Contributing Institution: USC Libraries Special Collections
Title: Floyd C. Covington papers
Creator: Covington, Floyd C., 1901-1989
Creator: Covington, Alma
Identifier/Call Number: 7057
Physical Description: 20 Linear Feet 27 boxes, 5 oversize folders, and 1 artifact
Date (inclusive): 1901-1989
Date (bulk): 1930-1970
Abstract: Floyd C. Covington was a Black civic leader in Los Angeles from the late 1920s to the 1970s. Through his work as the first Executive Director of the Los Angeles Urban League and his service in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Covington redefined social welfare and equal opportunity in both employment and housing for various communities in Los Angeles. Covington's papers contain his early scholarship and poetry from his youth and education in Seattle, Washington and Topeka, Kansas; scrapbooks, photographs, posters, and reports from his leadership of the Los Angeles Urban League during the 1930s and 1940s; correspondence, speech drafts, and other writings documenting Covington's work in intergroup relations and equal opportunity at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; family mementos -- including papers and photographs from Covington's wife, Alma Covington, and his father in law, Thomas Augustus Greene, Sr.; and lastly, correspondence, realia, and creative works documenting Covington's strong relationships with community associations, such as the YMCA in Los Angeles, and his passions for creative writing, music, and theater. The Covington papers document the history of Los Angeles' African American community in both the pre- and post-World War II periods.
Language of Material: English.

Biographical / Historical
Floyd C. Covington (1901-1989) was a Black civic leader in Los Angeles from the late 1920s to the 1970s. Through his work as the first Executive Director of the Los Angeles Urban League and his service in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Covington redefined social welfare and equal opportunity in both employment and housing for various communities in Los Angeles.

Born Floyd James Cornelius Covington to Charles Covington and Lulu Jeltz Covington, Floyd was orphaned during his youth in Denver, Colorado and subsequently adopted by Reverend James Logan Craw and Lillian J. Brown. Covington attended Broadway High School in Seattle, Washington and then Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas, receiving a bachelor's degree in Sociology and Economics in 1927. Covington then acquired his MA degree at the University of Pittsburgh and a Degree in Mundane and Arcane Sciences from the Rosicrucian University in San Jose, California. During the 1940s when Covington was working at the Los Angeles Urban League, he also began taking courses toward a PhD at the University of Southern California -- matriculating in USC's departments of Sociology and Economics.

Covington's employment history spans from 1928 to 1970:
• 1928-1930: Industrial Relations Secretary, Los Angeles Urban League
• 1930-1931: Membership Secretary and Acting Physical Director, 28th Street Branch YMCA
• 1931-1950: Executive Director, Los Angeles Urban League
• 1950-1957: Intergroup Relations Adviser, Zone V., Federal Housing Administration
• 1957-1970: Equal Opportunity Specialist, Zone V., Department of Housing and Urban Development

In 1929, Floyd Covington married Willa Alma Greene, also known as Alma Covington*, who taught and served as an elementary school principal in the Los Angeles Unified School District until 1965. Floyd also worked with Alma’s father, Thomas Augustus Greene, Sr., who was another prominent African American community leader in Los Angeles. T. A. Greene served as secretary of the "Los Angeles Colored YMCA" from 1906 to 1932 and he led the effort to raise funds for and open the 28th Street Branch of the YMCA in 1926. Floyd and Alma had one son, Floyd C. Covington, Jr., who also worked for the Los Angeles Urban League. [This collection only contains one or two files relating to Covington, Jr. Files in this collection referring to "Floyd Covington"--without "Jr." or "Sr." specified--always relate to Floyd C. Covington, Sr.]

In his personal and professional life, Covington was a community leader, educator, poet, author, and playwright. Among other achievements, Covington prevented the Santa Monica freeway from cutting through a historically black neighborhood, he advocated for equal pay for African Americans, and he demanded more authentic portrayals of African Americans in film. Along with his father in law, T. A. Greene, Covington was instrumental in establishing the first black YMCA in Los Angeles.
After retiring in 1970, Covington devoted much of his labor to religious and community associations, including the Men of Tomorrow, the Scottsboro Boys Defense Fund, Wesley Methodist Church, Holman United Methodist Church, and various housing and zoning initiatives.

**Scope and Contents**

The Floyd C. Covington papers document Covington's early life and education, his leadership of the Los Angeles Urban League during the 1930s and 1940s, the local advances in intergroup relations and equal opportunity initiatives that Covington directed at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, his strong relationships with both family and community, and his personal creativity in writing, music, and theater.

The parts of Covington's papers that relate to his work at the Los Angeles Urban League document important milestones for African American communities in Los Angeles. One of Covington's Urban League scrapbooks contains news clippings, photographs, and correspondence highlighting Covington’s work at the Los Angeles Urban League -- with photographs demonstrating successful job placements for African Americans as Safeway clerks and managers, Pay’N Take Store employees, Helms Bakeries salesmen, Thrifty Drug Co. employees, manufacturers at Pacific Parachute Company aircraft plants, and others. This part of the collection also holds nine large Urban League posters that visualize racial inequalities in labor economics and job market opportunities -- as well as photographs documenting the “first transcontinental negro flight”.

