

ARKANSIAN

Newsletter of the University of Arkansas Libraries Special Collections Department

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Libraries Working to Preserve Ozark Folksong Collection



Mary Parler recording musicians in the Oriole Barber Shop, Bentonville, ca.1950s, photograph by Robert M. Motar, from the Mary Celestia Parler photographs, MC 896

One of the largest resources held by the University of Arkansas Libraries Special Collections is the Ozark Folksong Collection. Affectionately known as the “Mary Celestia Parler Collection,” it consists of more than 4,500 songs and related materials. A library-wide effort has been mounted to preserve this important resource, and equally important, to make it widely available on the Internet.

The late Mary C. Parler, a highly regarded folklorist and English professor at the University, collected the music during the years 1949–1965 for the Arkansas Folklore Research Project. While the songs have been copied for research use, the collection contains

a vast amount of additional information that will interest researchers. Working under the leadership of the Libraries’ Performing Arts Librarian Lora Lennertz Jetton, a task force is taking an expansive look at how to make the Parler collection electronically accessible in the Internet age.

The materials were gathered by Professor Parler, who was born in 1904 in Wedgefield, South Carolina and earned a bachelor’s degree in English literature from Winthrop College in Rock Hill, South Carolina and a master’s degree in English from the University of Wisconsin, with a concentration on Chaucer. *continued on page 13*



Leadership Report

From the Desk of Tom W. Dillard

It is amazing how rapidly the academic year passes. As I write this in early May, we are nearing the 2011 spring graduation commencement. This issue of the *Arkansian* will give you an idea of some of the activities we have been involved in over the past several months.

It is a real pleasure to begin by noting that Special Collections received two Awards of Merit from the Arkansas Historical Association in April. These are for our *Index Arkansas* project and the digital collection on Arkansas civil rights history.

Index Arkansas has been a special interest of mine since coming to Special Collections. I'm constantly using *Index Arkansas*. The index is a door to a vast array of literature

about Arkansas, mostly from periodicals, but a number of books on the state are also included. With the help of a grant from the Happy Hollow Foundation, we were able to extend indexing of the various county history magazines to the present. A user has access to more than 100,000 citations in the index. An article in this issue brings readers up to date on *Index Arkansas*.

The second award calls attention to the usefulness of a digital project, "Land of (Unequal) Opportunity: Documenting the Civil Rights Struggle in Arkansas." This digital library contains a myriad of interesting documentation on civil rights in the state, including photographs, correspondence, news clippings, and even works of art. The project has received a good deal of attention, both in-state and out. A team of junior high school students from New York, for example, used these online resources to develop a winning "History Day" project on the Little Rock integration crisis of 1957.

Special Collections has been working diligently to preserve and share the Mary Parler folk music collection, and we are pleased in this issue to report on our plans. In a collaborative effort, Special Collections is working closely with Lora Lennertz Jetton, the head of University Libraries' performing arts & media department and an experienced music librarian, to devise a plan to carefully preserve the Parler music, to transfer it to digital format, and to share it with people in Arkansas and around the world through the Libraries Web site.

Be sure to read the interview with our new architectural records archivist, Catherine "Cat" Wallack. For years our architectural collection has been under the direction of Ellen Compton, a veteran employee who retired last year. We were extremely fortunate that Cat was available to take on this important responsibility.

Student employees and interns play a huge role in Special Collections,



Tom W. Dillard

and in this issue we are proud to report that Megan Massanelli, a North Little Rock native and art history major, was selected for an internship at the Library of Congress. We are proud of Megan.

Finally, I want to report that the new Arkansas foodways journal published by Special Collections, *Arkansauce*, has had a remarkable debut. We are grateful to our longtime friends and supporters, Mr. and Mrs. John G. Ragsdale of Little Rock, for helping endow the new magazine. Our goal was to identify 500 people over the next few months who would want to receive *Arkansauce*. You can imagine how happy we were when more than 800 people asked to be charter subscribers. And, while the journal is free of charge, more than \$400.00 in "subscriptions" was donated.

Enjoy this issue of the *Arkansian*. I'm indebted to our Special Projects Librarian, Diane Worrell, for her outstanding work as managing editor of the *Arkansian* (and *Arkansauce*).

Tom W. Dillard

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THE ARKANSIAN

The Special Collections Department of the University of Arkansas Libraries collects, preserves, organizes and provides access to research materials documenting the state of Arkansas and its role in the regional, national, and international communities. *Arkansian* is an old name by which our early ancestors called themselves, as well as the name of an antebellum newspaper in Fayetteville. *The Arkansian* is published twice a year.

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The *Arkansian* is available online at:
<http://libinfo.uark.edu/specialcollections/news/arkansian/>

Information about the Special Collections Department is available online at:
<http://libinfo.uark.edu/specialcollections/>

Diane F. Worrell, editor
Joy Caffrey, designer

New Manuscript Collection Opened: Parker Letters Document Civil War Era Family Life

By Diane F. Worrell

Special Collections recently finished processing the letters of Edward William Parker, a leading Little Rock banker and Civil War veteran. This collection dates from 1817 through 1908 and contains correspondence between Edward and his family members. The letters reveal information about the Parker family, their personal experiences during the Civil War, their involvement with Shakerism, and Edward's duties as a riverboat clerk.

Edward Parker lived for many years in a house on the corner of Second and Broadway in Little Rock, where he kept a menagerie of animals, including peacocks, larks, a Mynah bird, an alligator, a turtle, a chameleon, dogs, and snakes. Parker, a leader in the movement to establish a charity hospital in Little Rock, was also interested in spiritualism. He amassed a book collection on mysticism, Asian beliefs, and Hinduism, which was donated to the Manly P. Hall Theological Library in Los Angeles after his death.

“George Oakley was stabbed right through the heart, and after he had lain a little while on his back, he was taken out and thrown in the weeds.... Don't know who killed Oakley, no arrests made, there were seven persons in the room, the candle was blown out and the deed done.”

Edward Parker was born in Galveston, Texas on January 8, 1842. His family lived in Galveston while Edward's father served as the Weights, Master Measurer, Inspector & Gauger for the city until the family moved to New Orleans in 1849. Edward graduated high school in 1854, and that same year his father, who was given to the New Hampshire Shakers when he was a young child, relocated his family to the Shaker community in Pleasant Hill, Kentucky.

