



West Virginia Archives & History News

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VIDEOTAPE COLLECTION

From the Editor:

Look at this month's **New Title List** and the **Videotape Collection List** will give you an idea of the diversity of topics and formats included in the Archives and History Library collection. Our purpose is to collect and preserve anything and everything about West Virginia and West Virginians, and to make those materials accessible to the public as much as possible. Sometimes we are required by the preservation part of our mission to set guidelines for using certain materials, but we are continually striving to open all parts of the collection to the public. **Richard Fauss**, Archivist, is contributing to this effort by selecting videotapes from the Archives collection to be cataloged on the West Virginia Union Catalog and made available for viewing in the Archives and History Library. Viewing hours will include evening, weekend and holiday hours when the Videotape Collection previously has not been accessible. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to view the videotapes, some of which are not widely known and/or are unavailable to the general public.

WEST VIRGINIA ARCHIVES AND HISTORY LIBRARY VIDEOTAPE COLLECTION

Richard Fauss, Archivist, is the caretaker of the portion of the West Virginia Archives and History collection stored on film and tape, whether sound recordings on audiotape, still images on microfilm or moving images on film and videotape. His responsibilities include both acquisition and preservation of these fragile materials, as well as making these invaluable pieces of West Virginia history and heritage accessible for use in compiling new documentaries or for viewing by researchers and others.

In this issue of *Archives and History News* we will focus on the approximately 4,800 moving image tapes in the collection, most of which are not formatted in VHS. Understandably, transferring all of these non-VHS tapes to a format viewable in a standard VCR is not feasible. Therefore, a highly selective number of tapes are being re-formatted for public access as part of the cataloged collection of the Archives and History Library. Film documentaries will be the first priority for cataloging, followed by television programs of interest to historians and the general public, such as Harry Brawley's programs on the history of Charleston.

The moving images collection includes both old and new documentaries on West Virginia and West Virginians. The newer documentaries tend to be in VHS format, while older films are on 16mm film, necessitating transfer to VHS tape for public use. An early example of a documentary is

the film *See Yourself in the Movies*, a 1937 community film of Elkins, West Virginia. More recently made, but old enough to be viewed with historical perspective, are a number of documentaries about the state filmed from 1960 through 1977 by Ellis Dungan that have become classics. The Archives copies of these documentaries are recorded on 16mm film originals. Fauss will copy the films onto VHS videotape cassettes this spring for cataloging and placement in the Archives and History Library collection in time for Library visitors to enjoy on West Virginia Day, June 20, 2002. Other recordings, such as West Virginia Library Commission (WVLC) television programs, are on 3/4" videotape and must be transferred to the VHS format. The *Davis Grubb: West Virginia Author* videotape now available for viewing in the Library is actually a 1978 television interview from one of the WVLC programs.

The films transferred to VHS and played at the Archives and History display table during History Day are one of the highlights of the annual day at the Legislature for many people. Last year Richard featured footage of the 1951 Pigskin Pageant showing events surrounding the North-South Football Game, and this year he prepared scenes of *Around Town* recorded in Ripley by Don Flesher in 1951.

Several local television stations retain copies of their own programs for five years, then send television news film and videotape to the Archives for archival storage. Professional film makers may view news footage and obtain copies of images for their productions. The Archives is performing an important role both by preserving images that may otherwise be lost and by providing access to those images to documentary makers and researchers who will use the images to further expand the storehouse of information about West Virginia in all media.

Two major documentaries, *West Virginia: A Film History* and *The West Virginians*, which were produced as part of the West Virginia History Film

Project, will soon be added to the cataloged collection. While the documentary series itself is valuable to the general public, documentary film makers and historians will find additional information in the unedited versions of individual interviews and visuals. To aid these professionals, a collection guide to the materials assembled, created and presented as a part of the West Virginia History Film Project was compiled and added to the Archives and History Web site as a searchable database under the *West Virginia Memory Project*.

