

West Virginia Archives & History NEWS

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WEST VIRGINIA
DIVISION OF
CULTURE & HISTORY

From the Editor:

First time visitors to the West Virginia Archives and History Library Reading Room are usually pleasantly surprised to find how much assistance is available from our staff and how much conversation is conducted. Although only one staff member is actually a librarian and others have some librarians' skills, all of our staff have relevant subject specialties, years of education and/or experience in history and genealogy, remarkable knowledge of the collections, and above all a dedication to making the collections accessible and understandable to everyone who wants to use them. Within reasonable time limits, the staff will help researchers with their specific research problems, analyzing their documentation and family oral history for clues to determine which resources to recommend investigating next. Imagine—a library where you never hear "Shhh!"

Not-So-Buried Treasure, Part II: Governors Papers

The West Virginia State Archives houses papers from the administration of 22 West Virginia governors, as well as other documents issued by or related to governors that can be found in other collections. Governors papers will be found in the Archival Collection, designated by catalog numbers beginning with the designation of "Ar." The Archival Collection (also known as the State Government Records Collection) consists of correspondence, documents and other items which originated from or were received by an office or official of West Virginia state government, as opposed to the Government Documents Collection which consists of actual publications and reports of state agencies. Since 1977, governor's papers are considered public records, not private documents, and are to be transferred to the West Virginia State Archives upon leaving office. Some governor's collections contain personal correspondence and ephemera as well as official business.

Finding aids have been prepared for many of the collections, with several available online. Links to the finding aids will be found on the relevant *West Virginia's Governors Biographies* pages (<http://www.wvculture.org/history/govmenu.html>), under *Government and Politics* in the *History Center* section of our Web site. For more information about Archival Collections contact archivist Debra

Basham, (304) 558-0230, debra.basham@wvculture.org.

Governors Papers in the Archival Collection

- Francis Harrison **Pierpont** Civil War Papers, 1861–1862 (Ar1722). Note: Pierpont is included here because he served as governor of the Union state of Virginia after Virginia's secession and prior to

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Boreman Papers and Supreme Court of Appeals Finding Aids Now Online

The finding aids for two Archival Collections, the **Arthur I. Boreman Papers (Ar1723)** and the **Supreme Court of Appeals Records (Ar1800)**, are now available on the Archives and History Web site. A letter by letter listing of the correspondence of Governor Arthur I. Boreman, who served the 1863, 1864 and 1866 terms, is posted at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/ar1723.html>. 340 items are listed with the following information: From,

To, Date, Location, Subject and Item No. The Papers site also is linked from Boreman's biography page (<http://www.wvculture.org/history/boreman.html>) under *Governors* in the *Government and Politics* section of the *History Center*.

The West Virginia State Supreme Court of Appeals Records (Ar1800), ranging circa 1862–1931, are housed in folders in 538 boxes making up over 500 cubic feet of

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- West Virginia statehood. [<http://www.wvculture.org/history/ag/pierpont.html>]
- Arthur Ingraham **Boreman** Papers, 1863–1869 (Ar1723), 527 items. [<http://www.wvculture.org/history/ar1723.html>]
 - William Erskine **Stevenson** Papers, 1869–1871 (Ar1724), 305 items.
 - John Jeremiah **Jacob** Papers, 1871–1877 (Ar1725), 249 items.
 - Henry Mason **Mathews** Papers, 1877–1881 (Ar1726), 581 items.
 - Jacob Beeson **Jackson** Papers, 1881–1885 (Ar1727), 828 items.
 - Emanuel Willis **Wilson** Papers, 1885–1890 (Ar1728), 63 items.
 - Aretas Brooks **Fleming** Papers, 1890–1893 (Ar 1729), 1041 items.
 - William Alexander **MacCorkle** Papers, 1893–1897 (Ar 1730), 832 items. Note: MacCorkle family genealogy documents were included with his gubernatorial papers. See also William A. MacCorkle Collection (Sc91-70), containing 30 items circa 1850–1920 such as scrapbooks, certificates, assorted publications and more donated by the MacCorkle family.
 - George Wesley **Atkinson** Papers, 1897–1901 (Ar1731), 736 items.
 - Albert B. **White** Papers, 1901–1905 (Ar1732), 4 items.
 - William M. O. **Dawson** Papers, 1905–1909 (Ar1733), 3 items.
 - John Jacob **Cornwell** Papers, 1917–1921 (Ar1734), 334 items.
 - William Gustavus **Conley** Papers, 1929–1933 (Ar1735), 875 items.
 - Herman G. **Kump** Papers, 1933–1937 (Ar1736), 74 items.
 - Homer Adams **Holt** Papers, 1936–1941 (Ar1737), 350 items.
 - Public and Private Papers of Cecil H. **Underwood** (Ar1803), 70 boxes. Note: Contains first term (1957–1961) papers, plus materials from later campaigns up through 1976.

- Hulett C. **Smith** Papers, 1965–1969 (Ar1558), 59 boxes. [<http://www.wvculture.org/history/ar1558.html>]
- John D. **Rockefeller** IV Papers, 1977–1985 (Ar1834), 35 boxes. Note: Includes correspondence, speeches, legislative materials, files, proclamations and guest book from the governor’s office. [<http://www.wvculture.org/history/ar1834.html>]
- Correspondence and Files of Governor Gaston **Caperton** and Administrative Staff, 1989–1997 (Ar1899), 202 boxes.
- Cecil H. **Underwood** Papers (Ar1912), 248 boxes. Note: Contains second term (1997–2001) papers and personal correspondence and files, plus materials from between terms circa 1961–2001 that were donated after Ar1803 was processed. There is

a chronological overlap between the two Underwood collections. [<http://www.wvculture.org/history/ar1912.html>]

- Robert **Wise** Papers, 2001–2005 (Ar1950), 204 boxes.
- **West Virginia Governors Papers**, 1945–1970 (Ar1556), 160 boxes. Note: This collection of comingled, unprocessed governors papers was transferred to the Archives from the now defunct State Records Management Office. Governors represented include Clarence Meadows (1945–1949), Okey L. Patteson (1949–1953), William C. Marland (1953–1957), Cecil H. Underwood (1957–1961), William W. Barron (1961–1965), and Hulett C. Smith (1965–1969).

Correspondence and other documents by and relating to governors can be found throughout other

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Quiz Yourself and Learn About West Virginia

Daily Trivia, long a popular feature on the Archives and History Web site, is found at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/trivia/trivia.aspx>. A new question is posted Monday through Friday of each week. Each day the correct answer to the question of the previous day is given and a list of those respondents who answered correctly is posted. Several teachers around the state have told us that answering the Daily Trivia Question of the Day is a part of their classroom routine.

Quick Quizzes are a great way to test your knowledge about West Virginia and are highly recommended as a study method for the Golden Horseshoe Test given each year to eighth grade West Virginia history students. You will find Quick Quizzes at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/trivia/quizindex.aspx>. The first Quick Quiz is the County Seats quiz: Name the

county seat of each of West Virginia’s 55 counties, choosing from multiple choice clues. There are 132 more Quick Quizzes (scroll down the list in the drop-down box) with multiple choice questions on West Virginia people, geography, events, government, history, etc.

Links for Daily Trivia and Quick Quizzes appear in the list of links on the bottom of our home page, <http://www.wvculture.org/history>. In both cases, sometimes links to related information on our Web site are included when the correct answer is displayed. For example, the correct answer to the statement, “This West Virginia governor settled an end to the 1912–13 Paint Creek-Cabin Creek strike,” has five choices, with the correct one being Henry Hatfield. When the correct answer is revealed, links are displayed for *Labor in West Virginia* and *Henry Drury Hatfield*.

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Archival collections, such as Ar1860, containing proclamations of various holidays, plus many collections of papers received by the Archives from the office of the governor at the end of a term. As always, we request researchers who want to use Archival Collections contact Debra Basham before visiting the library. Not all of the collections include finding aids, but often internal finding aids accessible only by the archivist can be used to pull the materials sought and have them ready for a researcher's visit.

Next month: *Not-So-Buried Treasures, Part III: Archival Collections.*

**Archives and History News
 is available on the
 Archives and History Web site
[http://www.wvculture.org/history/
 ahnews/ahnews.html](http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews/ahnews.html)**

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records, one of the Archives' largest collections. Records include lower court trial records that were sent on appeal to the Supreme Court in Wheeling/Charleston and not returned to the counties, and Supreme Court proceedings, either the original documents or printed booklets. The online finding aide lists the items with the following information: Box/Folder, Case Name, County, Case Type, Date and Supreme Court Number. The list is posted at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/ar1800.html> and is linked from the list of *Justices of the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals* page (<http://www.wvculture.org/history/government/supremecourt.html>) in the *Government and Politics* section of the *History Center*.

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Evening Workshops Schedule

Date	Conducted by:	Subject
April 10 Tuesday	Terry Lowry	<i>Researching Your WWII Soldier: Finding Your Father's War</i>
April 12 Thursday	Greg Carroll	<i>Slavery in the Kanawha Valley</i>
April 17 Tuesday	Bob Taylor	<i>Care and Conservation of Books</i>
April 24 Tuesday	Joe Geiger	<i>West Virginia Statehood</i>
April 26 Thursday	Doug Wood, guest speaker	<i>Researching 18th-Century American Indian History</i>
May 8 Tuesday	Susan Scouras	<i>Newspapers in Genealogical and Historical Research</i>
May 15 Tuesday	Bob Taylor	<i>Preserving Cherished Memories</i>

Registration for this free workshop is helpful but not required.

Call our office at (304) 558-0230, or e-mail bobby.taylor@wvculture.org.

Workshops are held 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the West Virginia Archives and History Library, The Cultural Center, Charleston, West Virginia.

Cemetery Care and Preservation

April and May are the traditional pre-Memorial Day cleanup period for cemeteries. If you are planning a trip to a family, church or community burial ground, keep in mind that care should be taken to preserve stones and other grave markers. While you are there, create or update a cemetery listing. Write down driving directions and contact information. Print off a copy of the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office Cemetery Survey form (<http://www.wvculture.org/shpo/cemeteries.html>), fill it in and send it to SHPO for inclusion in their file, and mail or e-mail a copy to Susan Scouras, Archives and History Library, for the Library's *West Virginia Cemetery Listings* collection (<http://www.wvculture.org/history/ms2006-052.html>). Share the information you compile with local historical and genealogical societies.

Previous articles in *West Virginia Archives and History News* will be helpful to you, and can be found on our Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews/ahnews.html>. For more information about cemetery cleanup and preservation, see the September 2000, April 2004, April 2005, and April 2006 issues. For a description of Ms2006-052, *West Virginia Cemetery Listings*, see the May 2006 and June 2006 issues. If you have any questions, call Susan Scouras at (304) 558-0230, or e-mail susan.scouras@wvculture.org.

Editor's Note: *The data entry for these two projects, as well as the initial work for the Legislator List also described in this issue, was done by students from the Kanawha County Work Exploration Program. Under the direction of teacher Willie Ruffin of Capital High, the students have been working with the Archives since November 1991, contributing over 4000 volunteer hours while performing tasks such as photocopying WPA notebooks, laminating newspaper clippings, data entry for manuscript and archival collection finding aids (some of which are or will be online), data entry for the newsfilm collection, refoldering negatives and more.*

Legislators Lists Online

Lists of all West Virginia legislators through the 2006 elections are now on our Web site. A list of legislators listed by name alphabetically is at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/government/legislature/legislatorslastname.html>, while a list of legislators by county served is at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/government/legislature/legislatorscounty.html>. Each entry includes first, middle and last name; county; House or Senate served; and dates of service. Both of these lists, as well as chronological lists of Senate presidents and speakers of the House of Delegates with portraits, can be found in the *History Center, Government and Politics, Legislature*.

Did you know . . . ?

- More than one-half of West Virginia's governors also served in the West Virginia Legislature.
- D. D. T. Farnsworth, William E. Stevenson, and Henry D. Hatfield were Presidents of the Senate prior to becoming governor.
- When Arthur I. Boreman resigned as governor before the end of his term of office in 1869 in order to assume a seat in the

Ancestry.com May No Longer Be Available at All Family History Centers

Family History Centers of the Church of the Latter Day Saints will no longer have free full access to Ancestry.com, only to a few select databases, so access to the majority of Ancestry databases by the public through the Centers will be reduced to those facilities willing/able to pay subscription fees. While Genealogy.com is stepping up its efforts to increase its free indexes and databases, any major addition of new free databases will take a long time. If the Family History Center you use no longer offers free access to the

Ancestry databases you need, please remember that the West Virginia Archives and History Library currently subscribes to both HeritageQuest Online and Ancestry Library Edition, and makes both sites available free to patrons in the Library Reading Room. Cost for computer printouts is \$.25 per page. Unfortunately, remote access is not available. Note that if you write us a research request for searches of these databases, the research fee of \$15.00 for out-of-state and \$5.00 for in-state requests will apply.

Wheeling Socialist Party Materials Acquired

Archives and History was informed in early March by an eBay watcher that a collection of Socialist Party materials from Wheeling, West Virginia, was being offered on the popular internet auction site. Our successful bid has resulted in the creation of Ms2007-006, Wheeling Socialist Party Collection. The circa 1910–1918 items acquired include cash account books, membership journals, account books, receipts and expenses book, minute book and more. For more specific information, and to view digitized images of several pages, visit our Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/ms2007-006.html>.

We always appreciate receiving tips about West Virginia books, documents, maps, drawings and

ephemera that turn up for sale on the open market. One of our most major acquisitions, the Cass Gilbert Inc., Collection (<http://www.wvculture.org/history/cassgilbertfinal.html>), was purchased at a Butterfields auction. Regretfully, we seldom have the ready cash to act quickly in such circumstances, state government bureaucracy and necessary fiscal safeguards being what they are, but we welcome notice of opportunities. If you spot anything of significance to West Virginia history, please contact Fredrick H. Armstrong, Director of Archives and History, (304) 558-0230, fharmstrong@wvculture.org. On rare occasions we can locate a sponsor in time to enable a purchase, but we always try and sometimes are successful.

Permission to reprint articles from *West Virginia Archives and History News* is granted, provided:

- (1) The reprint is not used for commercial purposes, and (2) the following notice appears at the end of the reprinted material: Previously published in *West Virginia Archives and History News*, [Volume and issue numbers], [Month, Year], a publication of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History.
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U.S. Senate, Daniel D. T. Farnsworth became governor by virtue of his position as President

of the Senate. His term lasted only seven days.

New York Times Editorial Supports NARA and Archives

An editorial entitled *History Lessens*, by David Kahn, was published in the *New York Times*, March 19, 2007. The piece discusses the effects of inadequate funding of the National Archives of the United States. The nature of archival collections is touched upon, and the fact that the U.S. National Archives offers assistance to users of its collections, unlike other countries' archives where patrons must fend for themselves. The need for experienced personnel in adequate numbers for both patron assistance and collection processing is emphasized. While the editorial in its entirety struck a chord of similarity with the West Virginia State Archives, the concluding sentences are well worth repeating here: *From its [U.S. National Archives'] astonishing riches emerge not only the records of one's immigrant grandparents but the documents and images that produce books and telecasts about this country. Without the services of the archives, the nation risks amnesia and loses direction . . . America must not forget itself.*

Spring Cleaning?

If you are cleaning out pamphlets, books, old West Virginia newspapers and magazines, city directories and telephone books, photographs, post-cards, letters, etc., please check with Archives and History staff before you throw them away. You may have items we can add to the Archives collections. Items do not have to be very old to be of interest to us—some of these materials may be important to future historians documenting the past. However, please do not send them to us without checking with us by mail or phone.

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.

“DOWNTOWN: LOGAN-WELCH: WEST VIRGINIA URBAN COALFIELD LIFE 1946–2006,” March 2–April 1: Museum in the Park, Chief Logan State Park, Logan.

“PROTOHISTORIC APPALACHIA A.D. 1550–1690: WHO WERE THOSE INDIANS?”
 April 3: Dr. Robert Maslowski, speaker, Marshall University Graduate College, South Charleston. More information is available at <http://www.marshall.edu/gsepd/humn/>

“WEAVING THE PAST AND THE PRESENT: A CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP,”
 April 13–14: The Cultural Center.

“THE STORY OF A HOUSE: THE GLENWOOD PROJECT,” April 29: Dr. Billy Joe Peyton, speaker, West Virginia Humanities Council MacFarland-Hubbard House, Charleston. More information is available at <http://www.wvhumanities.org/littlelecture.htm>

WEST VIRGINIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY GENEALOGY FAIR, May 12: Blue Creek. For more information, e-mail ebw104@juno.com.

“PRESERVATION WORKS FOR WEST VIRGINIA,” May 17–19: Preservation Alliance Annual Conference, Wheeling.

VANDALIA GATHERING,
 May 25–27: The Capitol Complex, Charleston.

MEMORIAL DAY, May 28: Archives Library will be *closed*.

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

INDEPENDENCE DAY, July 4: Archives Library will be *closed*.

LABOR DAY, September 3: Archives Library will be *closed*.

HISTORY DAY, February 21, 2008:
 West Virginia State Capitol Complex, Charleston.

**Only the Archives Library will be staffed—all other Archives offices will be closed.*
 The West Virginia Library Commission Library in the Cultural Center is closed weekends and all holidays.

West Virginia Division of Culture and History
 The Cultural Center
 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
 Charleston, WV 25305-0300

West Virginia
Archives & History
NEWS



We would love to hear from you.

Let us know what you find helpful in the newsletter, and what new topics you would like covered.

Contact *West Virginia Archives and History News* Editor
 Susan Scouras, (304) 558-0230, Ext. 742,
 or by e-mail: susan.scouras@wvculture.org.

Archives and History Staff

Fredrick Armstrong Director
Debra Basham Archivist (photographs, special collections)
Constance Baston Researcher (Veterans Memorial Archives)
Greg Carroll Historian (Civil War, Native American history)
Dick Fauss Archivist (microfilm and moving images collection)
Denise Ferguson County Records Archivist
Allen Fowler Special projects
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 Ken Bailey, John McClure, Carol Vandevender, and Kellis and Virginia Gillespie

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 Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner