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Archives of Appalachia NEWSLETTER



Vol. XII, No. 1

Fall 1990

WHO USES THE ARCHIVES?

Archives often suffer from an image problem. Many people think of archives as dusty, dingy places used only by individuals searching for obscure facts. In reality the Archives of Appalachia serves many different types of patrons from both the university and the community and supports research in various areas of interest. Repeated inquiries from patrons concerning who uses the archives and why convinced archives staff to undertake a retrospective user study. The study covers the first 11 years of operation from the fall of 1978 through 1989. The study focuses on user status, patron's stated purpose for research, subjects researched and types of materials used by patrons.

The Division of Archives and Special Collections includes University Archives, Archives of Appalachia and Special Collections and serves the faculty and students of the university as well as members of the local community. Currently the archives has nearly 2500 researchers registered. The majority of registered users (58.87%) are associated with East Tennessee State University either in the capacity of student, faculty, administrator or staff member. An additional 4.32% of users are part of a broader scholarly community and are affiliated with other universities. The remaining 36.81% of users are from the general community and include high school students, lay persons, media representatives and professionals or paraprofessionals. The later category includes public school teachers, attorneys, paralegals, and government employees.

Archives and Special Collections User Status

ETSU

<u>Associated Users</u>	<u>% of Users</u>
Undergraduate Students	45.45
Graduate Students	3.36
Faculty	4.08
Administration/Staff	2.99

Non-

<u>ETSU Academic Users</u>	<u>% of Users</u>
Faculty	2.33
Graduate Students	0.73
Undergraduate Students	1.26

<u>Community Users</u>	<u>% of Users</u>
High School Students	4.98
Community/Lay Person	20.28
Media	1.55
Professional/Para-professional	10.00

A second area of interest centers on purpose for which archival materials are used. On the first visit to the archives, patrons complete a registration form on which they state their research purpose. Research goals include classroom assignments, scholarly presentations, articles, book-length manuscripts, theses, and dissertations. By far the largest category of use is classroom assignment which accounts for 47.58% of the archives' patrons. The second largest category reported is personal interest, which appears on 18.5% of the registration forms. The unique materials held by the archives have supported research for 62 theses and dissertations, 95 scholarly paper presentations and articles, and 74 books.

Purpose for Research

Stated Purpose	% of Total
Work Related	13.41
Class Assignment	47.58
Thesis/dissertation	2.59
Article/paper presentation	3.97
Book	3.09
Personal Interest	18.50
Genealogy	10.86

In an effort to gain an understanding of what materials or types of materials patrons consult, the staff divided materials into the following categories: special collections books, audiovisual recordings, photographs, vertical files, and manuscript collections. For researchers who repeatedly use particular groups of materials, each daily visit constituted a separate quantifiable use. The category of materials patrons consulted most often was the special collections monographs (43.41% of all materials

used). Manuscript collections accounted for 28.82% of the total and vertical file materials 20.71%.

Among the manuscript collections, the following 10 groups account for the most frequent use:

Washington County Court Records - genealogy, judicial, local history.

Charles Sherrod Papers - University.

Delos Culp Papers - University.

Sidney Gilbreath Papers - University.

Burgin Dossett Papers - University.

Burton-Manning Collection - Folklore, Appalachian culture, and music.

Carolina, Clinchfield, and Ohio Railroad Records - railroad.

Broadside TV, Inc. Records - Appalachian culture, history, and music.

East Tennessee Light and Power Company Records - economic history.

John Fain Anderson Papers - local history.

It is important to note, however, that peculiar circumstances may affect the usage of manuscript collections. A collection, for example, may be used intensively by a researcher working on a thesis or book. Special events such as the university's 75th anniversary also affect frequency of use of university materials.

With regard to the subjects being researched, 81.17% of the recorded use entails investigation on Appalachian subjects. The remaining 18.83% involves research on East Tennessee State University. To monitor the interest of patrons using the Archives' Appalachian materials, the staff devised 18

By 1917, when Tillman was working in Fonde, the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) organized the Kentucky coalfields. Cadle joined the union, but was not very active until 1930, when he helped organize in Harlan County, Ky where, years before, operators had broken the miners union. He remained active until 1935 when he sustained a shoulder injury.