As we have reported previously in *Archives and History News*, film footage obtained through the West Virginia Archives moving images collection has been used for such recent documentaries as *Ashes to Glory* and *Blenko Retro*, and films such as *Mothman Prophecies*. The Archives usually receives a VHS copy of any production to which we make a contribution, just as we customarily receive a copy of any book or magazine which uses a still photographic image obtained through the West Virginia Archives.

Look over the following list of videotapes currently available for viewing in the Archives and History Library Reading Room and choose one to watch the next time you come in. We have a television with a VCR and headphones ready and waiting for you. If you are the spouse or designated driver for a die-hard genealogist, view an entertaining and educational film while waiting for your loved one to detach himself/herself from the microfilm reader. On the ride home, you can then forestall the family historian's detailed report of the finds and frustrations of the day with your own enthusiastic re-telling of the wonders of Blenko Glass or the intriguing history of Jefferson County!

If you have questions about the moving images collection in general, the Videotape Collection in particular, or would like to donate West Virginia-related footage, please contact **Richard Fauss**, Archivist, Archives and History.

VIDEOTAPE COLLECTION

CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING IN THE ARCHIVES AND HISTORY LIBRARY

- **Flood '96: The Greenbrier River Disaster of 1996:** Gary Aide, producer, 1996.
- **Echoes From the Hills: West Virginia Draft Animals:** Bob Campbell, producer, [no date].
- **On Location with "Fool's Parade":** Columbia Pictures, 1971.
- **Davis Grubb: West Virginia Author:** West Virginia Library Commission, 1978.
- **Hardwood Forests of the Eastern U.S.: A Quiet Success Story:** Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, 1993.
- **West Virginia Nature and Wildlife: TV series promo:** Bob Campbell, producer, 1993.
- **Ties That Bind: Show #3, Oak Hill and Surrounding Area, Past and Present:** Michael Hoff, producer, 2000.
- **A Page from the Past, a Bridge to the Future:** U.S. Forest Service, [no date].
- **Blenko Retro: Three Designers of American Glass:** Witek and Novak, 2001.
- **Helvetia: The Swiss of West Virginia:** Gerald Milnes, producer, for Augusta Heritage Center, 1993.
- **Long Journey Home:** Appalshop Films, 1987.
- **Rocks and Rivers: West Virginia's Geologic Heritage:** West Virginia Geological Survey, 1993.
- **His Eye is on the Sparrow: Ethel Caffie-Austin, Minister of Black Sacred Music:** Appalshop, 1999.
- **M a t e w a n :** Lorimar Home Video/Evergreen Entertainment, 1996, c1987.

- **Harley Warrick: Last of a Breed:** Kellas-Grindley Productions, [1997?].
- **Breaking Silence: The Story of the Sisters at DeSales Heights:** Tommie Dell Smith, producer, 1993.
- **Even the Heavens Weep: The West Virginia Mine Wars:** The Humanities Foundation of West Virginia/WPBY Television, 1985.
- **Holy Cow! Swami:** Jacob Young, producer, 1996.
- **A Scar Remains:** West Virginia Archives and History, 1992.
- **With God on Our Side: The Rise of the Religious Right in American: The Zeal of Thy House, 1969-1974:** Calvin Skaggs, producer, 1996.
- **Spring Hill Cemetery: An Historic View and Walking Tour:** Richard A. Andre, 1994.
- **Our Town: Spring Hill Cemetery:** M. Sharon King, host, and Richard Andre, guest, 1994.
- **The Video Story of Blairton, Martinsburg, WV:** William V. Butcher, Sr., [no date].

We will be adding to this collection on a regular basis. The additions will be noted each month in *Archives and History News*.

