

West Virginia Archives & History NEWS

VOLUME VIII, No. 4 JUNE 2007



WEST VIRGINIA
DIVISION OF
CULTURE & HISTORY

From the Editor:

*Recently I have had many lovely moments recalling school and family trips to sites of historic, cultural or geographic significance, those memories long preserved with postcards, brochures and photographs in shoeboxes and scrapbooks. Create lasting memories and encourage a love of history in the young people in your life this summer. Gather your own young relatives and their friends, or volunteer as a tour guide for a scout troop or a summer camp for a field trip to a favorite site. Visit state and local parks, stroll through older neighborhoods, take an open house tour, attend an outdoor play or battle re-enactment—the summer is full of learning opportunities for all ages and all levels of physical ability to share. Think about this quotation that is especially relevant to children: “If you don’t know history, you don’t know anything. You’re a leaf that doesn’t know it’s part of a tree.”—Michael Crichton, *Timeline*.*

Not-So-Buried Treasure, Part IV: Images Other Than Photographs

The Photograph Collection of the West Virginia State Archives is well-known, but the non-photographic images included in that collection are less acknowledged. Non-photographic images in the collection include postcards, drawings, print illustrations (from books, newspapers, magazines, etc.), sketches, posters, cartoons, and lithographs. Following are both general and specific examples of non-photographic image resources:

- The **Postcard Collection** is primarily sorted by town and by subject. There is not a separate finding aid for postcards as a medium. Some of the postcards are actual photographs printed on postcard stock, but most are printed images. Typical images reproduced on postcards include buildings, street scenes, landscapes, historical sites, bridges and roads, railroads, rivers, wildlife, state parks, colleges, mines and mining,

lumbering, and family portraits. Most are 20th century, dating from the early 1900’s into the 1990’s, and some are included in

souvenir folders of connected postcards with related images. Many were printed by the Curt

Continued on the next page

New County Records Added to Vital Research Records Database

The West Virginia Vital Research Records (VRR) database now has county birth, death and marriage records for Braxton, Cabell, Grant, Greenbrier, Jefferson, Lewis, Logan, Marshall, Mingo and Wood counties added to records of the project’s original six counties of Calhoun, Gilmer, Hardy, Harrison, Mineral and Pendleton. While the original six counties’ records included county birth records up through 1930–31, the birth records of ten new counties and all subsequent counties added online will include only birth records at least 100 years old or older, according to the year they are added to the VRR database. Birth records being loaded in 2007 will date through

1906. Not all records for all ten counties are currently online as the process of loading records onto the server is still ongoing. Continue to check back frequently for additions until all record types and years for all new counties have been loaded. Although records may be accessible during the week they are loaded, the search pages will update listings of available records once a week on Mondays.

The Web site is directly accessible at http://www.wvculture.org/vrr/va_select.aspx and is linked twice from the West Virginia Archives and History homepage,

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 1

Teich Company in Illinois. While most of the Photograph Collection is black and white, the majority of the Postcard Collection is either tinted by hand or printed in color. Most postcard images can be copied upon request following the same fees and guidelines as for photographs, but usually cannot be enlarged very satisfactorily.

- **Drawings and sketches** are accessioned as part of the Photograph Collection as well, and depending on size, are stored flat in map cabinet drawers or filed with the photographs. Archives holdings include sketches by **Joseph H. Diss Debar** from the 1840's through the 1860's, perhaps most notably his design sketches for the West Virginia State Seal. A listing of 79 Diss Debar sketches in the collection is posted with linked images on the Archives and History Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/dissdebar/ddindex.html>. Also in this category are etchings by **James Swann** of Chicago, who produced a series of prints for distribution by Frankenberger Department Store to its credit customers for Christmas from 1946 through 1975. Swann's subjects include the State Capitol, Morris Harvey College, Blackwater Falls, Hawks Nest Overlook, Cass Scenic Railroad, West Virginia Tech Old Main, the Showboat Rhododendron, and Independence Hall. A complete set of the etchings comprises Ph83-25, while the Randall Collection includes a nearly complete set, and various other copies have been received as part of other donations.
- **Posters** are accessioned in Special Collections, which has an accessions list posted at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/specialcollections.html>.

www.wvculture.org/history/specialcollections.html. Individual posters are listed under the subject heading of "Posters" and are on a wide variety of topics, such as *A. James Manchin Cleaning Up West Virginia* (Sc85-101), World War I (17 items dated 1917-1919 in Sc88-130), *Coke and Coal Production in West Virginia, 1897-1923* (Sc95-29), and *M. M. Neely for Governor* (Sc86-74). Posters housed within other Special Collections can be found by using the "Find on this page" feature on your computer to search the online accessions list. A search for "poster" will find them in collections such as Mountain Artisans, Inc. (Sc86-200), Election Materials (Sc93-4), and World War I and World War II materials (Sc79-214).