In 1856 Edward went to live and work for his mother's cousin Edward



Parker and Worthen logo—1882.

Logo for Parker and Worthen Bankers, Brokers, and Real Estate Agents, ca. 1877, from the Edward Parker Correspondence, MC 1887

Morton, who owned a large plantation at Cummins, Arkansas. In 1857 Edward began his career as a riverboat clerk working for both planters and for the Arkansas government carrying Arkansas mail packets. For five years he worked on at least six boats including the *Arkansas*, *Quapan*, *Irene*, *Red Wing*, *South Bend*, and the *Frederick Notrebe*.

In January 1862 Edward married Annie Reynolds, and they had three children: Chauncey, Richard, and Mary Elizabeth. Mary Elizabeth was the only child to survive to adulthood. During the Civil War Edward served as a clerk in the Quarter Master Corps of the Confederate States of America and later became Captain, Quarter Master, working out of Arkansas's confederate state capital in Washington, Arkansas. In addition to his wartime military duties, Edward cared for his brother Henry, who was wounded at the Battle of Shiloh on April 7, 1862.

After the Civil War, Edward worked for S.H. Tucker's Exchange Banking & Collecting Office in Little Rock as a cashier. In 1872 he opened a banking and brokerage business named Edward W. Parker & Co. and continued business under that name until 1877 when he became a partner with William

Booker Worthen in the firm Parker & Worthen Bankers, Brokers, and Real Estate Agents. After several years of business success, the partnership was dissolved in 1888 when Worthen purchased Parker's interest in the business for \$24,000. Subsequently Edward operated several other banking and brokerage establishments in Little Rock, including E.W. Parker & Co., Parker & Cates, Parker, Ewing & Co. and Parker, Reid & Co.

In an 1857 letter to his mother describing his early adventures in Arkansas, Edward reported, “There was a murder at the [Arkansas] Post the other day. George Oakley was stabbed right through the heart, and after he had lain a little while on his back, he was taken out and thrown in the weeds, and it is a wonder the hogs did not get at and eat him. Don't know who killed Oakley, no arrests made, there were seven persons in the room, the candle was blown out and the deed done.”

In 1861 Edward wrote his cousin Elvira about the tensions leading to the Civil War. “I am for immediate secession,” he said. “It may ruin me pecuniarily—for the fifteen slave states will be united to form a glorious confederacy—but what I most fear is [financial disaster] at present and then the still more terrible results of civil war between, as it were, Brothers – this cannot last long – then there will be peace.”

In 1902 Edward retired to Boston, Massachusetts, leaving the operation of his bank to his son-in-law and brother. Edward died May 28, 1908 in Brookline, Massachusetts, where he was buried. The Edward Parker Correspondence was donated to Special Collections by EmeLou Hamilton, a descendant of Parker's, and her late husband Bill. The finding aid for the Edward Parker Collection (MC 1887) is available on the Special Collections Web site.

There are Spiders in Special Collections!



Spider in hand, "Guadalupe," one of Baerg's many pet tarantulas, 1929, from the William J. Baerg collection, MC 953, Series 4, Box 7, Folder 3

By Annie Dowling

While many researchers visiting Special Collections work in disciplines in humanities or architecture, one interesting collection attracts scientists, especially scientists interested in spider systematics and ecology.

Last fall, a biology professor visiting the University of Arkansas department of entomology from East Carolina University sought out the rare reprints and field notes of the pioneering tarantula expert William J. Baerg. Professor Baerg (pronounced Berg) was professor and chair of the University of Arkansas department of entomology from 1918 to 1951. His substantial arachnological holdings, including field notes, drawings, photographs and publications assembled through his long academic career, are held in Special Collections and known as the William J. Baerg Collection (MC 953).

Professor Baerg was a colorful character in both the world of spiders and Fayetteville folklore. He was profiled in Tom Dillard's book *Statesmen, Scoundrels, and Eccentrics* and is well-known in the academic world of arachnology for his experiments with spider venom. Baerg let a black widow spider bite him in order to experience and document the effects. Always a good scientist,

he published the results of this 1922 experiment in the March 1923 *Journal of Parasitology*.

Born in Kansas in 1885, Baerg graduated from the University of Kansas in 1915 with an A.B. degree in entomology at the age of 30. Quite the non-traditional student, he attempted a year of medical school at Cornell University before turning his attentions once again to insects. He earned a master's degree from Cornell in 1918 and was hired as an assistant professor of entomology at the University of Arkansas. Baerg arrived in Fayetteville on June 20, 1918; his 1963 autobiography gives a detailed account of the town in the late 1910s and early 1920s. For the first year he offered the introductory course in entomology, although he had only two female students enrolled. The next year he had three students, and the course grew in popularity over the years. [Editor's note: author Annie Dowling's husband Ashley currently teaches this class, having been hired 90 years after Baerg.]

Baerg took leave from the department in 1921 to return to Cornell and earn a Ph.D. degree in entomology in 1922. He subsequently returned to Fayetteville as head of the entomology department, and over the next thirty years he led the department into a period of expansion and prominence. Baerg became

an expert in the field of poisonous arthropods, especially their toxicity and its effects on animals. He undertook numerous research expeditions to Mexico, Jamaica, and the Barro Colorado research station in Panama.

Of all of his studied specimens, he deemed tarantulas the least harmful. He sought to promote this throughout his career through extensive study and by keeping them as pets. Since tarantulas live anywhere from 10 to 20 years, Baerg surmised that he was one of the few scientists who had studied the animal for more than one generation. He wrote, "Here was a creature about which practically nothing was known; everything I saw and learned was new. Its long life of ten to twenty years or even longer, renders it an excellent subject for long-time study. Since its life history may require at least twenty-four years to complete, the subject is not taken up by many researchers. In fact I can perhaps claim to be the only one who has followed the development of the tarantula from infancy to death of old age." This quote, from his book *The Tarantula* (1958) recounts his career-long research on the subject. Many of the book's original photographs, drawings, and field notes are part of the Baerg Collection.

Professor Baerg traveled extensively for his research on spiders and insects, maintaining meticulous field notes
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Jerry Russell Collections Document Civil War Battlefield Preservation and Arkansas Political Scene

By Diane F. Worrell

The Special Collections Department has acquired the papers and book collection of Jerry Russell, a nationally known Civil War battlefield preservation leader, Arkansas political and public relations consultant, and journalist.