VIDEOTAPE REVIEW

by Susan Scouras

Between the Shenandoah & the Potomac: A Visual History of Jefferson County, WV

The Jefferson County Historical Society has produced a wonderful history of their homeland through the combined use of beautifully scenic videotape photography, interesting still photos and artists' representations of the natural landscape and resources, the man-made structures and the people themselves that comprise the past and present of Jefferson County. As the title indicates, the

influence of the county's location between the Shenandoah and the Potomac Rivers is woven through both the narrative and the visual images from beginning to end. Strategically placed commentary by local experts and representatives of various agencies and organizations add support to the factual history of Jefferson County as drawn from *Historic Jefferson County*, by Millard Kessler Bushong. Excellent narration by Charlie Glaize and well-chosen background music round out the presentation of Writer/Producer Melissa Wallace.

Topics covered include: Native Americans, initial European exploration and settlement, development of agriculture and industry, horse racing, local participation in war efforts from the French and Indian War to the present, the roles of African Americans, educational institutions, the Washington family, John Brown and Harpers Ferry, and the political history and influence of Jefferson County and its citizens.

The Archives and History Library appreciates the donation by the Jefferson County Historical Society of three copies of *Between the Shenandoah and the Potomac: A Visual History of Jefferson County, WV* for our collection. We encourage other county societies to undertake similar projects to produce equally outstanding videotape representations for all of West Virginia's counties.

The Jefferson County videotape can be ordered for \$25.00 (including shipping and handling) from:

Jefferson County Historical Society
P. O. Box 485
Charles Town, WV 25414

or purchased from the Jefferson County Museum, Historic Entler Hotel, Four Season Bookstore, Harpers Ferry Bookstore, and the Berkeley County Historical Society in the Belle Boyd House

Between the Shenandoah & the Potomac was viewed by Susan Scouras, Archives and History News Editor, and by Fredrick H. Armstrong, Director, Archives and History.

NEW TITLES

Directory of County Officials: West Virginia Association of Counties, 2001.

Doddridge Farm Diary: The 1944 Journal of Sherman Benson Stout: Raymond Alvarez, 2001.

A Study of the Constitution of West Virginia: County Organization: League of Women Voters of West Virginia, 1962.

Mothman: The Facts Behind the Legend: Donnie Sergent, Jr. and Jeff Wamsley, 2002.

The Mothman Prophecies: John A. Keel, 2001.

Mothman and Other Curious Encounters: Loren Coleman, 2002.

The Tyrrell Wives: Fifteen Centuries of Genealogy and History: Dorothy Palmer Landrum, 2001.

Ohio County (WV) Index, Volume 7C: Cumulative 'personal time line' index to Volumes 1-7, Index to Ohio County Court Order Books 1777-1881: Kenneth Fischer Craft, Jr., 2001. *Note: Supersedes indexes in each individual volume.*

Obituaries, Berkeley County Virginia (West Virginia) 1791-1855, and Other News: Berkeley County Historical Society, 2001.

A Census of Cemeteries, Dekalb District, Gilmer County, West Virginia: Doris M. Radabaugh, 2001.

Brackenrich: A Brief History of the Brackenrich Family: Jay Brackenrich, 2001.

Ward W. Va. Annual Reunion, 2000: The Reunion Committee, 2000.

Ward W. Va. Annual Reunion, 2001: The Reunion Committee, 2001.

Some Notes on Early Mining in West Virginia: C. E. Roth, [no date].

Annual Report Fiscal Year 2001: Helping Communities Manage Chemical Risks: National Institute for Chemical Studies, 2001.

Bluestone Dam 50th Anniversary Commemorative Album 1949-1999: Stephen D. Trail, 1999.

Kith and Kin of Boone County, West Virginia, Volume 26: Boone County Genealogical Society, 2001.

In Spite of Obstacles: A History of the West Virginia Schools for the Colored Deaf and Blind, 1926-1955: Ancella R. Bickley, 2001.

From a Compassionate Past to an Empowering Future: A Historical Perspective of the State-Federal Public Program of Vocational Rehabilitation Services in West Virginia 1920-2000: Patricia J. Davis Caldwell, 2001.

The Ohio Valley Trades and Labor Assembly: The Formative Years, 1882-1915: David T. Javersak, WVU Thesis, 1977.

