

Atlanta University Presidential Records, 1856-1984

Series 8. Florence M. Read Records, 1927-1947

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Atlanta University Center
Robert W. Woodruff Library
Archives and Special Collections

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

From 1936 to 1937, during the interim period after the death of John Hope and the election of his successor, Florence Matilda Read, President of Spelman College was named Acting President of Atlanta University. Read was President of Spelman College from 1927-1953. She also served as Secretary of Atlanta University for twenty-four years, from 1929-1953. She graduated from Mount Holyoke College in 1909, and served as Alumnae Secretary of her alma mater for two years. She became secretary to the president of Reed College in 1911. Before arriving at Spelman, she worked on the International Board of the Rockefeller Foundation for seven years. Upon her retirement from Spelman she was named President Emeritus of the college, and in 1961 she authored *The Spelman Story*. She died in 1973.¹

¹Read, Florence M. *The Story of Spelman College*. Princeton: Princeton University Press,

SERIES DESCRIPTION SHEET

Series Number: 8

Series Title: **Florence M. Read Records**
Boxes 180-198

Date Range: 1927-1947

Quantity: 18 mss. boxes
7.5 linear ft.

Type of Materials/Format: Textual materials

Content Description: Florence Matilda Read became Acting President of Atlanta University in 1936 and served in that capacity for a little over a year. The bulk of the material in this series is comprised of documents created out of her tenure as Acting President of Atlanta University. The Administrative File contains correspondence, and some information on the memorial service for Dr. John Hope. Other university records include information on buildings and grounds, records from academic departments, the Laboratory School, Trevor Arnett Library, and information on property surrounding the campus. In addition, this series contains reports, correspondence, and printed material from Gammon Theological Seminary, Morehouse, Spelman, Morris Brown, and Clark Colleges. Documentation of Atlanta University's association with educational and philanthropic organizations is also included.

Arrangement: Divided into twelve subseries, arranged alphabetically within each subseries.

- (1) Administrative Files
- (2) Affiliations & Cooperations
- (3) Associations & Organizations
- (4) Educational Organizations
- (5) Philanthropic Organizations
- (6) Buildings and Grounds
- (7) Departments
- (8) Housing
- (9) Laboratory School/Nursery School
- (10) Library
- (11) Property
- (12) Statistics

1961.

ATLANTA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
ATLANTA UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTIAL RECORDS, 1856-1984

SERIES 8. FLORENCE M. READ RECORDS, 1927-1945, 1947

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER		
		<u>Administrative Files, 1933-1940</u>	
180	1	Acting President, Correspondence, A to L	1936-1937
	2	Acting President, Correspondence, M to Z	1936-1937
	3	Administration - Secretary and Assistant Treasurer	1933-1936
	4	Clement, President R. E.	1937
	5	Crocker, C. T. - FMR	1936-1940
	6	Hope, John - Sympathy/Memorial	1936
	7	Richardson, W. S.	1936-1937
	8	Rockefeller, John D., Jr.	1936-1937
	9	Scott, William M.	1937
		<u>Affiliations & Cooperations, 1932-1941</u>	
181	1	Affiliated Colleges - Morehouse General Correspondence	1936-1937
	2	Archer, S. H.	1935-1937
	3	Brazeal, B. R.	1936-1937
	4	American Baptist Home Mission Society	1938
	5	Chapel Programs	1935-1937
	6	Commencements	1936-1937
	7	Courses	1936-1938
	8	Affiliated Colleges - Morehouse Faculty Exchanges	1936-1937

9	Financial, American Baptist Home Mission Society - Endowment	1936-1938
10	Financial, Bills Payable	1935-1936
11	Financial, Bills Payable	1936-1937
12	Financial, Budget	1935-1936
13	Financial, Budget	1936-1937
14	Financial, Budget	1937-1938
15	Financial, Carolina Power & Light Company	1932-1937
16	Financial, New York Trust Co.	1936-1938
17	Financial, Trial Balances	1935-1937
18	General Announcements	1936-1937
19	Hubert, C. D., Acting President	1937-1939
20	Repairs	1936-1937
21	Reports	1936-1939
22	Students	1936-1937

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER		
182	1	Affiliated Colleges - Spelman General	1935-1937
	2	Read, Florence M.	1937
	3	Commencements	1936-1938
	4	Courses	1936-1937
	5	Faculty & Staff	1935-1937
	6	Financial, General	1935-1936
	7	Founders Day	1935-1938
	8	Students	1935-1938
	9	Trustees, Board of	1937-1938
	10	Vesper Services	1936-1937

