

A Guide to the J. Cloyd Byars Papers, 1904-1989

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1904-1989

A Collection in Arlington Public Library, Center for Local History RG 334

Arlington Public Library, Center for Local History

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Title Statement

A Guide to the J. Cloyd Byars Papers, 1904-1989

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Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word, created by Gregory Pierce, 24 September 2020

Language Usage: Description is in English

Descriptive Summary

Collection number

RG 334

Language

English

Creator

Byars, J. Cloyd (Joseph Cloyd), 1869-1954

Extent

4 boxes.

Repository

Arlington Public Library, Center for Local History

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Robert Coortz in 2016.

Preferred Citation

J. Cloyd Byars Papers, Collection # RG 334, Arlington Public Library, Center for Local History

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

The Department of Archives and Tourism, Sullivan County, Tennessee, holds some Byars' papers as well. For a full listing of the papers that are held by Sullivan County, Tennessee, please see:

http://www.historicsullivan.com/archives_manuscripts_0081.htm.

Also of interest is "An Early History of Alcova Heights," by Elizabeth Cannon Kimball, *Arlington Historical Magazine*, Volume 5, Number 3, October 1975, pages 28-33.

Biographical Information

Joseph Cloyd Byars, Sr. (1869-1954) was an important real estate developer in Arlington, having built the Alcova Heights community. Alcova is a combination of letters from Alexandria County, VA. Mr. Byars bought a 142-acre farm from the Columbia Land Company in 1921 and sold lots for five cents an acre. The original home on his property was built by John M. Young on what was then called Springhill Farm. He renamed the house Alcova, and it is still located at 3435 8th Street South, Arlington, Virginia. He and his wife owned the home until 1932 when it was sold to Allen Coe.

Byars also served in the Virginia state legislature as a senator. He ran against Carter Glass for United States Senator and lost. He also tried, unsuccessfully, to get appointed to Glass's Senate seat when Glass died in 1946.

Scope and Content

RG 334 is a mixture of Alcova transactions, other real estate interests in southwestern Virginia and Florida, correspondence, and politics. He was an avid newspaper reader and many files have newspaper clippings. He was interested in Virginia politics, and during World War II, interested in promoting peace.

The files include correspondence as early as 1911, but most of the files are from the 1920s through 1940s, when he was spending most of his time in Arlington and building Alcova. The collection measures 1.67 linear feet.

Index Terms

Subjects:

Real property.

Legislators

Virginia -- Politics and government -- 1865-1950

Byars, J. Cloyd (Joseph Cloyd), 1869-1954

Arlington County (Va.)

Arlington (Va.)

Alexandria County (Va.)

Arrangement

The files have been separated into two subgroups. *Subgroup 1* contains the files that had headings handwritten by Byars, and *Subgroup 2* are the files that were found loose and organized by the archivist. *Subgroup 1* is further subdivided by the archivist into series named Alcova, Other Real Estate Interests, Other Legal Matters, Personal, Political, and Miscellaneous. The papers within the files were organized by the archivist chronologically, with newspaper clippings and other receipts in the back of the file. Dates were added to the file names by the archivist and enclosed in brackets []. The file labeled "National Fireworks Data" contains speeches and correspondence having nothing to do with the title of the file. A file labeled "Personal" was divided into two files for this collection - one for correspondence and one for newspaper clippings. The file labeled "Personal - Political - 1944" was also divided into two files, the latter containing newspaper clippings. One file, Tennessee Farms and Homes, was subdivided into five files due to its size.

Subgroup 2 was organized into folders for correspondence, speeches, publications, newspaper clippings, and a file about Front Royal. *Series 1* comprises those files that were placed in file folders with no labels. *Series 2* is loose papers organized into categories by the archivist.

Many of the newspaper clippings were not dated. Approximate dates were found by using information on the back of the clipping or by the subject matter, using online resources. Those approximate dates are indicated by [] s.

Some files have photographs which are marked with an asterisk (*). Oversized items, mostly newspapers, have been noted by #. These were removed and filed separately. A detailed inventory has been made since often times the file heading did not match what was in the files.

Contents List

Subgroup 1: Labeled Files

Series 1: Alcova and Other Local Real Estate

File 1: Alcova, [1941-1989]*

Box 1

File 2: Alcova Heights brochure [n.d.]

Box 1

File 3: Alcova Improvement Co. [n.d.]#

Box 1

File 4: Alcova Improvement Co vs Clark, FL. [1922, 1934]

Box 1

File 5: Alexandria Chamber of Commerce [n.d.]

Box 1

File 6: Ambrogne, 3046 Va Park, Detroit Mich [1934-1938]

Box 1

File 7: American Homestead, Inc. [1934-1938]

Box 1

File 8: Arlington Hall [1928, 1932]

Box 1

File 9: Barbee, Dr. David Rankin [June 6, 1935]

Box 1

File 10: Brooks, A.H., [1926-1931]

Box 1

File 11: Burns, W. W. & Wife, [1927-1937]

Box 1

File 12: Byars, Jane B., [1923-1936]

Box 1

File 13: Com of VA vs Jane B Byars, [1930]

Box 1

File 14: Cardwell, M A and wife, 1924

Box 1

File 15: Clendenon vs. Tyner, 1929

Box 1

File 16: Coontz, Kenneth L., Lots 19 and 20, Block 10 Arl, also Bristol Va. [1924-1930]

Box 1

File 17: Virginia B Coontz [Mrs. Kenneth Coontz] [1928-1937]

Box 1

File 18: Crim, Adelaide vs American Bond and Mortgage Co [1931]

Box 1

File 19: Edgerton, Wm A. and Pollard, Chas E. [1923]

Box 1

File 20: Houghton, H. Charlton [1923-1930]

Box 1

File 21: LaLonde et wife [1930]

Box 1

File 22: Lawyers Court Service [September 21, 1929] #

Box 1

File 23: Lyon, Frank, [1929-1931]

Box 1

File 24: Rust vs. Barnes [n.d.]