The series comprising records from Covington's employment at the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) contain a significant amount of correspondence between Covington and notable public figures, including former Governor of California, Earl Warren and former mayor of Los Angeles, Fletcher Bowron. The HUD portion of the collection also holds material relating to a series of Loyalty Board hearings, which investigated claims against Covington's potential communist influences “for the purpose of establishing [Covington’s] suitability for employment in the Federal service.”

Other highlights of Covington’s papers include his family mementos--such as Alma Covington's photograph albums and travel diaries; materials illustrating Covington's artistic creations, such as his poetry, personal narratives, and his violin; published articles that Covington authored; and a large scrapbook documenting a testimonial banquet held in 1971 following Covington's retirement titled, "Four Decades of Service - Honoring Floyd C. Covington." The testimonial scrapbook is accompanied by various awards, tributes, and official resolutions honoring Covington's contributions.

**Conditions Governing Access**
Advance notice required for access.

**Conditions Governing Use**

All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Manuscripts Librarian. Permission for publication is given on behalf of Special Collections as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained.

**Preferred Citation**

[Box/folder no. or item name], Floyd C. Covington papers, Collection no. 7057, Regional History Collection, Special Collections, USC Libraries, University of Southern California

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Purchased from Elizabeth Covington via John Ralmon, August 2017.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

- African Americans -- California -- Los Angeles -- History -- 20th century -- Archival resources
- Discrimination in housing -- California -- Los Angeles -- Archival resources
- Minorities -- Employment -- California -- Los Angeles -- 20th century -- Archival resources
- Minorities -- Housing -- California -- Los Angeles -- Archival resources
- Occupational segregation -- California -- Los Angeles -- 20th century -- Archival resources
- Social justice -- United States -- History -- 20th century -- Archival resources
- Correspondence
- Photograph albums
- Posters
- Scrapbooks
- Covington, Floyd C., 1901-1989 -- Archives
- Covington, Alma -- Archives
Education

Box 4, Folder 8  
[Broadway High School, class of 1923 - yearbook and anniversary programs] 1923, 1973

Box 11, Folder 8  
[ Educational and merit certificates and diplomas - unframed] 1923-1969  
Processing Information  
These documents were found in the collection unframed. The other certificates and awards described in this collection were donated to USC still in their frames (and subsequently removed from the frames during processing).

Box 16, Folder 4-6  
Graduate Courses -- Ph.D. 1936-1941  
Box 1, Folder 1,  
Seminar in Planning, University of Southern California 1964-1965  
Box 5, Folder 1  
Student Manual for Stenotypy 1951 September  
Box 7, Folder 9  
[Untitled binder with lecture notes and religious quotations] 1939, 1951

Washburn University

Box 4, Folder 9-10  
Classmates and Memories scrapbook [Washburn College and University of Pittsburgh] 1927  
Scope and Contents  
Includes loose photographic prints, negatives, and correspondence that were inserted in the last blank pages of the book (now stored in separate folder).

Box 6, Folder 1  
The Kaw 1925 Yearbook [Washburn College, Topeka, Kansas] 1925  
Washburn Alumnus 1965-1974

Box 6, Folder 2-3  
Scope and Contents  
"Includes letter from Mayor Tom Bradley."

Box 9, Folder 4-5  
Religion 17: History of Religions [course notebook] 1925  
Scope and Contents  
Includes a Bible and a small amount of material from other courses (e.g., Spanish).

Box 9, Folder 6  
Scrap Book of Philosophical Sayings 1927  
Processing Information  
Outer binding of notebook was removed.

Box 11, Folder 6  
[Washburn Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award] 1972 May 13  
Scope and Contents  
Includes a photograph of Covington with Richard J. Peters and the citation read by Peters at awards ceremony.

Box 20  
[Bronze medal from Washburn University of Topeka Alumni Association] circa 1972
Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)

Related Materials
See also: subseries titled, "Thomas Augustus Greene, Sr." -- under Series VII, "Family and travel mementos."

Box 7, Folder 12
"Directors for YMCA Announced" [article in Los Angeles Sentinel] 1935 February 28

Box 13, Folder 2
[Drafts of a speech on the "history of the YMCA for colored men and boys"] undated

Scope and Contents
Multiple drafts of a speech on the "history of the YMCA for colored men and boys in the city of Los Angeles, for the information and entertainment of the ladies of this Chapter."

Box 8, Folder 5
General Report and Financial Statements of the Young Men's Christian Association of Los Angeles 1932 October 27

Box 21, Folder 1
National Conference of the YMCA 1929 October

Box 8, Folder 9
[Twenty-fifth anniversary celebration of the 28th Street Branch YMCA] 1932 November 6; 1933 March

Scope and Contents
Includes photographs from the event and an article about Thomas Augustus Greene, Sr. with a picture from this celebration, published in the March 1933 issue of The Crisis: A Record of the Darker Races

Box 8, Folder 10
The Y Men 1926 November 13

Scope and Contents
Includes an article featuring Thomas Augustus Greene, Sr., an invitation to the dedication of the new building for the 28th Street YMCA branch, and brochures for annual YMCA Track and Field Meets.

Los Angeles Urban League (LAUL)

Box 17, Folder 13
[Certificate of Merit to Floyd Covington from Pacific Parachute Co.] 1945 March 25

Box 18, Folder 6
[City of Los Angeles certifications of appointment of the Housing Authority to Floyd Covington] 1944-1945

Box 13, Folder 8
[Clippings and ephemera from Urban League office] 1933-1950

Box 15, Folder 6
First Transcontinental Negro Flight 1933

Box 20
[Floyd Covington desk plate] undated

Box 8, Folder 6
[Joe Louis and Freddy Ginyard coming out of plane at Lockheed plant] undated

General
Others pictured: Herman Hill, Robert Brown, Jim Williamson, Lt. Lawrence Oxley, Floyd Covington, and Earl Griffin.