Cadle's injury really led to his meeting Mary Elizabeth Barnicle. Little was done for his shoulder. As Cadle explained, miners called company doctors "house doctors" and hospitals "butcher shops." Cadle's friend, Jim Garland, then living in New York City, urged Tillman to go to New York for surgery. Tillman

did so, and recuperated at Garland's residence. It was at Garland's that Cadle met Barnicle, who had gone to Garland's residence to ask him to lecture to one of her folklore classes on coal mining. Upon finding out that Tillman also was a miner, she asked him to talk to one of her classes. Barnicle and Cadle found they both were interested in collecting ballads. Thereafter, when Barnicle planned to go South to collect, she informed Cadle, who then would contact people for her to record. Cadle also helped Barnicle record, and on numerous occasions, sang ballads himself.

During the late 1930s Cadle traveled between Kentucky and New York City, staying for periods of



TILLMAN CADLE, 1989

time in both places. In both locales he and Barnicle made field recordings. In Kentucky they recorded such artists as the Osborne family, Granny Reid, the Lawson family and the Ritchie Sisters. In New York City Barnicle and Cadle recorded Huddie Ledbetter (Leadbelly), Aunt Molly Jackson, Jim Garland, Dick Maitland and Sonny Terry, and Brownie McGee.

Shortly after World War II broke out, Cadle, who was living in New Jersey at the time, went to

Vancouver to work in the shipyards. But while there he contracted pneumonia and was forced to return to the East. He then found work at Oak Ridge, Tenn. After the war Cadle moved to Middlesborough, Ky., and eventually to Townsend, Tenn. Throughout the late 1940s and into the 1950s Cadle and Mary Elizabeth Barnicle continued to record Tennessee folk artists. Cadle also remained an active supporter of organized labor. Today Tillman Cadle still resides in his mountain home near Townsend, Tenn.

* * * * *

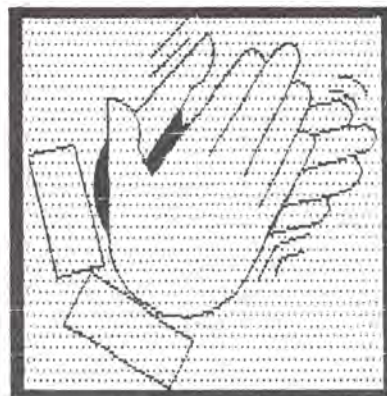
NEWS FROM CASS

BOWMANTOWN RECORD NOMINATED FOR GRAMMY

"Down Around Bowmantown," CASS's recording of Bowmantown, Tenn. musicians who play traditional and old-time folk music has been nominated for a grammy in the category of traditional folk music. The Album's liner notes also have been nominated for an award.

ROBERTS PROJECTS

CASS staff are working on a project which involves copying tapes from blue grass programs sponsored by Glen Roberts, a southwest Virginia storeowner and blue grass aficionado.



SELECTED RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Lucy Gump Thesis Research Papers, 1773-1796, .5 linear feet.

Consists of one box of photographic copies of Washington County Court records dating between 1773 and 1796 and research notes used by Gump for her master's thesis on property ownership in Washington County, Tennessee. Donated by Lucy Gump, Johnson City, Tennessee.

ETSU Sports Information Office Records, 1960-1984, 11 linear feet.

Consists of 11 boxes of 8mm films, 1/2 and 3/4 inch video cassette tapes, pamphlets, event programs, and press releases documenting East Tennessee State University's athletics department and sports events between 1960 and 1984. Transferred by John Cathey, University Relations, ETSU.

Margaret Hyder-DeVault Collection, 1811-1988, 4 linear feet.

Consists of 4 boxes of correspondence, periodicals, account ledgers, survey ledgers, essays, deeds, bills, receipts, newsclippings, wills, estate papers, photographs, family genealogy, and memorabilia documenting the Hyder family and its business activities in East Tennessee between 1811 and 1988. Donated by Oris Hyder, Johnson City, Tennessee.

William L. Maden, Jr. Collection, late 1920s, 3 10-inch 78 rpm shellac discs.

Consists of three 10-inch, 78 rpm shellac discs containing recordings of the Carter Family and Charlie Poole performing with the North Carolina Ramblers. Donated by William Maden, Johnson City, Tennessee.

Nat E. Hyder Papers, 1868-1926, 1 linear foot. Addition.

Contains Congressional Reports, House Bills, correspondence, Hyder family genealogy, and 125 power-of-attorney forms from Erastus J. Turner documenting Civil War pension claims, supply reimbursements, and corrections to muster rolls by individuals who fought for the U. S. government during the Civil War. Donated by Mildred Kozsuch, Jonesborough, Tennessee.

Johnson City Press Newsclippings, 1975-1989, 5 linear feet. Addition.

Contains 5 boxes of newsclippings from the Johnson City Press Chronicle and the Johnson City Press documenting regional political, social, and economic activities and issues between 1975 and 1989. Donated by Carl Jones, Johnson City Press Chronicle, Johnson City, Tennessee.

Robert F. Hull, Jr. Collection, 1944-1948, 1967 song books and one 7" audio tape.

Consists of four radio show song books containing the music of Woody Williams, Irene Litka, Purina's Grand Ole Opry, and the WWVA Radio Jamboree, and a 7-inch reel-to-reel audio tape. Audio tape of song sung by Doc Watson, recorded by Jack Harris, 1967. Donated by Robert Hull, Johnson City, Tennessee.

William Hopper Papers, 1863-1865, 1 folder.

Contains a letter from William Hopper to Mary Hopper and copies of William Hopper's discharge from the 24th Regiment of the Iowa Infantry. Documents his activities as a private during the Civil War. Donated by Christie Carter, Greeneville, Tennessee.

Governor's School for Tennessee Studies Folklore Project Group Records, 1987-1990, 1 folder, 5 audio cassette tapes, and 86 color slides.

The collection contains lecture notes, interview release forms, five 60-minute audio cassette, 86 color slides, a drawing, and two maps which focus on the residence and wood carving techniques of Parks L. Townsend. Compiled by Sheila Riley while an instructor for the Governor's School at East Tennessee State University. Donated by Richard Blaustein, Director of CASS, ETSU.

Ella V. Ross and May Ross McDowell Papers, 1915-1990, 46 linear feet of manuscripts and photographs.

The collection contains ETSC yearbooks, photographs, certificates, diplomas, minutes of the Tennessee Board of Regents, family scrapbooks, scrapbooks of the Business and Professional Women's Club of Johnson city, event programs, correspondence, plaques, and memorabilia documenting the professional and personal activities of Ella V. Ross, an alumna of East Tennessee Normal School, and Dean of Students at East Tennessee State College, and May Ross McDowell, first woman mayor of Johnson City and an owner-operator of the Johnson City Foundry and Machine Works Company. Donated by Ella V. Ross, Johnson City, Tennessee.

Nave Family Papers, 1782-1918, .5 linear foot, manuscripts.

Consists of one box of receipts, promissory notes, eviction notice, legal documents, agreements, land deeds, correspondence, and an indenture agreement documenting the personal and business activities of the Nave family in Carter County, Tennessee and Washington County, North Carolina. Donated by Robert T. Nave, Houston, Texas.

Appalachian Scottish Studies Collection, 1090-1990, 62 audio cassettes, 29 videotapes, and one file folder. Addition.

The addition contains 31 90-minute audio cassette tapes, 15 1/2-inch video cassette tapes and 14 3/4-inch video cassette tapes, which focus on the relationships between Appalachian and Scottish folk cultures as discussed during the 1990 Appalachian Scottish Studies Conference and the Ulster-American Heritage Symposium held at East Tennessee State University between July 11 and August 4, 1990. Donated by Thomas Burton, English Department, ETSU.

Old-Time Dance Conference Collection, 1989-90. 7 audio cassettes and 16 video tapes. Addition.

Included in this addition are audio and video cassettes which document different Appalachian and non-Appalachian dances. Old-time square dance, western square dance, Cherokee dance, black stepping, dogging and improptu dance are subjects of the collection. Also part of the collection are 5 VHS tapes of rough footage shot for the 1989 documentary "Interweaving Patterns" produced by Susan Spalding. Donated by Richard Blaustein, Director of CASS.

Richard Blaustein Collection, 1976-1990, 26 video tapes, 37 audio tapes, and 13 acetate discs. Addition.

The addition contains 20 5" video reels, 1 VHS tape, 2 7" video reels, 3 7" audio reels, 5 10" audio reels, 3 5" audio reels, 29 cassette tapes, 6 16" Alum-Acet. discs, 3 12" discs, 4 7" discs, correspondence, memorabilia, photographs, pamphlets, reports, newsclippings, books, and broadsides documenting Richard Blaustein's folklore and collecting activities while the Director for the Center of Appalachian Studies and Services, ETSU. Donated by Richard Blaustein, Johnson City, Tennessee.

Burton-Manning Collection, c. 1965-1969, 1 linear foot. Addition.

Contains 69 subject interview files of Appalachian folksongs collected from regional informants by Dr. Thomas Burton dating from c. 1965 to 1969. Donated by Thomas Burton, English Department, ETSU.

Thomas Burton Collection, March 23-April 24, 1990, 1 folder and 19 audio cassette tapes. Addition.

Contains one folder of interview and tape log sheets, and 19 cassette audio tapes, of interviews with local personalities documenting regional folk culture and lore compiled as student projects for Tom Burton's Spring 1990 folklore class. Donated by Thomas Burton, English Department, ETSU.

Marat Moore Collection, 1921 and 1988-89, 1 linear foot. Addition.

The addition contains correspondence, newsclippings, news releases, reports, photographs, LP recording, memorabilia, court documents, and resolutions documenting the Pittston Coal Strike and related coal mining accident and safety. Donated by Marat Moore, Washington, D.C.

Uncle Charlie Osborne Recording Collection, September 10, 1990, 2 10-inch audio tapes.

The collection contains 2 10-inch reel to reel audio tapes and photocopies of service agreements documenting a folk music recording session with Uncle Charlie Osborne and Johnny C. Osborne, September 10, 1990, in Lebanon, Virginia. Donated by Tom Bledsoe, Gate City, Virginia.

Clan Maxwell Society Records, 1968-1990, 2 linear feet.

The collection consists of four hollinger boxes of genealogy applications, lineage charts, birth and death certificates, correspondence, photographs, and published family histories that were photocopied from four notebooks containing the records of the Maxwell Clan Society. Donated by Lawrence M. Long and Murvan M. Maxwell on behalf of the Clan Maxwell Society of the U.S.A.



Norma Thomas, head of the archives, attended the Society of American Archivists meeting at Seattle, Washington, August 30-September 2, 1990. She represented Tennessee Archivists on the Regional Archival Activity Committee. Thomas, president of Tennessee Archivists for 1989-90, helped organize and attended the fall Tennessee Archivists meeting in Cookeville, Tennessee.

Marie Tedesco, public services archivist, presented a paper at the fall Tennessee Archivists meeting. Her paper focused on the oral history of rayon plant workers in East Tennessee. To help fund this work Tedesco received a fellowship from the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services, ETSU.

Scott Schwartz, technical service archivist, attended the fall Tennessee Archivist meeting in Cookeville, Tennessee, October 18 and 19, 1990. He also will attend the US MARC Format for Archival and Manuscripts Control Conference to be held in Alexandria, Virginia, October 31-November 1, 1990. The Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives and SAA are cosponsoring the conference.

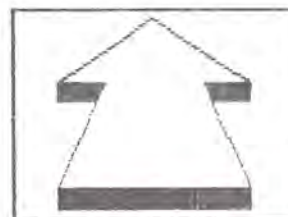
Schwartz, also is directing ETSU's Collegium Musicum. The ensemble performs medieval and Renaissance music and is sponsored by the university's music department and School of Continuing Education.

New Graduate Assistant

Tara M. Glisson-Garant, a first-year graduate student in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, is the new graduate assistant for the archives. Garant received her bachelor's degree in sociology and psychology from East Tennessee State University in December of 1989 and is currently pursuing a master's degree in applied sociology that will focus on local and regional community development. As a long-time resident of East Tennessee and avid collector of regional antiques, Garant brings with her a devotion and keen interest in the preservation of Appalachian culture that will be a tremendous benefit to the archives this year.

New Student Assistant

Leigh Ann Shipley is the newest student assistant to join the archives' staff this fall. A resident of Washburn, Tennessee, Shipley comes to East Tennessee State University as a freshman majoring in dental hygiene.



MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS

The archives thanks the following donors for their support of the archives through their generous donations:

Richard Blaustein
Betty Jane Hylton
Danny G. Fulks
Charles E. Price
Norma Thomas
Howard Hayes
Richard M. and Susan N. Kesner
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