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HOWARD, Oliver Otis

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**Collection Inventory for the
Oliver Otis Howard Collection
Coll. 053**

Finding aid prepared by Denise G. Harbin

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

April 29, 2014

Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University
June 1980
500 Howard Place, NW
Washington, DC 20059
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Summary Information

Repository	Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University
Creator	Howard, O. O. (Oliver Otis), 1830-1909
Title	Oliver Otis Howard Collection
Date [inclusive]	1850-1906
Extent	6.0 Linear feet
Language	English

Biographical Sketch

Oliver Otis Howard

1830	Born in Leeds, Maine.
1850	Graduated from Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine.
1850-54	Cadet at West Point, New York.
1855	Married Elizabeth Ann Waite.
	In command of Kennebec Arsenal, Maine.
1856	Fought against Seminoles in Florida.
1857-1861	Ordered to West Point as Professor of Mathematics.
1861	Colonel of 3rd Maine Volunteer Regiment in the War of Rebellion.
	Promoted to Brigadier General of Volunteers.
1862	Lost his right arm at Battle of Fair Oaks, Virginia.
1863	Assigned by President to command 11th Corps, Army of the Potomac.
1864	Assigned to command 4th Army Corps, Army of the Cumberland.
	Assigned by President to the command of the Army and Department of the Tennessee.
1865	Brevetted Major-General in the regular Army for the Battle of Ezra Church, Atlanta, Georgia. Assigned to duty in War Department as Commissioner of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands.
1869	Third President of Howard University.
1870	Subjected to an investigation by members of the House of Representatives on charges of mishandling of funds of the Freedmen's Bureau, was acquitted by the House.

1872	Chosen and sent by President Grant as Special Indian Commissioner to make peace with the Apache Indians of New Mexico and Arizona.
1873	Resigned as President of Howard University.
1874	Assigned to command the Department of the Columbia, part of the military district of the Pacific, including Oregon, Washington, Idaho and extended areas of Montana.
1877-1878	Engaged in two wars with Indians called the Nez Perce War and Piute and Bennock War in Oregon, Washington territory, Idaho and Montana.
1879	Engaged in war with a tribe of Indians called the "Sheepeaters" Salmon River, Idaho.
1880-81	Assigned to West Point, N.Y., as Superintendent of U.S. Military Academy.
1882	Assigned to command the Department of the Platte, headquarters at Omaha, Nebraska.
1884	Received the decoration of "Chevalier" of the Legion of Honor from the President of the French Republic.
1886	Promoted to Major-General in regular Army and passed into the military division of the Pacific, which includes the Department of the Columbia of California and Arizona.
1888	Transferred to command the Military Division of the Atlantic.
	Commanded the Department of the East, Governor's Island, N.Y.C.
1894	Retired from the Army.
1894-95	Organized the Lincoln Memorial University at Harrogate, Tennessee.
	Wrote memoirs in Portland, Oregon.
1909	Died at Burlington, Vermont.

Scope Note

The Oliver Otis Howard Collection measures approximately six linear feet inclusive of individually framed and wrapped items.

The collection contains letters from Oliver O. Howard to his mother, written while he was a cadet at West Point between the years 1850-1854, and as late as 1857; as well as correspondence with other members of his family and friends up to 1906.

There are articles, speeches, manuscripts, diaries, memorabilia, programs, testimonials, poetry, lyrics, photographs artifacts, newspapers and newspaper clippings. The newspaper clippings document many of General Howard's military feats, and provide substantial biographic information. There is also other information on General Howard's battles with the Indians, specifically with Chief Joseph, leader of the Nez Perce Indians of Idaho.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Moorland-Spangarn Research Center, Howard University June 1980

Revision Description

Revised by Greta S. Wilson. EAD markup of this finding aid was completed 2014 through grant funding provided by Institute of Library and Museum Services, Grant Award Number: LG-07-13-0294-13.
January 1981

Source

The Oliver Otis Howard Collection was given to Howard University by his various descendants in installments from 1942-1961.