Box 15, Folder 5
Los Angeles Community Chest - Negro [news clippings] 1928-1929

Box 13, Folder 6
Los Angeles Urban League - 50th Anniversary Membership Meeting 1971 May 23

Scope and Contents
Contains a program for the event and drafts of Covington’s speech.

Box 14, Folder 1
Los Angeles Urban League annual and biennial reports] 1950-1951

Box 25, Folder 1

Scope and Contents
A scrapbook of news clippings, photographs, and correspondence highlighting Covington’s work at the Los Angeles Urban League. Includes photographs of successful job placements of African Americans as Safeway clerks and managers, Pay’N Take Store employees, Helms Bakeries salesmen, Thrifty Drug Co., and others.

Box 17, Folder 12
[National Urban League certificate for 10 years of service] 1945 October

Box 7, Folder 5
"The Negro Market" by Floyd Covington 1932
Los Angeles Urban League (LAUL)
Posters

Box 17, Folder 14  [News clippings featuring Floyd Covington and pencil drawing portraits] 1929-1938
Scope and Contents
Also includes articles authored by Covington in The Urban Light and Flash: A Weekly News Magazine.

Box 17, Folder 7  [Pacific Parachute Company - correspondence and photographs] 1951
Scope and Contents
Includes photographs of Floyd Covington and Mayor Fletcher Bowron with employees of aircraft parts plants in Los Angeles.

---

Posters

Folder 3  America’s Number 1 Problem: A Socio-economic and Cultural Lag - Another Vicious Circle circa 1931-1950
Scope and Contents
Four Los Angeles Urban League posters illustrating inconsistencies relating to racial groups in labor economics and job market opportunities. Includes two large graphs illustrating the “percentage of jobs allotted to racial group based upon percentage of racial group to total population.”

Folder 1  Inconsistency - The Other Vicious Circle circa 1931-1950
Scope and Contents
Three Los Angeles Urban League posters illustrating the problems with traditional education, vocational training, and available employment opportunities.

Folder 4  The Urban League - Red Feather Services circa 1931-1950
Full Text
The Urban League - Red Feather Services - Symbol of Community Service - "Shedding Rays of Light Without Sparks of Heat On Community Problems"

Folder 2  The Vicious Circle circa 1931-1950
Scope and Contents
Three Los Angeles Urban League posters illustrating the problems with traditional education, vocational training, and available employment opportunities.

---

Box 17, Folder 8  Report of the Executive Director 1935

Box 13, Folder 4  Replies to Questionnaire 1944
Scope and Contents
Responses from various National Urban League affiliate organizations to a questionnaire sent by Covington.

Box 18, Folder 2  Special Crime Study Commission on Social and Economic Conditions Contributing to Crime and Delinquency [certificate] 1947 November 4

Box 20  To Floyd Covington for Inspirational Leadership, 1928-1951 circa 1951

Box 14, Folder 2  [Transcript of interview with Judge Jefferson, former Urban League President] undated
Los Angeles Urban League (LAUL)
University of Southern California coursework

**University of Southern California coursework**

- Box 16, Folder 1-2: [Occupational Attitudes and Values; General Notes; Clinical Psychology] 1948
- Box 15, Folder 8: "A Comparison of Some of the Subjective Factors Related to the Concept of Social Distance" by Floyd Covington 1941, 1948
- Box 16, Folder 3: Doctor of Philosophy Data for Floyd C. Covington 1947-1948
- Box 21, Folder 5: "Urban League Grows with the Sentinel" [article in Los Angeles Sentinel] 1983 April 14

**Urban League Testimonial Banquet Honoring Resigning Director, Floyd C. Covington**

- Box 12, Folder 7: [Photograph album] 1951 May 29
- Box 14, Folder 13: [Invitation, speech notes, testimonials, biographical information, and news clippings] 1947-1954

**Urban League - Tom Bradley 1971-1974**

**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**

- Box 6, Folder 6: Address by Floyd C. Covington to the Victoria Business and Professional Women's Club 1962 February 25
- Box 2, Folder 1-5: F. C. Covington's Writings and Speeches 1961-1968
  Federal Housing Administration (FHA)
  Alphabetical correspondence files
  A 1950-1954
  Scope and Contents

- Box 18, Folder 10: B 1948-1954
  Scope and Contents
Finding aid for the Floyd C. Covington papers 7057

Box 17, Folder 21  C 1950-1955
Scope and Contents

Box 17, Folder 22  D 1950-1954
Scope and Contents

Box 18, Folder 11  E 1950-1953
Scope and Contents
Correspondence to, from, or relating to: Stanley C. Elsis, Robert Ellis, Mrs. Edward A. Engel, John B. Elliott, Billy Eckstine, Ada Ernst,

Box 19, Folder 1  F 1948-1954
Scope and Contents

Box 18, Folder 12  G 1950-1955
Scope and Contents

Box 19, Folder 2  H 1950-1954
Scope and Contents
Box 19, Folder 3

J 1946-1954

Scope and Contents

Box 19, Folder 4

K 1950-1954

Scope and Contents
Correspondence to, from, or relating to: Frank E. Kane, Knowles A. Ryerson, Keith Kanaga, Goodwin J. Knight, Jack G. Kuhrts, Charles D. Kennedy, Ruth L. Krohn, Margaret Kane, Velma D. Grant, Rufus B. von KleinSmid, Claire Kassler, and Ella Kube.

