

West Virginia Archives & History NEWS

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WEST VIRGINIA
DIVISION OF
CULTURE & HISTORY

From the Editor:

Last month I urged you to preserve the memories of people and families. This month, think about what you can do to preserve a building or an area of historic significance. Record your own and others' memories associated with the site. Locate associated objects and ephemera. Take photographs of as much of the building or grounds as possible, including both broad landscape shots and closeups of interesting details. Research the events and people that make the property important and worth preserving, and share your findings in a society publication, local newspaper, Web site or other information source. If your efforts do not contribute toward saving the site, then at least posterity will have images and remembrances of what once existed.

West Virginia's Most Endangered Historic Places

The State Historic Preservation Office of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History has announced its list of West Virginia's most endangered historic places for 2005. Modeled after a National Trust for Historic Preservation Program, this year's list features 27 sites across the state. "This endangered properties list is an invaluable tool in directing public attention to the many cultural resources in our state that are under threat from neglect, development pressure, natural disasters or industrial changes. We hope to generate discussion about these and other endangered sites in West Virginia, with the ultimate goal of preserving some of them for future generation," said Troy O. Body, Division Commissioner.

Sites on the list span the state's history from the prehistoric period to the 20th century. Several Civil War sites, among them the 1862 Battle of Shepherdstown, fought near a ford in the Potomac River south of the town, and Camp Allegheny in

Pocahontas County, where Confederate troops under Col. Edward Johnson defeated Federal forces attacking the Allegheny Mountain camp, are on the list. Also on the list are properties associated with the

state's industrial and labor history. Still in operation, La Belle Iron Works in Wheeling dates to the 19th century and represents the city's role in the cut nail industry, which earned it the

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Vital Research Records Project Update

The West Virginia Division of Culture and History, Archives and History section, has been receiving national attention and congratulations for the West Virginia Vital Research Records Project, a collaborative venture between the West Virginia State Archives and the Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU) to place online via the West Virginia Archives and History Web site selected West Virginia county birth, death and marriage records, and statewide death records in a viewable, downloadable and searchable format. Librarians, professional genealogists and family historians have expressed their gratitude at having these records available free to the public, and are anxiously awaiting additions

to the holdings online. A little Web surfing found that a link to Vital Research Records has been placed on many county record and genealogy Web sites from coast to coast.

Regarding West Virginia state death certificates, a group of 1920 death certificates, #4501 through #5000, are not available. Sometime after the deaths for 1920 were indexed, but before the record books themselves were transferred to the State Archives, that certificate book was lost. The names of the persons and the certificate numbers were entered into the Vital Research Records database, but there will be no accompanying images. Although the Dept. of Health and the State

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nickname "Nail City." For a brief description of each site and its historical significance, visit the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/agency/press/endangered2005.html>.

Courthouse Prints

Visitors to the West Virginia Archives and History Library Reading Room in the past year or so have enjoyed viewing prints of West Virginia courthouses on display there. The artist is Larry McCallister of Mt. Zion, Calhoun County, West Virginia. To date framed prints of 26 of the 55 county courthouses have been put on display. When a county has more than one surviving courthouse building, the artist prefers to capture an image of an older courthouse with greater architectural interest rather than the more modern building that he likens to a "box." Learn more about Larry McCallister and his prints by visiting his Web site at <http://larrymcc.com>.

SHPO to Host Eastern Panhandle Plan Public Meetings

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will host two public meetings to discuss the development of a historic preservation plan for the Eastern Panhandle region of the state. Local residents are invited to attend the meetings and provide their input. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, December 1, at 3:00 p.m., at the Coca-Cola bottling plant on Route 50 east of Romney. The second meeting will be held on Friday, December 2, at 11:00 a.m., at the James Rumsey Technical Institute, 3274 Hedgesville Road, Hedgesville. State Historic Preservation Officer and West

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Endangered Historic Places in West Virginia, 2005

