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Property research resource guide

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Property research resource guide, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Purpose

This guide contains resources at the Arkansas State Archives commonly used for researching properties or individuals associated with a property. This is not a comprehensive guide to our holdings, but provides starting points for property research. Resources at the State Archives are best utilized using a name, location, or time period related to the property. This information will help the researcher focus on a targeted list of resources to obtain the information desired.

Census Records

The United States Census, conducted every ten years since 1790, counts and provides statistical information about the population of the country. The census record is useful for researching biographical and vital statistics about people associated with properties. Each census since 1830 is arranged by county, then township, incorporated city or town, and finally the sequence of households along each road. Starting with the 1850 Census, more detailed information about the population was collected and included every member of a household, their age, sex, race, and place of birth; any profession for the members of the household; and any real estate owned by the family. The Arkansas State Archives contains microfilm records of U.S. census records from 1830-1940.

Census records from 1830-1940 are also available through free online access to Ancestry.com in the Arkansas State Archives research room. Ancestry.com has many other types of records useful to property research including birth, marriage and death records, military draft and service records, school annuals, city directories, public family trees, land, and court records. The appendix contains basic search instructions for Ancestry.com.

In addition to the United States Census, territorial sheriffs in Arkansas were directed to conduct biennial censuses beginning in 1823 for their individual counties to provide a population count for possible statehood. The 1829 Sheriff's Census is available on microfilm by county in the research room. The Sheriff's Census lists the number of free people in a county or township as well as a number of slaves owned by name in individual households.

County and Sheriff's Census

Arkansas County Records: 1823 Sheriff's Census [MFILM County Roll 000086 & 000102]

Jackson County Records: Special Census of Newport, Arkansas [MFILM County Roll 002451]

Census: Independence County 1829 Sheriff's Census [VFHC 1194]

Census: Lawrence County 1829 Sheriff's Census [VFHC 1200]

Census: Washington County 1829 Sheriff's Census [VFHC 1222]

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Census: Sheriff's Census, Arkansas County [VFHC 1177]

Arkansas Sheriff's Census, 1823 & 1829 [F417 .A65 J3 1978]

City and Business Directories Telephone Books

A city directory is a yearly index of residents and businesses for a community. Histories, listings of elected officials, profile of local leaders, and business advertisements can also be contained in a directory. The directory is indexed by last or business name, and separately indexed by street number. City directory information can confirm resident timeline of a property, occupation of the head of household, their spouse, children, and telephone number. If the listing is business, information may include the proprietor and business telephone number.

There are two other types of directories similar to a city directory that are in the Archives holdings and may assist in researching properties. A business directory is an alphabetical listing of businesses with their physical location, and in some cases, the proprietor. A telephone directory contains an alphabetical index of people or businesses in a geographic area and telephone numbers that are associated with their listed address. The telephone directories may also contain a listing of businesses organized by service provided.

Business and City Directories Collection [MS.000609]

Arkansas Telephone Directories Collection [MS.000620]

County Records

Representing all 75 Arkansas counties, county records of interest for researching properties include deed and mortgage records, tax records, probate records, court records, school, and survey records. Finding aids for these records can be found in either County or General Microfilm; and the type, dates, and volume of records vary from county to county.

Deed and Mortgage Records

Property records can contain a wealth of information about family relationships and values of property. Deeds usually contain the names of both the husband and the wife. If the property is being sold to another family member, the relationship to the seller is often given. The amount paid may indicate the relationship between the buyer and the seller. Witnesses to the deed can be family members or close neighbors. Deeds that include the term "appurtenances thereunto" mean that the deed includes all parts of the property. Deeds do not usually contain a detailed description or give the location of existing buildings unless for some reason a particular structure is being excluded from the sale or it forms a part of the property description. It is not

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uncommon to find an inventory of the contents of a home or business which were offered as collateral for a loan.

The date the deed or mortgage was signed and when it was recorded may be several years apart. In

Arkansas, a deed or mortgage must be “acknowledged” or signed before a notary public. Several original county courthouses in Arkansas burned and property owners may have re-recorded a deed due to destruction of the courthouse. Notary publics are also required to give their state, county, and township of residence and may indicate that a property owner resides in a different county or state.

Tax Records

Before 1869, records contained information on real estate and personal property such as the legal description and the number of slaves owned. Tax records on merchants and manufacturers are also included. The records may list special assessments on some property types and personal items. Records also contain an alphabetical list of tax payers who own property in the county, but live elsewhere.

The Arkansas Constitution of 1868 changed tax collection by creating a system that distinguished between real estate and personal property. Personal property tax records are listed alphabetically by township or school district while real estate property taxes are listed by legal description and block number. Improved properties (structure on site) generate more tax revenue than unimproved (vacant) properties.

The Arkansas State Archives has personal property tax records and real estate tax records on microfilm for each county in Arkansas. Tax record finding aids are searchable at the state archives database.

Probate (Estate) Records

These records, filed after an individual’s death, contain detailed legal property descriptions and the location of structures on the property. Records may contain descriptions on the condition, repair and /or renovation of structures on a property. “Loose” probate records are a collection of all the original documents collected during probate. The State Archives has microfilm probate records for all Arkansas counties and loose probate records for the following counties: Calhoun, Clark, Faulkner, Franklin, Greene, Jackson, Lawrence, Montgomery, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, White, and Woodruff. All probate record finding aids are searchable online at archives.arkansas.gov.

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School Census Records

Both the Annual Report of the County School Superintendent and School Census Records include school enrollment and are useful for researching properties associated with primary or secondary education. The State Archives contains county school registers for most Arkansas counties and finding aids for the collection are searchable online at archives.arkansas.gov.

School and Organization Yearbooks

These records can be useful in determining years of residence for individuals, as well as locating an individual's photograph.

"The Mabelvalian" and "The Lion" McClellan high school yearbook [MG06414]

"Almyra booster" and "Riceonian" Almyra high school yearbook [MG06530]

"Bobcat" Marshall, Arkansas, high school yearbook [MG04811 - MG04813]

"Dragonette" Scipio A. Jones high school yearbook [MG04808 -MG04809]

"Little Tiger" Sewanee, Tennessee, military Academy yearbook [MG01380]

"The Bobcat" J.C. Cook high yearbook, Sweet Home high yearbook [MG06509]

"The Bulldog," Hampton, Arkansas, yearbook [MG04983]

"The Cage" Little Rock high school yearbook [MG04738]

"The Gallowegian" Galloway college yearbooks [MG06653 - MG06650]

"The Lion" McClellan high school yearbook [MG04753, MG04794, MG04819 -MG04821, MG04828, MG04849-4860, MG06415]

"The Optic" Arkansas school for the deaf yearbook [MG04816]

"The Rocket" Little Rock Catholic high school yearbook [MG04952]

"The Scroll" Arkansas state teachers college yearbook [MG06510]

"Wildcat" North Little Rock high school yearbook [MG05025]

1961 Lion A.M. & N. College Yearbook [MG08946]

American Baptist Association Yearbooks [MG08494 -MG08498, MG07635 -MG07641, MG08506]

Property research resource guide, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Amity High School Yearbooks, ""The Reflector" MG00029

Arkansas Baptist College Yearbooks [MG08492]

Arkansas State Teachers College the Scroll yearbook [MG08545]

Central High School Yearbooks [MG03384 - MG03399]

Fuller Senior High Yearbooks [MG08927]

Lincolnite Yearbook [MG08851]

Little Rock aesthetic club yearbooks [MG03952 - MG03951]

Lonoke, Arkansas High School Yearbooks [MG00123 - MG00133]

McRae High School, "The Tigers" Yearbooks [MG00140]

Miscellaneous yearbooks [MG04875]

Missionary Baptist Student Fellowship Yearbook [MG08009]

North American Baptist Association Yearbook [MG07660 - MG07668]

Subiaco Academy, Pax Yearbook [MG08640]

The Panther yearbook, Bigelow, Arkansas [MG03236]

Witt Springs high school yearbook [MG04867]

Women's State Baptist Auxiliary of Arkansas Yearbook [MG08534]

Birth, Marriage and Death Records

Most birth, marriage and death records are searchable online at Ancestry.com; Find-A-Grave or other genealogy sites. The information is recorded as data; usually no images are available. The Arkansas State Archives contains a very large collection of these original records, a few of which are the original certificates.

