

**Hong Kong Baptist University Library
Special Collections & Archives**

Wayne Flynt Collection

Record Group No. 23

[6 October 2021]

Flynt, J. Wayne, 1940-

Papers: 1843-1996, n.d.

9 DC; 4.34 linear feet

Restrictions

Anyone using this collection must sign an *Agreement to use the Wayne Flynt Collection*. Photocopying of unpublished material is prohibited.

Preferred Citation

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Biography

Full name: Flynt, James Wayne

Birthdate: October 4, 1940, in Pontotoc, Mississippi, the United States

Family:

Parents: James H. and Mae Moore Flynt
Marital Status: Married to Dorothy Ann (Smith) Flynt
Children: David (Wife: Kelly) and Sean (Wife: Shannon)
Grandchildren: Dallas and Harper

Education:

1961 B.A. Howard College
1962 M.S. Florida State University
1965 Ph.D. Florida State University

Career:

1965-1977 Taught at Samford University
1977-2005 Head of History Department, Auburn University
2003 President of the Southern Historical Association

Awards and Honors:

1972 Rembert Patrick Award, Best book on Florida by the Florida Historical Society
1983 Alabama Academy of Distinguished Authors
1990 Lillian Smith Award [non-fiction]
1991 Alabama's Professor of the Year by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education
1991-1992 Distinguished Graduate Faculty Lecture, Auburn University
1991, 1995, 2005 James F. Sulzby Award
1991, 2000 Alabama Author Award [non-fiction]
1995, 1997, 2003 Anne B. & James B. McMillan Prize by The University of Alabama Press
2006 Alabama Academy of Honor

Major publications:

- Flynt, W. (1971). *Duncan Upshaw Fletcher: Dixie's reluctant progressive*. Tallahassee: Florida State University Press.
- Flynt, W. (1977). *Cracker messiah, Governor Sidney J. Catts of Florida*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press.
- Flynt, W. (1979). *Dixie's forgotten people: The South's poor whites*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
- Flynt, W. (1989). *Poor but proud: Alabama's poor whites*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press.
- Flynt, W., & Berkley, G. W. (1997). *Taking Christianity to China: Alabama missionaries in the middle kingdom, 1850-1950*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press.
- Flynt, W. (1998). *Alabama Baptists: Southern Baptists in the Heart of Dixie*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press.
- Flynt, W. (2004). *Alabama in the twentieth century*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press.
- Flynt, W. (2017). *Mockingbird Songs: My friendship with Harper Lee*. London: William Heinemann.
- Rogers, W. W., Ward, R. D., Atkins, L. R., & Flynt, W. (2018). *Alabama: The History of a Deep South state*.

Other significant information:

Professor Wayne Flynt was a Distinguished University Professor Emeritus in the Department of History at Auburn University in Alabama before his retirement. He has been recognized with numerous awards and honors. He was a visiting scholar at Hong Kong Baptist University in 1992.

Provenance

The materials for this collection were received by the Special Collections & Archives in November 1996.

Arrangement

The collector arranged and marked the documents within folders with color codes, mainly according to the topic or background. The color codes on the original folders are photocopied in color and kept in their respective folders for reference.

The collection's original arrangement is retained while some folder titles are provided by the archivist for better indication of the content. The folders are now arranged alphabetically by subject and document type.

Scope and Content

The collection mainly consists of research materials collected by Professor Gerald Berkley and Professor Wayne Flynt, and the drafts and proofs of their book entitled *Taking Christianity to China: Alabama Missionaries in the Middle Kingdom, 1850-1950*.

Prof. Berkley started to collect the materials when he first had the idea in the early 1980s of writing a book on Alabama missionaries who served in China. Before he went to pursue a law degree in 1986, Prof. Berkley turned them over to Prof. Flynt to continue the research. After a vast amount of research work, Prof. Flynt completed the project and published the book in 1997.

This collection mainly consists of research materials on the featured missionaries and their related churches. There are articles, book chapters, clippings, correspondences, transcripts of interviews and archival records, etc. Drafts and proofs in the publishing process and the index cards for preparing the appendices are also included.

Other significant information

This collection is closely related to the book, *Taking Christianity to China: Alabama Missionaries in the Middle Kingdom, 1850-1950*. Users are

encouraged to check the book in the library for details.

Some research materials are copied from other archives. They are further processed and annotated by Prof. Flynt for his research. They are retained for the integrity of the collection.

Sources Used

Alabama Academy of Honor. (n.d.). *Current Members of the Academy*.