Box 19, Folder 5

L 1950-1955

Scope and Contents

Box 18, Folder 13

M 1950-1954

Scope and Contents

Box 19, Folder 6

N 1950-1954

Scope and Contents
Correspondence to, from, or relating to: Charles Nichamin, Mrs. R. W. Newkirk, Negro Newspaper Week, Oliver S. Norsworthy, Lorenzo Smyth Norton, and Solomon Naman.

Box 18, Folder 14

O 1950-1954

Scope and Contents
Correspondence to, from, or relating to: Thomas J. O'Dwyer, Ernest Oganesoff, James R. O'Rourke, Oceana Publications, and Mas Oyama.

Box 19, Folder 7

P 1950-1954

Scope and Contents
Correspondence to, from, or relating to: Paul E. Pfuetze, Charles S. Palmerlee, Raymond E. Pollich, Paul K. Pfuetze, Roy V. Peel, Irwin Parnes, Leila Peake, Lee F. Payne, Virgil Pinkley, Thomas Roy Peyton, W. E. Pollard, Pacific Coast-International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, R. E. Pierce, William Clyde Page, Eloise Parrish, and Frances Payne.
Finding aid for the Floyd C. Covington papers 7057

R 1950-1954
Scope and Contents

S 1950-1955
Scope and Contents

T 1950-1955
Scope and Contents
Correspondence to, from, or relating to: Leon Thompson, Lessie Louise Terry, Alonzo C. Thayer, Charles S. Truehill, Dr. H. Arvis Talley, Turnabout Charity Club, Anetea L. Tidball, Lloyd M. Taylor, Robert B. Tapp, and Robert R. Taylor.

V 1950-1954
Scope and Contents
Correspondence to, from, or relating to: Volunteers of America, Raymond A. Voigt, Veterans Administration, and John van der Velde.

W 1950-1956
Scope and Contents

Scope and Contents
These photographs picture the Montclair Apartments, Montclair St. and 7th Ave.

Scope and Contents

Scope and Contents

Scope and Contents

Scope and Contents

[Finding aid for the Floyd C. Covington papers 7057] [Appointment and address books] 1950-1955, 1970
Scope and Contents

[Finding aid for the Floyd C. Covington papers 7057] FHA Project (apartments for low-income people), created by Floyd C. Covington 1959 June
Scope and Contents
These photographs picture the Montclair Apartments, Montclair St. and 7th Ave.

Scope and Contents

Large Size Pictures of F. C. Covington Sr. - FHA and real estate relating material 1954-1971 1960-1962
Loyalty Board hearings

**Lieutenant Commander Dennis D. Nelson, USN 1955-1956**

Scope and Contents

Includes photographic prints of Floyd Covington with Mr. Wesley Brazier, Captain Georges Bayard, Miss Jill St. John, and LCDR Dennis Nelson -- previously stored in an envelope labeled "The Hoist."

**Box 17, Folder 15**


**Box 18, Folder 9**

Personal File - Biography - Floyd C. Covington - Birth Records 1953

**Box 1, Folder 9**

Program for Purchase and Rehabilitation of Housing for Resale to Low-Income Purchasers 1950-1952

**Box 17, Folder 19**

Re: Housing Commissioner, City of Los Angeles 1948 August

Scope and Contents


**Loyalty Board hearings**

General

"In accordance with existing procedures, an investigation has been made for the purpose of establishing your suitability for employment in the Federal service." The hearings concern charges of potential communist influence for Floyd Covington.

**Box 5, Folder 19**


The Urban Light - Los Angeles Urban League Bulletin Number 9 1935 January; 1938

General

Handwritten on cover: "Exhibit-- FHA Loyalty Hearing - 12/14/54. See pp. 26-27-28."

**Box 7, Folder 13**

Exhibits and Letters to be Submitted to Loyalty Board 1943-1955

Exhibits - Formal Security Board Hearing 1954 December 14


Personal File - Regional Loyalty Board Hearing 1951-1955

To Be Opened By Addressee Only - Mr. Floyd C. Covington 1954-1955

Scope and Contents

Includes lists of recommenders for affidavits.

**Box 7, Folder 17**

Previous Hearings [transcripts] 1943-1951

Extra copies for Floyd Covington 1954

Expenses - Security Cash 1955

Personal Letters for Acknowledgment 1954-1955

"Floyd Covington Reinstated in Housing Authority Job" - article in California Eagle 1955 February 10
Loose pages from Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) file on Floyd Covington
1901-1960

Scope and Contents
Contains pages on Floyd Covington's ancestors, identification, religion, education, personal health, employment, and marriage -- with photographs.

Miscellaneous Materials to Keep - Speeches, Reports, Correspondence 1966-1971

Scope and Contents
Much of the material in this folder relates to the Manhattan Beach Community Church.

Personnel Records of Floyd C. Covington 1947-1978

Scope and Contents
Includes HUD brochures, employment forms and applications, résumés, correspondence, and news clippings.

Racial Caricatures and Stereotypes 1963 June

Scope and Contents
Includes handwritten letter from Covington to Terry.

South Central Area Welfare Planning Council - Agency Executive Advisory Committee 1967

Scope and Contents
Includes a 1967 booklet titled “HUD: What it is, What it Does” with a draft of a thank you letter inserted in the booklet.

This is Your Life - Mrs. Jessie L. Terry circa 1961

Scope and Contents
Includes handwritten letter from Covington to Terry.

"Violence in the City -- An End or a Beginning?" A Report by the Governor’s Commission on the Los Angeles Riots 1965

Scope and Contents

Finding aid for the Floyd C. Covington papers 7057
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box, Folder</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Scope and Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7, 3</td>
<td><em>The Bachelor's Congress</em> by Griffin Galbraith</td>
<td>1918</td>
<td>&quot;Mrs. Craw&quot; handwritten on cover.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5, 13</td>
<td><em>California Eagle</em> 1933 November 17</td>
<td></td>
<td>This issue features a photograph of Floyd Covington. Also features a photograph captioned: &quot;Heroes of the First Transcontinental Flight Westward made by Negro Aviators--C. Alfred Anderson and Dr. Albert Forsyth being welcomed by Lieutenant William J. Powell at Grand Central Airport.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14, 10</td>
<td>&quot;Chicago Negro Labor and Civil Rights&quot; by Tim Black</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5, 2</td>
<td>Clippings 1935-1970</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5, 14</td>
<td>Clippings 1941, 1974</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11, 1-3</td>
<td>Collectanea Miscellanea Compiled By Floyd C. Covington 1923-1952</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14, 9</td>
<td><em>Ernie Barnes: A Twentieth Century Genre Painter</em></td>
<td>1971</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1, 11</td>
<td><em>The Human Culture Digest</em> [two articles featuring Floyd Covington] 1943 August, 1944 February</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11, 4</td>
<td>&quot;Jules Saxe Dies in Palm Springs&quot; [news clipping] 1963 March 14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, 13</td>
<td><em>Letter From Birmingham Jail</em> 1963 April 16</td>
<td></td>
<td>Letter addressed to &quot;My Dear Fellow Clergymen&quot; from Martin Luther King, Jr. &quot;Response to a published statement by eight fellow clergymen from Alabama.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7, 1</td>
<td><em>Negro Who's Who in California</em> 1948</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Mr. T.A. Greene&quot; handwritten on first page.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, 8</td>
<td>[News clippings] 1931, undated</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8, 14</td>
<td>[Newspapers and magazines with articles featuring Martin Luther King, Jr.] 1968-1972</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 5-6</td>
<td><em>Opportunity: Journal of Negro Life</em> 1930 September; 1931 December</td>
<td></td>
<td>Includes a photograph of Floyd Covington.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7, 4</td>
<td><em>Pocket Prayer Book</em> 1944</td>
<td></td>
<td>Inscribed to Floyd Covington from J. W. Bryant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14, 6</td>
<td><em>Portraits of Outstanding Americans of Negro Origin</em> [exhibit description] 1948</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5, 12</td>
<td><em>Silhouette Pictorial</em> 1940 May</td>
<td></td>
<td>Floyd Covington is listed as a contributing editor.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
News clippings and publications

Box 14, Folder 3  
**The United States Law Week 1948**

Scope and Contents
Includes an issue on religious instruction in public schools and a booklet titled "Congress at Work" published by Scholastic.

**Portraits of Floyd Covington**

Box 16, Folder 9  
**[Group portraits with Floyd Covington] 1938-1984**

Scope and Contents
Includes a photograph of Mayor Tom Bradley holding the document declaring April 24, 1984 "Floyd and Alma Covington Day," with Floyd and Alma Covington and John Mack, Urban League President. Also includes a 1938 photograph of Floyd Covington guest-speaking at a Women's Civic League, San Diego.

Box 16, Folder 7-8  
**[Individual portraits of Floyd Covington] circa 1907-1962**

Box 21, Folder 4  
**[Large photographic portraits of Floyd Covington in Urban League Office by Lou Ruiz] 1942**

Box 21, Folder 3  
**[Portrait drawing of Floyd Covington by Charles Haywood] 1936**

**Family and travel mementos**

Box 14, Folder 5  
**[1932 Summer Olympics scrapbook] 1931-1932**

Box 11, Folder 7  
**[1959 photographic prints] 1959**

Scope and Contents
Includes photographs of Floyd and Alma traveling in Mexico City and photographs from 30th anniversary.

Box 6, Folder 8-11  
**[25th wedding anniversary cards and telegrams to Floyd and Alma Covington] 1954**

**Alma Covington**

Box 2, Folder 8  
**Alma Covington’s Reception - In Appreciation For Her Years of Service in Education 1965 October**

Box 2, Folder 9  
**To Be A Woman: The Experience of Womanhood in Selected Writings 1969**

General
Inscribed: "Happy Mother’s Day / Love, Sis, Suela [or Buela]"

Box 2, Folder 10  
**[News clippings featuring Alma Covington] 1957-1959**

Box 3, Folder 1  
**[24th Street School yearbook] 1955 April**

Box 5, Folder 3  
**Family Pictures 1939-1960**

Box 2, Folder 11  
**24th Street School Pictures 1954-1963**

Box 5, Folder 4  
**[Sheet music and issue of Song Hit Folio 1933-1934**

Box 3, Folder 2  
**[Photographic portraits of Alma Covington] 1955-1965**

Box 3, Folder 3  
**[24th Street School paperwork and ephemera] 1961**

Box 5, Folder 5  
**1965 Retirement Party [news clippings] 1965 November**

Box 3, Folder 4  
**[“Safety Project“ - Article in Los Angeles City Press 1962 September 20**

Box 3, Folder 5  
**My Commencement [scrapbook from high school graduation] 1921 June 15**

Box 3, Folder 6  
**Sororities 1957-1970**

Box 3, Folder 7-8  
**[USC commencement programs and Bachelor of Science in Education diploma] 1939, 1948**

Box 3, Folder 9-10  
**[Coursework for USC School of Education] 1947-1948**

Box 5, Folder 6  
**Letters to Parents and Personal Letters - 24th Street School 1964-1965, 1975**

Box 3, Folder 12  
**The Crisis: A Record of the Darker Races 1933 August**

Box 5, Folder 9  
**California Eagle 1948 June 17**

General
Features an image of Alma Covington.
Family and travel mementos
Alma Covington

Obituary of Lula Walton Greene 1969
General
Lula Walton Greene was Alma Covington's mother.

[Correspondence from Floyd Covington to Alma Covington] undated
Autobiography of Willa Alma Greene Covington 1920-1975
[Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) programs and directories] 1951-1965
[Certificates and awards] 1917, 1961
Addresses, telephones undated
Meditations for Women 1957

Those Christmas Lights - A One-Act Skit by Floyd and Alma Covington undated

[Reference material on health and nutrition] 1954-1966
General
Title on outer binder: "'Raw Vegetable Juices - What's Missing In Your Body' / 'Diet and Salad Suggestions' (W. W. Walker) / Knudsen Recipes." (Outer binder removed.)

Travel Diary 1966
[Travel scrapbook] 1934
[Photograph album - U.S. and Canada travels] 1939

Bible of F. C. Covington's mother undated
General
Includes a "family history" on one of the first pages.

[Birth certificates and passports for Floyd and Alma Covington] 1901, 1966

[Brochures, receipts, guides, and souvenirs from Europe trip] 1966

Chicago World's Fair 1934

[Floyd Covington, Jr.] 1950, 1981

Home Dedication Ritual undated

["House of Covington" stamp] undated

[Loose family photographs] 1954, undated
Scope and Contents
Includes photographs captioned: "Candice-Denise" and "Craig Jerome Powers." Also includes negatives and a portrait of Floyd Covington's mother.
Box 16, Folder 13

[Lula Catherine Greene] 1941, undated

Box 6, Folder 4-5

Mrs. Lillian J. Brown 1972

General

Mrs. Lillian J. Brown was Floyd Covington's adoptive mother.

Scope and Contents

Material from Lillian J. Brown's funeral and memorial service

Box 7, Folder 7

"Out of the Past: A Pageant of the Negro Race" by Lillian J. Craw 1926

General

Authored by Floyd Covington's mother -- with a foreword by Floyd Covington.

Box 13, Folder 1

Photographs [family photograph album] 1915-1944, undated

Box 8, Folder 15-17, Box 10, Folder 7

[Photographs, souvenirs, and brochures from trip to Hawaii] 1962

Box 12, Folder 9

Pictures Tell the Story [family photograph album] 1922-1928, undated

Box 16, Folder 10

[Portraits and snapshots of Floyd and Alma Covington] 1929-1972

Scope and Contents

Also includes a few snapshots of Alma Covington alone and an envelope of wedding flowers dated July 17, 1929.

Box 22

[Slides and negatives from travels] circa 1960s

Scope and Contents

Mostly European travels. Includes two small photographic prints.
Thomas Augustus Greene, Sr.

General

T. A. Greene was Alma Covington's father (and Floyd Covington's father in law) and secretary of the Los Angeles Colored YMCA from 1906 to 1932. Greene helped lead the effort to raise funds for and open the 28th Street Branch of the YMCA in 1926.

Related Materials

See also Series II: "Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)."

Box 3, Folder 11, Box 5, Folder 7, Box 5, Folder 8, Box 5, Folder 15, Box 10, Folder 4

Floyd's file on Dad - T. A. Greene Related Materials 1919-1976

T. A. Greene - Material on Dad and unveiling 1957-1966

Greene-Mills & Co. [booklet for potential investors] circa 1931-1950

Souvenir Journal of the Semi-Centennial of Wesley Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church 1938 May

Box 8, Folder 11, Box 8, Folder 12

[News clippings featuring T. A. Greene] 1919-1953

[Photographic portrait of T.A. Greene and Lula Walton Greene] undated

General

T. A. Greene

Box 17, Folder 4, Box 20

Wesley Methodist Church Debt Liquidation Certificates 1941-1942

[Bronze cup presented to T. A. Greene, Executive Secretary, 1906-1932, 28th Street YMCA] circa 1932

Box 12, Folder 10

[Untitled family photograph album] 1926-1935, undated

Poetry, personal narratives, and résumés

Box 14, Folder 12, Box 1, Folder 4-5, Box 7, Folder 6, Box 5, Folder 10, Box 10, Folder 11, Box 11, Folder 12, Box 4, Folder 6

[Biographical and autobiographical notes and narratives] undated

Personal File - Honors - Manuscripts - Published Writings 1929-1966

"Picture and Perspective" [personal narrative] by Floyd Covington 1928 December

[Poems by Floyd Covington] 1922-1923, 1938, undated

Poetry of Floyd J. Covington Craw 1920

[Résumés and list of publications] 1968, undated

[Scrapbook - young years and writings] 1918-1934

Processing Information

This scrapbook was found in a box previously labeled "Young years and writings."

Music and theater

Box 20

Adventures in Negro History 1963

Physical Description: 12" LP vinyl phonograph record with jacket, sleeve, and liner notes.

General

Highlight Radio Productions

Community and family theater

General

Floyd Covington and Alma Covington (along with other Covington family members) produced, acted, wrote, and directed various theatrical productions for community and church venues as well as for the home and family.
Music and theater
Community and family theater

Box 17, Folder 1  Pageant material 1933
Box 17, Folder 2  [*"Our Minister's..." theatrical productions] 1948
Box 15, Folder 9  "All Star Fun-O-Cade" written and directed by Floyd C. Covington 1951
Box 15, Folder 10  [Productions of "Our Town" with Covington in various roles] 1953, undated
Box 15, Folder 11  [Theater notebook] 1949-1955
Box 17, Folder 3  [Wesley Community Center theater notebook] 1949-1953

Box 15, Folder 7  

[Concert and theater programs] 1942-1955

Scope and Contents
Programs and clippings relating to performances featuring Roland Hayes, Dorothy Maynor, Mattiwilda Dobbs, and Carol Brice. Many of these performances took place at the Hollywood Bowl.

Box 5, Folder 17-18

F.C.C. Sr's [Floyd Covington's] Musical Notebooks - for Violin undated

Box 13, Folder 10

The Four Trumpets Quartet [and Floyd Covington] 1933 August 19

Box 12, Folder 1

Graham-Page Intermediate Music Booklet 1932

General
Booklet inscribed to Floyd Covington from Eugene Edgar Page.

Box 14, Folder 15

[Marian Anderson - clippings and concert programs] 1944-1946

Box 20

Misc. 10" 78s [album of vinyl phonograph records] undated

Physical Description: 3 10" LP phonograph records in album.

Scope and Contents
An album of Covington's collected 10" records.

Box 14, Folder 4

[Published playscripts collected by Floyd Covington] 1933-1968

Scope and Contents
Includes multiple works by Langston Hughes.

Box 7, Folder 2

Sure Fire Acts for Amateur Vaudeville 1929
Music and theater
Community and family theater

Scope and Contents
Includes Floyd Covington's handwritten notes.

Box 8, Folder 7

*They Shall Not Die* - A Play by John Wexley 1934

Item 1

[Violin and bow in case] undated

Religious and community associations

Box 17, Folder 10

[Los Angeles County Conference on Community Relations] 1950 October
Scope and Contents
Includes a Citation of Outstanding Service awarded to Covington and correspondence from W. Henry Cooke to Covington.

Box 16, Folder 15

[Memberships, contacts, and business cards] 1943-1976, undated

Box 23

[Men of Tomorrow Inc. - Special Award to Floyd Covington] undated

Box 15, Folder 3

Men of Tomorrow [membership lists, correspondence, and minutes] 1966-1977

Box 23

[Orange County Apartment House Association - Award of Recognition] undated

Box 17, Folder 6

[Southern California Alumni Association - Wesley Methodist Church - annual reception programs] 1921-1939

Box 17, Folder 5

[Wesley Methodist Church - event programs] 1941-1959

Post-retirement

Four Decades of Service - Testimonial Dinner Honoring Floyd C. Covington

General
Event sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Box 1, Folder 10

[Photograph album / scrapbook] 1971
Scope and Contents
An album of photographs, testimonials, correspondence, and news clippings.

Box 10, Folder 9

[Guestbook] 1971

Box 12, Folder 8

[Speech drafts and planning correspondence] 1971

Box 18, Folder 3

Resolution of the City Council of the City of Compton Commending Floyd C. Covington, Sr. 1971 April 13

Box 17, Folder 11

Men of Tomorrow, Inc. - Back Patter’s Citation 1971 April 14

Box 18, Folder 1

*Congressional Record: Proceedings and Debates of the 92nd Congress* 1971 April 7
Scope and Contents
Includes the appointment of this position to Covington, signed by Earl Warren.

Box 18, Folder 4

[City of Los Angeles commendation to Floyd Covington, Sr.] 1971 April

Box 18, Folder 5

[City of San Bernardino resolution and commendation to Floyd C. Covington] 1971 April 5

