Willie Lee Buffington Papers, 1933-1993

Manuscripts Division
South Caroliniana Library
University of South Carolina
http://library.sc.edu/socar/

Creator: Buffington, Willie Lee (1908-1988)

Title: Willie Lee Buffington Papers, 1933-1993

Extent:
10 linear ft. (8 cartons)
1 oversize flat file.

Access: Materials stored offsite; advance notice required.

Accession Nos.: 11972 and 15314

Background:
Methodist minister, textile mill worker, and founder of the Faith Cabin Libraries, a program that provided donated books to African Americans living in rural areas; the program successfully established and maintained 26 libraries in South Carolina and 50 in Georgia; some sources record that the organization constructed more than 100 libraries in S.C. and Georgia from 1932 to 1960; native of Saluda, S.C.

Referenced:
University South Caroliniana Society Program, 1994, p. 43

For biographical information on Buffington, see article by John Monk published in The State newspaper, 4 Apr. 2005

Cite As: Willie Lee Buffington Papers, South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina.
Summary:

Chiefly correspondence, reports, records of library operations, transcripts of radio work, and other promotional materials about the work of Faith Cabin Libraries, and photocopies of articles re Willie Lee Buffington and his work to establish Faith Cabin Libraries in South Carolina and Georgia; and master list of Faith Cabin Libraries locations in South Carolina, [ca. 1961].


Contents List:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1</th>
<th>General</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thomas L. Johnson re Buffington collection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Folder 1. Biographical

Correspondence

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>1936-1938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>1939-1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>1946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>1949 Jan.-May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>1950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Willie Lee Buffington, Jr.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>1951 Jan. 25 – Mar. 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>1951 Apr. 6 – May 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>1952-1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>1956-1961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>1962-1963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>1968-1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>1980-1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Notes re death of Clara Buffington, 1983</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Faith Cabin Library Work**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Newspaper clippings/articles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>1930s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>1940s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>1950s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td><em>World Outlook</em> correspondence and clippings, 1940s</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Radio Broadcast Transcripts**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td><em>The Calvacade of America</em>, “Uncle Eury’s Dollar,” 1951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td><em>Hobby Lobby</em>, 1940s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td><em>The Ted Malone Show</em>, 6 October 1948</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reports

30. 1948-1951
31. 1952-1958

Box 2

32. Financial Transactions and Bank Statements

Support and Funding

33. Correspondence, 1950
34. Home Missions Council of N.A., Inc., 1950
35. National Board of Missions
36. Slide Scripts
37. Summer Work: Speaking engagements
38. Lane Bryant Award, 1957, Annual Report, 1958

Units

40. Buffington Survey
41. Contributing Organization Contracts and Assignments
42. Lists
43. Abbeville, GA
44. Ashburn, GA
45. Bailey, GA, Coronet Unit
46. Cartersville, GA
47. Conyers, GA
48. Darien, GA

49. Devereux, GA, Southern Illinois Conference

50. Donalsonville, GA, New Jersey Conference

51. Douglas, GA

52. Dublin, GA, New York Conference

53. Eatonton, GA, Ohio Conference

54. Elberton, GA, Illinois Conference

55. Fitzgerald, GA

56. Haddock, GA, Rip Van Winkle Unit, Catskills, NY

57. Hartwell, GA

58. Homerville, GA

59. Jeffersonville, GA

60. Jesup, GA

61. Lithonia, GA, War Heroes Memorial Unit/Ted Malone

62. Louisville, GA, Troy (NY) Conference

63. Quitman, GA (Brooks County)

64. St. Matthews, SC (Calhoun County)

65. Sandersville, GA, Indiana Conference

66. Swainsboro, GA, North Indiana Conference

67. Thomaston, GA

68. Valdosta, GA

69. Church Periodical Club 1

70. Church Periodical Club 2

71. Georgia Schools
72. Maps

**Ministry**

73. Church Newspaper Clippings, 1970s
74. Church Expenses
75. Church Publications
76. Copies of Radio Broadcast Sermon
77. “Fountain Camp” Church Retreat, 1975
78. Professional Conference Information

**Seminary Notes and Papers**

79. Class outline, 1939-1940
80. “Approach to the Modern Study of Theology”
81. “Beliefs of the World”
82. “The Christian Conception of Mankind”
84. “Christian Faith”
85. “Christian Theology”
86. “The Christian View of Jesus”
87. “Criticisms offered against Christian Ethics”
88. “A Dialogue in which a Christian presents his convictions to a non-Christian Believer,” term paper, 1948
89. “The Distinctive Christian Affirmation”
90. “Dominant Schools of Christian Thought”
91. “The Ethical Ideas of the Prophets”
93. “God and Revelation”
94. “Are the Gospels True History?”
95. “Grounds for Believing God Today”
96. “Historical Antecedents to the Christian View of God”
98. “An Outline of Christian Theology”
100. “The Preaching of Jesus”
101. “The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God”
102. “The Qualities of Life in Citizens of the Kingdom of God”
103. “The Relation of Man to God”
104. “The Teachings of Jesus”
105. “The Trinity in Experience”

Sermons
108. “Amos: God’s Rustic Prophet”
110. “Chart for Living”
111. “Christians: Do We Know Any?”
112. “Climb Every Molehill”
114. “A Faith to Live B”
115. “God and Mr. Jonah”
116. “Grace that Works”
117. “An Inward Look”
118. “Life’s Requirements”
119. “Nominal Christian or Zealous Disciple?”
120. “An Open Window”
121. “The Possibility of Renewal”
122. “On Setting One’s Self Straight”
123. “Stay Salty: Discipline in Discipleship”
124. “Three Things that Jesus Most Certainly Believed In”

Box 3

126. Miscellaneous Sermons and Service Notes

Academics

127-128. “Negro Life Project”

Paine College (Augusta, Ga.)

129. Committee on Religious Life and Work, 1945-1948
130. Correspondence, 1962-1964
131. Employment Contracts
132. Enrollment Information, 1941-1945
133. Faith Cabin Library Committee notes
134. Dr. Lucius Pitts
135. Pre-college Reading Program
136. Publications
137. Rural Venture Project
138. “Saluda, SC Community Analysis,” term paper, 1936
139. Sociology 30: exams
140. Southern Fellowship Fund, UNC

Photographs
141-142. Churches
143-152. Faith Cabin Library
153. Blakeley, GA
154. Lincolnton, GA
155. Structures
156-161. General
162-164. Paine College
165-168. Personal
169. Tornado, Richmond Co. (Augusta, GA), 1954
170. Negro Life Project
Negatives
171. Negatives
172. Faith Cabin Library
173-174. Paine College
Box 4  **Realia / Ephemara**


War Ration Book covers

30 boxes of slides

1 empty magazine for slide changer

Plaque – appreciation award

Sheet music

45 rpm Lighthouse of Hope Records

Lps: Calvacade 1-6, March 1951, Herman Styler on “Talk Back,” 1957

Box 5  **Published Materials**

Tracts, Bulletins, Conference Reports

Box 6  **Personal Banking Documents – SEALED**

Box 7  **Metal Slide Cases**

Box 8  **Metal Slide Cases**

**Oversize Folders**

Pob – (5 illustrated maps of Saluda, SC)

Pob-3 - "Beautiful word picture of Saluda County man's faith and labors and sources of his inspiration" [ca. 1937?]

12 reels of 16 mm film sent to MIRC (Moving Image Research Collections)