Retrieved October 6, 2021, from

<https://www.alabamaacademyofhonor.org/j-wayne-flynt>

Alabama Library Association. (n.d.). *Alabama Authors*. Retrieved October 6,

2021, from https://www.lib.ua.edu/Alabama_Authors/

Alabama Library Association. (n.d.). *Alabama Library Association Handbook:*

History: Alabama Author Awards. Retrieved October 6, 2021, from

<https://alla.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/AlabamaAuthorAwardsWinners.pdf>

Auburn University. (2021). *Distinguished Graduate Faculty Lecture*. Retrieved

October 6, 2021, from [https://graduate.auburn.edu/distinguished-](https://graduate.auburn.edu/distinguished-graduate-faculty-lecture/)

[graduate-faculty-lecture/](https://graduate.auburn.edu/distinguished-graduate-faculty-lecture/)

Flynt, W., & Berkley, G. W. (1997). *Taking Christianity to China: Alabama missionaries in the middle kingdom, 1850-1950*. Tuscaloosa:

University of Alabama Press.

Jaques Cattell Press. (1978). *Directory of American scholars* (7th ed.). R.R.

Bowker.

The University of Alabama Press. (n.d.). *Awards Sponsored by The Faculty*

Editorial Board of The University of Alabama Press. Retrieved

October 6, 2021, from

<http://www.uapress.ua.edu/pages/ManuscriptGuidelines.aspx>

Date range

1843-1996, n.d.

Volume

9 DC (91 folders); 4.34 linear feet

Geographic coverage

China and the United States

Types of documents

Articles, an audio record of interview (Cassette tape), book chapters, clippings, correspondence, manuscripts, photographs, and reports

Language

English, Chinese

Subject headings

- China -- Church history -- 20th century -- Church history -- 19th century
- Christianity -- China
- Missionaries
- Missions -- China -- History
- Religion -- History -- 20th century

Container List

[NOTE: In this document, the notation “folder 4-2” means box 4, folder 2. “N.d.” is used in the date indication of the undated files or items.]

Collecting information and networking

Prof. Gerald Berkley has done some research and identified the potential information sources. He and Prof. Wayne Flynt have contacted the relevant people and organizations for advice and information. Prof. Flynt has also presented the general idea of this research at the 84th Annual Convention of the Pacific Coast branch of the American Historical Association (**Folder 1-1**). This series contains the correspondences for requesting information, notes prepared and taken in the process, and manuscripts about the Convention.

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
1	1	84th Annual Convention of the Pacific Coast branch of the American Historical Association: Alabama Missionaries in China, 1850-1950	1990-1991, n.d.
1	2	Baptist Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention: Correspondences	1963-1983
1	3	Catholic missionary institutions: Correspondences	1982
1	4	Collecting information: Bulletins, correspondences and manuscripts	1981-1985, n.d.
1	5	Commission on Archives and History of the United Methodist Church, Birmingham-Southern College: Correspondence and manuscripts	1981, n.d.

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
1	6	Commission on Archives and History of the United Methodist Church, Lake Junaluska: Correspondences and manuscripts	1981-1983, n.d.
1	7	General background of Baptists: Book chapters and notes	1920-1923, n.d.
1	8	General background of Methodists: Manuscripts	N.d.
1	9	General background of Presbyterians: Correspondences and manuscripts	1981-1984, n.d.
1	10	General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists: Correspondences	1981
1	11	Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention: Correspondences	1982-1983
1	12	Judson College: Correspondence and manuscripts	1981, n.d.
1	13	Research in Huntingdon College: Manuscripts	N.d.
1	14	Samford University: Manuscripts about Baptist missionaries	N.d.
1	15	Scholarly resources: Correspondence and manuscripts	1986, n.d.

Missionary Biographies

The biographies files contain research materials of the 47 missionaries featured in the book. The missionaries in **Folder 4-2**, **Folder 4-12**, and **Folder 5-9** were not included in its final publication.

This series includes articles, book chapters, clippings, correspondence, interview records, and more. Some folders only contain a notecard with basic information of the missionaries while information of some missionaries is scattered in several folders.

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
1	16	Adams, Floy (White)	N.d.
1	17	Anderson, Mary Raleigh	1938-1991, n.d.
1	18	Atkinson, Virginia M.	1937-1955, n.d.
1	19	Ayers, Sanford Emmett	1920-1985, n.d.
2	1	Ayers, Thomas Wilburn and Ayers, Willie Mindora (Skelton)	1901-1991, n.d.
2	2	Ayers, Thomas Wilburn and Ayers, Willie Mindora (Skelton)	1947, n.d.
2	3	Berckman, Ruth (Rice)	1921-1991, n.d.
2	4	Bissett, Mary Stuart	1920, n.d.
2	5	Boardman, Emma	N.d.
2	6	Bowen, Albert Crossland	1911-1931, n.d.
2	7	Bryan, David	1891-1926, n.d.
2	8	Bryan, Mildred (Thorne)	1913, n.d.
2	9	Carr, Jo	N.d.

