by: Deborah Gurt , Skyler Oliveira-Khan  
Guide last updated: 6/5/2023

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