Austin Wingate Curtis House, Institute, Kanawha County
Battle of Blair Mountain Site, Spruce Fork Ridge, Logan County
Battle of Shepherdstown, Shepherdstown, Jefferson County
Big Creek High School, War, McDowell County
Boydville, Martinsburg, Berkeley County
Bridgeport Bridge, Wheeling, Ohio County
Camp Allegheny, Bartow, Pocahontas County
Cass Historic District, Cass, Pocahontas County
Fishermen's Hall, Charles Town, Jefferson County
General Albert Gallatin Jenkins Plantation, Greenbottom Vicinity, Cabell County
Industrial School for Boys, Lakin, Mason County
Kanawha Valley Chemical Industry, South Charleston, Kanawha County
La Belle Iron Works, Wheeling, Ohio County
Maplewood Farm, Grape Hill and Smithland Farm (McCausland Memorial Farm), U.S. Route 35, Mason County
Martha Truss Bridge, Martha, Cabell County
New Deal Era Resources, Statewide
New River Gorge, Fayetteville, Fayette County, to Hinton, Summers County
Old Sweet Springs, Sweet Springs, Monroe County
Pocahontas Fuel Company Store and Office Building, Jenkinjones, McDowell County
Prehistoric Mounds, Earthworks and Stoneworks, Statewide
St. John's Baptist Church, Stotesbury, Raleigh County
Stone and Thomas Building, Charleston, Kanawha County
Stony River Reservoir Dam, Mount Storm Vicinity, Grant County
Weston State Hospital, Weston, Lewis County
Wheeling Island Historic District, Wheeling, Ohio County

2006 History Day Reservations and History Hero Nominations

Genealogical and historical societies, as well as other history-related organizations on our mailing list, should have received nomination forms for the 10th annual West Virginia History Hero awards, and registration forms for display space in the Capitol for History Day at the Legislature, February 16, 2005. History Hero nominations must be postmarked no later than December 31, or hand-delivered to the West Virginia Archives and History Library no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, December 30, 2005. [Note that the Library and The Cultural Center will be closed on Saturday,

December 31, 2005.] Display space registrations must be received by January 16, 2006. Once registration is received, a confirmation and information regarding current legislative issues will be sent no later than February 2, 2006. If your organization did not receive a mailing, you may print the forms off our Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/historydaydisplay2006.pdf> and <http://www.wvculture.org/history/historyday/historyhero2006.pdf>.

History Day is co-sponsored by the Friends of West Virginia Culture

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Archives do not have copies of these particular death certificates, the relevant county courthouses should be able to provide them. The Archives and History Library has county records on microfilm for the use of its patrons, and also can provide copies by mail in response to mailed research requests that enclose a \$5.00 fee for in-state requests, or a \$15.00 fee for out-of-state requests. (Please note that only the county that issued the certificate can provide a certified copy for legal purposes.)

You will find the Vital Research Records database at <http://www.wvculture.org/vrr>. Before using the database, please read the explanatory article, "Vital Research Records Project," in the August 2005 issue of West Virginia Archives and History News, accessible online at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews.html>.

Carpet Installation in The Cultural Center

The carpeting in The Cultural Center is being replaced now through January 2006. We anticipate closing the Archives and History Library sometime in January for an undetermined number of days. Most staff who must vacate their offices will be relocated elsewhere in the building at some point during the installation but will be available by telephone and e-mail. Please check our Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history> or call (304) 558-0230 before visiting to verify which facilities and offices will be open on a given date.

Archives and History News
is available on the
Archives and History Web site
<http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews.html>

New Titles

- Keepers of the Council Fire: A Brief History of the Wyandot Indians:** Robert E. Smith, 1974.
50 Years of Seniors: Tucker County High Schools and Historical Facts: Ruth Cooper Allman, 1981.
Ancestors of KVGS Members: Volumes 1, 2 and 3: Kanawha Valley Genealogical Society, 1997-.
The Map Catalog: Every Kind of Map and Chart on Earth and Some Even Above It: Joel Makower, 1986.
American Passenger Arrival Records: A Guide to the Records of Immigrants Arriving at American Ports by Sail and Steam: Updated and Enlarged: Michael Tepper, 1992.
"Years of Significance": American Baptist Women in West Virginia, 1978-1969: Virginia M. Farmar, 1969.
Virginia at War, 1865: William C. Davis, editor, 2005.
America's Great Hideaways: National Geographic Society, 1986.
Fenton Glass: The First Twenty-Five Years, 1907-1932: William Heacock, 1978.
Fenton Glass: The Second Twenty-Five Years: William Heacock, 1980.
Fenton Glass: The Third Twenty-Five Years, 1956-1980: William Heacock, 1989.
Genealogical Classification by Family Group Coding for Descent from Common Ancestors: Cameron Ralph Stewart, 1986.
Grant County WV Marriages, 1866-1900: Wes Cochran, 2005.
Roane County WV 1890 Census of Union Veterans & Their Widows: Wes Cochran, 2005.
Wood County WV 1890 Census of Union Veterans & Their Widows: Wes Cochran, 2005.
Wood County WV Deaths, 1931-1938, Volume M-Z: Wes Cochran, 2005.
Wood County WV Deaths, 1905-1920, Volume M-Z: Wes Cochran, 2005.
Wood County WV Deaths, 1938-1939: Wes Cochran, 2005.
The First 50 Years of Wheeling Jesuit University: Ignation Vision & Gospel Values in the Tradition of Jesuit Education, 1954-2004: Steven M. Infanti, 2005.