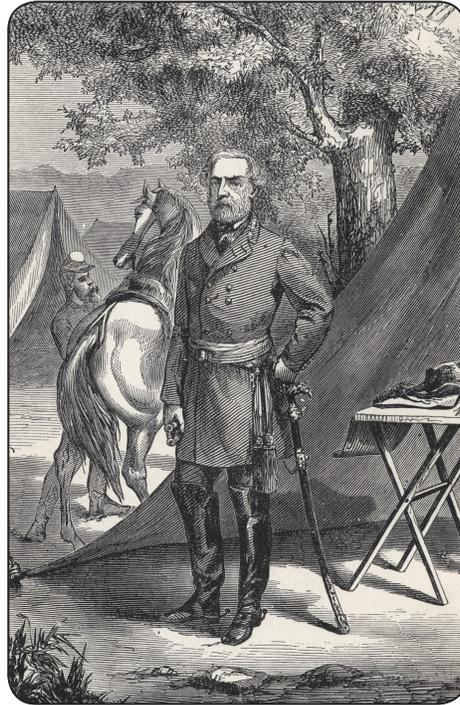
Russell, a Little Rock native, was a 1958 graduate of the University of Arkansas with a degree in journalism. He worked as a political consultant and edited a number of newspapers during his long career, including the Little Rock *Heights Land Weekly Visitor*.

Russell's passion, however, was Civil War history and battlefield preservation. In a 2004 obituary of Russell appearing in *Civil War News*, Civil War Preservation Trust President Jim Lightizer said, "Jerry was one of the founding fathers of the Civil War battlefield preservation movement. He was fighting to protect America's historic sites long before it was popular to do so."

Russell was the charter president of the Civil War Roundtable of Arkansas in 1964 and subsequently founded the Civil War Roundtable Associates, the annual National Congress of Civil War Roundtables, the Confederate Historical Institute, and the Society of Civil War Historians. He was one of the founders of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites as well as the organization that eventually became the Civil War Preservation Trust. Russell is probably best known for founding the HERITAGEPAC, the only political action committee devoted to Civil War battlefield preservation. He received dozens of awards and accolades for his battlefield preservation work.

As a public relations and political consultant, Russell was credited with bringing campaign jingles to Arkansas political advertisements. According to the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, he worked for more than 200 political candidates. Although his candidates were often underdogs, he claimed to have won more than 70 per cent of the races he worked. One of his early campaigns featured the jingle "Pin a Rose on Me," now considered a classic. It was used in the successful 1972 North Little Rock mayoral election campaign of Robert L. Rosamond.

Russell was a Renaissance man; he loved to learn. In



Frontispiece from a book in the Jerry Russell collection, *Popular Life of Gen. Robert Edward Lee* (1872)

addition to the Civil War, his interests included circuses, zoos, western movies, *Star Trek*, *Star Wars*, *Sherlock Holmes*, *the Wizard of Oz*, music, mountains, buffalos, and all things historical. He lobbied for a position on the Little Rock Censor Board in the late 1960s, because he believed there should be some opposition to censorship, even though he was politically conservative.

The Jerry Russell manuscript collection comprises nearly 150 boxes containing information on his political consulting, the Civil War, and his efforts in preserving military battlefields. Currently in the preliminary sorting stage, the manuscript collection also contains audiotapes of Arkansas radio political advertisements and records of various Civil War organizations with which he was involved.

The nearly 2,500 title book collection is comprised mostly of Civil War related volumes, including both

mainstream titles and limited press run works from all over the U.S. and the world. Internationally known for his Civil War work, Russell not only purchased books but also received them as gifts from Civil War enthusiasts worldwide.

The book collection includes nonfiction works dating from the Civil War era to 2003 about Abraham Lincoln, Civil War campaigns, battles, and soldiers, the sociological effects of the Civil War on various regions of the U.S., and accounts of wartime experiences, including memoirs, letters, biographies, and diaries of soldiers, slaves, doctors, nurses, and families. Literary works, including Civil War related novels, are also represented.

While the manuscript collection is still in the processing stage, the book collection is cataloged and available for research. Special Collections Department Head Tom W. Dillard said, "The Russell book collection is one of the most extensive Civil War collections in the state and will be of great value to researchers worldwide for its scope and scale." Russell died in 2003.

Researchers interested in additional information about the Jerry Russell collections should contact the Special Collections Department at 479-575-5577 or send an email to specoll@uark.edu.

Images of Arkansas Religion

Selected and Annotated by Todd E. Lewis



The Elias Camp Morris family of Helena, Phillips County; Morris, second from left, served as president of the National Baptist Convention, the nation's largest African-American denomination at the time, from 1895-1922. From Elias Camp Morris, *Reflections from the Public Services of E. C. Morris, D. D.* (1901)



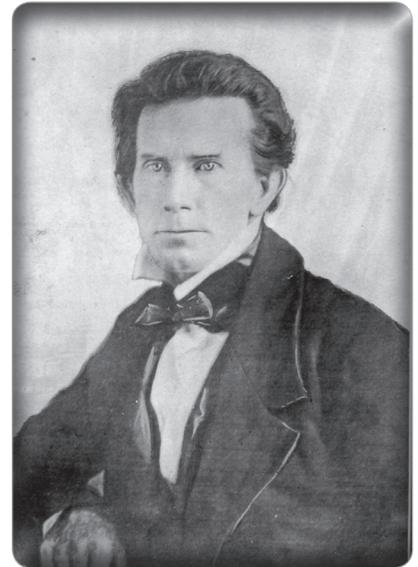
Mary Jane Booker served as a faculty member of the Arkansas Baptist College, an African-American institution in Little Rock. From Elias Camp Morris, *Reflections from the Public Services of E. C. Morris, D. D.* (1901)