Series A: Correspondence

Collection Inventory

Series A: Correspondence

Series Description

Correspondence between General Howard and his family, friends and military associates, although the largest volume of letters is between Howard and his mother, while he was a cadet at West Point between the years 1850-1854. Other general correspondence spans the years 1853-1905.

Family

	Box	Folder
Gilmore, Eliza O. H. (Mother) August 31, 1853	1	1
Gilmore, Eliza O. H. (Mother) September 25, 1853	1	2
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) Oct. 22, 1853	1	3
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) Nov. 13, 1853	1	4
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) Dec. 12, 1853	1	5
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) Jan. 1, 1854	1	6
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) Jan. 5, 1854	1	7

Family

Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) Feb. 18, 1854	1	8
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) March 16, 1854	1	9
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) March 28, 1854	1	10
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) April 16, 1854	1	11
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) Oct. 3, 1854	1	12
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) Nov. 5, 1854	1	13
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) Nov. 26, 1854	1	14
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) March 6, 1855	1	15
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) March 13, 1855	1	16
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) April 8, 1855	1	17
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) May 29, 1855	1	18
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) July 1, 1855	1	19
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) Sept, 13, 1856	1	20
Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) Jan. 23, 1857	1	21

General

Gilmore, Eliza O.H. (Mother) Sept. 29, 1857	1	22
Howard, Charles (Brother) Feb. 13, 1856	1	23
Howard, Charles (Brother) Oct. 24, 1857	1	24
Howard, Charles (Brother) Jan. 7, 1858; Aug. 7, 1869	1	25
Howard, Lt. Guy (his son) April 19, 1889	1	26
Howard, Harry [his son] n.d.	1	27
Howard, Rowland (Brother) Jan. 14, 1855	1	28
Howard, Rowland (Brother) Aug. 4, 1856	1	29
Lizzie Jan. 17, 1909	1	30
Sue ([Mrs. Harry Howard])	1	31
General		
	Box	Folder
Army of the Cumberlands - Committee on Invitations Sept. 8, 1882	1	32
Babcock, O.E-7 Apr, 29, 1859	1	33

General

Baker, W.A. Esq. July 29, 1869	1	34
Bingham, General J-O-7 Aug. 30, 1888	1	35
Bowen, Sayles J. May 6, 1870	1	36
Brinkle, Anna to Mrs. Dupont Nov. 6, 1868	1	37
Brown, E.C., Esq. March 12, 1886	1	38
Butterfield, Maj. Gen. Apr. 19, 1864	1	39
Carrington, Gen. Henry B. Feb. 15, 1905	1	40
Cary, Sam March 13, 1865	1	41
Earnshaw, Rev. William	1	42
Gilder, R.W. Dec. 6, 1907	1	43
Gilder, Richard Watson Jan. 15, 1906	1	44
Gladwin, Edgar Feb. 15, 1882	1	45
Gray, Alonzo Apr. 26, 1883	1	46
Lincoln A. July 21, 1863	1	47

General

Meyrick, Maj. Nov. 24, 1865	1	48
Peck, O.H. Esq. Nov. 20, 1885	1	49
Pennypacker, Isaac L. May 5, 1886	1	50
Pennsylvania College Aug. 9, 1866	1	51
Philadelphia Press Nov. 3, 1903	1	52
Pratt, A.S. Dec. 24, 1873	1	53
Read, D. June 23, 1865	1	54
Sladen, Fred W. Aug. 18, 1925	1	55
Taft, A. July 20, 1876	1	56
Wolf, Han. Simon Dec. 21, 1901	1	57
General" Jan. 31, 1889 (photocopy)	1	58
General April 26, 1864	1	59
No Name Feb. 2, 1871	1	60
No Name Jan. 8, 1884	1	61