Radio Station WWVA 1936 Wheeling Flood Souvenir: West Virginia Broadcasting Corp., 1936.

Sentimental Journey: The Du Pont Belle Works, a 75 Year History, 1926-2001: Charles J. Denham, Editor, 2001.

The Keadles of Mingo County: Harvey E. Keadle, 2001.

Mr. Clutch: The Jerry West Story: Jerry West with Bill Libby, 1971.

Charles Clendinen of Virginia, Volume 4: His Parents, His Sons James and Charles Clendinen, Jr. and His Daughter Elizabeth Clendinen: John F. and Harriet M. Clendenen, 2001.

Lamberts Across America: Mary Whitney, 1987.

Marmet Mustangs: 1985-86 Yearbook: Marmet Jr. High School, 1986.

The Kanawhan: 1993 Yearbook: East Bank Senior High School, 1994.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

In addition to *West Virginia History* for 1999-2000, back issues of the journal are available, some at reduced prices. Check our Web site (under History Center) for contents and information on availability of specific issues. *West Virginia History* is also offering photocopies of the *Log of the 'Wee Vee': The Battleship West Virginia* by Myron J. Smith, Jr., published as a *West Virginia History* article in 1977. Copies may

be purchased in the Archives and History Library for \$4.00 each, or by mail for \$5.00 each. Please send mail orders to *West Virginia History*, at our address.

Copies of *Hampshire County Court Records 1754-1885, Index to Microfilmed Records*, are available for \$10.00 each through Archives and History in The Cultural Center, or for \$11.50 each by mail. Please direct your mail orders to Susan Scouras at our address.

When ordering any of these publications by mail, your check or money order should be payable to "Division of Culture and History." Please do not mail cash.

"WHAT'S NEW" ON OUR WEB SITE

<http://www.wvculture.org/history>

Under "What's New" click on Portraits of Women in West Virginia to view photographs or artists' portrayals of women of note in West Virginia's history in honor of Women's History Month. Also accessible through "What's New" is a listing of the **2002 History Heroes** honored on History Day at the Legislature, February 28, 2002, with brief descriptions of the achievements for which they were recognized. In addition to Notable Individuals in West Virginia History, we have added Notable Events in West Virginia History. Under both categories we have listed suggested readings compiled by Cathy Miller that are available in the West Virginia Archives and History Library on these topics. Copies of clippings can be ordered, although other materials may be used only in the Library.

As manager of our periodical collection, Cathy has compiled a list of Newspapers on Microfilm in the Archives and History Library, arranged by county. Under each county, the newspapers are identified by title and town of publication, with dates of our coverage specified. Keep in mind that

individual papers may be missing within those date ranges. Even with the most recent newspapers, all of which we receive by mail, occasional issues are lost in transit or “borrowed” from the Library shelf and are not always replaced before microfilming.

Ed Hicks, Archival Photographer, and Joe Geiger, Web Master, find amusing or fascinating photographs and post them under **Pic of the Week**. As we clip newspapers or read them on microfilm in the course of our duties, we often find odd, hilarious or simply interesting articles and illustrations that Joe posts under **Humor Mill**. We are always adding more **Featured Links** as we discover West Virginia-related sites that are new (or new to us) that we think those interested in West Virginia history or genealogy will find helpful. Whether you visit us in person or only know us through our Web site, please take the time to browse through our on-line offerings. If the “What’s New” section no longer features these topics when you are browsing our site, look for them under our regular offerings. Once placed on the Web site, very few topics are ever removed. If you have any comments or suggestions concerning our Web site and its contents, please address them to Joe Geiger, Web Master, at our address, or e-mail him at joe.geiger@wvculture.org.

PREPARING FOR THE 1930 CENSUS

Tips for Finding Your Entries Without Indexes

The 1930 United States Census of West Virginia will be available in the Archives and History Library *hopefully* on April 15, 2002. According to the United States National Archives Records Administration Web site for Census information, <http://www.nara.gov/genealogy/1930cen.html#index>, the microfilm is not being *shipped* until the first week of April. **In the past the film has been shipped in order to be available to the public on April 1, but this is not the case for the 1930 Census release.** As soon as the microfilm is

received by the Archives and History Library, the boxed rolls will be labeled and made available in the Library’s Microfilm Room.