Birth Records

Boone County Records: Gipson Family Birth Records [MFILM County Roll 000314]

Carroll County Records: Delayed Birth Certificates: Book "A" [MFILM County Roll 000447]

Clay County Records: Orders for Birth & Death Certificates: Book "A" [MFILM County Roll 000755]

Property research resource guide, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Craighead County Records: Delayed Birth Certificates: Books "1-2" [MFILM County Roll 001031]

Crawford County Records: Birth Credentials: Book "A" [MFILM County Roll 001090]

Faulkner County Records: Conway & Cadron Township's Birth & Death Records [MFILM County Roll 001706]

Faulkner County Records: Birth & Death Records [MFILM County Roll 001707]

Franklin County Records: Records of Births & Death: Book "A" [MFILM County Roll 001759]

Greene County Records: Delayed Birth Certificates: Names: "A-Y" [MFILM County Roll 002017]

Independence County Records: Delayed Birth & Death Certificates: Book "A" [MFILM County Roll 002364]

Jefferson County Records: Pine Bluff Birth Records [MFILM County Roll 002725]

Lincoln County Records: Delayed Birth Certificates [MFILM County Roll 003166]

Little Rock birth records transcribed by the daughters of the American Revolution [MG04752 AHC]

Logan County Records: Birth Certificates [MFILM County Roll 003243, 003246]

Madison County Records: Delayed Birth Certificates [MFILM County Roll 003344]

Marion County Records: Delayed Birth & Death Certificates [MFILM County Roll 003374]

Miller County Records: Miller County Birth Records [MFILM County Roll 003429]

Nevada County Records: Delayed Nevada County Birth Certificates: Book "1" [MFILM County Roll 003672]

Pulaski County Records: Little Rock Birth Records [MFILM County Roll 004566]

Sebastian County Records: Fort Smith City Birth & Death Records [MFILM County Roll 005050]

Sebastian County Records: Fort Smith City Birth Records [MFILM County Roll 005053 - 005054]

Washington County Records: Birth Certificates [MFILM County Roll 005462]

Woodruff County Records: Delayed Birth Certificates [MFILM County Roll 005759]

Logan County Records: Abstracts of Logan County: Birth and Death Records [MFILM County Roll 006522]

Property research resource guide, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Clay County Records: Orders for Birth & Death Certificates: Book "A" [MFNE0025]

Craighead County Records: Delayed Birth Certificates: Books "1-2" [MFNE0064]

Independence County Records: Delayed Birth & Death Certificates: Book "A" [MFNE0182]

Miller County Records: Miller County Birth Records [MFSA1882]

Nevada County Records: Delayed Nevada County Birth Certificates: Book "1" SARA [MFSA1912]

Marriage Records

The Arkansas State Archives has marriage records for each county available on microfilm.

Records typically include the age of spouses, their birth years, place of residence, the marriage date, and marriage county. Marriage records are searchable at www.ark-ives.com

Death Records Statewide Records

Arkansas Death Indexes, 1914-1948 [F410.A44]

Arkansas social security death master files, 1950-1991 [MG04352 - MG04359]

AHC County Probate Court Records from all 75 counties

County Tax Assessor records from all 75 counties Arkansas Cemetery Board records 1961-1967

Approximately 400 books on cemeteries and death records from Arkansas counties

County Records

Booneville Democrat death notices [MG04934]

Clay County Records: Orders for Birth & Death Certificates: Book "A" [MFILM County Roll 000755]

Dallas County Records: Death Certificates [MFILM County Roll 001421]

Faulkner County Records: Conway & Cadron Township's Birth & Death Records [MFILM County Roll 001706]