Gifts of Tri-State Genealogical & Historical Society

- 1850 Census, Hancock County, VA/WV:** Freida Barnhart Olash, [no date].
1870 Federal Census, Hancock County, West Virginia: Janet Waite, [no date].
1860 Federal Census of Hancock County, (West) Virginia: Bonnie Ryan and Janet Waite, [n.d.].
Fields Funeral Home: (includes Arner, McClave-Chandler-Mills & Howell Funeral Homes): New Cumberland, West Virginia, from 1924 to 1992: Volumes A-L and M-Z: Opal Finney and Janet Waite, 1999.
Hancock County Virginia-West Virginia Marriages, 1848-1979: Kathleen Murray, 1995.
Hancock County, West Virginia Marriages, 1880-1912: Bonnie Ryan and Janet Waite, [n.d.].
Index to 1890 Veterans Census of Marshall County, WV: Tri-State Genealogical & Historical Society, [n.d.].
Index to 1890 Veterans Census of Tyler County, WV: Tri-State Genealogical & Historical Society, [n.d.].
Index to 1890 Veterans Census of Wetzel County, WV: Tri-State Genealogical & Historical Society, [n.d.].
1850-1880 Census Index of Hancock County, Virginia/West Virginia: Tri-State Genealogical & Historical Society, [n.d.].
1840 Census Index of Brooke County, Virginia/West Virginia: Tri-State Genealogical & Historical Society, [n.d.].
Service United Presbyterian Church Cemetery: Beaver County, PA, Raccoon Township: Opal Finney, 1999.

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Baptisms by George M. Scott, 1799-1826: Freida Barnhart Olash, [n.d.].
Frankfort Springs Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Beaver Co., Pa.: Betty Cain, [n.d.].
1940-1941 Rural Directory for Beaver County, PA: Tri-State Genealogical & Historical Society, [n.d.].
Shadow Lawn Cemetery Inscriptions: Virgie Irene Williams, 1991, Rev. 1993.
Scottsville Cemetery, Located in Hopewell Township, Beaver County, PA, Adjacent to Ohio United Presbyterian Church: Alice M. Madden, 1995.
Up High and Down Main in Pughtown, W.Va.: Erma Huff, 1981.
Hancock County, WV Probate Record Extracts, Wills, Estates & Inventories, 1848-1899: Janet L. Waite, 1997.
Cemeteries of New Manchester, Hancock County, West Virginia: Janet Waite, [2002?].

Ulster Historical Foundation and MYHF Donate Scots-Irish Research Resources

Following an excellent seminar, *Researching Your Scots-Irish Ancestors*, presented at The Cultural Center in November as the workshop portion of the annual meeting and workshop of the Mining Your History Foundation (MYHF), Dr. Brian Trainor and Fintan Mullan of the Ulster Historical Foundation very generously donated copies of workshop handouts, county resource lists, and nine books to the Archives and History Library. MYHF

purchased three additional titles and donated them to the Library as well. The information sheets and county resource lists have been placed in a box labeled *Resources for Scots-Irish Ancestry* and will be available in the Ready Reference section of the Library. The Ulster Historical Foundation has given permission for patrons to photocopy these pages. For the next month or so, these new Scots-Irish resources will be featured on a special shelf in the Library.

Gifts of Mining Your History Foundation

Researching Down Ancestors: A Practical Guide for the Family and Local Historian: Ian Maxwell, 2004.
Researching Armagh Ancestors: A Practical Guide for the Family and Local Historian: Ian Maxwell, 2000.
Townlands in Ulster: Local History Studies: W. H. Crawford, 1998.