The Soundex index will include Fayette, Harrison, Kanawha, Logan, McDowell, Mercer and Raleigh Counties only. Presumably, commercially produced indexes will be available several months after the April release since so little of the census will be indexed by Soundex this time. *Ancestry.com* is advertising that they will have an on-line index as soon as possible, but as far as we know, that index will be available by subscription only through *Ancestry.com*. Until commercially published or locally produced (historical and genealogical societies, etc.) indexes are compiled, researchers will have to do some advance preparation on their own to reduce search time and to avoid having to read every page of a county census.

Using whatever family resources you have available, **locate street addresses or community names** for as many of your family members as possible. Old address books, letters, post cards and Christmas card lists can be invaluable. Check any 1930-era documents, such as birth and death certificates or deeds, which contain street addresses, community names and/or magisterial district names. If you have no idea where your family was in 1930, but you have a 1920 Census listing for them, start with the district for that address, then move on to adjacent districts.

For larger urban areas, **city directories** may be available. For non-Soundex areas, the Archives and History Library has a Fairmont directory for 1927-28, a Huntington directory for 1930, and Wheeling directories for 1928 and 1932. We have circa 1930 **telephone directories** for Grafton (1933, 1934), Huntington, New Martinsville/Sistersville, Martinsburg, Parkersburg, Ravenswood/Ripley (1932-33) and Wheeling. Local public and college libraries or historical/genealogical societies may have directories or telephone books covering smaller towns and more rural areas of counties.

Maps and descriptions of the boundaries of the **1930 Census Enumeration Districts** will be available for your reference in the Archives and History Library, both on microfilm and as printed copy. We have copies of verbal descriptions in "Plans of Division into Enumeration Districts: Fifteenth Census 1930: West Virginia," as prepared by the Bureau of the Census for use in taking the 1930 census, for your reference. Each county is broken down into its **magisterial districts** and wards. Each enumeration district is described by its **geographical** (river, for example), **physical** (streets, railroad lines, etc.) and/or **political** (city limits, county line, etc.) **boundaries**. Our staff is of the opinion that while magisterial districts have changed little over the years, wards have changed frequently and will be hard to identify; therefore the key to using the descriptions will be determining the most likely **magisterial district** to begin the search. The Archives and History Library has a 1933 set of **county maps** available now showing the names and boundaries of all of the magisterial districts. We have ordered a set of 1930 enumeration district maps from the Bureau of the Census.

ARCHIVES AND HISTORY NEWS ON THE WEB

Archives and History News is posted on our Web site every month. We hope to have an index available soon. Until then, the following issues may be of interest to those researching specific subjects:

- **Preparing a book or pamphlet?** *Are You an Author?* (May 2000) and *Advice for Authors* (April 2001) will help you produce a more professional, easier-to-locate (both for research and for purchase) and useful publication.
- **Census:** *Census* (June 2000) for general information on census records and their use, and *1930 Census* (October 2001) for information specific to the 1930 Census.
- **County history and records:** *West Virginia's 55 Counties* (August 2000), *Missing West Virginia County Records* (February 2001) and *Additions and Corrections to "Missing West Virginia County Records"* (August 2001) present an overview. If you can clarify or add to the information presented in these articles, please contact Susan Scouras.
- **Cemeteries:** *Cemeteries* (September 2000) will aid you in using cemetery records for genealogical information, and in preserving and protecting the cemeteries themselves.
- **Photographs:** *Photographs* (June 2001)
- **General research tips:** *Name Know-How* (October 2001), *Newspaper Research* (March 2001), *History's Role in Genealogy* (November 2000), and especially *Asking the Right Question* (December 2000). If you are not getting responses to inquiries you post on Internet message boards, or if you do not receive the documents you want in response to research requests made to libraries and other resources, read this last article to see if the problem lies in the way you are wording your questions, or in the scope of the information you are requesting.
- **West Virginia Veterans:** *West Virginia Veterans Memorial Archives* (November 2001)

