



Lipton, Lew, 1893-1961.

**Harlem Cavalcade : story and screen play
1935-1961**

Abstract: American film writer and producer Lew Lipton worked on this typescript for *Harlem Cavalcade* from 1935 until his death in 1961. It follows the story of African American life from 1626 to the 1930s.

Descriptive Summary

Identification: MSS 099, F868
Creator: Lipton, Lew, 1893-1961.
Title: Harlem Cavalcade : story and screen play
Inclusive Dates: 1935-1961
Extent: 1 item (154 p.)
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Citation: MSS 099, F868, Lew Lipton, Harlem Cavalcade : story and screen play, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware.

Shelving Summary: Box 60, F868: Shelved in SPEC MSS 0099 manuscript boxes

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Biographical Note

American film writer and producer Lew Lipton wrote or adapted over twenty screenplays and was the producer of twenty other films. He was born on February 23, 1893, in Chicago, Illinois, and died in New York City on December 27, 1961.

Sources:

"Lew Lipton." The Internet Movie Database. <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0513858/> (retrieved June 2010).

Scope and Content Note

Lew Lipton worked on this script for Harlem Cavalcade from 1935 until his death in 1961. It follows the story of African American life from 1626 to the 1930s. This script includes 154 pages of legal-sized original typescript and typescript carbon pages. The second page of the manuscript bears this typed statement: "The idea of Harlem Cavalcade was conceived by the author in 1935. Since then he has devoted most of his time to research, compilation, arrangement and the actual writing." The play is an epic history of the Negro in America, including the social, political and cultural experience, about which the author writes on page five: "Throughout this entire story, there is not a single white person visible. White participation is illustrated purely by suggestion." Lipton's story began in 1626 on the docks of the Dutch community in what is today New York City. His story continued with vignettes of major events and the lives of African Americans as they shaped history until about 1938. Among those depicted in the story were many noted African Americans, such as Booker T. Washington, Frederick Douglass, George Washington Carver, Joe Lewis, Satchel Paige, Cab Calloway and numerous others. The story ends in a classroom in Harlem in the late 1930s with the singing of the *Colored National Anthem*.

Selected Search Terms

Topical Terms

American drama—20th century—Sources.

African American dramatists—20th century—Sources.

Motion picture producers and directors—20th century—Sources.

Geographic Names

Harlem (New York, N.Y.)--History--20th century--Sources.

Form/Genre Terms

Screenplays.

Stories.

Related Materials in this Repository

This item forms part of MSS 099 Miscellaneous Literary and Historical Manuscripts.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Harlem Cavalcade : story and screen play, 1935-1961 [Box 60 F868]