	11	Affiliated Colleges - Other Atlanta Colleges - Atlanta School of Social Work	1936-1937
	12	Clark University, Holmes, M. J.	1936-1937
	13	Clark University, New Buildings	1936
	14	Gammon Theological Seminary	1936-1937
BOX NUMBER 183	FOLDER NUMBER 1	Affiliated Colleges - Other Atlanta Colleges - Morris Brown College, Correspondence - Fountain, W. A.	1936-1937
	2	Faculty	1935-1937
	3	Financial, General	1935-1941
	4	Lease of property	1932-1939
	5	Affiliated Colleges outside Atlanta General Correspondence	1936-1937
	6	Dillard University	1936-1937
	7	Fisk University	1936-1937
	8	Howard University	1936-1937
	9	Morgan College	1937-1938
BOX NUMBER 184	FOLDER NUMBER	<u>Associations & Organizations, 1936-1937</u>	
	1	Associations - General	1936-1937
	2	Association for Adult Education	1937
	3	Atlanta Negro Chamber of Commerce	1936-1937
		<u>Educational Organizations, 1930-1938</u>	
	4	American Council on Education	1936-1937
	5	American Teachers Association (formerly NATCS)	1938
	6	Association of American Colleges	1936-1938
	7	Association of American Colleges Committee on Classification...	1936-1937

8	Association of Colleges & Secondary Schools for Negroes	1936-1937
9	Association of Colleges & Secondary Schools in the Southern States	1936-1937
10	Association of Collegiate Deans & Registrars	1936-1937
11	Association for the Study of Negro Life and History	1936-1937
12	Congregational Education Society	1936-1937
13	Georgia Association of Negro Colleges and Secondary Schools	1936-1937
14	Georgia State Department of Education	1935-1937
15	Georgia State Department of Education Asst. Supv. Negro Education - Mrs. Whiting	1937
16	National Association of Deans & Advisers in Colored Schools	1937
17	National Association of Teachers in Colored Schools	1936-1937
18	National Association of Teachers in Colored Schools, Atlanta Meeting	1936
19	National Education Association - American Association of School Administrators	1937
20	National Education Association - Department of Superintendence	1936-1937
21	National Negro Congress	1936-1937
22	National Student Health Association	1936
23	Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools	1930-1936
24	U.S. Department of Interior	1935

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Philanthropic Organizations, 1930-1945

185	1	American Missionary Association	1932-1937
	2	Carnegie Corporation of New York	1935-1937

3	Carnegie Corporation of New York College Music Set	1936-1937
4	General Education Board Arnett, Trevor	1935-1936
5	Askey, Arthur G. & Beal, George J.	1934-1941
6	Brierley, W. W.	1933-1939
7	Davis, Jackson	1936-1937
8	Favrot, Leo M.	1936-1937
9	Favrot, Leo M., Committee on Revision of Rural Bulletin	1936-1937
10	Fosdick, Raymond B.	1935-1937
11	Stevens, David H.	1936
12	Winternitz, M. C., Report on the University Housing Project	1936-1937

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186	1	General Education Board - Grants Atlanta University School of Social Work	1941
	2	Biology & Chemistry, Equipment for	1936-1945
	3	Dramatics	1934-1936
	4	Instructional Talking Films, Chicago, University Press of and Others	1935-1937
	5	Leonard Street Orphans Home	1935-1937
	6	Library	1936-1937
	7	Power Plant	1936-1937
	8	Power Plant, Expenses of Comprehensive Study of Heating, Lighting and Power Services	1936-1937
	9	Salaries of Teachers	1936-1937
	10	Scientific Supplies (incl. repairs to Science Building)	1934-1936

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER		
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	2	Statistical Laboratory, Equipment for	1936-1937
	3	Harmon Foundation	1936-1938
	4	Harmon Foundation - Case Extension Circuit Cooperative	1937
	5	International Education Board	1933-1934
	6	Phelps-Stokes Fund - Roy, L.A.	1936
	7	Phelps-Stokes Fund - Guest	1936-1937
	8	Phelps-Stokes Fund - Thomas, J. J.	1936-1937
	9	Rockefeller, John D.	1936
	10	Statistics - Atlanta University System, enrollment, budget	1927-1938
	11	Russell Sage Foundation	1937
	12	The John F. Slater Fund	1937
	13	Rosenwald Fund - Embree, Edwin E., February 25,	1938
	14	Rosewald Fund - Scholarships	1930-1938

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		<u>Buildings and Grounds, 1932-1940, 1947</u>	
188	1	General - Correspondence & Notes	1936-1937
	2	General - Athletic Field	1936-1937
	3	General - Barge & Thompson Company	1936-1937
	4	General - Barge & Thompson Company, Central Heating Plant	1936-1938
	5	General - Heating Plant	1936-1938
	6	General - Heating Plant, Engineer	1933-1937
	7	General - Huth (Re: Workmen)	1936-1937
	8	General - Huth (Re: Report on Acreage)	1937-1947

9	General - Insurance	1936-1938
10	General - Lockwood Greene Engineers, Inc. Central Heating Plant	1936-1937
11	General - Lockwood Greene Engineers, Inc. Central Heating Plant, Change Orders	1937-1938
12	General - Lockwood Greene Engineers, Inc. Payments	1937
13	General - Quarles Hall	1932-1937
14	General - Repairs & Painting	1935-1938
15	General - Taxes	1936
16	General - Treasurer, Atlanta University	1937-1940
17	General - Value of A.U., M.C. & S.C.	1936-1937

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER		
189	1	Administration Building - Conference Room	1937
	2	Administration Building - Post Office	1936-1937
	3	Administration Building - Telegrams & Telephones	1936
	4	Administration Building - Students	1936
	5	Landscaping - Athletic Field, Hadden, Gavin	1936
	6	Landscaping - Athletic Field, Prints of	1932-1936
	7	Landscaping - Bullock, B. F.	1937
	8	Landscaping - Monroe's Landscape & Nursery Company	1936
	9	Library - Barge-Thompson Company, Elevator	1937
	10	Library - Rogers, Jas. Gamble, Inc.	1937
	11	New Buildings - Daley, V. A.	1936-1937
	12	New Buildings - Landon, H. H.	1936
	13	New Buildings - Rogers, Jas. Gamble, Inc., Clark College	1936-1937

14	New Buildings - Students Housing, Hostess, Henry, Mrs. Eunice	1935-1938
15	New Buildings - Students Housing, Inventories	1935-1936
16	President's Residence - Barge- Thompson Co.	1937
17	Students' Housing - Barge-Thompson Co.	1936-1937
18	Students' Housing - Boarding Department, General	1936-1938
19	Students' Housing - Boarding Department, - Information Sheets for Dormitory Residents	1936-1937
20	Students' Housing - Boarding Department, - BOULE, August,	1937
21	Students' Housing - Rogers, Jas. Gamble, Inc.	1936-1937

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	<u>Departments, 1933-1938</u>	
190	1 Academic - Atlanta University Department Meeting, April	1937
	2 Art, Department of General Correspondence	1937-1938
	3 Art, Department of American Federation of Art	1936-1937
	4 Art, Department of College Art Reference Set	1936
	5 Art, Department of Courses, Ms. Mabel Brooks	1933
	6 Art, Department of Exhibits	1936-1937
	7 Art, Department of Museum of Modern Art	1936
	8 Biology, Department of	1936-1937
	9 Bookstore, Department of	1936-1937
	10 Chemistry, Department of	1936-1937
	11 "The Dance", Department of	1937-1938
	12 Drama, Department of	1937

13	Drama, Department of Dramatics, Plan for developing work in,	1936-1937
14	Drama, Department of Fine Art, Proposed Theatre of	1936
15	Economics & Business Administration, Dept. of General Correspondence	1936
16	Economics & Business Administration, Dept. of Accounting Services	1936-1937
17	Education, Department of	1934-1937
18	English, Department of	1936-1937
19	French, Department of	1936-1937
20	French, Department of Exchange Students, Institute of International Education	1937
21	French, Department of French Publications	1936-1937
22	History, Department of	1935-1937
23	Latin, Department of	1936-1937
24	Music, Department of	1936-1937
25	Physics, Department of	1936-1937
26	Physical Education, Department of	1936-1937
27	Printing, Department of	1936-1938

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER		
191	1	Publicity, Department of General Correspondence	1937
	2	Publicity, Department of Allen, H. B.	1936-1937
	3	Publicity, Department of Advertisement	1936-1937
	4	Publicity, Department of Donations & Weekly Reports	1936
	5	Publicity, Department of	

