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Archives of Appalachia NEWSLETTER



VOL. VIII, NO. 2

WINTER, 1987

ARCHIVES DIRECTORSHIP VACATED

Effective January 16, 1987, director Ellen B. Garrison resigned her position at the Archives of Appalachia to accept a position as archivist with the Center for Popular Music, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro. There Dr. Garrison will be responsible for establishing the center's archives.

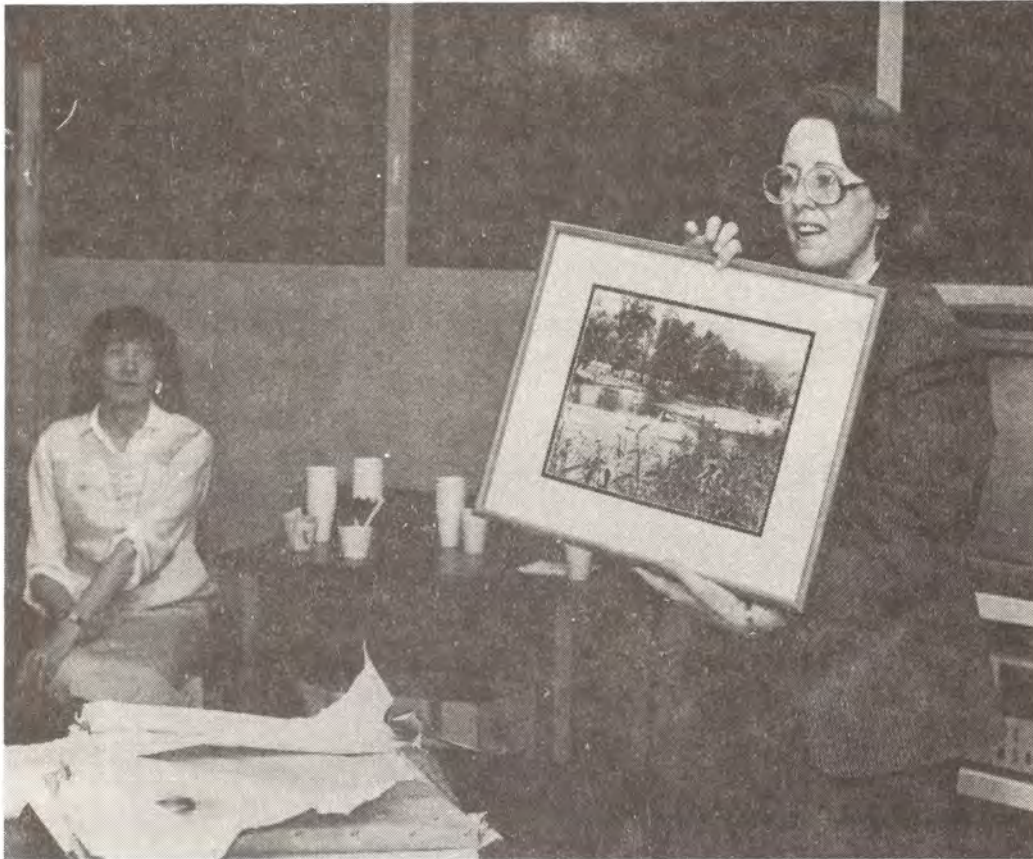
During her tenure as director Dr. Garrison was responsible for the archives' acquisition of a number of important collections. Among these were the East Tennessee Light and Power Company Records, the Elizabethton (TN) Star Negatives; WETS-FM (Johnson City) Records; and the Burton-Headley collection of video tapes. She also proposed that the archives' holdings be put into a computerized finding aid. This proposal led to the formulation of ACSAS (Archival Computerized Subject Access System). In addition, Dr. Garrison continued the archives outreach program and worked with the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services to improve the archives' holdings and services. Dr. Garrison lobbied successfully for added space for the archives and for increased use of the university archives by university offices. She also served the university through her participation on the 75th Anniversary Program Committee.

Dr. Garrison pursued a number of professional activities. In 1984 and 1985 she served as project director for the Appalachian Consortium project, "Archives in Appalachia: Meeting a Region's Needs," and edited Archives in Appalachia: A Directory (1985). Dr. Garrison is active in a number of professional organizations, among them the Society for American Archivists, Tennessee Archivists, the Appalachian Studies Conference and the Appalachian Consortium.

All of us at the Archives of Appalachia wish her success at Middle Tennessee State University.

A FAREWELL FROM THE DIRECTOR

"Farewell" seems a very appropriate word for me to use at this point. I have enjoyed my almost five years as director of the Archives of Appalachia, and I hope the collection will indeed "fare well" in the future. Under the care of library director Dr. Fred Borchuck and the excellent staff who remain I have no doubt that my hopes will be realized.



Dr. Ellen Garrison accepts gift of library staff at reception in her honor, as Ruth Hausman of the Reece Museum looks on.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all the people who made my tenure as director both memorable and educational, beginning with my predecessor Dr. Richard Kessner, who laid such a strong foundation for me. Faculty and staff at East Tennessee State University, colleagues in the Appalachian Consortium and Appalachian Studies Conference and researchers from across the country have all been an important part of these years. But most important has been the broad-based community support, manifested through generous gifts of materials, time and money, with which the archives has been blessed.

I can wish my successor no finer gift than these friendships which enriched my life as director of the Archives of Appalachia. With such support I am sure the archives will prosper and grow no matter what the future holds.

Ellen Garrison

SOURCES IN THE ARCHIVES: RELIGION IN APPALACHIA

The Archives of Appalachia has an extensive collection of materials on religion in Appalachia. Information on religion is found in all seven media formats contained in the archives: books (Special Collections), manuscripts, video tapes, audio tapes, Appalachian vertical files, Appalachian publications vertical files and photographs. The books cover various aspects of religion, ranging from general treatments of religion in Appalachia to histories of specific churches in Tennessee. Also included are works on snake handling in Appalachia (for information on the archives' snake handling materials see the Fall 1986 Newsletter).



First Presbyterian Church, Johnson City, circa 1920s.

The major manuscript collections which bear on religion include the following: Appalachian Preaching Mission Records (1954-80); Blountville Circuit, Holston Conference, Methodist Church Stewards' Quarterly Conference Records, Minutes, 1941-59 and 1873-86; Emanuel Lutheran Church (Jonesborough, TN) Records, 1811-31; Holston Baptist Collection: Minutes, 1826-1904; B'Nai Sholom Congregation Records, 1905-83, (predominantly 1945-65); and the Holston Methodist Collection, published material, 1824-43. A few of these collections deserve special mention. The Appalachian Preaching Mission records focus primarily on the activities of the Johnson City Mission, 1954-80. Included are brochures, correspondence, financial statements, memoranda, minutes for city and area committee meetings and tapes of mission speakers. The B'Nai Sholom Congregation Records, 1905-83, cover the history and development of this congregation which serves the Tri-Cities area. The collection includes administrative records (deeds, minutes, constitution) correspondence, financial records, and publications put out by the congregation and its auxiliary, the B'Nai Sholom Sisterhood. The Holston Baptist Collection, 1826-1904 (predominantly 1859-86) consists of the minutes of the Holston Baptist Association, the first permanent association organized in Tennessee (October 30, 1786).

Audio and video tapes represent another source of information about religion in Appalachia. The Burton-Headley Collection, for example, contains a number of video tapes which deal with snake handling, while the Burton-Manning Collection includes audio tapes on church services, revivals, religious tales, church activities and religious beliefs. There also are a few audio tapes which have information on church services included in the Charles Gunter Collection.

Other sources of information on religion include the Appalachian vertical files, the Appalachian publications vertical files, and the Appalachian Photographic Archives. Although the Appalachian publication files contain only a limited amount of information on religion, the Appalachian files contain a substantial amount of material on religion in the region, as well as on specific churches in Tennessee, snake cults, the Holston Baptist Association and the Holston Methodist Association. The Appalachian Photographic Archives contain numerous photos under the following headings: "Johnson City, Tennessee-churches"; "Snake Cults"; "B'Nai Sholom congregation"; and "Religion".

Anyone desiring a copy of our listing of sources on religion may obtain one by writing to the Archives of Appalachia, Sherrod Library, Box 22450A, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN 37614-0002.

STAFF NEWS

New Student Workers

This semester the archives welcomes two new student workers. Tammy Cook of Kingsport, Tennessee and Kathy McCurry of Erwin,

Tennessee, have joined the archives. Ms. Cook assists in managing the photograph collection and in putting up exhibits, while Ms. McCurry helps process collections.

On March 28, 1987, Norma Thomas and Marie Tedesco presented a paper, "The Rayon Mills in Elizabethton, Tennessee: A Case Study of Appalachian Economic Development, 1926-1970," at the Appalachian Studies Conference, held in Johnson City. The conference was attended by approximately 350 scholars in Appalachian studies.

NEW EXHIBIT

The latest exhibit, "A Look at Pressmen's Home, Tennessee, 1910-67," focuses on the history and development of Pressmen's Home, the headquarters for the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants Union of North America (IPPAU), 1910-67. The exhibit also covers the highlights of the career of George L. Berry, longtime IPPAU president who was responsible for moving the union headquarters from Cincinnati to Tennessee in 1910. The exhibit owes its inspiration to Dr. James Mooney, assistant professor, department of communications, ETSU, who wrote his Ph.D. dissertation (University of Tennessee-Knoxville) on the history of the IPPAU at Pressmen's Home. Not only did Dr. Mooney's research provide the information for the exhibit, but his negatives and prints provided the visual basis for it. The archives thanks Dr. Mooney for his help.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

JOHN FAIN ANDERSON PAPERS, 1901-1925, 4 l.f. Consists of 16 volumes of scrapbooks containing newspaper clippings, correspondence, handwritten notes, postcards and certificates collected by Anderson. The subjects covered include: history of East Tennessee (Washington, Sullivan, Greene, Carter counties and Knoxville); Washington College Academy; state and national politics; local news events; family histories; Anderson's service in the Civil War; and collected poems and speeches. Donated by Janis Anderson, Jonesborough, Tennessee.