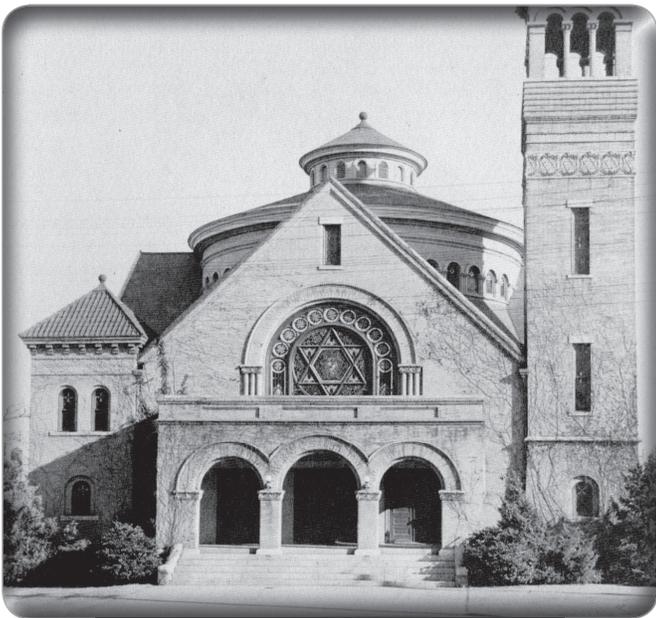
Members of the First Baptist Church of Hot Springs observe a baptismal service in the Ouachita River, June 26, 1921. From MC 534, the Mary D. Hudgins Collection



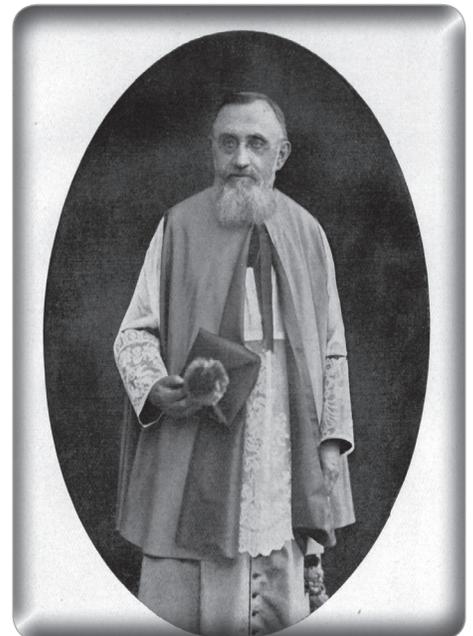
Established in 1877-1878, the Benedictine priory (later a monastery) at Subiaco, in Logan County, had a log cabin for its first cloister. From J. E. Weibel, *Vierzig Jahre Missionär in Arkansas* (1927)



Known as the "Father of Presbyterianism in Arkansas," Reverend James Wilson Moore came to Little Rock in 1828, and established the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., in Arkansas. From *The History of Presbyterianism in Arkansas, 1828-1902* (n.d.)



The temple of the Little Rock-based Congregation B'nai Israel was dedicated in 1897. From Carolyn Gray LeMaster, *A Corner of the Tapestry* (1994)



Father John Eugene Weibel (d. 1934), author of *Vierzig Jahre Missionär in Arkansas* (*Forty Years as a Missionary in Arkansas*), served as a Catholic missionary in Pocahontas, Randolph County. From J. E. Weibel, *Vierzig Jahre Missionär in Arkansas* (1927)



The Arkansas Methodist Orphanage was established in Little Rock in 1902. From James A. Anderson, *Centennial History of Arkansas Methodism* (1935)

Department Contributes to Ozarks Civil War Web Site

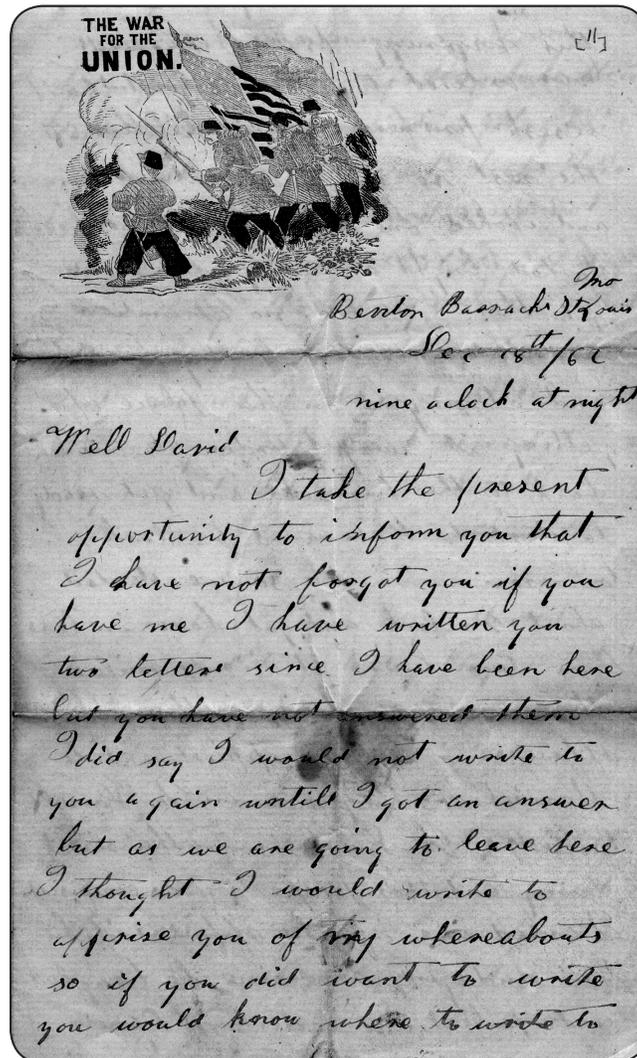
By Case Miner

[Editor's note: In 1861 Arkansas joined the attempt by eleven Southern states to establish the independent Confederate States of America. The sesquicentennial or 150th anniversary of the American Civil War is being commemorated from 2011 through 2015.]

Special Collections is proud to be a contributor to the Springfield Greene County (Missouri) Library's Ozarks Civil War Web site. The site, titled *Community and Conflict*, documents the changes that took place in the lives of people living in the Ozarks region during the Civil War. It is available at www.ozarkscivilwar.org.

With funds from the Missouri State Library and a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the site provides digitized materials such as journals, letters, court cases, photographs, and other material pertaining to Ozark life during the war. Well organized and user friendly, the Web site enables researchers to search for a specific unit or person, or simply browse by counties, themes, or battles.