- **Cartoons and caricatures** by well-known artists are part of the non-photographic images in our collections. The Archives was very pleased to accept the **James**

Dent Collection (Sc93-25) of editorial cartoons and unpublished sketches from the *Charleston Gazette*. Samples of Dent's work will be found on our Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/thisdayinwvhistory/1031.html> and <http://www.wvculture.org/history/africanamericans/kingmartinluther01.jpg>. The **Taylor Jones Collection** (Sc85-01) consists of 533 caricatures of mostly national and international figures produced by Jones between 1972-1983 (Sc85-01) during his years with the *Charleston Gazette*. An alphabetized list of subjects is included with the collection. Samples of Jones' work can be seen on our Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/education/textbookmoore.jpg> and <http://www.wvculture.org/history/education/textbooklewis.jpg>.

- The **John Brown/Boyd B. Stutler Collection** has many sketches and lithographs, all of

Continued on the next page

Free Access to Ancestry and HeritageQuest for Archives and History Library Patrons

The West Virginia Archives and History Library offers two subscription databases to the public free of charge via the Library's computers with Internet access. (Remote access from outside the Library is not available.) Ancestry Library Edition is the institutional version of Ancestry.com, offering complete U.S. Census records, a birth/death/marriage database, international records, surname databases, military records and much more. HeritageQuest Online offers most U.S. Census records in a searchable database and the rest in a browseable database, a large collection of genealogy and history books, Freedman's Bank records,

and PERSI, a well-known genealogical and historical periodical index. Using these databases patrons can search family history both nationally and internationally. You can trace your family's path to West Virginia, follow the trail of those who left West Virginia, and look up your non-West Virginia relatives as well. You may print pages from the computer for \$.25 each or you may purchase a formatted disc for downloading information (personal discs are not allowed for security reasons). The Archives and History Library is open 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, including most state holidays.

Continued from page 2

which can be found online at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/wvmemory/imlsintro.html> in a searchable database. Photographic prints and digital copies of all of these images are available.

- Images printed in **books and periodicals** that are out of copyright may also be copied, although most reproductions of printed images will look better as black and white photographs rather than digital images. Portraits and buildings are the most common subjects requested from book illustrations, particularly from West Virginia Blue Books (1916 to present) and from such biographical tomes as *Prominent Men of West Virginia*, by George Wesley Atkinson and Alvaro F. Gibbens, (1890, c1884). Portraits, battle-field scenes, campaign maps and other illustrations from *Leslie's Illustrated Weekly Newspaper* and *Harper's Weekly* (earlier titled *Harper's Magazine*, our holdings run 1850–1927), particularly from the Civil War years, have been reproduced for inclusion in histories, biographies, articles, textbooks, and for use as still frames in documentaries.
- We have several resources that blur the line between books and prints, some of them having been issued in a series of individual paper-cover booklets of plates with text pages to be collected for binding into a book. *Art Work of the Kanawha and New River Valleys* and *Art Work of Wood County* were both published in 12 parts each by W. H. Parish Publishing Company of Chicago in 1897. The titles are somewhat deceptive, since the subject of the text and plates is not fine art, but

buildings, street scenes, rivers and falls, bridges, scenic views, etc. The Archives and History Library collection has each title both in bound book form and in boxed sets of the booklets. The booklets will stay open and lie flat, making them ideal for creating photographic copies.

Illustrated Atlas of the Upper Ohio River and Valley from Pittsburgh, Pa. to Cincinnati, Ohio, compiled and drawn by E. L. Hayes and published by Titus,

Simmons and Titus of Philadelphia in 1877, is a similar work, with maps (some in color) of the Ohio River and towns along the river, as well as views of homes, businesses, industry and manufacturing, schools, etc.

For more information about the Photograph Collection and Special Collections, or concerning photographic or digital reproductions of images, contact archivist Debra Basham, (304) 558-0230, debra.basham@wvculture.org.

Next month: *Not-So-Buried Treasure, Part V: Microfilm Collection.*

New Titles

Meadows Cemetery on Rush Creek Road Near Spencer, Roane County, West Virginia: Gayle Fisher, 2006.

The Pritchard Family History: Emily Pritchard Cary, 3rd ed., 2006.

America: History and Life Annual Index with List of Periodicals: Clio Press, 2006.

A History of Middle New River Settlements and Contiguous Territory: David E. Johnston, 1969, c1906.