BUTON-HEADLEY TAPES, 1984, 40 video tapes, one audio tape. **ADDITION.** 40 video tapes and one audio tape of interviews predominantly with law enforcement, court, social services and education officials concerning violence in Appalachia. Tapes were used to produce the video program entitled "Traditional Springs of Violence in Appalachia" by Thomas Burton and Thomas Headley. Donated by Dr. Thomas Burton, English department, ETSU.

EAST TENNESSEE LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY RECORDS, 1912-1942, 10 l.f. **ADDITION.** Contains financial journals, inventories, annual reports, tax estimates and working papers, audit reports and balance sheets concerning the assets and operation of the East Tennessee Light and Power Company, Tennessee Eastern Electric Company, Johnson City Traction Company and Carolina Engineering Construction Corporation. These associated companies operated in upper East Tennessee prior to the introduction of the Tennessee Valley Authority. Donated by Mark Winter on behalf of TVA Records Center, Chattanooga.

COMMUNICATION WORKERS OF AMERICA. LOCAL 10871 RECORDS. 1983-1985, 2 l.f. Includes correspondence, newsletters, leaflets and other mass mailing materials between the local 10871 and the national office of the C.W.A. and its other divisions. Materials resulting from the interaction of the local and state agencies are present. Subjects include grievance reports, pending legislation concerning labor, boycotts of corporations and the day-to-day operation of the local union. Donated by Dale Larkin, Gray, Tennessee.

JOHNSON CITY POWER BOARD RECORDS, 1947-1980, 1.5 l.f. Contains power distributors' monthly report to TVA, annual reports, rate analysis, financial statements, TVA contract and maps of upper East Tennessee relating to the distribution and sale of electricity in the Johnson City Power Board's service area. Donated by Joe L. Wilson, Johnson City Power Board.

JOHNSON CITY PRESS NEWSCLIPPINGS, 1977-1986, 18 l.f. Contains newsclippings predominantly collected from the Johnson City Press which were maintained by the paper for background research. Clippings provide information on local businesses, organizations and social issues, special events and festivals, city government, news events and a variety of human interest topics. Donated by Carl Jones, Johnson City, Tennessee.

JOHN L. KIENER PAPERS, 1981-1987, 14 l.f. Contains correspondence, newsclippings, copies of case briefs, legal documents and legislation, speeches, financial papers and project proposals concerning Judge Kiener's term in the General Sessions Court, Washington County, Tennessee. Subjects covered include: juvenile detention, drug and alcohol abuse, adoption and child welfare, commercial speech, court facilities and a variety of other topics involving points of law in cases heard by Judge Kiener. Donated by Judge John L. Kiener, Johnson City, Tennessee.

MILDRED KOZSUCH PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION, 1920s, 90 items. **DUPLICATES.** 90 5x7 black and white photographs depicting scenes from Johnson City, Tennessee and surrounding region, Appalachian farm activities, historic sites and prominent individuals. Donated by Mildred Kozsuch, Johnson City, Tennessee.

DORMAN G. STOUT, JR. PAPERS, 1930-1955, 2.5 l.f. Contains research papers, course materials, typed manuscript, standardized tests and memorabilia of the former Dean of Students of East Tennessee State University. Subjects covered include civic education, critical thinking, politics, religion and statistical studies of area students entering college.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Margaret Carr, on behalf of the B. Carroll Reece Museum, transferred twenty-two volumes from their collections to the archives. Subjects covered include Tennessee history, geography and dulcimers.

Bits of Mountain Speech by Paul Fink, Handbook of Tennessee and The Impact of Institutions in Appalachia, Proceedings of Eighth Annual Appalachian Studies Conference. Donated by Ellen Garrison.

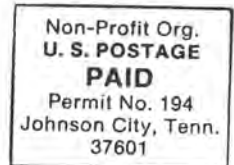
Mr. and Mrs. C.E.C. Britton of Kingsport, Tennessee donated copies of Tall Tales from Old Smoky by C. Hodge Mathes, American Folk Tales and Songs compiled by Richard Chase, A Treasury of American Folklore edited by B.A. Botkin and Strangers in High Places: The Story of the Great Smoky Mountains by Michael Frome.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Archives of Appalachia thanks the following donors for a variety of items relating to Appalachian culture, local and university history:

Thomas Stokes
Mildred Kozsuch
Charles Gunter
Berney Burleson
Robert Patton
Harriet Masters
Frank Newby
Mike Marchioni
Helen Roseberry
Dr. C.P. Wofford
Tom Headley
Mr. & Mrs. C.E.C. Britton
Mr. & Mrs. Mack P. Boyer

Archives of Appalachia
ETSU, The Sherrod Library
P.O. Box 22450A
Johnson City, TN 37614-0002



East Tennessee State University is fully in accord with the belief that educational and employment opportunities should be available to all eligible persons without regard to sex, color, race, religion, natural origin or handicap.

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