This newsletter is a publication of :
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The Cultural Center
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Charleston, WV 25305-0300
(304) 558-0230
Nancy P. Herholdt, Commissioner

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEB SITE
(<http://www.wvculture.org/history>) FOR GENEALOGICAL
and HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND FOR MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION ON ACTIVITIES LISTED BELOW.

“WE HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON”: A Collection of West Virginia War Letters. Exhibit in the Archives and History Library, The Cultural Center, Charleston.

“ORGANIZING YOUR RECORDS,” APRIL 7. Program presented by the Kanawha Valley Genealogical Society (KVGS), Charleston.

ANNUAL BLUE & GRAY DINNER, APRIL 11. Lecture by Troy D. Harman, author of *Cemetery Hill: the General Plan was Unchanged*. WV Independence Hall, Wheeling.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MUSIC OF THE CIVIL WAR ERA, APRIL 12-13. Shepherdstown.

“CENSUS RECORDS,” APRIL 13. Program presented by KVGS, Dunbar.

“ORGANIZING YOUR RECORDS,” APRIL 14. Program presented by KVGS, St. Albans.

6TH ANNUAL MID-OHIO GENEALOGY FAIR, APRIL 20. Parkersburg.

“LAND RECORDS,” APRIL 20. Program presented by KVGS, Elk Valley.

“CENSUS RECORDS,” APRIL 20. Program presented by KVGS, Cross Lanes.

“LAND RECORDS,” APRIL 20. Program presented by KVGS, Marmet.

INDEPENDENCE HALL MUSEUM’S FAMILY FUN DAY: APPALACHIAN STORIES AND SONGS, APRIL 27. Performed by Imagine That, Wheeling.

GENEALOGICAL FAIR, MAY 11. West Virginia Genealogical Society, Elkview.

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY, MAY 14. Archives Library will be *open*.*

INDEPENDENCE HALL MUSEUM’S FAMILY FUN DAY: CHILDREN’S CIVIL WAR BOOT CAMP, MAY 15. Conducted by 15th Ohio Re-enactors, Wheeling.

MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 27. Archives Library will be *closed*.

WEST VIRGINIA DAY, JUNE 20. Archives Library will be *open*.*

**Only the Archives Library will be staffed--all other Archives offices will be closed.* The State Museum will be open any time the Archives Library is open. The West Virginia Library Commission Library in the Cultural Center is closed weekends and all holidays.

ARCHIVES AND HISTORY STAFF

Fredrick Armstrong: Director

Debra Basham: Archivist (photographs, special collections)

Constance Baston: Researcher (Veterans Memorial Archive)

Greg Carroll: Historian (Civil War, Native American history)

Dick Fauss: Archivist (microfilm and moving images)

Elaine Gates: Library Assistant (microfilming and microfilm repairs)

Joe Geiger: Historian (Web page)

Ed Hicks: Photographer (archival photography, darkroom)

Mary Johnson: Historian (*West Virginia History*)

Terry Lowry: Library Assistant (Civil War)

Jaime Lynch: Library Assistant (records of the 1700's and early 1800's, Pennsylvania)

Cathy Miller: Library Assistant (WV State documents, periodicals)

Sharon Newhouse: Secretary

Harold Newman: Library Assistant (microfilming, Revolutionary War)

Pat Pleska: Manager (Veterans Memorial Archive)

Susan Scouras: Librarian (cataloging, Kentucky, library collection, newsletter editor)

Bobby Taylor: Library Manager

Nancy Waggoner: Office Assistant

Working on special projects: **Allen Fowler**.
Volunteers: **Caroline Connor, Bill Kelley, Dale Newhouse, and Angela Tolbert.**