		Events, Calendar of	1936-1937
6		Publicity, Department of News Releases, Atlanta University, First Semester	1936-1937
7		Publicity, Department of News Releases, Atlanta University Second Semester	1936-1937
8		Publicity, Department of News Releases, Atlanta University Summer School	1936-1937
9		Publicity, Department of News Releases, Morehouse College	1936-1937
10		Publicity, Department of News Releases, Spelman College, General	1936-1937
11		Publicity, Department of News Releases, Spelman College, First Semester	1936-1937
12		Publicity, Department of News Releases, Spelman College, Second Semester	1936-1937
13		Publicity, Department of Printing Specimens	1936-1938
BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER		
192	1	Purchasing, Department of	1936-1937
	2	Sociology, Department of	1936-1937
	3	Sociology, Department of Tennessee Valley Authority	1937
	4	Sociology, Department of Participation Study	1936
BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER		
		<u>Housing, 1934-1939</u>	
193	1	Housing Advisory Committee	1938
	2	Advisory Committee on	

	University Housing, Minutes	1936-1938
3	Dent, A. W.	1936
4	Engineers Applications	1936
5	Federal Emergency Administration Burlaw, E. K.	1936
6	Calhoun, D. A.	1936-1937
7	Clas, A. R.	1936-1937
8	Emergency Training School, Puryear, E. F.	1936
9	Gray, H. A.	1936-1937
10	Hackett, H. B.	1935-1936
11	Ickes, H. L.	1936
12	Pearson, P. M.	1935-1938
13	Puryear, E. F.	1935-1936
14	Weaver, R. C.	1934-1937
15	Mitchell, Arthur W.	1936
16	Moron, Alonzo G.	1936
17	National Association of Housing Officials	1936
18	National Association of Housing Officials, Bohn, Ernest J.	1936
19	National Public Housing Conference	1935-1938
20	Painter's Union, Efforts to Organize of	1936
21	Publications	1935-1937

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER		
194	1	Ramspeck, Hon. Robert	1935-1937
	2	University Housing Project General File	1934-1937
	3	University Housing Project University Homes, Formal Opening of, May 1,	1937
	4	University Housing Project	

	N. P. Severin Company	1936
5	University Housing Project Qualifications	1934-1939
6	University Housing Project Publications & Programs	1936-1938
7	University Housing Project Palmer, C. F.	1937
8	Voell, R. F.	1937

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER		
		<u>Laboratory School/Nursery School, 1931-1938</u>	
195	1	Atlanta University - Exchanges	1935-1938
	2	Atlanta University - Faculty	1936-1937
	3	Atlanta University - Faculty (Work Sheets)	1936-1937
	4	Atlanta University - Faculty Meetings	1936-1938
	5	Atlanta University - Faculty Prospects & Summer School Guest Professors	1936
	6	Laboratory School General	1935-1936
	7	Laboratory School General	1936-1937
	8	Laboratory Elementary School General	1935-1936
	9	Laboratory Elementary School General	1936-1937
	10	Laboratory High School General	1935-1936
	11	Laboratory High School General	1936-1937
	12	Laboratory High School Repairs	1937
	13	Nursery School, Children's Fund of Michigan	1931-1937

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BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER		
		<u>Library, 1936-1938</u>	
196	1	Library - General	1936-1937
	2	Library - Books & Periodicals	1936-1937
	3	Library - Coleman, H. F.	1936-1937
	4	Library - Financial	1936-1938
	5	Library - Templeton, C.	1936-1937
	6	Library - "Use of Library"	1936-1937
	7	Library - Report of	1936-1937
BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER		
		<u>Property, 1936-1940</u>	
197	1	Property - General	1939-1940
	2	Property - Adams-Cates Company	1936-1937
	3	Property - Atlanta Title & Trust Co.	1936
	4	Property - Atlanta University, Offers for Purchase	1936-1937
	5	Property - Leonard Street Orphans Home	1936-1937
	6	Property - Outside of Defined Area	1938
	7	Property - Seaboard Real Estate Corp.	1936-1937
	8	Property - Real Estate, Reid, Alvin	1936-1937
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		<u>Statistics, 1927-1939</u>	
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	2	Statistics - Re: "Clark Meeting", December 16,	1936
	3	Statistics - Re: "GEB Report"	1927-1937
	4	Statistics - General	1932-1936
	5	Statistics - University	1935-1936
	6	Statistics - University	1936-1937
	7	Statistics - University	1936-1937

8	Statistics - Request for Information	1936-1938
9	Statistics - U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Education	1936-1939