The Paxtons: William McClung Paxton, 1903 [Note: photocopy from microfilm].

Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, Volume XIV, 1947–48: [1948].

A History of Marmet, WV: Cathy Pack, 1980.

The Abbotts of West Virginia: David A. Turner, 1981.

Census, Craig Co., Virginia, 1860 Annotated: Roscoe C. Keeney, [200–?].

Gatewood Family: Roscoe C. Keeney, [no date].

A Thousand Names from the Annals of Giles and Mercer Counties: James H. Martin, 1976.

Mercer County History 2002: Mercer County Historical Society, 2003.

Some Descendants of Richard Austin of Charlestown, Massachusetts, 1638: Jim and Liz Austin Carlin, 1998.

My Many Moments, Volumes I–VI: Lavonne Childers Minigh, [198–?–2004]

Paddy on the Hardwood: A Journey in Irish Hoops: Rus Bradburd, 2006.

First Light, Last Light: Stories Drawn from an Appalachian Childhood: Robert W. Tabscott, 2005.

Sago Mine Disaster: Featured Story: Appalachian Coal Stories: B. L. Dotson-Lewis, 2007.

Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants: Awarded by State Governments: Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck, 1996.

Interpreting Land Records: Donald A. Wilson, 2006.

The Olden Time, Volumes I and II: Neville B. Craig, 2002, 1846.

A History of the Normal Schools of West Virginia: Leslie Owen Taylor, 1922.

American Machine-Made Marbles: Marble Bags, Boxes and History: Dean Six, Susie Metzler, and Michael Johnson, 2006.

A Narrative of a Carter Family and Their Farm Land, Beginning in 1782:

Continued on the next page

Lynn Lewis, 2006.

Fayette County Cemetery Records, Volumes IV, V and VI: Fayette-Raleigh Genealogical Society, 2006.

Tutelo, Saponi, Nahyssan Monacan aka Piedmont Catawba Tribe of the Ohio Valley, Virginia, Carolina, New York, Pennsylvania and Six Nations/Ontario Canada: Richard L. Haithcock, 2004.

The Forging of a Black Community: Huntington, West Virginia, 1870–1900: Cicero M. Fain, 2003.

Mountain Voices: Our Walker Family from England to Maryland to North Carolina and Beyond: Karen Walker Bauer, 2007.

The Jacob Grass Family of August County, Virginia and West Virginia: Chronological Listings of All of the Records Found for Them to Date: Dolores Crumrine Rutherford, 2006.

Index to Obituaries From the Times Record Newspaper: Spencer, Roane County, West Virginia [Volume I]: David L. Boggs, [no date].

Robert Edward Lee: An Address Delivered at the Dedication of the Monument to General Robert Edward Lee at Richmond, Virginia, May 29, 1890: Archer Anderson, 1890.

100 Years Then and Now [First Baptist Church of Standard]: DiAnna May Tincher, 2007.

The Heritage of William O. Ziebold and Helen Townsend: Thomas O. Ziebold, 2007.

Compassion: A History of the Henry Logan Children’s Home: Bernard L. Allen, 1993.

River Fog Rising: The Solitude Papers, From the High Schools of Mason County, West Virginia: Fay Thompson, editor, 1996.

Handbook of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and Proceedings of the Annual Conference Meeting, 2001: The Conference, 2007.

The Greenbrier McClung Way: Rheba Irrene McClung, 1990.

Sarah’s Girls: A Chronicle of Big Ugly Creek: Lenore McComas Coberly, 2007.

Lineage Book of the National Society of Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America, Volume 40: The Society, 2006

Dr. Francis T. Stribling and Moral Medicine: Curing the Insane at Virginia’s Western State Hospital, 1836–1876: Alice Davis Wood, 2004.

Donations

The Archives and History Library receives the vast majority of its acquisitions by donation from authors, publishers, individual patrons and genealogical and historical societies. We are especially grateful to the Mining Your History Foundation, our Friends of the Archives group, whose Board consistently asks us several times a year what new books we would like to have or where there are gaps in our collection, and then purchases for us as many titles as they can afford. If you have ever dropped a donation into the Mining Your

History cube on the Library desk during a visit to the Archives and History Library, you have helped purchase these books.