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
2	10	Cox, Addie Estelle	1921-1947, n.d.
3	1	Crawford, Martha (Foster)	1851-1976, n.d.
3	2	Crawford, Martha (Foster)	1868-1903, n.d.
3	3	Crawford, Martha (Foster)	1981-1994, n.d.
3	4	Crawford, Martha (Foster)	N.d.
4	1	Crotwell, Mary Elaine	N.d.
4	2	Hartwell, Jesse Boardman	N.d.
4	3	Head, Lora (Nabers)	N.d.
4	4	Head, Walter Hobson	N.d.
4	5	Hearn, Thomas Oscar	1908-1921, n.d.
4	6	Hollis, Emma Corinne (Dickson)	N.d.
4	7	Hollis, James Dewey	1991, n.d.
4	8	Huey, Mary Alice	1911-1942, n.d.
4	9	Isdell, Clarabel	1935-1991, n.d.
4	10	Jeffers, Irene	1923-1985, n.d.
4	11	Kelly, Willie Hays	1892-1953, n.d.
4	12	Mattie, Ledbetter	1930-1996
4	13	Meadows, Joseph Guy	N.d.
4	14	Miller, Cynthia Adaline	1911-1936
5	1	Montgomery, James Nelson	1905-1983, n.d.
5	2	Napier, Lois (Davie)	1922-1992, n.d.
5	3	Parker, Earl	N.d.

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
5	4	Provence, Herbert Winston	1907-1991, n.d.
5	5	Rice, Edmond Lee	1937-1938, n.d.
5	6	Robinson, Louise	1948-1988, n.d.
5	7	Shuck, Eliza G. (Sexton)	1948-1972, n.d.
5	8	Stout, Harriett (Campbell)	N.d.
5	9	Stuart, Malcolm W.	N.d.
5	10	Stuart, Mary Louisa (Horton)	1875-1978, n.d.
5	11	Taylor, Adrian S.	1906-1921, n.d.
5	12	Taylor, Richard Vipon, Jr.	1921, n.d.
5	13	Thomas, Annie Laura	N.d.
5	14	Thomas, Issac T.	N.d.
5	15	Thomas, Thomas Moses	N.d.
5	16	Thornton, Mary Jane	1890-1895, n.d.
5	17	Ward, Cecil Sylvester	1940, n.d.
5	18	Ward, Margaret Gertrude (Craig)	1940-1942, n.d.
5	19	Williams, James Toy	1934-1964, n.d.
6	1	Williams, Nicholas Butt	1871-1877, n.d.
6	2	Woodward, Mabel Elsie (Williams)	1938-1990, n.d.

Research materials and notes

This series contains research notes and manuscripts with annotation and, arranged by the collectors according to topics.

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
6	3	<i>The Alabama Baptist</i> : Articles	1843-1950
6	4	<i>The Alabama Baptist</i> : Articles	1906-1930
6	5	Arrival and first contacts	1893-1903, n.d.
6	6	The Call: Completed notes	1887-1938, n.d.
6	7	Completed materials: Articles, book chapters and manuscripts	1844-1981, n.d.
6	8	Conflicts and controversies	1890-1934, n.d.
6	9	Cultural perceptions of China	1846-1982, n.d.
6	10	Family living	1890-1894
6	11	Influence of missions	1992, n.d.
6	12	Missions and gender	1851-1992, n.d.
7	1	Multiple references: Articles, book chapters and bulletin	1898-1981
7	2	Multiple references: Articles, book chapters and manuscripts	1982-1994, n.d.
7	3	Politics in China	1877-1976, n.d.
7	4	Reporting home	1891-1940, n.d.
7	5	Research materials: Articles and manuscripts	1902-1995, n.d.
7	6	Research materials: <i>Gospel Messengers from Alabama: a compilation</i> and <i>Western reports on the Taiping: a selection of documents</i>	1938-1982

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
7	7	Research materials: Manuscripts	N.d.
7	8	Southern Baptist and Presbyterian missions in China: Articles and manuscripts	1881-1985, n.d.

Taking Christianity to China: Alabama Missionaries in the Middle Kingdom, 1850-1950

Prof. Flynt published the book in 1997. This series contains the drafts, proofs, and the index cards for preparing the appendices of the book.

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
8	1	Book index	N.d.
8	2	Drafts of book chapters and notes	N.d.
8	3	Editor's page proof with final corrections	N.d.
9	1	Final draft	1995, n.d.
9	2	Proofs	N.d.