The counties section has an interactive map as well as a list of 50 counties in Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, and Indian Territory (six counties that today are part of northeastern Oklahoma). Selecting a county will take researchers to a page with a period map, population statistics during the war, and a brief description of major battles or engagements that took place there. A brief synopsis includes details of the county's geographical history, early settlers, men and women of interest, and any military units formed there. Following the synopsis is a link that leads to all collections on the site related to the county.



Letter on Union stationery, from the Minos Miller Collection, University of Arkansas Special Collections Department, MS M58

Researchers may also browse by any of a dozen themes such as agriculture, guerilla warfare, economics, slavery, and urbanization, among others. Each theme comes with a short essay detailing the topic, followed by a link to collections. Battles are set up like counties, with an interactive map. The battles are listed on the map according to chronological order, or a particular battle can be chosen from a list. Like counties and themes, each battle is accompanied by an essay and a link to any digitized material related to it.

Additionally, researchers may simply browse the Web site's numerous collections. Special Collections is proud to be involved with the *Community and Conflict* Web site, having contributed digitized materials from the Clinton Owen Bates Memoir, the Minos Miller Letters, the Rebecca Stirman Davidson Family Papers, and the Sarah Jane Smith Collection.

Special Collections holds other Civil War related collections not included on the Web site. There are currently 252 collections ranging from family papers, diaries, official records, unit descriptions, and legislative documents pertaining to the Civil War period in the state of Arkansas. They exist either in manuscript form in Special Collections or as microforms in the University of Arkansas Libraries' periodicals room. Many of the individual and family collections have online finding aids, which enable researchers to browse the contents to refine their research needs. The collection descriptions can be viewed on the Special Collections' Web site under manuscripts "topic guides."

Endowed Funds Support Work of Special Collections



Mary D. Hudgins



Robert L. Morris



Elizabeth Morris Walker

Hanging on the wall in my office are framed photographs of two people who have contributed mightily to Special Collections, Mrs. Elizabeth Morris Walker and Dr. Robert L. Morris. These Fayetteville siblings gave an endowment to Special Collections in 1991, and the income from that gift has enabled the Department to do more than just keep its head above water.

It takes more than a village to preserve and share the heritage of a whole state and region. Every citizen of the state contributes to the history of our state, to our culture, and to our economic development. Likewise, every Arkansan can and should contribute to archiving our heritage. Elizabeth Walker and Robert L. Morris, who were not born into wealth, realized that a financial endowment would help support Special Collections long after their deaths.

A number of other people have established endowments to support specific programs. For example, in 1974

Miss Mary D. Hudgins of Hot Springs generously created the “Mary Dengler Hudgins Arkansas Music Fund,” with the income being used to assist Special Collections in documenting Arkansas music. I knew Miss Hudgins well. She was a librarian in Hot Springs, so she never had great wealth. However, she did realize that even a small endowment will grow and, over time, yield great benefits.

Financial gifts to Special Collections have proven crucial as we seek to broaden our work. I invite you to contact me if you are interested in endowing a program to help preserve the heritage of Arkansans. I can't promise I will create a shrine to you in my office, as I have for Elizabeth Walker and Robert Morris, but I can assure you that any gifts will be valued highly and spent wisely.

Tom Dillard
Head of Special Collections

Have You Tasted *Arkansauce*?

In early March, Special Collections launched a new publication, titled *Arkansauce: The Journal of Arkansas Foodways*. The magazine is a mix of popular and semi-scholarly articles, illustrated with original documents, drawings, and photographs, all focusing on Arkansas food history, cooking, customs, table manners, chefs, food production, restaurants, cookbooks, recipes, and menus. To subscribe, contact Special Collections at 479-575-5577 or write or send an e-mail to the managing editor, Diane Worrell at dfworrel@uark.edu, Special Collections Department, University of Arkansas Libraries, 365 N. McIlroy Avenue, Fayetteville, AR. 72701.

Meet Cat Wallack!

Interview With Our New Architectural Records Archivist

Special Collections is pleased to welcome Catherine “Cat” Wallack, who recently joined the department as our new architectural records archivist. Cat holds a B.A. in architecture from Rice University and a Master of Architecture from Harvard University.

Q: Tell our readers a little about your professional and personal background.

CW: I’ve spent the vast majority of my adult life living in Fayetteville, so Arkansas definitely feels like home. I had a great introduction to the city and to the University. I moved here immediately after graduate school and filled in for Professor Martha Sutherland in the School of Architecture for a semester while she was on sabbatical. During that time I was living in “Woodwind,” the guest house of Herb and Judy Fowler’s wonderful “Deepwood” home. Herb had just retired from the architecture faculty. The Fowlers enriched my life in many ways, including by piquing my interest in the architecture of Arkansas.

After that brief teaching stint, I worked for local firms, mostly involved with institutional work, until my son Peter was born. When I re-entered the workforce full-time, I jumped at the opportunity to be part of the University again, this time as a member of the interior design faculty. Fortuitously, my academic research complemented my interest in design history, and I became aware of Special Collections’ architectural archives. My research has focused on post-World War II architecture and design, most recently on Fulbright Industries’ furniture, which was designed by Fayetteville-born architect Edward Durell Stone.



Catherine “Cat” Wallack

Q: How did your interest in architecture develop? Does this interest date back to your childhood?

CW: I have always been visually-oriented and have taken pleasure in designing and making things. Growing up in Washington D.C. fostered those tendencies and cultivated my interest in history. I benefited from a strong arts education that included meeting artists and visiting museums. Different buildings and spaces in Washington, D.C., such as the gardens of Dumbarton Oaks, the I.M. Pei-designed west wing of the National Gallery, and the then-recently built metro system made a strong impression on me. Design as a career didn’t occur to me until high school. Architecture seemed like a natural fit, given both my analytical and creative inclinations. I applied directly to architecture programs from high school and surprisingly chose Rice University—the one farthest from home.

Q: What excites you most about your new job? What types of materials will you seek to collect?

CW: I’m frankly pretty excited about the whole thing. I do love working with the documents themselves. With processing, every day holds the prospect of discovery. It is a privilege

to be able to unfurl a beautiful hand-drawn plan that might not have been viewed in decades. I find the collections fascinating on so many levels. The socio-cultural implications of design are of particular interest to me. It is satisfying to play a part in making this work more available to the public.