Box 20

[Plaque to Floyd C. Covington from Consolidated Realty Board] 1971 April 16

Box 23

To Floyd Covington, Sr. In Recognition of Outstanding Service 1971 April 16

General
From Los Angeles Urban League.
| Box 14, Folder 14 | [Testimonial recordings] 1971 April 16  
Physical Description: 1/4" magnetic tape - 5" reel |
| Folder 5 | [Oversize resolutions honoring Floyd Covington's 40 years of service] 1971 April  
Scope and Contents  
Three resolutions honoring Covington's 40 years of service: (i) by the Assembly Rules Committee - California Legislature, signed by John L. Burton and Bob Moretti; (ii) by the County of Los Angeles, signed by James S. Mize and Kenneth Hahn; and (iii) by the Council of the City of Los Angeles, resolved and signed by Thomas Bradley, Councilman 10th District. |
| Box 18, Folder 7 | Retirement Testimonial Items 1970-1971  
Scope and Contents  
Includes "Autobiographical Sketch of Floyd C. Covington Sr." |
| Box 17, Folder 9 | Welfare Planning Council Award of Merit for Community Service 1971 May 25 |
| Box 13, Folder 3 | Holman United Methodist Church - 25th Anniversary Gift Committee 1972 |
| Box 5, Folder 16 | Last Will & Testament of F. C. Covington undated  
General  
"Last Will & Testament of F. C. Covington (while he was young)" was written on the folder that previously housed this material. |
| Box 7, Folder 10 | Medical Bills and Hospital Records 1973-1979 |
| Box 11, Folder 11 | Notes for Biography and Funeral Services of Floyd C. Covington Sr. 1989 |
| Box 10, Folder 10 | [Proper zoning for residential board and care facilities] 1972-1973  
Scope and Contents  
Includes Floyd Covington's correspondence, position papers, notes, etc. regarding a Board and Care ordinance within the City of Los Angeles. |
| Box 7, Folder 11 | Scottsboro Boys Defense Fund film project [correspondence] 1971 |
Covington family book collection

Scope and Contents

At the time of acquisition by the USC Libraries, the books described under this series were stored together in a separate series of boxes. Some of the books are marked as the property of Floyd Covington, while others are marked as Alma Covington's. Many of the books include handwritten notes and inserts by or belonging to Floyd or Alma. The Covingtons received some of these works as gifts, in which case an inscription is also included.

Separated Materials

The USC Libraries deaccessioned a portion of the books that were acquired with this collection. The Libraries deaccessioned each book based on (i) the amount of notes added to the book by Floyd Covington or a member of his family and (ii) the availability of duplicate editions already held by the USC Libraries at the time of deaccessioning. A full list of titles that were acquired with the Covington papers--including titles that the Libraries deaccessioned--is held with the collection's accession file in USC Libraries Special Collections.

---

Box 26
- From My Kitchen Window, Ruby Berkley Goodwin
- Woman: Her Sex and Love Life, William J. Robinson
- "Presbyterian Summer Conference" [binder of conference booklets], Presbyterian Board of Christian Education
- Mad Sea, Hjalmar Rutzebeck
- A Guide to Citizen Participation in Environmental Action, Regional Plan Association of Southern California
- Common Sense in Idealism, Hjalmar Rutzebeck
- The Dynamic Laws of Healing, Catherine Ponder
- Rational Fasting, Arnold Ehret
- The Man Nobody Knows, Bruce Barton
- The Negro Trail Blazers of California, Delilah L. Beasley
- Native Son, Richard Wright
- How to Heal and Help One's Self, Charles F. Winbigler
- The Gift of Black Folk, W.E.B. DuBois
- An Epitaph for Dixie, Harry S. Ashmore
- Who's Who in Colored America (1950)
- South Town, Lorenz Graham
- They Seek a City, Arna Bontemps and Jack Conroy
- The Hitler Terror, Lord Marley
- Let the People Know, Norman Angell
- I Have Lived with the American People, Manuel Buaken
- Little Journeys to the Homes of Famous People, Elbert Hubbard
- Mindon, W.L. Barretto
- The Methodist Hymnal, The Methodist Publishing House
- The Wretched of the Earth, Frantz Fanon
- How to Get a Good Job and Keep It!, Walter B. Pitkin
- The Innocents Abroad or The New Pilgrim's Progress, Mark Twain
- Strategy in Handling People, Ewing T. Webb & John J.B. Morgan
- Is Plenty too Much for the Common People, George R. Kirkpatrick
- The Public Speaker's Treasure Chest, Herbert V. Prochnow
- Race Riot, Alfred McClung Lee
- Fundamentals and Requirements of Health and Disease, Thomas Powell
- The Lord Helps Those... How the People of Nova Scotia Are Solving Their Problems Through Co-operation, Bertram B. Fowler
- Elbert Hubbard's Scrap Book
- Light on the Path or Emmanuel, Percilla Lawyer Randolph
- Man, The Unknown, Alexis Carrel
- California Blue Book, 1946
- Living with Peace of Mind, Kirby Page
- The Book of Holidays, Harry Spencer Stuff
Box 27  
Spread Your Wings Learn to Fly, I.L. McEnheimer  
Box 27  
Others: A Book of Service, Harvey Hamlyn  
Box 27  
Selections from Lincoln, Ida M. Tarbell  
Box 27  
Peace of Mind, Joshua Loth Uebman  
Box 27  
To Heal and to Build, James MacGregor Burns  
Box 27  
The Negro’s Opportunity, Henry L. Jones  
Box 27  
Black Dimensions in Contemporary American Art, J. Edward  
Box 27  
Meet the Negro, Karl E. Downs  
Box 27  
Anthology of American Negro Literature, V.F. Calverton  
Box 27  
The Negro Mood, Lerone Bennett  
Box 27  
Before the Mayflower, Lerone Bennett  
Box 27  
The Science of Living: Health Preservation and Disease Prevention, Leo A. Haas  
Box 27  
The Victor Book of Symphonies, Charles O'Connell  
Box 27  
Report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, introduction by Tom Wicker