Faulkner County Records: Birth & Death Records [MFILM County Roll 001707]

Franklin County Records: Records of Births & Death: Book "A" [MFILM County Roll 001759]

Garland County Records: Hot Springs Death Records [MFILM County Roll 001877]

Garland County Records: Death Records: Gross Mortuary [MFILM County Roll 001878]

Greene County Records: Delayed Death Certificates: Names: "A-T" [MFILM County Roll 002017]

Property research resource guide, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Independence County Records: Delayed Birth & Death Certificates: Book "A" [MFILM County Roll 002364]

Logan County Records: Death Certificates [MFILM County Roll 003243]

Marion County Records: Delayed Birth & Death Certificates [MFILM County Roll 003374]

Pulaski County Records: Little Rock Death Records: Books "1-2" [MFILM County Roll 004563-004564]

Pulaski County Records: Death Certificates [MFILM County Roll 004565]

Searcy County Records: Records of Vital Statistic Death: Book "A" [MFILM County Roll 004983]

Sebastian County Records: Fort Smith City Death Records [MFILM County Roll 005050-005051]

Logan County Records: Abstracts of Logan County: Birth and Death Records ASA Logan County, Arkansas MFILM County Roll 006522

Survey Records

Original U.S. Survey Plat Maps

Made by the U.S. Government between 1815 and 1865, these maps record the official survey of each township in Arkansas. They usually show locations of roads, fields, and other natural or man-made features. Property owners within the survey are often shown. In addition to being available on microfilm, some maps may be available digitally.

State land office original entries-original survey plat maps [MG04462-MG04464]

Miscellaneous Survey Records

Arkansas land surveys, 1817-1819: N. Rightor and William Russell [MG04010]

Henry H. Haizlip Collection: Land survey certificates and legal documents [MG00085]

Letters and Surveying Contracts Received by the General Land Office From the Surveyor General for Illinois, Missouri, and Arkansas, 1813-1832 [MG02124-MG02125]

Transactions of the Arkansas Society of Engineers, Architects and Surveyors [MG00745]

County Surveyor Records

These records survey a specific plat or property and indicate the location of houses or buildings. Corresponding notes may use a structure as a reference point. Township, section, and range data are needed to search these records.

Property research resource guide, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Baxter County Records: County Surveyor's Records [MFILM County Roll 000202]

Calhoun County Records: Surveyor's Field Notes, County Surveyor's [MFILM County Roll 000415]

Drew County Records: County Surveyor's Records: Books "A-C" [MFILM County Roll 001647]

Greene County Records: County Surveyor's Records [MFILM County Roll 001991]

Independence County Records: County Surveyor's Records [MFILM County Roll 002365]

Lawrence County Records: County Surveyor's Records [MFILM County Roll 003007]

Logan County Records: County Surveyor's Fieldnotes [MFILM County Roll 003246-003247]

Logan County Records: County Surveyor's Records [MFILM County Roll 003247]

Nevada County Records: County Surveyor's Records [MFILM County Roll 003666]

Prairie County Records: County Surveyor's Records [MFILM County Roll 004127]

White County Records: County Surveyor's Field Notes: Books "1-2" [MFILM County Roll 005641]

Baxter County Records: County Surveyor's Records [MFNE0013]

Greene County Records: County Surveyor's Records [MFNE0112]

Lawrence County Records: County Surveyor's Records [MFNE0289]

Nevada County Records: County Surveyor's Records [MFSA1906]

Lawrence County Records: County Surveyor's Records [MFSA4576]

Plat book of Washington County, Arkansas: compiled from county records and actual surveys [MG04641]

Real Estate Atlases

These maps show property owners, location of roads, fields, and houses in a county according to township.