Arkansas has a rich design history. I want to get that word out. Increasing the visibility of the architectural archives is important to me. It is a wonderful resource. While we are justifiably proud to have the work of Fay Jones, other collections are extensive as well, representing the work of a diverse group of individuals who have shaped our designed environments.

Neil Hamill Park (1904–1986) is a good example of this. I’m currently processing the papers of this landscape architect, who like Fay Jones, won the prestigious Rome Prize. His career is a vivid reflection of its cultural and historical context. Prior to the Great Depression when Park was just out of school, he worked with noted architect Bryant Fleming on vast estates including Cheekwood in Nashville, which is now a botanical garden and museum of art. In the early 1930s, Park went on to work for the Tennessee Valley Authority. Each distinct phase of his career offers a snapshot of its respective era.

I have an inclusive view about the scope of the architectural archives. Currently the collections are weighted towards projects and practitioners from this region of the state. More comprehensive representation of the entire state of Arkansas is a long term goal. My hope is that the architectural archives will be recognized as *the* repository for important design-related documents in the state.

Index Arkansas Finishes Final Phase of Grant Project: County Historical Journal Citations Now Available Through 2007

By Joan Watkins

Index Arkansas, a free online database of Arkansas sources, has become a primary Internet site for devoted researchers studying Arkansas, its history, and its people. Two years ago, the Happy Hollow Foundation of Fayetteville provided a grant of \$58,500 to support the recent phase of indexing Arkansas county historical publications from 1985 to 2007.

The project funded by the Happy Hollow Foundation is complete. Almost 12,500 articles have been added from indexing county historical quarterlies. With the sponsorship of the Special Collections Department and the University Libraries, the index is quickly reaching a growing number of researchers—with 35,000 searches conducted from July to December 2010—almost doubling the same number as in the previous year.

Index Arkansas now includes more than 102,500 citations searchable by subject, publication title, and keyword. Indexed sources include 80 important Arkansas-related biographical and historical sources, 43 Arkansas general periodicals, and 45 county historical journals.

During the project, *Index Arkansas* employed committed students and staff, an intern from the Honors College, graduate students from English, history, and library science, and long-time library staff members who worked on the indexing project for several years. In the final phase of the project, four staff members were involved: Rachel Skoney, Krista Casada, John Riley, and project director Joan Watkins.

Index Arkansas is the result of decades of collecting and indexing historical materials for future study. The project is unique because of its history, spanning from the mid-1930s to the present. Two contemporary librarians, Elizabeth McKee

Index Arkansas



Check it Out!
<http://arkindex.uark.edu/>

***Index Arkansas* is a free, online index of Arkansas publications. Join the more than 5,000 researchers a month who are using this important resource. You will have access to:**

- 100,000 citations—search by author, title, keyword, and subject
- 80 Arkansas-related biographical and historical sources
- 43 Arkansas periodicals including state and regional newspapers
- 45 county historical journals

and Andrea Cantrell, worked hard to develop and prepare the index to attract private funding for the project.

Index Arkansas will be continuously updated, and future format options will be evaluated as more resources are digitized. Until then, all the publications in *Index Arkansas* are available through your local library as an interlibrary loan from the University of Arkansas Libraries. The index is available online at: <http://arkindex.uark.edu/>.

Did You Know?

Descriptions of the manuscript and book collections held by the Special Collections Department are available online at <http://libinfo.uark.edu/specialcollections/>.

Staff Profiles



Adam Heien

Adam Heien began work as the McLarty Papers archivist in March 2011. His job entails the processing and arrangement of the papers of Thomas F. “Mack” McLarty and his wife, Donna. Mac McLarty is an important business leader and Bill Clinton’s oldest friend. He worked for the Clinton administration from 1993-1998, first as Chief of Staff and Special Counselor to the President, and then as Special Envoy to Latin America.

A lifelong Midwesterner, Adam was born and raised in Peoria, Illinois, a small city midway between Chicago and St. Louis. He attended DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, graduating with a bachelor’s degree in history in May 2008. From DePauw he went straight to Indiana University’s School of Library and Information Science in Bloomington, earning a master’s degree in library science with an archives and records management specialization in May 2010. While at Indiana, Adam worked part-time in both the University Archives and the Indiana Library’s Preservation Lab. After leaving Indiana, he processed the records of the Springdale Cemetery in Peoria and volunteered to help catalog the Ronald Reagan museum collection at Eureka College in Eureka, Illinois, Reagan’s alma mater.

Adam is enjoying the opportunity to get an in-depth knowledge of the McLartys and modern Arkansas history that comes with processing this collection. He says, “The learning process is one of my favorite aspects

of manuscript processing, and the McLarty Papers have numerous articles and photographs that are helping me in my personal crash course on Arkansas history and Clinton’s first term as Governor. “Adam plans to continue working in university-based archival repositories in the future, primarily as a processing archivist. He enjoys reading, especially works of historical and science fiction, and he has a strong interest in naval history. Adam is also a sports fan, especially of football and hockey.



Billy Quinn

Billy Quinn, a 2006 graduate of Fayetteville High School, has lived in Fayetteville all his life. He graduated from the University of Arkansas in 2010 with a major in English literature and a minor in classical studies. After graduation, he began working in Mullins Library as a part-time processor for Special Collections and as a clerk in interlibrary loan. Working in both departments, he says, taught him the basic skills he uses in his current full-time position as reading room assistant. His typical duties in the reading room focus on helping researchers access the collections. Billy says of his current work, “This has been a great way to familiarize myself with a broad sense of Arkansas history.”

Billy’s favorite part of working in the reading room is learning about the famous local authors and poets that he did not study as an undergraduate. He is currently reading materials about John Gould Fletcher and John Williams. The latter was actually recommended to him by a researcher who said *Stoner* was required reading for anyone who has spent time in an English department.

Billy recently learned he was selected for a graduate teaching assistantship and stipend to attend the University of Tulsa in the fall. Most of his studies will focus on modernism and literature from the early 20th century. He plans to continue studying John Gould Fletcher and then return to Special Collections as a researcher!



Kirra Williams

Kirra Williams was born and raised in Little Rock. A Valedictorian and a *Summa Cum Laude* graduate of Hall High School in 2008, Kirra is currently completing her third year in the School of Social Work at the University of Arkansas. After graduation Kirra plans to pursue a master’s degree in social work and become a licensed clinical social worker. In her spare time she participates in several organizations. She is president of the Phi Theta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority and community service chair to the University of Arkansas’s National Pan-Hellenic Council.

Kirra became a member of the U.S. Senator Dale Bumpers Papers processing project in September of 2010. She enjoys working in Special Collections because it gives her a glimpse into the past. She said, “History was never my favorite subject growing up, but through my work here I have acquired an appreciation for modern Arkansas political history.”

Ozark Folksong Collection

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Arriving in Arkansas in 1948 to conduct dissertation research on Southern dialects, Parler began teaching in the English department at the University of Arkansas and eventually supervised the Folklore Research Project. A founder of the Arkansas Folklore Society in 1950, Parler married acclaimed Ozark folklorist Vance Randolph in 1962. Professor Parler was featured in the 1954 CBS documentary called "The Search," which depicted her search for a performance of an Elizabethan ballad, "The Two Sisters."

The collection contains an extensive and expansive array of materials, including 3,600 recordings of Ozark folksongs and an additional 800 recordings of oral histories, anecdotes, and tales from over 700 performers. These reel-to-reel recordings are supplemented with 3,800 lyrical transcriptions and 420 music notations. A collection of 820 student class reports, covering topics ranging from home remedies to butchering hogs, completes the Folklore Research Project collection. Collected in a period when little collecting was going on in the Ozarks, these materials constitute an irreplaceable record of Ozark culture. The collection reflects what people believed, what they valued, and how they felt about events of their times.

In broad terms, the materials cover politics, regional conflicts and discord, emotional bonds and relationships in families and communities, and the changing roles of family members. The folksongs include traditional songs of English and Scottish origins, "event ballads" describing killer tornados and the devastation of Arkansas towns, more than 120 songs and tales from the African American tradition, French and Austrian folk songs, recordings in Cherokee of Christian hymns, songs provided by immigrants to an Ozark wine-making community, twelve songs of migrant workers, and other songs from Italian, Polish, Lithuanian, Swiss, and German traditions. Fiddle tunes, play parties, square dances, regional versions of early commercial recordings, and songs written by indigenous performers are included in the collection.

Although the recordings have been transferred to digital format (compact discs), the Libraries and Special Collections are seeking funding opportunities to have the 219 original reels (comprising 137,400 feet) processed professionally for permanent preservation and access. Plans also include making the materials available on the Internet to researchers and the public, which would more than double the number of Ozark folksongs currently available on the Internet through such institutions as Missouri State University in Springfield, Lyon College in Batesville, Arkansas, and the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC.

Special Collections Department Head Tom W. Dillard noted, "The Parler collection is of paramount importance to the preservation of Arkansas music history. The late Mary Parler had a special touch. She could coax the most reluctant backwoodsman to pick up a guitar and sing a song. Now, it is incumbent upon us to save this incredible resource for future generations. We simply cannot fail!"

Special Collections Receives Awards

The Special Collections Department was recently given two Awards of Merit from the Arkansas Historical Association (AHA) at its annual convention in Little Rock. The Association was high in its praise for *Index Arkansas*, an online index to Arkansas publications. AHA President Laura Miller of Hope said her group wanted to "recognize *Index Arkansas* for its pioneering role in providing access to Arkansas literature." *Index Arkansas*, which contains more than 100,000 citations, indexes a vast array of literature about Arkansas or its people. The index is free and available to everyone at <http://arkindex.uark.edu/>. Recent expansion of *Index Arkansas* was made possible by a grant from the Happy Follow Foundation.

The second Award of Merit honors Special Collections' digital project "Land of (Unequal) Opportunity: Documenting the Civil Rights Struggle in Arkansas." Both images and documents are included in the digital library. The project not only addresses the civil rights of racial minorities, but also of ethnic minorities such as the Japanese Americans who were forcibly relocated to Arkansas during World War II. To assist teachers in using the digital documents and photographs in the classroom, five posters and ten lesson plans. "Land of (Unequal) Opportunity" is available on the Special Collections Web site. The project was partly underwritten by a grant from the Arkansas Humanities Council and the Department of Arkansas Heritage.

Thanks to Our Donors!

Donations to Special Collections, July 1, 2010 to
December 31, 2010

Tracy W. Barrett, Pinehurst, NC	Bill Lewis, Little Rock
Carl and Dr. Linda Birkner, Solgohachia	Nelson N. Lichtenstein, Santa Barbara, CA
Cynthia Ann Cannizzo, Hilliard, OH	The Honorable David R. Malone and Dr. Deborah Thomas, Fayetteville
Dale Carpenter, Fayetteville	Thomas F. and Donna McLarty, III, Little Rock
The Hon. Charlie Cole Chaffin, Benton	The McLarty Companies, Inc., Conway
Mark Christ, Little Rock	J. Louis and Jean Ann Moles, Benton, AR
Ellen Compton, Fayetteville	Dr. William W. Mullins, Potomac, MD
Margaret E. Cunningham, Roanoke, VA	Dr. Anita Rao Mysore, Kenosha, WI
Kenneth C. Danforth, Arlington, VA	Timothy G. Nutt, Fayetteville
Linda Deloney, Little Rock	Triona O'Keefe, Belfast, Ireland
Tom Dillard, Farmington	Ozark Society Foundation, Little Rock
Foundation for International Exchange of Students, Fayetteville	John G. and Dora J. Ragsdale, Little Rock
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Dr. A. Cleveland Harrison, Auburn, AL	Richard Leon Spain Estate, Bentonville
William Dustin Higgins, Bryant	Richard and Judy Dockrey Young, Kimberling City, MO
Mary Anne Hunting Foundation, New York, NY	
James J. and Margaret Z. Johnston, Fayetteville	
Elizabeth Ann Jones, San Antonio, TX	

NEWS from University Archives



Gregson Hall opened as a residence hall in 1948. It was named for William S. "Pop" Gregson, (pictured at right) who served in multiple capacities at the University from 1919 to 1947, including secretary of the Y.M.C.A., secretary of the Student Employment Services, secretary of the Student Union, Director of Religious Activities, Acting Dean of Men, Emeritus professor and University Chaplain.

Spaces and Faces: Namesakes at the University of Arkansas is a new digital collection sponsored by University Archives that links buildings on the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville campus with the people who inspired their names. Researchers can view images of the faces of Henry G. and Stella P. Hotz, Charles H. Brough, and Jobelle Holcombe and others, along with historical photographs of the buildings which share their names. Images are accompanied by biographical information about the person and construction dates for the buildings. Images were obtained from the Special Collections Department.