Gifts of Ulster Historical Foundation

Derry Beyond the Walls: Social and Economic Aspects of the Growth of Derry, 1825-1850: John Hume, 2002.
The Heart of Downe: Old Banbridge Families From Gravestone Inscriptions, Wills and Biographical Notes: R.S.J. Clarke, 1989.
Gravestone Inscriptions: Belfast: Volume 1, Shankill Graveyard and Tablet in Christ Church and St. George's Church: R.S.J. Clarke, 1982.
Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors: The Essential Genealogical Guide to Early Modern Ulster, 1600-1800: William J. Roulston, 2005.
Parnell: A Documentary History: Noel Kissane, 1991.
County Down: A Topographical Dictionary of the Parishes, Villages and Towns of County Down in the 1830's: Samuel Lewis, 2003.
Directory of Irish Family History Research, Volumes for 2000 and 2004: Ulster Genealogical and Historical Guild.
Old Families of Downpatrick & District From Gravestone Inscriptions, Wills and Biographical Notes: R.S.J. Clarke, 1993.
Loughmorne Presbyterian Church: Graveyard and Surrounding District: 190 Years: Iris Stewart, 1994.

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Virginia Division of Culture and History Commissioner Troy O. Body, and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Susan Pierce will host the open forum to discuss the region's needs, comprehensive solutions and strategies that can promote growth and protect historic resources.

The comprehensive historic preservation plan for the Eastern Panhandle region will include the counties of Berkeley, Jefferson, Morgan, Mineral, Grant, Hardy and Hampshire. The plan will be produced through a process involving the public, identified preservation partners, and government officials and agencies. Reservations are encouraged. For more information about the meetings or to make a reservation, contact Susan Holbrook at (304) 558-0240, Ext. 722, or e-mail susan.holbrook@wvculture.org.

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and History, Preservation Alliance of WV, WV Historical Society, WV Historical Association, WV Association of Museums, Mining Your History Foundation, WV Humanities Council, and the WV Archives and History Commission. The sponsors have stated: "We encourage all historical groups to bring their members, friends and neighbors to Charleston to celebrate West Virginia History Day!"

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.

EASTERN PANHANDLE PLAN PUBLIC MEETING, December 1:

Hosted by the State Historic Preservation Office, Romney.

EASTERN PANHANDLE PLAN PUBLIC MEETING, December 2:

Hosted by the State Historic Preservation Office, Hedgesville.

CHRISTMAS EVE, SATURDAY, December 24: Archives Library will be *closed*.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY, MONDAY, December 26: Archives Library will be *closed*.

**2006 HISTORY HERO NOMINATION DEADLINE,
December 30 (hand-delivered) and December 31 (postmarked).**

NEW YEAR'S EVE, SATURDAY, December 31: Archives Library will be *closed*.

NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY, MONDAY, January 2, 2006: Archives Library will be *closed*.

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY, January 16: Archives Library will be open.*

2006 HISTORY DAY DISPLAY SPACE REGISTRATION DEADLINE, January 16.

“DO SOCIAL ISSUE FILMS HAVE ANY INFLUENCE?,”

January 25: John Hoskyns-Abrahall, Bullfrog Films, speaker,
The Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater, The Cultural Center, Charleston.

LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY, February 12: No longer a West Virginia state holiday.

All Archives and History offices and the Library will be open regular hours.

**“BEYOND THE RIVER: THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE HEROES OF THE
UNDERGROUND RAILROAD, THROUGH MUSIC AND WORDS,”**

February 15: Ann Hagedorn, speaker, with music by Allen Schwartz,
The Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater, The Cultural Center, Charleston.

HISTORY DAY, February, 16, 2006: The Capitol Complex, Charleston.

PRESIDENTS' DAY, February 20: Archives Library will be open.*

“WHEN MINERS MARCH: THE STORY OF COAL MINERS IN WEST VIRGINIA,”

March 22: William C. Blizzard, speaker,
The Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater, The Cultural Center, 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
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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)
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Sharon Newhouse	Secretary
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Pat Pleska	Manager of the Veterans Memorial Archives
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, Shari Haywood, Angela Tolbert, Bob and Lucile Foster, John McClure, Carol de la Riva, Lorene Mullins, and Kellis and Virginia Gillespie