Bagley's Map of Little Rock, 1930 Benton County Records: Real Estate Atlas of Benton County, Arkansas (Philadelphia, 1903) 114 Pp. [MFILM County Roll 000289]

Property research resource guide, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Benton County Records: Index to Real Estate Atlas of Benton County, Arkansas (Harker & Paulk) 100 Pp., [MFILM County Roll 000290]

Jackson County Records: Jackson County Real Estate Atlas & Plat Books, Arkansas [MFILM County Roll 002451]

Jefferson County Records: Atlas of Jefferson County [MFilm County Roll 2599 & 2713]

Sebastian County Atlas, 1887-88 and 1903 [MFilm County Roll 5052]

Washington County Records: Washington County Real Estate Atlas [MFILM County Roll 005462]

Maps

The State Archives has over 2500 maps in its collection, including political, geological, topographical, plat, highway, railroad, military, illustrated, and thematic maps. Each type of map has its benefits for research different types of properties. Topographical and geological maps may be helpful for archeological or natural resources research. Early Arkansas maps identify important properties such as churches, schools, and post offices. Railroad and highway maps may also identify these properties. Both types of maps are best for researching rural properties. If researching a property where there is dense population or other developed land, a city map provides more details such as street names and block numbers, and identifies important public structures.

The Sanborn Map Company first published maps illustrating fire risks for various structures in a particular community in 1866. When used in conjunction with city directories or real estate tax records, Sanborn maps also provide information about the occupant of the property. The color maps, drawn using a 50 feet to one inch scale on 21x25 sheets of paper, and updated every few years, were based on site observations that measured structures and plots. A location key at the bottom of the first sheet on each map helps locate what sheet a street block, intersection, or important property can be located on. In addition to the location key there is a separate key to reading each map. This key, updated periodically, identifies with symbols the types of material each structure on a property is constructed of, as well as locations of doors, windows, porches, street widths, and utilities.

The State Archives has over 800 Sanborn maps, in black and white, for communities in Arkansas, available on microfilm in general microfilm [MG01234 - MG01245]; an index of maps microfilmed is available in the Archives research room. The Staples Collection of Arkansas Maps [MS.000349] contains 288 color Sanborn maps.

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Newspapers and Periodicals

Newspapers contain a wealth of information helpful for researching properties in Arkansas. Newspaper articles may contain reports on important events relating to a property such as its commissioning, its architect, builders, occupants, or any renovations or demolition; this is particularly true for important public structures. Articles may also contain context for the development of a property. Photographs showing the progress of a property's development can also be found in newspapers. Newspapers publish obituaries that may provide information on a person associated with the development of a property. Special issues or sections in newspapers that highlight a community's progress over the last year including new properties, businesses, and families may also be useful to researchers.

The State Archives has the largest collection of microfilmed Arkansas newspapers published daily, biweekly, weekly, or monthly. The Arkansas Gazette (the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette beginning in 1991) is indexed from 1819-1900 and 1960-1999. In addition to newspapers, the State Archives also has periodicals relating to Arkansas on microfilm. The periodicals published by schools, religious organizations, or interest groups may also contain information helpful for researching properties in Arkansas. A listing of available newspapers and periodicals from the Archives can be found by using "Search Records" feature on the State Archives website.

Photographs and Images

Photographs provide a visual representation of a property or persons associated with a property at a fixed time. Photographs and other images are best used for researching properties to document changes in the natural or built environment.

The Arkansas State Archives has a collection of over half a million photographs, photographic prints, and negatives relating to Arkansas; there is also a separate collection for postcards relating to Arkansas. The images may be of buildings street scenes, businesses, individuals, or natural landscapes. Many of them can only be dated by noticing building features, automobile models or clothing styles. Guides containing photocopies of the Archive photographs are available for researchers in the Research Room.

In addition to the general photograph collection, the Archives contains three large individual commercial photographer's collections and the Ozark Folk Center Collection.

The Joseph Shrader Collection

Gustave Joseph Shrader (b. May 25, 1870 in Orel, Russia) was a photographer who owned and operated a studio in Little Rock from 1910 until his death in 1944. He specialized in professional

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and school portraits. The collection has over 50,000 photographic negatives, searchable online by subject name.

Approximately 1400 negatives have been digitized and they are searchable through the online catalog at archives.arkansas.gov.

The Thomas Harding Collection

Harding photographed many business and political leaders, as well socialites from Arkansas. He owned and operated a photograph studio in Little Rock from 1945 to 1965 and from 1970 to 1981. The period between his Little Rock studios was spent in New York City where he photographed many world famous people. Upon retirement in 1981, Harding's photographic interest shifted from portraits to artistic as he began to specialize in the pinhole camera technique. His pinhole photographs were exhibited in galleries across the country. The State Archives has almost 7,200 of Harding's portraits and photographs which are searchable by name of subject through the Archives' website.

The Ernie Deane Collection

Deane received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville in 1934, where he also was the editor of the student newspaper, *The Arkansas Traveler*, and his master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University in 1936. Deane served as a press officer in the Army during World War II for Lt. General Omar Bradley, and Generals Eisenhower and Patton. At the end of the war he was a press liaison for the Nuremberg International Military Tribunal. Following his military career Deane was a journalism professor at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, and editor and columnist for several newspapers including the *Arkansas Gazette* and *The Springdale News*. Deane was also a member of the Arkansas History Commission from 1974-1990. The State Archives contains over 7,000 of Deane's photographs digitized and searchable through the Arkansas State Library's online catalog. The collection contains many Arkansas scenes and events organized by date; searching this collection by date or location yields the best results.

The Ozark Folk Center and the Ozark Cultural Resources Collections

Located in Mountain View, Arkansas, the Folk Center opened in 1973 as a living history state park committed to preserving and demonstrating traditional crafts, folkways and music of the Ozarks. The concept of the park originated with the Arkansas Folk Festival that promotes traditional Ozark crafts and music. The State Archives has over 2500 photographs, photographic prints, and negatives depicting various artists, crafters, Arkansas politicians, and events at the

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Ozark Folk Center. These images include, but are not limited to, live performances, annual festivals, musical artists' and/or groups' publicity photographs, folkways cultural demonstrations, and anniversary events at the Ozark Folk Center. These photographs are searchable by selecting "Ozark Photographs" under the record type dropdown on the Archives search records screen.

Additional Resources

Nonpopulation Census Schedules [on microfilm]

The Arkansas State Archives has nonpopulation census records, known as schedules, between 1820 and 1880 on microfilm available in the research room for several states including Arkansas. Manufacturing schedules, arranged by county and township, include the name of the manufacturer, type of business or product; amount of capital invested; raw materials used; value of product produced annually; kind of power or machinery used; number of men and women employed; and labor cost. These records may be useful for research related to property associated with industrial production. Agriculture schedules, also arranged by county and township, provided information about farmers and their farms (number of acres; cash value of farms, livestock, crops; types of crops; poultry and number of eggs produced; and "homemade manufacturers") and may be useful for research associated with a farm. Mortality schedules record deaths during the year preceding the census and includes the name, age, sex, marital status, state or county of birth, month of death, occupation, cause of death, and length of final illness.

This type of schedule may be useful where death records are absent. Social statistics schedules provide data about communities such as the number of churches and schools and may be useful for research associated with these types of properties.

Schedules available include agriculture, mortality, and social statistics for 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880; and manufacturing schedules for 1820, 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880. Roll MG04383 contains mines, agriculture, horticulture, commerce, fisheries, products of forest, and manufacturing from the 1840 Census. Refer to the Nonpopulation Census Schedules finding aid to locate a specific schedule.

Freedmen Bureau Records Relating to Abandoned and Confiscated Lands [MG .02203-.02204]

Freedmen Bureau records relating to the Abandoned and Confiscated Lands in Arkansas between 1865 and 1868 consist of monthly and quarterly reports of property abandoned by former owners associated with the Confederate government or army. They contain the name of the former property owner; its location and size; the type and number of structures on it; the individual the property was leased to; and if the property was returned to its original order

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through a special order (SO). There are two types of reports: The Assistant Commissioner's monthly reports, September 1865-December 1868, are arranged chronologically and are consolidated from reports of subordinate officers and agents. Those reports are arranged by state for 1865 and initial of station office after 1865.

Contained within these records is also a register of abandoned and confiscated lands for Arkansas arranged alphabetically by county and last name of the former owner.

The United State Postal Service Records, Post Office Department Reports of Site Locations [MG02097-02122]

The State Archives has a copy of the United State Postal Service Records for Arkansas from the National Archives and Records Administration, dating 1789-1971. The second series is documentation related to post office site locations for 1852-1945. Documentation for post office site locations can be helpful for researching the history of properties and structures because many rural communities, no longer in existence, were identified by the nearest post office. It is also helpful if structures were used as a post office as a secondary purpose, (the structure may have primarily been a store). The documentation includes its local name, the name of the post office, a description of the location (range, township, and section), and its distance to other post offices. It also includes small plat maps that show the location of the post office and any trails, railroads, roads, landmarks, or structures that better describe the post office's location. The post office site location documentation is organized by county then alphabetical and chronological by location. The Archives also has a copy of *From Memdag to Norsk: A Historical Directory of Arkansas Post Offices, 1832-1990*, by Russell Baker, that provides a geographic description of former post offices in Arkansas, their date of operation, and notes regarding where mail was rerouted to after a post office was closed.

Research Room Library

The Arkansas State Archives has an extensive collection of books and printed material on family, military, state, and local history in its research room. Topics include published family histories, African-American history, cemetery listings, indexes for county records, obituary listings, church histories, and much more for Arkansas and surrounding states. Material in the research room also includes an extensive collection of books on folklore, music, artisanal and industrial skills and traditions, and religious practices. Various printed journals containing local and American history can also be found in the research room. The location of these resources are found in the online catalog on the State Archives' website.

The Family Maps series of books can be found in the library. These county specific books include patent maps from the Bureau of Land Management with a road map and map for roadways, waterways, modern and historical communities and cemeteries. The books also

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include indexes of last names and places and cemeteries for the county. The library has books for thirty-nine counties in Arkansas and one in Mississippi. Refer to the online catalog to locate the book for a particular county.

Resource Guides

The Arkansas State Archives has several other resource guides to help with researching historic properties. These guides include information about collections relating to researching the Civil War, World War I, Cemeteries, Immigration Records, and African-American history. Guides can be downloaded from the Archives digital collections. New guides are added frequently, so check the site often for recent additions.

Manuscript Collections

The Arkansas State Archives has 13,000 cubic feet of manuscript collections. Many of these pertain to personal, family, or organizational records that may include histories; ledgers or diaries; documents regarding property ownership; images, or any other materials that may be useful to researching properties. Manuscript collections are searchable on the Archives website.

Examples of relevant manuscript collections include:

"Architecture" by Lawson Deloney [SMC.0001.0008]

Architecture, a paper written by architect Lawson Deloney in 1939, highlights architectural features of houses across Arkansas

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Records [MS.000171]

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Records contains project manuals and architectural drawings. The manuals provide an overview of the preservation project including bids, and architectural drawings. This is an open collection with material being added on a regular basis.

Arkansas Post Office Mural Records [MS.000335]

Arkansas Post Office Mural Records contains research materials concerning thirteen Arkansas post offices with murals. These photocopied materials include the correspondence, contracts, and images proposed by the artists to the Fine Arts Section of the Public Buildings branch of the United States Treasury Department.

Early History of Little Rock and Arkansas Collection [SMC.20.3]

Early History of Little Rock and Arkansas Collection contains plats surveyed by Henry M. Rector, a circa 1874 map of Little Rock, a pamphlet, and news clipping.

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Maude Bethel Lewis Papers [SMC 10.9]

Maude Bethel Lewis Paper contains information of value about the built environment in early Arkansas homes and Native American communities entitled, "Ancestral Homes of Arkansas."

Little Rock Historic District Commission Records, 1963-1966 [SMC.31.2]

The Little Rock Historic District Commission Records, 1963-1966, contains correspondence, meeting minutes, reports, and newspaper articles about formation of the Quapaw Quarter Historic District in downtown Little Rock to preserve the area's historic built environment during an era of urban renewal.