Series B Personal Papers

Sir Aug. 29, 1888	1	62
Series B Personal Papers		
Series Description		
Includes biographical data on General Howard and his family, memorials, commission, and autographs.		
	Box	Folder
Biographical Data on General Howard	2	63
Memorial Sermon delivered by E. G. Guthrie	2	64
Memorials	2	65
Printed Memoriam, to O.O. Howard	2	66
Memorial - Howard, Oliver O. - Memorial Hall at West Point	2	67
Howard, Oliver Otis, Family of	2	68
Record of the Descendants of Maj. Gen. Howard as of June, 1956	2	69
Biographical data - Howard, Mrs. Oliver O. - Clipping - Congressional Record	2	70
In Memoriam - Our Mother, Mrs. Eliza Otis Gilmore - Mother of O.O. Howard	2	71

Series C: Manuscripts

Memorial - Gray, Grace Howard November 9, 1949	2	72
Memorial - Guy Howard, Lt. Col. U.S. Vols. - Military Order of Loyal Legion of the U.S. 1899	2	73
Howard, Barry S.	2	74
Passport -O.O. Howard	2	75
Papers as Cadet at West Point, N.Y.	2	76
Signatures or autographs	2	77
List of character traits found in General Howard's billfold	2	78
Service coat buttons	2	79
Documents - Commission of O.O. Howard as Brigadier General May 1865	2	80
Original ticket: Lecture by Gen. O.O. Howard 1896 Feb. 14	2	81

Series C: Manuscripts**Series Description**

Examinations, lectures, speeches, articles and a list of books written by General Oliver O. Howard. (See also Item 53-8)

Series C: Manuscripts

	Box	Folder
Examination theme written at Bowdoin College	2	82
Speeches for American Missionary 1869	2	83
Collection of lectures, addresses, articles, by O.O. Howard and others	2	84
Collection of lectures, addresses, articles, by O.O. Howard and others, incomplete text	2	85
Lew Wallace: an autobiography	2	86
Defense of a Veteran Layman	2	87
Education of the Colored Man	2	88
Education of the Colored Man (xerox copy)	2	89
The Army - A Toast - General Howard's Address Dec. 23, 1889	2	90
Indian Sieges, Part I- p.1-6	2	91
Indian Sieges, Part II - p.7-17	2	92
The Nation's Capital	2	93
Untitled manuscript on Abraham Lincoln	2	94

Series D: Articles and Statements by and About Oliver O. Howard

List of Books written by O.O. Howard	2	95
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Series D: Articles and Statements by and About Oliver O. Howard**Series Description**

A number of articles concerning congressional action on charges against General Howard and his involvements with the Freedmen's Bureau. Also includes General Howard's statement of defense against these charges, his statement of retirement from military service, and other articles written by Gen. Howard. (See also Item 53-8)

	Box	Folder
Roster of Troops Serving in the Dept. of the East - Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard commanding 1894	3	96
Resolutions - Senate and House of Representatives. Jan. 28, 1864	3	97
House of Representatives 41st Cong. 2nd Session	3	98
Statement of O.O. Howard in defense against charges by Hon. Fernando Wood.	3	99
Remarks in House of Representatives- Re: Gen. Howard and Freedmen's Bureau Feb. 23, 1871	3	100
Charges against remarks of Hon. C.M. Hamilton	3	101
Orders No.57 - Retirement from Active Service Nov. 8, 1894	3	102

Series E: Articles and Statements by Others

Memories of General Lee Dec. 2, 1909	3	103
General Grant As I Knew Him Oct. 28, 1909	3	104
Abraham Lincoln As I Knew Him n.d.	3	105
A Belated Communication, facsimile of letter from Gen. Sherman to Gen. Howard May, 1865	3	106
Magazine - The Congregationalist and Christian World Aug. 20, 1904	3	107

Series E: Articles and Statements by Others**Series Description**

Reports, statements and magazine articles written by others, including an article by Honorable Walt Horan entitled, "The Story of Chief Joseph".