Box 1

File 25: Terrell Smith et al Alcova Improvement Co. [1924-1927]

Box 1

File 26: Thompson, Judson A & wife [1934]

Box 1

File 27: Typewriter and Office Supply Co. [1920]

Box 1

Series 2: Other Real Estate

File 1: American Little Farms Co., [1913-1920]

Box 1

File 2: Beale, R. L. [1921-1923]

Box 1

File 3: Bristol-Kingsport Rent Control, [1942]

Box 1

File 4: Consolidated Tonto Copper Company, [1931]

Box 2

File 5: Contracts, [1918-1921,, 1933]

Box 2

File 6: Florida, [1934, 1937]

Box 2

File 7: Gold Mining, [1929-1935]*

Box 2

File 8: Jarvis R. Hugh, [1929-1930]

Box 2

File 9: Open Matters, 1937, to be filed, [1929-1937] #

Box 2

File 10: Pyle, Harry, [1944-1946]

Box 2

File 11: Roberts, Mrs. Mande D. - 401 Spencer St., [1944-1945]

Box 2

File 12: Tillar, W. T., [1932-1940]

Box 2

Series 3: Other Legal Matters

File 1: Friel, Allen vs Com of Va and W. W. Bourne, P.O. Box 920, Mobile Ala, [1928]

Box 2

File 2: Hensley, M. J. [1930-1931]

Box 2

File 3: Imboden, Leonard, [1931]

Box 2

File 4: Jones, Harry F., [1913-1932] * [Also has robbon of soldier]

Box 2

File 5: Juno vs. Erlebacher, [1931]

Box 2

File 6: Keefer vs. Keefer, [1924-1929]

Box 2

Series 4: Personal

File 1: J. Cloyd Byars, [1904-1950]

Box 3

File 2: Personal, [1907-1950]

Box 3

File 3: Personal [Newspaper clippings, 1928-1949]

Box 3

Series 5: Political

File 1: Ball, Senator Frank [1930]

Box 3

File 2: Cannon, James Jr Bishop [1928-1934]

Box 3

File 3: Dem Natl Com, 1934, 1940

Box 3

File 4: Glass, Sen Carter [1920-1937]

Box 3

File 5: Gloth, Wm. C. [1931]

Box 3

File 6: International Relations Committee [1941-1942]

Box 3

File 7: Keith, Thomas R. [June 20, 1930]

Box 3

File 8: Mackey, Crandall [1930] #

Box 3

File 9: National Fireworks Data [1938-1939] Note: while the file was named National Fireworks Data, no such information was found within the file.

Box 3

File 10: Peace and Post-War Program [1942-1945]

Box 3

File 11: Personal - Political - 1944[1933-1945]

Box 3

File 12: Personal - Political - 1933-1944]

Box 3

File 13: Political - 1944[1945-1946]

Box 3

File 14: The President - Political - 1946 *

Box 3

Series 6: Miscellaneous

File 1: American Federation Small Business, Inc., [and Independence, Inc., 1938]

Box 4

File 2: Arlington Presbyterian Church [January 12, 1936]

Box 4

File 3: DC Traffic Law [1917, 1927]

Box 4

File 4: Hastsvok, E. E., [1912]

Box 4

File 5: Jefferson Thomas Foundation, [1930]

Box 4

File 6: Kappa Sigma, [1931-1932, , 1937]

Box 4

File 7: Labors Non-Partisan League, [1940]

Box 4

File 8: Lewis, Jno. L., [1940, 1942]

Box 4

File 9: Tennessee Farms and Homes -- Blountville Program Meetings, [1943-1946]

Box 4

File 10: Tennessee Farms and Homes -- Blountville Program Meetings, [High School Commencement Address, May 17, 1943]

Box 4

File 11: Tennessee Farms and Homes --Blountville Program Meetings ["My Concept of God" by Robert Carleton Mason]

Box 4

File 12: Tennessee Farms and Homes -- Blountville Program Meetings [1929, 1938]

Box 4

File 13: Tennessee Farms and Homes -- Blountville Program Meetings 1929]

Box 4

Subgroup 2: Files Not Labeled

Series 1: Papers put in files but not labeled

File 1: [Correspondence, 1911-1917]

Box 4

File 2: [Correspondence, 1915-1916, and 1944-1945, and list of members of the Westmoreland Club, February 1, 1908]

Box 4

File 3: [Correspondence, 1939 , and poetry]

Box 4

File 4: [Correspondence, 1942-1943]

Box 4

File 5: [Front Royal, 1937]

Box 4

File 6: [Newspaper clippings, 1913-1945] #

Box 4

Series 2: Loose papers not in any file folders

File 1: [Correspondence, 1941-1943]

Box 4

File 2: [Patent, 1915]

Box 4

File 3: [Speeches]

Box 4

File 4: [Publications]

Box 4

File 5: [For Sale Signs]#

Box 4