This resource is available through the Special Collections digital collections Web page at <http://digitalcollections.uark.edu/>. *Spaces and Faces* is a growing resource, so more images and information will be added in the future.

In March, records of the women's athletic department were opened as a part of Women's History Month. This collection was donated by Ruth Cohoon, who served as the first women's athletics director, a position she held from 1972-1989. Cohoon was an administrator, teacher, athlete and advocate for women's athletics. She constantly fought for increased funding, better equipment, and more scholarships, resulting in better opportunities for women athletes and coaches.

This collection documents women's athletics as it transitioned from "sports days" and intermural games to a funded intercollegiate athletic department. An official women's athletics department began at the University in 1972. The collection also contains information on state and national professional organizations in which Cohoon participated, including the Arkansas Women's Intercollegiate

Sports Association (AWISA) and the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW).

The collection consists of 11 linear feet of materials in 12 boxes and can be accessed through the Special Collections

reading room. Researchers should call ahead for availability and advance retrieval of materials at 575-8444 or e-mail specoll@uark.edu. Detailed information on the collection is available on the Special Collections Web site under Collections/University Archives.



William S. "Pop" Gregson

NEWS from Research Services

Reading room assistant **Megan Massanelli** is graduating with a bachelor's degree in art history with a minor in gender studies. She first worked in the Special Collections Department in the summer of 2010 and later returned in December. After graduation she will be participating

in the Junior Fellows Summer Internship program in the Preservation Division of the Center for Library Analytical Scientific Studies at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. Megan then plans to pursue graduate study in library science and art history with the goal of one day becoming a successful art historian and information professional.

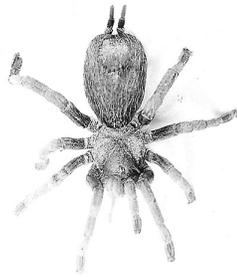


Megan Massanelli

Spiders *continued from page 4*



"Belmar"



"Derraguera"



"Grace"



"Herea"

Baerg's pet tarantulas, from the William J. Baerg collection, MC 953, Series 4 Box 7 Folder 3



William J. Baerg, ca. 1940, from the Eloise Farris Baerg papers, MC 1322, Box 18, Folder 8

on his subjects. Some are typed, but most are handwritten on index cards. He kept descriptive field journals that document the trials and tribulations of field research in the 1920s and 1930s. Baerg also studied other specimens in the Ozarks region, ultimately becoming an accomplished ornithologist, and publishing *The Birds of Arkansas* in 1931 and 1951. After his retirement from the department of entomology, he continued his research on spiders with a Fulbright Grant and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Baerg stayed active as a *professor emeritus* until his death in 1980.

The papers of his wife Eloise Farris Baerg (MC 1322) complement the Baerg Collection with additional photographs, correspondence and newspaper clippings. Their home, located at 1010 Park Avenue in Fayetteville, served as a tarantula sanctuary. A stone wall that encloses the property was once used to contain the many spider specimens he kept as pets. His household specimens have been immortalized with the creation of wrought-iron gates on the property complete with a spider Web motif.

Both the William J. Baerg Collection and the Eloise Farris Baerg papers, the personal and professional papers from the lives William and Eloise Baerg, are fascinating collections held by the manuscripts unit of Special Collections. If photographs of spiders scare you, do not open Folder 3 in Box 7 of MC 953!

Department Receives Film Preservation Grant

Special Collections recently obtained a grant of \$4,590 from the National Film Preservation Foundation to re-master, preserve, and digitize a fifty-year-old 8mm film produced in 1961 by Neil Compton. A Bentonville physician and avid outdoorsman, Compton founded the Ozark Society, the organization that led the campaign to keep the Buffalo River in north Arkansas undammed and free-flowing. These efforts resulted in federal legislation in 1972 designating the river as the Buffalo National River, America's first *national* river. Filmed, edited, audio-engineered, and scripted by Compton, the film shows the high bluffs of the Upper Buffalo and Goat Trail juxtaposed with the submersion of Lost Bridge and the destruction of Monte Ne buildings for the Beaver Dam reservoir. The film is one of thirteen that Compton produced in support of the national river project. The grant will fund the cleaning and re-mastering of the film and will provide a digitized copy that can be used by the public. Receiving this grant coincides with the processing of the Ozark Society papers, the 50th anniversary of the organization's founding, and the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Buffalo National River.

THE

ARKANSIAN

Special Collections Department
University of Arkansas Libraries
365 North McIlroy Avenue
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

Are You Arkansas-Literate?

1. True or False: It is believed that Spaniard Hernando De Soto's army visited the Indian settlement now known as Parkin Archeological State Park.
2. True or False: Tontitown in Northwest Arkansas was established by Henri de Tonti.
3. Early Arkansas was known as:
(A) the buffalo state (B) the bear state (C) the wonder state (D) the land of rivers
4. If you are driving from Blytheville to West Memphis, which direction will you be traveling?
5. True or False: The Ouachita Mountains are actually a great weathered plateau.
6. Which of the following was a famed African American U.S. Deputy Marshal serving under "Hanging Judge" Isaac Parker?
(A) Bass Reeves (B) Rooster Cogburn (C) Hamilton Moses (D) M.W. Gibbs
7. Famed World War II General Douglas MacArthur was born at:
(A) Hot Springs (B) Fort Smith (C) Camp Pike (D) Little Rock.
8. Which of the following governors wrote a book about Arkansans during the Viet Nam War?
(A) Sid McMath (B) Jim Guy Tucker (C) Winthrop Rockefeller (D) Dale Bumpers.
9. Arkansas celebrated its sesquicentennial (150 years) of statehood in:
(A) 1919 (B) 1936 (C) 1964 (D) 1986.
10. Which of the following Arkansans never ran for president?
(A) Bill Clinton (B) Wilbur Mills (C) Mike Huckabee (D) Joe T. Robinson.



ANSWERS: 1 True; 2 False; it was Pietro Bandini; 3 (B); 4 South; 5 False; the Ozarks are a weathered plateau; 6 (A); 7 (D); 8 (B); 9 (D); 10 (D)