	Box	Folder
Boran, Bon. Walt - The Story of Chief Joseph	3	108
Ryder, Charles J.-The Outlook and the Outlook of the American Missionary Association.	3	109
The Annual Statement of the First Church in Burlington, Vt. Jan. 14, 1904	3	110
Report of Governor Grover to General Schofield on the Madoc War, etc.	3	111

Series F First Congregational Church, Washington, D.C.**Series F First Congregational Church, Washington, D.C.****Series Description**

Proceedings of an Ex Parte Council and statements regarding the church's stand on the admission of "colored" to its congregation.

	Box	Folder
Proceeding of an Ex Parte Council Held at the First Congregational Church 1868 Nov.	3	112
First Congregational Church, Washington, D.C. - True Position 1868	3	113
Statement by Wm. Webb, clerk, First Congregational Church	3	114

Series G: Howard University**Series Description**

Acts of Incorporation, information on raising money for the University, and a copy of a speech written by O.O. Howard on the "Education of the Colored Men"(See also Item 53-8)

	Box	Folder
Howard University - Acts of Incorporation	3	115
Letter From Maxwell Woodhull - How to get money for Howard University and address on Education of the Colored Race.	3	116

Series H: Newspaper Clippings

Series I: Broadsides**Series Description**

These clippings reflect various stages of General Howard's life specifically focusing on his military achievements.

	Box	Folder
Newspaper Clipping re: Prof. Greener	3	117
Lincoln and General Howard - Newspaper Article - photostat	3	118
Engraving of O.O. Howard with autograph and newspaper clippings.	3	119
Newspaper clippings (mounted) engraved pictures	3	120
Newspaper clippings - re: O.O. Howard	3	121
Newspaper clippings - re: O.O. Howard	3	122
Newspaper clippings - Education, A Political Necessity Jan. 9, 1871	3	123
Newspaper clippings - 'The Chattanooga Daily Rebel June 21, 1863	3	124
Newspaper clippings - Memorial Day Monument of Soldiers and Sailors	3	125
Photostatic copy "The Sunday School Times 1863, April 4	3	126

Series I: Broadsides**Series Description**

Series J: Programs, Invitations

Includes a broadside announcing a speech given by General Howard at the YMCA

	Box	Folder
Broadsides	3	127
Broadside - Announcing his speech at YMCA Oct. 17	3	128

Series J: Programs, Invitations**Series Description**

Includes programs and testimonials in honor of General Howard and invitations to social functions and a thank you card.

	Box	Folder
Thank you card and invitations	3	129
Testimonial to Howard, Oliver O. by American Tract Society	3	130
Programs - Thirty-Sixth Re-Union Society of the Army of the	3	131
Program- Lincoln Dinner Republican Club of the City of New York 1905	3	132
Program- Banquet of the Medal of Honor Legion of the U.S. Atlantic City, N.J. Sept. 22, 1904	3	133

Series K: Lyrics and Poetry**Series Description**

Series L: Diaries

Poems by or relating to General Howard and a lyric entitled "Hold the Fort".

	Box	Folder
Poem - In Memory of O.O. Howard	3	134
Poems by or relating to General O.O. Howard	3	135
Poem "Me Empty Sleeve" by David Barker	3	136
Poem - "Howard at Atlanta" by John Greenleaf Whittier	3	137
Song "Hold The Fare"	3	138

Series L: Diaries**Series Description**

Diaries kept while General Howard attended West Point, and at various military camps between the years 1857-1887, and a diary kept by Mary Ames in 1865.

	Box	Folder
Diary at West Point Sept. 23, 1857- May 19, 1858	4	139
Diary at West Point Sept. 1858- Nov. 27, 1859, pt.4	4	140
Diary at Washington, D.C. Jan. 1, 1871-March 27, 1871	4	141
Camp Record - various camps May 3, 1887-May 12-16	4	142

Series M Photographs And Photograph Albums

Ames, Mary - A New England Woman's Diary in Dixie in 1865	4	143
Series M Photographs And Photograph Albums		
Series Description		
Two photograph albums, individual and group photographs of General Howard and individual and group photographs of General Howard's descendants and others.		
Albums		
	Box	Folder
Photograph album #1	4	144
Photograph album #2	4	145
Photographs of Oliver O. Howard		
	Box	Folder
Bust	4	146
Bust	4	147
Seated	4	148
Riding a horse	4	149

Family Photographs

Pictures	4	150
Pictures (multiple copies)	4	151
Group, with BMI officers	5	152
Group, with E. Whittlesey, G.W. Balloch	5	153
Group, Board of Trustees Bowdoin College	5	154
Funeral Services	5	155
Family Photographs		
	Box	Folder
Pictures - Howard Family,	5	156
Individuals		
	Box	Folder
Group - Howard Family	5	157
Eliza O.H. Gilmore	5	158
Charles and Sue Howard	5	159
Harry and Harriet Howard	5	160

Others

John Howard	5	161
Rowland Howard	5	162
Otis W. Howard	5	163
Elizabeth Howard Bancroft	5	164
Gray Family	5	165
Perkins Family	5	166
Powell Family	5	167
Webb Family	5	168
Others		
	Box	Folder
Servants of O.O. Howard	5	169
Wm. T. Sherman, Edwin Greble; E. &.Augusta Whittlesey	5	170
Buildings, Memorials, Places		
	Box	Folder
Homes of members of Howard Family	5	171

Series N: Individually Wrapped Items

Pictures of memorials to O.O. Howard	5	172
Cologne West Germany; Gen. Washington's Headquarters	5	173
Governors Island, NY (postcard); "Peace & War" painting in Chapel, West Point	5	174

Series N: Individually Wrapped Items**Series Description**

Scenic photographs of Europe, unidentified large framed photographs of individuals, framed certificates, framed water colors, collections of lectures, addresses, articles and artifacts.

Box

Farm - Leed's, Maine birthplace of O.O. Howard (1 photograph)	6
Gen. O.O. Howard's house on Governor's Island (1 photograph)	6
Living room of Gen. Howard's home on Governor's Island (2 photographs)	6
Dining room of Gen. Howard's home on Governor's Island (1 photograph)	6
Entrance to General's Quarters at Fort Mason, Calif. (1 photograph)	6
Unidentified group of men in uniform (1 postcard)	6
Unidentified speaker and audience (1 photograph)	6

Series N: Individually Wrapped Items

People assembled at a monument to soldiers and sailors (1 photograph)	6
Pictures of historic sites and works of art in Europe, from a visit (58 mounted items) April-June 1884	7
Collection of lectures, addresses articles etc.	8
Address before the New England Society	8
Account of tour through the Southern States	8
Freedmen	8
The Private Volunteer	8
Poverty in the Southern States	8
Annual Report YMCA, Washington, D.C.	8
Address before Graduating Class, H.U.	8
General William T. Sherman (1 photograph)	9
Lt. Gen. Winfield Scott (I engraving)	9
Oliver Otis Howard (photograph)	10

Series N: Individually Wrapped Items

Certificate of appreciation to O.O. Howard upon his retirement from the Commissioner-ship of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, War Department March 16, 1860	10
Certificate Ordre National De La Legion D'Honneur awarded to O.O. Howard September 15, 1884	11
Framed water color paintings - male and female figure standing with an unmounted horse looking toward a castle by Gen. O.O. Howard	12
Framed water color painting - male and female seated on a road overlooking an 18th century city scape by Gen. O.O. Howard	13
Artifact - Metal Cylinder inscribed: Commission of Oliver O. Howard Brigadier General U.S. Army	14