Floyd C. Covington papers

Language of Material: English
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 civic leader in Los Angeles' African American community 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.

Biographical / Historical
Floyd C. Covington (1901-1989) was a civic leader in Los Angeles' African American community 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 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, 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.

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**Conditions Governing Use**

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**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
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).

Graduate Courses -- Ph.D. 1936-1941

Seminar in Planning, University of Southern California 1964-1965

Student Manual for Stenotypy 1951 September

[Untitled binder with lecture notes and religious quotations] 1939, 1951

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).

The Kaw 1925 Yearbook [Washburn College, Topeka, Kansas] 1925

Washburn Alumnus 1965-1974


Scope and Contents
"Includes letter from Mayor Tom Bradley."

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).

Scrap Book of Philosophical Sayings 1927

Processing Information
Outer binding of notebook was removed.

[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.

[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

Scope and Contents
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
| 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 |
| Folder 1 | Inconsistency - The Other 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 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 |
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

Box 13, Folder 9

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

Box 18, Folder 10
A 1950-1954

Scope and Contents

Box 17, Folder 20
B 1948-1954

Scope and Contents
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
Scope and Contents

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.

Scope and Contents

Scope and Contents

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

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

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 Pinklely, Thomas Roy Peyton, W. E. Pollard, Pacific Coast-International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, R. E. Pierce, William Clyde Page, Eloise Parrish, and Frances Payne.
Box 19, Folder 8

R 1950-1954
Scope and Contents

Box 19, Folder 9

S 1950-1955
Scope and Contents

Box 19, Folder 10

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, Aneta L. Tidball, Lloyd M. Taylor, Robert B. Tapp, and Robert R. Taylor.

Box 19, Folder 11

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.

Box 18, Folder 15

W 1950-1956
Scope and Contents

Box 14, Folder 7-8


Box 1, Folder 8

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.

Box 4, Folder 7

Floyd Covington’s Work and Few Photos 1951, undated
Large Size Pictures of F. C. Covington Sr. - FHA and real estate relating material

Finding aid for the Floyd C. Covington papers 7057
Loyalty Board hearings

Box 17, Folder 16  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 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

Box 18, Folder 8  Secretary - Intergroup Relations Advisor's Office - FHA, Los Angeles 1962-1968
Box 17, Folder 17  SF Form 57 - Application for Federal Employment undated
Box 24  [Speech notes] 1950-1952
Box 12, Folder 2  First Annual Meeting of Westminster Neighborhood Association, Inc. 1961 November 28
Box 11, Folder 5  Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles - Directory of Commissioners undated
"Housing Opportunities for All" by Floyd C. Covington 1969 July
General
Article in Realtist's News.

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  Research Notes, Etc. On Formal Security Board Hearing 1954
Box 5, Folder 20  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
Box 5, Folder 21-22  Exhibits - Formal Security Board Hearing 1954 December 14
Box 7, Folder 16  Personal File - Regional Loyalty Board Hearing 1951-1955
Box 10, Folder 1  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
Box 8, Folder 1  Extra copies for Floyd Covington 1954
Box 8, Folder 2  Expenses - Security Cash 1955
Box 10, Folder 2  Personal Letters for Acknowledgment 1954-1955
Box 10, Folder 3  "Floyd Covington Reinstated in Housing Authority Job" - article in California Eagle 1955 February 10

Finding aid for the Floyd C. Covington papers 7057
Box 11, Folder 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.

Box 1, Folder 2

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.

Box 8, Folder 3-4

Personnel Records of Floyd C. Covington 1947-1978

General
For FHA

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

Box 1, Folder 3

Racial Caricatures and Stereotypes 1963 June

Box 15, Folder 2

Retirement Information Seminar 1967-1971

Box 6, Folder 7

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

General

Includes a 1967 booklet titled "HUD: What it is, What it Does" with a draft of a thank you letter inserted in the booklet.

Box 2, Folder 6

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

Scope and Contents
Includes handwritten letter from Covington to Terry.

Box 13, Folder 7

"Violence in the City -- An End or a Beginning?" A Report by the Governor's Commission on the Los Angeles Riots 1965
December 2

Box 15, Folder 4
Finding aid for the Floyd C. Covington papers 7057

Wellington Square Improvement Association 1963-1964

News clippings and publications

Scope and Contents
This series contains published writings both collected by Covington and, in many instances, authored by Covington.

Box 7, Folder 3  The Bachelor's Congress by Griffin Galbraith 1918
Scope and Contents
"Mrs. Craw" handwritten on cover.

Box 5, Folder 13  California Eagle 1933 November 17
Scope and Contents
This issue features a photograph of Floyd Covington. Also features a photograph captioned: "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."

Box 14, Folder 10  "Chicago Negro Labor and Civil Rights" by Tim Black 1966
Box 5, Folder 2  Clippings 1935-1970
Box 5, Folder 14  Clippings 1941, 1974
Box 11, Folder 1-3  Collectanea Miscellanea Compiled By Floyd C. Covington 1923-1952
Box 14, Folder 9  Ernie Barnes: A Twentieth Century Genre Painter 1971
Box 1, Folder 11  The Human Culture Digest [two articles featuring Floyd Covington] 1943 August, 1944 February
Box 11, Folder 4  "Jules Saxe Dies in Palm Springs" [news clipping] 1963 March 14
Box 8, Folder 13  Letter From Birmingham Jail 1963 April 16
Scope and Contents
Letter addressed to "My Dear Fellow Clergymen" from Martin Luther King, Jr. "Response to a published statement by eight fellow clergymen from Alabama."

Box 7, Folder 1  Negro Who's Who in California 1948
General
"Mr. T.A. Greene" handwritten on first page.

Box 8, Folder 8  [News clippings] 1931, undated
Box 8, Folder 14, Box 10, Folder 5-6, Box 21, Folder 2  [Newspapers and magazines with articles featuring Martin Luther King, Jr.] 1968-1972
Box 7, Folder 4  Opportunity: Journal of Negro Life 1930 September; 1931 December
Scope and Contents
Includes a photograph of Floyd Covington.

Box 16, Folder 14  Pocket Prayer Book 1944
General
Inscribed to Floyd Covington from J. W. Bryant.

Box 14, Folder 6  Portraits of Outstanding Americans of Negro Origin [exhibit description] 1948
Box 5, Folder 12  Silhouette Pictorial 1940 May
General
Floyd Covington is listed as a contributing editor.
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 Lous 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
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
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.
Box 3, Folder 13  |  Obituary of Lula Walton Greene 1969
General
Lula Walton Greene was Alma Covington's mother.

Box 3, Folder 14  |  [Correspondence from Floyd Covington to Alma Covington] undated
Box 4, Folder 1   |  Autobiography of Willa Alma Greene Covington 1920-1975
Box 4, Folder 2   |  [Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) programs and directories] 1951-1965
Box 4, Folder 3   |  [Certificates and awards] 1917, 1961
Box 4, Folder 4   |  Addresses, telephones undated
Box 4, Folder 5   |  Meditations for Women 1957
Box 1, Folder 6-7 |  Those Christmas Lights - A One-Act Skit by Floyd and Alma Covington undated
Box 12, Folder 3-5 |  [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.)

Box 12, Folder 6   |  Travel Diary 1966
Box 13, Folder 11  |  [Travel scrapbook] 1934
Box 25, Folder 2   |  [Photograph album - U.S. and Canada travels] 1939

Box 15, Folder 1   |  Bible of F. C. Covington's mother undated
General
Includes a "family history" on one of the first pages.

Box 11, Folder 9   |  [Birth certificates and passports for Floyd and Alma Covington] 1901, 1966
Box 9, Folder 1-3, Box 10, Folder 8 |  [Brochures, receipts, guides, and souvenirs from Europe trip] 1966
Box 7, Folder 8    |  Chicago World's Fair 1934
Box 16, Folder 12  |  [Floyd Covington, Jr.] 1950, 1981
Box 14, Folder 11  |  Home Dedication Ritual undated
Box 20             |  ["House of Covington" stamp] undated
Box 16, Folder 11  |  [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

Box 17, Folder 4

Wesley Methodist Church Debt Liquidation Certificates 1941-1942

Box 20

[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

Finding aid for the Floyd C. Covington papers 7057

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

Finding aid for the Floyd C. Covington papers 7057
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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 27</th>
<th>Spread Your Wings Learn to Fly, I.L. McEnheimer</th>
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<tr>
<td>Box 27</td>
<td>Others: A Book of Service, Harvey Hamlyn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 27</td>
<td>Selections from Lincoln, Ida M. Tarbell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 27</td>
<td>Peace of Mind, Joshua Loth Uebman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 27</td>
<td>To Heal and to Build, James MacGregor Burns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 27</td>
<td>The Negro's Opportunity, Henry L. Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 27</td>
<td>Black Dimensions in Contemporary American Art, J. Edward</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 27</td>
<td>Meet the Negro, Karl E. Downs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 27</td>
<td>Anthology of American Negro Literature, V.F. Calverton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 27</td>
<td>The Negro Mood, Lerone Bennett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 27</td>
<td>Before the Mayflower, Lerone Bennett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 27</td>
<td>The Science of Living: Health Preservation and Disease Prevention, Leo A. Haas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 27</td>
<td>The Victor Book of Symphonies, Charles O'Connell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 27</td>
<td>Report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, introduction by Tom Wicker</td>
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