

BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

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[Loose Photographs]: African-American Civilian Conservation Corps

Virginia, Montana: 1933-1942

\$3500



A collection of 48 loose black and white photographs. Various sizes measuring between 3½" x 2½" and 7" x 5". Moderate wear with some creasing else very good or better.



Photographic archive compiled by an unnamed member of the all African-American Civilian Conservation Corps Company Number 1286, stationed in Fort Story, Virginia and Libby, Montana. Views include camp environs, occupational scenes, and many group shots of Corps members, posed and candid, at work and at rest. One photo shows an African-American trumpeter, another shows the group on a train. The men are shown in their barracks playing with dogs, posing in groups, and in military style formation. During the Depression, the CCC offered non-skilled labor opportunities to young, unmarried men, between the ages of 18-25. The paid time was served in six month stints, with a maximum enrollment period of two years. Between 1933 and 1942, over 3 million young men were assigned to various conservation and infrastructure projects across the United States, earning thirty dollars a month at the height of the Depression. Total African-American enrollment, however, has been estimated to have been no more than 250,000, and by 1935 units were segregated by official decree. Surviving images of African-American companies are scarce with this group providing a rich view into a little examined aspect of the CCC. [BTC#400163]