We have received sizeable donations of West Virginia and family history books from researchers such as Wes Cochran and Roscoe Keeney, who have downsized or dispersed their personal reference collections, and from the estates of patrons such as Jean Thomas and James Richardson who designated the West Virginia State Archives to receive their materials through wills or other directions to their heirs. Books

National Archives Fee Increases

Effective May 29, 2007, most of the fees for copies of records charged by National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) increased dramatically, due to the on-going budget struggles of the agency. NARA determined its actual costs for photocopying and mailing copies of records and found that the fees being charged only covered half the actual cost. Since NARA does not receive federal funding to subsidize copying costs, its fee schedules were adjusted accordingly, raising them for the first time in seven years. Self-service photocopies went from \$.15 to \$.20 or \$.25 (depending on location) and self-service microfilm copies increased from \$.30 to \$.50. The minimum fee for mail orders rose to \$15 from \$10 previously. The cost for copies of passenger lists, census records and military records is now \$25. The largest increase is also the one of greatest significance to most

Continued on the next page

**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)**

including images acquired from the West Virginia Archives collections are donated by their publishers as part of the publication agreement.

Gift plates with the donor’s name, hometown and date of donation are typed and placed in the books. If you would like to donate a book to the Archives and History Library, you may do so in honor or in memory of a special person, for inclusion on the gift plate. You may also donate funds for new acquisitions and let us choose the titles, also with a gift plate placed in each book.

"Vital Research" continued from page 1
<http://www.wvculture.org/history>. One link appears on the lower part of the page under the "Explore Archives and History" heading as *Births, Deaths and Marriages*, and the other at the right-hand side under the "Latest News" heading of *Vital Research Records*. We highly recommend reading the explanatory article about the database before your first search.

If you find a transcription error in the index, such as a typographical error or apparent misinterpretation of the original handwriting on the record, you may submit a suggested correction using the "E-mail Here" link to wvrr@wvculture.org. If the actual record itself is in error, any corrections must be submitted to the relevant county clerk's office, or to the registrar of the West Virginia Vital Registration Office, following their guidelines. You may e-mail any questions and comments to this address also. Please let us know what state (or country) you are from for our statistics, and tell us if or how the database has served your needs.

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.

"NARA Fee" continued from page 4

West Virginia researchers. The cost of a copy of a complete Civil War pension file (or any pension file over 75 years old) went from \$37 to \$125. NARA found that the previous fee was erroneously based on the assumption that most files contained

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.

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

"MYSTIC CHORDS OF MEMORY: HOW AMERICANS HAVE REMEMBERED AND COMMEMORATED THE CIVIL WAR," June 21–24: Seminar, George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War, Shepherdstown. For more information, visit <http://www.shepherd.edu/gtmcweb/seminars.htm>.

32ND ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE, PALATINES TO AMERICA, June 22–24: Morgantown. For more information, visit <http://palamnationalconference.org/registration>.

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

26TH ANNUAL GATHERING, HACKERS CREEK PIONEER DESCENDANTS, August 9–12: Horner. For more information, visit <http://www.hackerscreek.com/2007gathering.htm>.

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.*

40 to 50 pages, while the true average file size is actually much larger.

These fee increases follow other recent efforts to reduce expenditures, such as reduction of public service hours last year, and to increase outside income, such as a 2005 increase in the fee for purchasing a roll of microfilm from \$34 to \$65 for black and white microfilm and \$82 for color. Archives and archival libraries across the nation have faced similar budget cuts and/or lack of budget increases for several years now, in the face of their own rising operating costs. The most obvious results are a decrease in public access to public documents

both by mail and in person, and an increase in the number of people who will be unable to afford the fees.

Recommended Reading

RootsWeb Review, Volume 10, Number 14, April 4, 2007, has an article entitled *Ten Tips for Taking a Cemetery Survey*, by Mary Harrell-Sesniak. Photographers will find the tips for photographing grave markers especially helpful. [*RootsWeb Review* is a weekly e-zine distributed by RootsWeb.com, Inc.] Current and previous issues may be read at <http://rwr.rootsweb.com>.

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
Elaine Gates Library Assistant (microfilming and microfilm repairs)
Joe Geiger Assistant Director (Historian, Web page)
Ed Hicks Photo Archivist (archival photography, darkroom)
Mary Johnson Historian
Terry Lowry Library Assistant (Veterans records)
Cathy Miller Library Assistant (WV State documents, periodicals)
Sharon Newhouse Secretary
Harold Newman Library Assistant (microfilming, Revolutionary War)
Susan Scouras Librarian (cataloging, Kentucky, library collection, newsletter editor)
Jaime Simmons Library Assistant (records of the 1700's and early 1800's, Pennsylvania)
Bobby Taylor Library Manager
Nancy Waggoner Secretary
Volunteers Carolyn Conner, Bill Kelley, Randy Marcum, James Wilburn, Sue Shank,
Ken Bailey, John McClure, Carol Vandevender, and Kellis and Virginia Gillespie

This newsletter is a publication of : The West Virginia Division of Culture and History
Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner