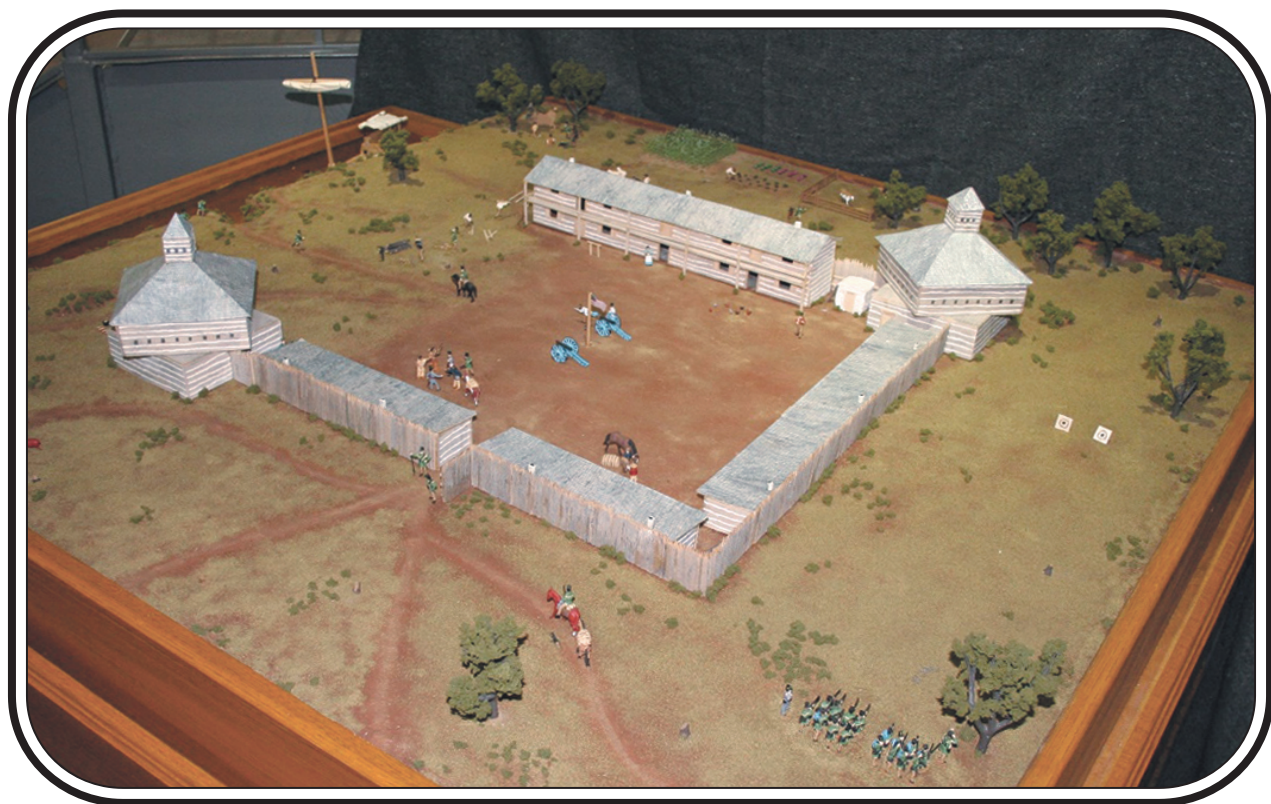




The JOURNAL



BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Vol. 42, No. 1, April 2018



MISSION: The mission of the Fort Smith Historical Society, Inc., founded in 1977, is to publish the Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society and through the Journal and other activities to locate, identify, and collect historical data; to publish source materials and historical articles, all pertaining to the city of Fort Smith and the immediate surrounding area. Preservation of Fort Smith history is our primary mission, and to this end, we always welcome the loan of historical material and will return it promptly.

MEMBERSHIP & ORDERS: Journal back issues are available. Cost for the current issue is \$7.50 plus a \$2 mailing charge per copy. Cost for past issues is \$4 plus the \$2 mailing charge. A composite index for Volumes I through IX is available for \$10 plus a \$4 mailing charge. Cost for the complete set of Journals, Volumes 11 through 39, is \$225. Volumes I and II will be reproduced copies, as these issues are no longer available in original form.

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www.fortsmithhistory.org. Our website is updated regularly and contains information on the Organization, Membership, Back Issues: How to order, Tables of Contents of Back Issues, Contacts & Links, Archives and a Gallery of Historical Images: Views of Old Fort Smith.

See the Google group, Fort Smith History Forum, for a bulletin board of current research questions. Readers may post their own research questions or topics in hopes of furthering their own research.

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Journal Editor & Co-Founder 1977-2004

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COVER: First fort diorama, created by Ranger Cody Faber, on display at the Fort Smith National Historic Site.

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In Memoriam

Fort Smith Historical Society member Joe Wasson said, “A big hole has been punched in our group” with the loss of Wincie Emma Caroline Hendricks who died on March 11, 2018. Wincie was indeed a “happy warrior” striving with her colleagues to maintain a large Society membership and produce biannually a quality, credible, and significant historical *Journal*. Wincie will be deeply missed by us who worked with her on this enterprise.

Moving to Fort Smith soon after graduating from Quitman High School in central Arkansas, she met and married Jerry Hendricks. They lived in Fort Smith thereafter making an invincible couple with a large and loving family and creating for themselves a travel- and adventure-filled life.

Jerry booked trips for Wincie and himself to Ireland and to Italy, especially after he retired from his career with Weldon, Williams, and Lick, a pioneering Fort Smith company with national and international sales and connections.

The apex of that travel had to be a visit to the Vatican where she and her daughter Angie met Pope Francis, creating memory and bonding that last forever.

Wincie led the family on hunting and fishing trips and through the culinary arts, down-home style. She was easy to meet, hardworking, and a bright influence for the Fort Smith Historical Society. Through each issue, through all seasons, through tough decisions, she remained steadfast and served the Society with her merry, infectious laugh often ringing out. She lent enthusiasm and professionalism to the Society, fulfilling key but time-consuming duties as membership chairperson and editorial board member. She was, as Wasson wrote, “a special person and a good friend to anyone she met.”

Fort Smith Historical Society Vice-President Maggie Jones wrote that “she was a wonderful person who faced her health issues with grace and was always so positive and I loved talking with her and Jerry about their travels and life.”

Sherry Toliver, Historical Society president, wrote that Wincie was “always thinking of others and when I moved into the neighborhood last May, Wincie walked down to visit me and bring a gift of homemade jelly. We will miss her tremendously.”



WINCIE EMMA CAROLINE HENDRICKS

Wincie was “always thinking of others and when I moved into the neighborhood last May, Wincie walked down to visit me and bring a gift of homemade jelly. We will miss her tremendously.”

— **Sherry Toliver**

Fort Smith Historical Society President

Her online obituary can be read at
<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/fort-smith-ar/winciehendricks-7787720>.

News & Opportunities



Hail, Fort Smith, founded 200 years ago.

Use this link for schedule of events in commemoration:

<http://www.gofortsmithar.com/>

Fort Smith Historical Society Quarterly Meeting

**April 11, 6:30 p.m. Fort Smith Public Library
Community Room, Main Branch**
Annual Election of Board Members
Election of Society Board of Directors and Offices

Arkansas Historical Association 77th Annual Conference

April 19-21, 2018
Fort Smith, Arkansas

Papers presented by historians on the theme of Frontiers and Borders.

Angela Walton-Raji will conduct a pre-conference genealogy seminar on Thursday afternoon, April 19, 2:30-4 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel that is open to members of the AHA and anyone joining the AHA during this conference.

Memberships are \$20 per year and include four issues of the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* and all events of the Annual Meeting.

You may register for the conference using this link:
<http://arkansashistoricalassociation.org>

Clayton House

514 North Sixth Street
479-783-3000

Fourth Sunday programs at the Clayton House begin at 1 p.m. with refreshments and conversation. Presentations start at 1:30 p.m. Reservations may be made by calling 783-3000 or emailing claytonhouse@claytonhouse.org. These are free to members of the Fort Smith Heritage Foundation. For non-members, a \$10 donation toward the preservation and programs of the Clayton House, 514 North Sixth Street, is asked.

Upcoming events:

- ❖ April 21, Sutton Mansion: Union Hospital Re-enactment
- ❖ May 27, Clayton Conversation: History of The Old Fort Days Rodeo
- ❖ June 30, Sippin' on Sixth Street: Bourbon Tasting and Gun Auction Fundraiser



Fort Smith Museum of History

320 Rogers Avenue
479-783-7841

Upcoming events at the Museum

A reproduction of the six-oared skiff used by Major Stephen H. Long to select the site of Fort Smith during the

fall 1817 will be constructed in the museum's Boyd Gallery by Floyd Robison and Maxi Dart. Watch the work in progress on Saturdays through February. Upon completion, the skiff reproduction will be included in the updated first floor Timeline as an interactive exhibit.

❖ 19th Century Living History Ball—April 14, 6:30-9 p.m.

❖ Motorcycle Memories Exhibition—April 10-June 3, 2018.

❖ Motorcycle Memories Program—May 4-5, 2018, 1 p.m.

❖ Monthly Speaker Series—Communities and Cultures in Fort Smith: Exploring Identities of the Region

❖ Downtown Stroll and Scavenger Hunt—June 3, 2018, 11 a.m. and 12 noon

❖ Street Dance—June 14, 2018.

❖ Judge & Mrs. Isaac C. Parker Program—June 30, 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

❖ Children's Concert and Ice Cream Social—August 4, 2018

❖ Annual Ice Cream Social—September 2, 2-4 p.m.

For program times, descriptions, reservations, and current exhibits, please use the museum website: <http://www.fortsmithmuseum.org/newsletters>.

Drennen-Scott Historical Site

Visitor Center
221 North Third Street
Van Buren, Arkansas
479-262-2750
drennen-scott@uafs.edu

Crawford County Chronicles programs are scheduled for the first Sunday of every month.

For reservations and more information contact Tom Wing, Director of the Drennen-Scott Historical Site on Facebook: Drennen-Scott Historic Site, or email at drennen-scott@uafs.edu.

St. John's Episcopal Church Mind Stretchers

Ruth Skinner Building
across from St. John's Episcopal Church
214 North Sixth Street
Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 6 p.m.

Latisha Settlege, Ph.D., Perception versus Reality in Microeconomics. Dr. Settlege examines common misperceptions and their impact on understanding economics.

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Founding Fathers

St. Cloud Cooper, Charles Holt, Fred Krock, and their Innovative Clinics

By Taylor Prewitt

For almost a hundred years, Fort Smith was the site of an innovative experiment in the delivery of health care—hardly original, but highly unusual, and unique in this area: two multi-specialty clinics, featuring division of labor to bring medical care of the highest quality possible, in an era when the division of medical practice into specialties was still in its formative stages. Cooper Clinic and Holt-Krock Clinic bore the names of their founders, emphasizing personal responsibility for the quality of care and establishing professional excellence as a high priority when medicine was just beginning to shake itself from images of quacks and hucksters.

“An institution is the lengthened shadow of one man,” and in this case we find three men whose influence reached beyond their lifetimes, touching the lives of many who delivered and even more who received health care in this area.

ST. CLOUD COOPER

An old family story describes a young man, just off the train and looking around Fort Smith, when a member of the Gentlemen’s Riding Club, sitting erect with whip in place and a robe across his lap in a shined and polished buggy, the horse prancing as if passing in review, turned from Thirteenth Street onto Garrison Avenue, on his way to work. The young man asked another onlooker who the driver was. Learning that it was Robert Meek (later to be owner of the Coca-Cola Bottling Company), St. Cloud Cooper said, “Well, I was just passing through Fort Smith, but if this town is good enough for him, then it’s good enough for me.”¹

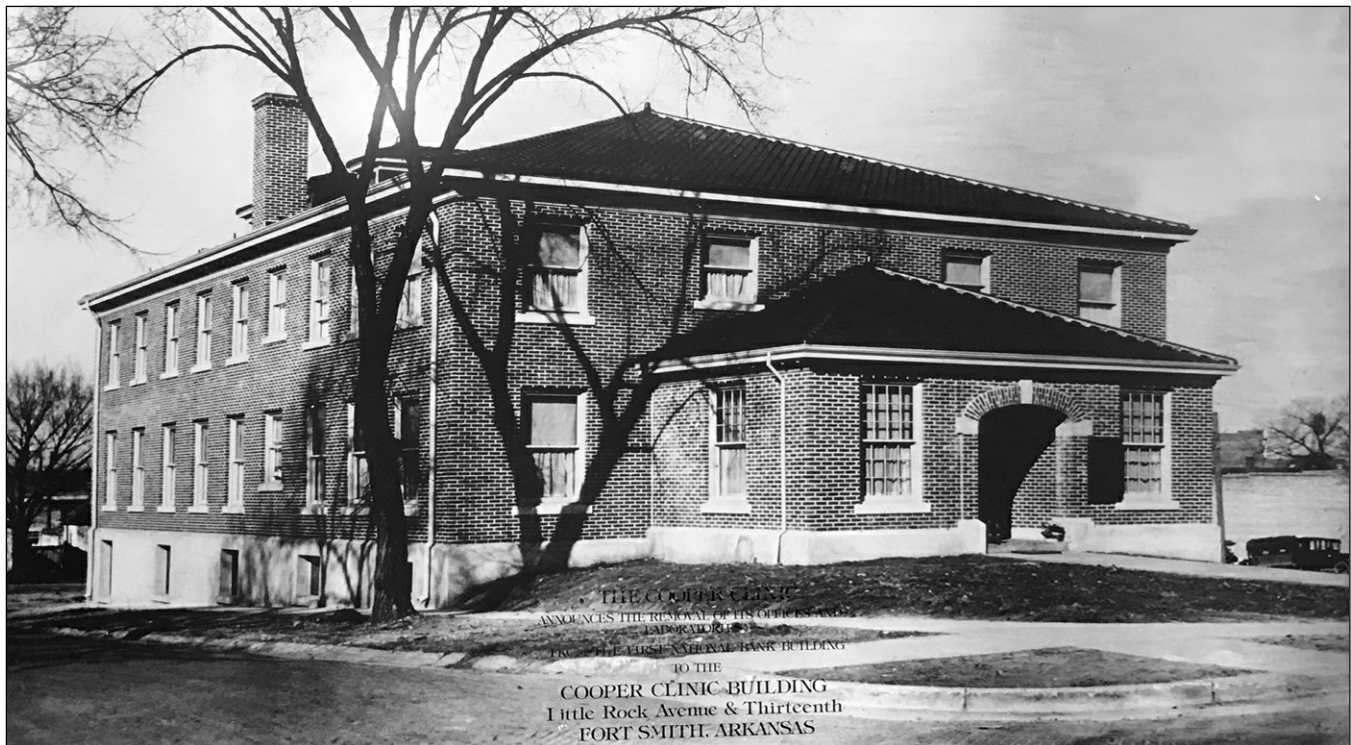
St. Cloud Cooper was born in 1861 in Jefferson, Texas. His father, Dr. John Cooper, served in the Confederate Army as a surgeon, and the family story is that Dr. Cooper, whose roots were in Carrolton, Missouri, was passing through Jefferson, Texas, in 1861 when he was pressed into service for the Confederacy. He stayed in Jefferson for the duration of the war, and then rode his horse from Jefferson to Van Buren, Arkansas, where he was discharged from Confederate service. He moved back to Carrolton, where



ST. CLOUD COOPER
(Photo courtesy of Joe Irwin)

his son St. Cloud attended school before entering medical school at Washington University in St. Louis, obtaining his M. D. in 1882. After practicing medicine in Tilden, Texas, St. Cloud Cooper did six months of post-graduate work in New York at Long Island College Hospital and New York Post-Graduate School. He then returned to his birthplace, Jefferson, Texas, and practiced there until 1895.

Dr. St. Cloud Cooper was thirty-four years old, and he and his wife, Dora, had three children—Charles Hudson, Lucy Kathryn, and Dora Bryant—when he had his legendary encounter with Robert Meek and moved his family to Fort Smith. Here he established his practice of medicine and became active in the Sebastian County Medical Society, where he presented papers on hypnotism, with illustrations, in 1901; successful treatment of tic



COOPER CLINIC ON LITTLE ROCK AVENUE (now Rogers Avenue) and Thirteenth Street opened in 1924.
(Photo courtesy of Cooper Clinic archives)

douloureux by alcohol injections, with demonstration of injection of the gasserian ganglion; and “Gall Stone and its Surgery,” in the early 1900s.

Four years after beginning his practice in Fort Smith, Dr. Cooper served as president of the Sebastian County Medical Society, with a repeat term in 1909. He was president of the Arkansas State Medical Society in 1915 and president of the American Medical Association of the Southwest in 1916 and 1921. He considered his highest professional distinction to have been named a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He served as president of the Fort Smith School Board and was a member of the Fort Smith Board of Health for fifteen years.

The idea of establishing a clinic appears to have originated in the concept of “base hospitals during the war” and on example by Mayo Clinic, which had evolved from a partnership around the turn of the century and became known as the “Mayo Clinic” in 1914. Handwritten notes attributed to a reporter and dated September 26, 1920, state that the clinic would be conducted as a “group system.”²

The “group system” differs from the “cooperative group” chiefly in that it is more economical for the patients. In the “cooperative group,” each member physician has his own executive force, makes his own fees, and is in no wise responsible for the fee charged in consultation.

On the other hand, a “group system” has but one

executive office, one director, one bank account, and the examination fee is made by the examining physician without regard or charge for consultation.

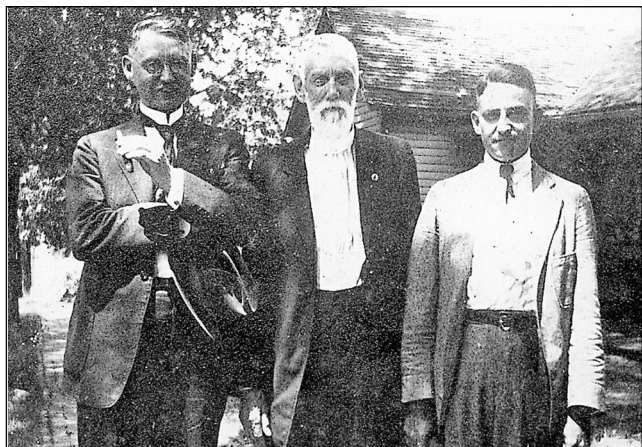
Dr. Cooper will be the directing head of the clinic, having conceived the idea for its organization weeks ago and selected the members of the staff to be associated with him.

Most of the members had experience in camps or in the war field during the war with Germany, became conversant with advances made in the preservation of health, surgery, and treatment of diseases during that period.

Hence of the two systems, the overhead expense to the patient is for the most part the examination plus the free consultation of all members of the group.

The “group system” is described as having evolved from general practitioners to specialists to the cooperative system to the group system, “such as in vogue at the Mayo Institute and as used by the army.” “The clinic building is to be used for diagnostic uses only. The surgical work is to be done at St. Edwards Infirmary and Sparks Memorial Hospital.”

(The concept of the free consultation, though never explained to me when I joined Cooper Clinic in 1969, appears to have persisted in the clinic culture until then but to have been time-limited. I discovered that when I walked down the hall to ask a surgeon, dermatologist, or another internist for advice about a patient, they would immediately



THREE GENERATIONS OF THE COOPER FAMILY, circa 1919. Dr. St. Cloud Cooper, his father Dr. John Cooper, and Hudson Cooper, son of St. Cloud. Hudson operated a cattle ranch near Carrollton, Missouri.
(Photo courtesy of Joe Irwin)

listen to my presentation, see the patient if necessary, and give me their recommendation on the spot. When I would later consult a newer clinic colleague in this way a few years later, I discovered to my chagrin that the patient received a bill.)

The partnership agreement specified the following allocation of specialties:

- ❖ St. Cloud Cooper: consultant in surgery and internal medicine.
- ❖ Miles Everett Foster: general surgery.
- ❖ Sidney J. Wolferman: diagnosis and internal medicine.
- ❖ Davis W. Goldstein: dermatology and radium therapy.
- ❖ Holman B. Thompson: roentgenology.
- ❖ Aubrey C. Belcher: urology and surgery.
- ❖ William R. Klingensmith: internal medicine and clinical pathology.

These allocations were not limiting; Dr. Wolferman did general and orthopedic surgery.

Dr. Cooper was director; Dr. Foster vice director; and Dr. Belcher secretary. Dr. Cooper was fifty-nine years old at the time he founded the clinic. The three others who remained in the clinic throughout their careers were significantly younger. Dr. Foster was thirty-three, Dr. Goldstein thirty-two, and Dr. Wolferman thirty-one. The three others were also in their thirties in 1920: Dr. Thompson was thirty-four, Dr. Klingensmith thirty-one, and Dr. Belcher thirty-one.

There is no evidence that billings and collections were considered in allocation of income among the partners, but income was not divided equally. The original interest of each of the partners was:

- ❖ Dr. Cooper: 28%.
- ❖ Dr. Foster: 20.75%.



ST. CLOUD COOPER on vacation with wife Dora (left) and daughter Kathryn.
(Photo courtesy of Joe Irwin)

❖ Dr. Wolferman: 15.75%.

❖ Dr. Goldstein: 9.95%, decreasing to 5.75% for Dr. Klingensmith.

If clinic receipts exceeded a predetermined amount, the excess was allocated proportionately among Dr. Cooper's partners until their income matched his.

Dr. Belcher resigned in September 1921; Dr. Thompson resigned in 1924; and Dr. Klingensmith moved to Amarillo, Texas, in 1925.

Cooper Clinic initially occupied the sixth floor of the First National Bank building on Garrison Avenue. Property for the new clinic building on Little Rock Avenue (now Rogers Avenue) and A Streets had already been purchased when the clinic was organized, and it was initially planned to begin construction within a few months. As it happened, the new building was built in 1923 and occupied in January 1924.

Dr. Cooper published a paper on *placenta accreta*, said to occur once in about 6,000 deliveries, in 1924, when he was sixty-five years old.

One of my patients told me that Dr. Cooper drove the twenty-four miles to Sallisaw, Oklahoma, to perform a cholecystectomy on her mother, removing the gall bladder in the kitchen.

Joseph Irwin of Fort Smith related that his birth by Caesarean section was scheduled for March 24, 1930, with the procedure to be done by Dr. Cooper. At age sixty-nine,



HOLT-KROCK CLINIC IN 1934 *after moving into the building at 1425 North Eleventh Street formerly occupied by St. John's Hospital.*

(Photo from Odie B. Faulk and Billy Mac Jones, *Fort Smith: An Illustrated History*, 1983).

Dr. Cooper was said to have appeared to be in excellent health when he left his office on Saturday evening, March 22, to go to his home at 104 North Fifteenth Street, only a few blocks away.³ Shortly after being served dinner, he told his wife he felt "indisposed" and asked her to get him some hot water and summon Dr. Wolferman; he was dead from an apparent heart attack when Dr. Wolferman arrived.

Dr. Foster performed the Caesarean section on Mrs. Irwin, and she named her son Joseph St. Cloud Irwin. Mr. Irwin was among the pallbearers. Joe says he has made many efforts to determine the reason for Dr. Cooper's name "St. Cloud," with no success. He has also tried to learn whether his parents and other family members called him "St. Cloud" or some nickname; but the only answer he has found to what people called him was "Dr. Cooper."

CHARLES S. HOLT

Charles S. Holt was born in 1880 in Salem, Illinois, to Thomas Jefferson Holt, a farmer, and Minerva Louise Holt. He received his M.D. degree at St. Louis University School

of Medicine in 1906, interned for a year at St. Louis State Hospital, and opened his practice of medicine in the First National Bank building in 1908. He married Zoe (McCann) Bissell on September 30, 1909, and he had two adopted daughters: Betsy, who would marry Marvin Altman, longtime administrator of Sparks Hospital, and Zoe.⁴

Dr. Holt was a member of the city board of health in 1913, and for many years he was president of the board, involved in the passage of city food and health ordinances.

Dr. Holt and Dr. A. J. Morrissey bought the Ludeau Hospital, also known as the Fort Smith Hospital, in 1913; the new owners changed its name to St. John's Hospital. (This made it a little complicated. The first private hospital in Fort Smith and in Arkansas is considered to have been St. John's Hospital, founded in 1887 by the Rev. George F. Degan, Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church. St. John's Hospital was merged with City Charity Hospital in 1899 and renamed Belle Point Hospital. Belle Point Hospital was renamed Sparks Memorial Hospital in 1908, and this is today's Sparks Regional Medical Center.) Dr. Ludeau's

hospital, with its new name of St. John's Hospital and probably located on North Eleventh Street, burned in 1914 and was rebuilt on 1425 North Eleventh Street, near the point where North Tenth and North Eleventh merge to form Midland Boulevard. Dr. Holt bought out the interest of Dr. Morrissey and became the sole owner of St. John's Hospital.⁵

A few years after buying St. John's Hospital, Dr. Holt formed Holt Clinic in 1921, with its offices on Texas Corner (Garrison and Towson), above the Fort Smith Drug Store. Charter staff members were:

- ❖ Charles S. Holt, surgery and consultant.
- ❖ Leith H. Slocum, surgeon.
- ❖ H. C. Dorsey, diseases of the chest and medicine.
- ❖ Noble D. McCormack, diseases of infants and children.
- ❖ John Harvey, X-ray and pathology.

Dr. Holt found himself involved in a health care system far ahead of its time when he participated in the formation of the Arkansas-Oklahoma Industrial Hospital Association. Membership included all union laborers in the two states, and all members were entitled to receive free hospital or medical treatment at Holt Clinic or St. John's Hospital. Prepaid health care was anathema to the American Medical Association at that time, and the Sebastian County Medical Society filed charges against Dr. Holt for unethical and unprofessional conduct. These charges were dropped when Dr. Holt declared that he would discontinue his participation in the association.⁶

Dr. Charles Holt's community activities included serving as vice president of the Fort Smith school board and, in 1923, as president of the Arkansas state school board. He was vice president of the Arkansas State Hospital Association 1930-1931; a trustee of the Arkansas tuberculosis sanatorium and of the Mid-West Hospital Association; president and director of the Peoples Loan and Investment Company; and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Holt placed an ad in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* for a general surgeon, and in 1928 he received an inquiry about this position from a young graduate of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine who had stayed in Baltimore to complete a three-year residency in gynecology. His name was Fred Krock.

FRED H. KROCK

Fred H. Krock was born in Upper Sandusky, Ohio, July 15, 1900, the son of Fred N. and Anna M. (Rock) Krock, and grandson of an immigrant who came to Ohio from Germany in 1843 and farmed four hundred acres near Upper Sandusky. Fred N. Krock took over the farm after his father's death, and his son Fred H. Krock helped on the farm, inventing a shut-off for the wind powered pumps that



YOUNG FRED H. KROCK

(Photo courtesy of Dr. Curtis Krock)

brought up the water for the cattle on the farm when the watering tank was properly filled.

For eight years the boy attended a one-room school to which the elementary teacher rode her horse from her home in Upper Sandusky. When weather did not permit travel on horseback, she spent the night with various farm families. Young Fred graduated from Upper Sandusky High School, then attended Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, because it did not have an ROTC program—his father was strongly opposed to military service. He was inspired to go into medicine by contact with some fraternity brothers who were in pre-med, and by a botany professor who praised his drawings of plants. Fred N. Krock sold the family farm in 1919 and moved to Los Angeles, prompting his son to transfer to Leland Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. There he received his B. A. degree and attended two years of medical school, then transferred to Johns Hopkins in Baltimore where he graduated in the class of 1925.

Dr. Fred Krock completed a three-year residency at Baltimore Women's Hospital under Dr. Howard Kelly, who was one of the four founding professors at Johns Hopkins and has been credited with establishing gynecology as a specialty. During this time, he worked as an X-ray technician to earn extra money, learning to take films and develop them.

He had to obtain permission from his chief of service to marry; he married Hazel Armiger Josselyn in June 1927 at their summer house on the Severn River near Annapolis. They lived in his wife's parents' Baltimore home across the street from Johns Hopkins Hospital, except when he was on call at the hospital.

When Dr. Krock completed his residency in July 1928, the economy was beginning to falter even before the onset of the Great Depression. There was an excess of gynecologists in Baltimore, but elsewhere his specialty was not well established. He obtained a reference to visit a Dr. Wilson in Birmingham, Alabama, who told him he was having a hard time making ends meet himself and didn't need any help. Then he answered Dr. Holt's ad for a general surgeon. Though Dr. Krock was fully qualified in gynecology, he did not have formal training in general surgery. However, he accepted the position at Holt Clinic and became the fourth physician in the clinic, at a salary of \$300 per month. (One of the staff members was a dentist.) He did his on-the-job training in general surgery by scrubbing with Dr. Holt, and he became a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons in 1933 and was certified by the American Board of Surgery in 1939.

While his wife was visiting her family in Baltimore in spring of 1929, Dr. Krock bought a home on 3700 Free Ferry (next door to Dr. Holt at 3620 Free Ferry). The philosophy of the Holt Clinic was to keep salaries relatively low, so they could afford to add new doctors. Dr. Krock threatened to leave in 1933 because his salary had not been raised. In lieu of a raise, however, Dr. Holt reorganized the clinic as a partnership and changed the name to Holt-Krock Clinic.

Because of his moonlighting experience in Baltimore, Dr. Krock did the X-rays at the clinic and at St. John's Hospital. Since St. John's did not have x-ray equipment, he took the 150-pound apparatus to the hospital when x-rays were required. He then took them back to the clinic and developed the film, and if the x-rays had to be repeated, he hauled the machine back to the hospital again.

At first there was no pathologist at the hospital, so Dr. Krock interpreted his own slides. He had had urology training in his gynecology residency, so he did urologic surgery. He set fractures and did trauma care. He did emergency neurosurgical procedures, mostly burr holes for subdural hematomas.

Dr. J. Frank Blakemore related that when his wife came back ill from a foreign trip, Dr. Krock made a diagnosis of amebic dysentery; and when she was unable to stomach the pills he prescribed, he personally sugar-coated the pills to allow her to take them. He did at least one kitchen table operation when he did an emergency appendectomy on an eleven-year-old boy in his home in Mountainburg in 1931,



DR. KROCK SERVED OVERSEAS as an officer in the U. S. Navy during World War II. This photograph taken in Corpus Christi, Texas, in 1943 shows him with his wife, Hazel, and sons, Curtis and Fred. Fred, the older son, is on the right.

(Photo courtesy of Dr. Curtis Krock)

using ether drip anesthesia. For this he was paid in twenty-dollar gold pieces. On another occasion he drove to a small town in Oklahoma to perform a subdural hematoma decompression. The patient recovered but was later sent to the state penitentiary for a felony.

Dr. Krock was a strong advocate for recruiting board certified specialists, and as new doctors came in, he was able to shed his duties in pathology, radiology, orthopedics, and neurosurgery.

In 1934, St. John's Hospital merged with Sparks Hospital. Dr. Holt became administrator of Sparks, and the Holt-Krock Clinic moved from its offices on Texas corner to the building vacated by St. John's Hospital on 1425 North Eleventh Street.

A banner headline on the front page of the *Southwest American* of April 3, 1934, announced: "DR. HOLT TO MANAGE SPARKS HOSPITAL." Dr. Holt's statement

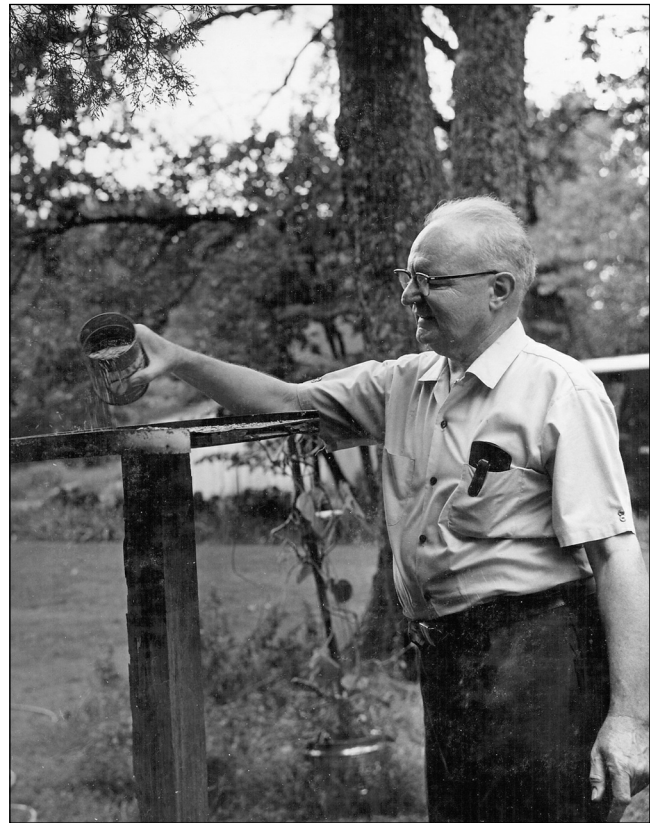
included: “When I realize that I am following in the footsteps of the eminent physicians who have been prominent in the management of the hospital in the past, it serves to emphasize to me what a task this will be. These men included Dr. St. Cloud Cooper, Dr. W. R. Brooksher Sr., Dr. Sam Brooksher, Dr. George Hynes, Dr. J. G. Eberle, Dr. B. Hatchett and Dr. H. C. King.”⁷

Thinking that he could join other Arkansas doctors to serve in a war he thought was coming, Dr. Krock volunteered for the Navy Reserve in Arkansas in 1934. He then went on active duty six days after Pearl Harbor—but not with an Arkansas unit. He eventually became chief of surgery at a thousand-bed mobile hospital on Banika, a small island, ten miles long and two and a half miles wide, west of Guadalcanal, being promoted to captain by the time the war ended. After twenty-two months on this island, Captain Krock didn’t want to spend any more time on beaches or around palm trees, so many years passed before he agreed to take his wife to Hawaii.⁸

Dr. Krock served as president of the Sebastian County Medical Society, vice president of the Arkansas Medical Society, and was a Fellow of the Southern Surgical Association. He was co-founder of the Southwestern Surgical Congress and served as its president in 1961. Fourteen of his medical papers were published in various journals. (He co-authored with Dr. Sidney Wolferman of the Cooper Clinic and Dr. J. M. Taylor a paper on arrhenoblastoma of the ovary published in *Surgery, Gynecology, and Obstetrics* in 1933.) He was also chairman of the Fort Smith American Red Cross, president of the Noon Civics Club, vice president of the Community Concert Association, and co-organizer and president of the Fort Smith Symphony Association.

Dr. Krock’s interests were wide-ranging. A self-taught pianist since boyhood, he later taught himself to play the cello. He sometimes played his baby grand piano at home before going to work in the mornings. His son Curtis played the violin, and when he saw an ad in *Popular Mechanics* he ordered books about violins and began making them himself. (I heard him make a presentation about making violins at the Fort Smith Rotary Club, and I asked if he ever played the violins he made. He said he did not, but he did not mention that he played the cello and piano.)

He ground a lens to build a six-inch reflector telescope; made a pair of golden candlesticks; made a grandfather clock that is now in Curtis’s home; was interested in photography before the war; and obtained a short-wave radio and listened to broadcasts from South America and other parts of the world. He became interested in coin collecting after World War II and accumulated what was at one time the largest collection of ancient coins in Arkansas



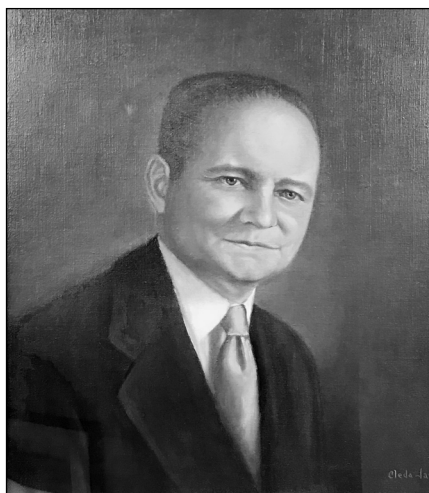
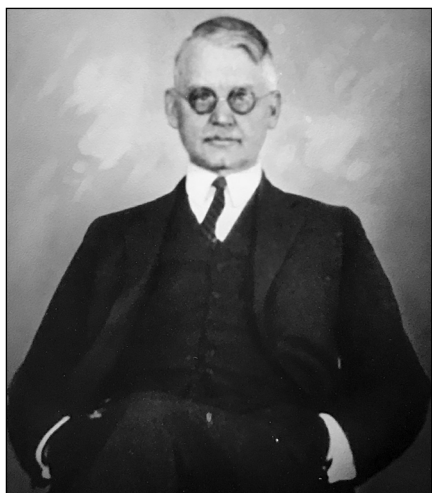
DR. KROCK HAD MANY INTERESTS—among them, feeding the birds at his home on 3700 Free Ferry.
(Photo courtesy of Dr. Curtis Krock)

(mainly Greek and Roman). Curtis and his brother Fred now have hundreds of these coins. Curtis says that he enjoyed going on fishing trips with his father to Lake Hamilton and other nearby lakes.

In the late 1950s, Dr. Krock built an internal defibrillator for use in the operating room; he devised a boot type device that would alternately apply pressure and suction for the treatment of vascular insufficiency in a limb; and he made a nerve stimulator to help with nerve identification in the operating room during surgery.

Curtis Krock told me one more story about Dr. Krock: “One night a clinic physician was called to come in to pronounce his patient dead. He declined coming in the night and said he would do it in the morning. The nurse then called my father who went in and pronounced the patient dead. The next morning, he called the physician into his office and told him that if this ever happened again, he would be fired immediately from the clinic.” This story speaks volumes, but it speaks for itself and will not be elaborated here.

The age of the clinics lasted almost a hundred years in Fort Smith. The names of the founders have been replaced by their successor institutions—the most recent Holt-Krock Clinic building is now Sparks Medical Plaza on 1500



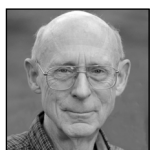
(LEFT) This is the most well-known portrait of Dr. Cooper; a copy of it is a part of the historic exhibit in the lobby of the Cooper Clinic building, now Mercy Tower West. **(CENTER)** This painting of Dr. Krock hung alongside that of Dr. Holt in the Holt-Krock Clinic and is now in the archives at Sparks Medical Plaza. **(RIGHT)** This portrait of Dr. Holt is included in the Holt-Krock archives at Sparks Medical Plaza.

Dodson, and the most recent Cooper Clinic building became Mercy Tower West on November 1, 2017. The delivery of health care has become more complex, and it's no longer so easy to know whom to call when a doctor fails to respond appropriately to a call in the night.

There have been other heroes in the medical profession in Fort Smith, both within and outside the clinics that bore the names of their founders. But the names of St. Cloud Cooper and Charles Holt and Fred Krock meant something to the people in this area when they needed health care. The patient came first.

Dr. St. Cloud Cooper died on March 22, 1930; Dr. Holt died of cancer of the prostate June 7, 1952, in Fort Smith; Dr. Krock died in May 1981 of brain damage after a cardiac arrest. These founding fathers and their contributions to and influence on the health facilities of Fort Smith and the surrounding region live on. The patient still comes first. Institutions have evolved and changed, but excellence of care continues to be a hallmark of Fort Smith medicine.

The shadows cast by three giants of the past century have been long ones.



Dr. Taylor Prewitt, cardiologist, joined Cooper Clinic in 1969. His articles have appeared in the Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society and in other publications.

SOURCES

Dr. Fred Krock's younger son, Dr. Curtis Krock, is an old friend who was in practice at Holt-Krock Clinic during my first three years in Fort Smith. He has provided much helpful information

about his father and Holt-Krock Clinic, along with some excellent photographs.

Joseph St. Cloud Irwin has been in contact with the Cooper family about the Cooper history, and he has provided interesting bits of family history, with some photographs I had not previously seen.

Several cardboard boxes of papers, photographs, artifacts, and other memorabilia have been saved in Cooper Clinic for years. The Cooper, Wolferman, and Goldstein families have donated family items to this collection.

The late Amelia Martin's comprehensive history, *Physicians and Medicine: Crawford and Sebastian Counties, Arkansas 1817-1976* (1977) continues to be an invaluable source of detailed information.

ENDNOTES

- 1 Odie B. Faulk and Billy Mac Jones, *Fort Smith: An Illustrated History* (Muskogee, Western Heritage Books, 1983), 195.
- 2 Notes in Cooper Clinic archives.
- 3 "Doctor Fails to Rally from Heart Attack," *Southwest American*, March 23, 1930.
- 4 D. Musgrove, "Dr. Charles S. Holt," *Country Doctors of Sebastian County*, available from (<http://www.argenweb.net/sebastian/Doctors/Doctors.html>).
- 5 Amelia Martin, *Physicians and Medicine: Crawford and Sebastian Counties, Arkansas 1817-1976* (Fort Smith, Published by Sebastian County Medical Society, 1977), 158-160.
- 6 Josie Decker, "Holt-Krock Clinic 1921-1999," *The Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society*, 26 (April 2002), 2-7.
- 7 "Dr. Holt to Manage Sparks Hospital," *Southwest American*, April 3, 1934.
- 8 Personal interview by author with Curtis Krock, M.D.

Maj. William Bradford's Riflemen and Laundresses

The people who built the fort

By A. Harris Fennimore

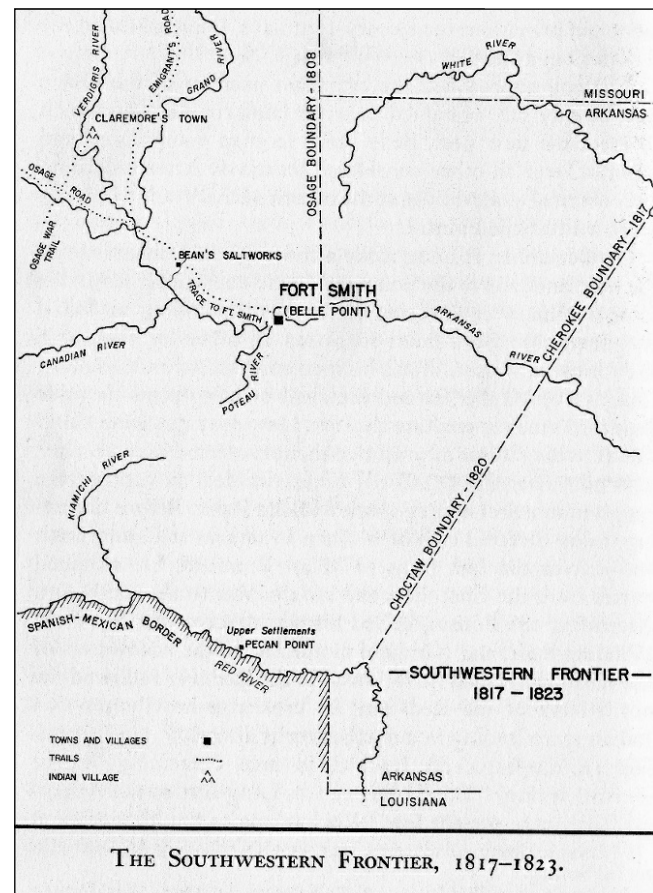
In 1817, no American settlement existed at the confluence of the Arkansas and the Poteau Rivers. The 828,000 square miles of land acquired by the Louisiana Purchase in the 1803 treaty were diverse, and the beginning of the nineteenth century brought unfathomable change to the rough, rugged, and unsettled Louisiana territory of which the lower Arkansas River valley was a part. Congress admitted the new state of Louisiana before the War of 1812 and created Missouri Territory, which included Arkansas District. By 1817, people in Missouri were edging toward statehood, and indeed in 1819, Arkansas Territory was created. This area in a relatively short period of time, therefore, had experienced name changes, boundary changes, and Native American, Spanish, French and American law and authority.

In 1817, hostilities between Western Cherokees and Osage had escalated, putting the Arkansas River valley in turmoil and unsafe for both settlers and Native Americans. One cause of trouble was the relocation of 2,000 to 6,000 Cherokees to Arkansas Territory, many onto former Osage lands. The two tribes had a long history of rivalry, and now confrontations turned violent.

Missouri Territory Gov. William Clark contacted Secretary of War John C. Calhoun requesting a military presence on the Arkansas River to quell tensions between the Osage and Cherokees.

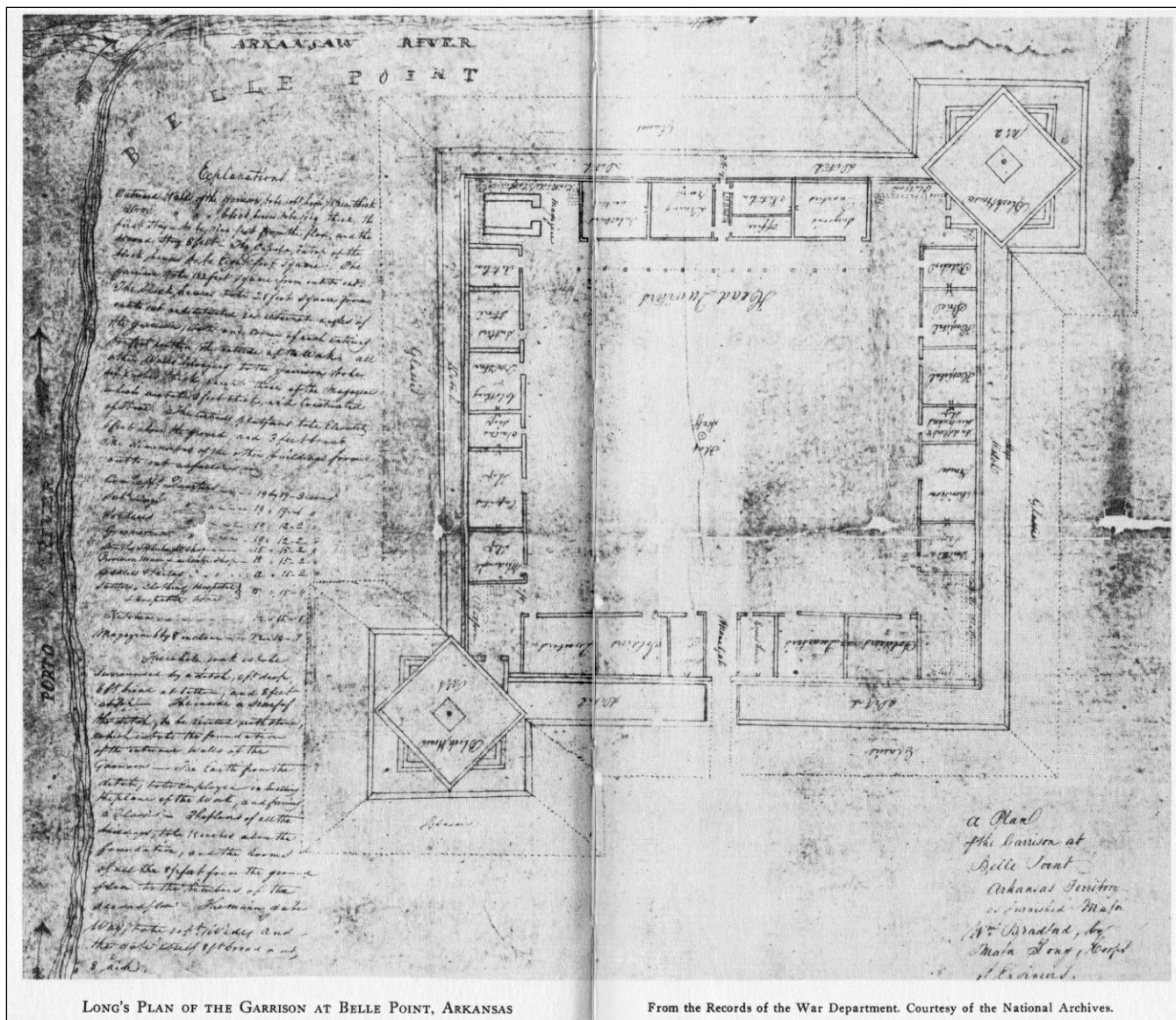
Missouri Territory Gov. William Clark wrote to Secretary of War John Calhoun asking for intervention, and thus, orders came to Gen. Thomas A. Smith, commander of the Rifle Regiment headquartered at Belle Fontaine on the Missouri River just above St. Louis to position troops on the Arkansas River at the edge of Osage boundary.

Gen. Smith summoned Maj. William Bradford from Louisiana and directed him to take his company to the Osage-Cherokee border—the frontier of the United States—with the “ostensible object” to quiet hostilities and remove squatters. Bradford, wounded at the Battle of Fort



MAP from Edwin Bearss and Arrell Gibson, *Fort Smith: Little Gibraltar on the Arkansas* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1979.)

Meigs against the British and their Shawnee allies, had knowledge of the Spanish-American frontier having been assigned to Natchitoches in 1816. Bradford company's charge was to abate Indian hostilities, to protect white settlers from Indian activities (war, raids, theft of horses), to keep the white settlers off Indian lands, and remove squatters. Squatters were considered virtual rogues who



FIRST FORT PLAN
(Plan from Records of the War Department, National Archives)

moved onto unauthorized Indian lands and settled without the intention of growing the kind of productive community envisioned by politicians in the East. Squatters settled in districts not yet surveyed or apportioned by the government. The term, first defined in 1788, was “a settler with no formal or legal title to the land they occupied.”

Bradford began equipping the expedition in April 1817 while in St. Louis. Hugh Glenn, a civilian contractor known to Bradford, helped procure a keelboat for supplies, loading it with cannons, powder, shot, and a three-month supply of food, clothes, blankets, brandy, rum whiskey, and some chickens. Supplies included leather tracings, harness for oxen, pots of grease for axles; and lard for cooking. Glenn was one of the first provisioners for the fort. His history of a good relationships with Bradford and other traders allowed Glenn to get contracts “to supply western outposts



BELLE POINT
(Photo courtesy of Fort Smith Historical Society)

and negotiate trading rights with Native Americans” and led to his being named sutler to Fort Smith. A sutler, a franchised military store keeper, stocked and stored military items and domestics, but food and liquor were two main items. With his knowledge of Bradford’s needs, the area, and other traders and merchants, Glenn was able to secure a pilot and boatmen, allowing the expedition to proceed down the Mississippi to Arkansas Post near the mouth of the Arkansas River, arriving there in late September. Many men became ill (up to twenty-five) on the trip and Bradford lost time caring for the ill prior to resuming the journey up the Arkansas River to a location being set by Maj. Stephen Harriman Long, a topographical engineer, appointed by Smith to join Bradford.

While Bradford stayed with the sick, Stephen Long went ahead with eight soldiers in a “six-oared skiff” to find a suitable site, build preliminary housing facilities, and await the rest of the company. Long had an excellent reputation in logistics, topography, and engineering at West Point where he had been an instructor. His observations of river frontage and the frontier army posts made during his summer of 1817 trip up the Mississippi to the falls of St. Anthony, the headwater lands of the great river gave him the experience needed on the current assignment. Moving swiftly in the skiff, Long arrived in October 1817 at the confluence of the Arkansas and Poteau Rivers. He chose this location referred to as La Belle Pointe, which was near Indian treaty lines used and named by French traders. The task of building a fort required an abundance of trees. Good water for drinking and personal use was as important as the need for water for transportation of men and materiel. Belle Point had both.

Long picked a naturally beautiful and bosky area with a fifty-foot bluff at the confluence of two rivers. Bradford and sixty-five enlisted men of which five were noted as “colored” on the muster roll followed moving slower as the keel boat and flat boat had to be poled and cordelled up the river.

After arriving, the riflemen turned into construction workers and farmers. They built temporary shelters, and began on a permanent structure, a standard stockade rectangle with four 132 foot sides, barracks, storehouses, shops, a magazine, and hospital—all located within the walls.

Long perceived the area through the lens of a military engineer. Two years later, Thomas Nuttall, a naturalist, observing the same area saw “the abundance of various kinds of game.” Bradford described the chosen location as “healthy.” Ironically, three men had died at Arkansas Post before arriving at Belle Point on Christmas Day 1817, and on New Year’s Day 1818, four were ill and six convalescing.

Bradford’s company of sixty-five men had four washerwomen or laundresses with them. Who were the laundresses attached to the company? The women were attached by regulation to the company on this founding mission. Laundresses were women, sometimes single but sometimes married to enlisted men, who could perform the hard, daily work of laundry. Recognizing the need for washerwomen, Congress acted in 1802 to recognize laundresses and set the number of women who could be attached to a military unit. Initially the ratio was four laundresses to 100 men, yet following the War of 1812, this changed to four per unit without regard to number of men in the unit, eventually settling at provision allowances granted to one laundress for every 19½ men. Laundresses were paid at the same rate of soldiers by the Army and given a soldier’s ration and privilege to sign for goods at the sutler store. Laundresses were tightly governed to avoid abuses such as overcharging or immoral behavior, violation of either could result in being drummed out of the unit.

Bradford brought veteran soldiers from the War of 1812, as well as a few new recruits. A company was required to have musicians—at least one drummer and one fifer. Martial music moved the military. Musicians playing simple instrument like drums, trumpets, fifes, bugles, and flutes accompanied drill, parades, and marching soldiers. The music broke up the monotony of forced labor or long marches, kept men and material moving down the road on missions. Bugles rolled the men out for reveille. Zachariah (or Zacheus) Waldo was the regimental drummer. United States Registers of the U. S. Army listed columns to described Zacheus Waldo on the roster as 5 feet, 7-½ inches tall with black eyes, black hair, dark complexion, twenty-six years old, a musician, born in Litchfield, Connecticut, on July 9, 1808.

Joseph Cross was the fifer. His military service spans from 1802 when he first enlisted for five years until, at age forty-six in 1819, he re-enlisted for three years.

The roster listed men by name, rank, date of enlistment, term of enlistment, to what time last paid and remarks. The roster included uniform issuance and components, including plumes, coats, vests, hats, caps, cockades and eagles. Blankets, shoes, stockings, trousers and epaulets were listed. The term of enlistment was handwritten as “five years” for all the soldiers, and the date of enlistment showed that many of the men had enlisted to fight the British in the War of 1812, earning bounty land warrants.

African-American soldiers in the company, Peter Caulder, Joseph Clark, Martin Turner, James Turner, and Caleb Cook, lived and worked together with their white counterparts. Black soldiers, though fully integrated into army units through the 1820s, were not promoted above the rank of private. Still, these men in Bradford’s company were trusted soldiers and

INSPECTION RETURN of Captain <i>William Bradford</i>						Company in the	Regiment of <i>Infantry</i>	as inspected at <i>Belle Four</i> the <i>27</i> day of <i>June</i> 1827																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
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Wagon.	Wagon.	Wagon.	Wagon.	Wagon.	Wagon.	Wagon.	Wagon.	Wagon.	Wagon.	Wagon.

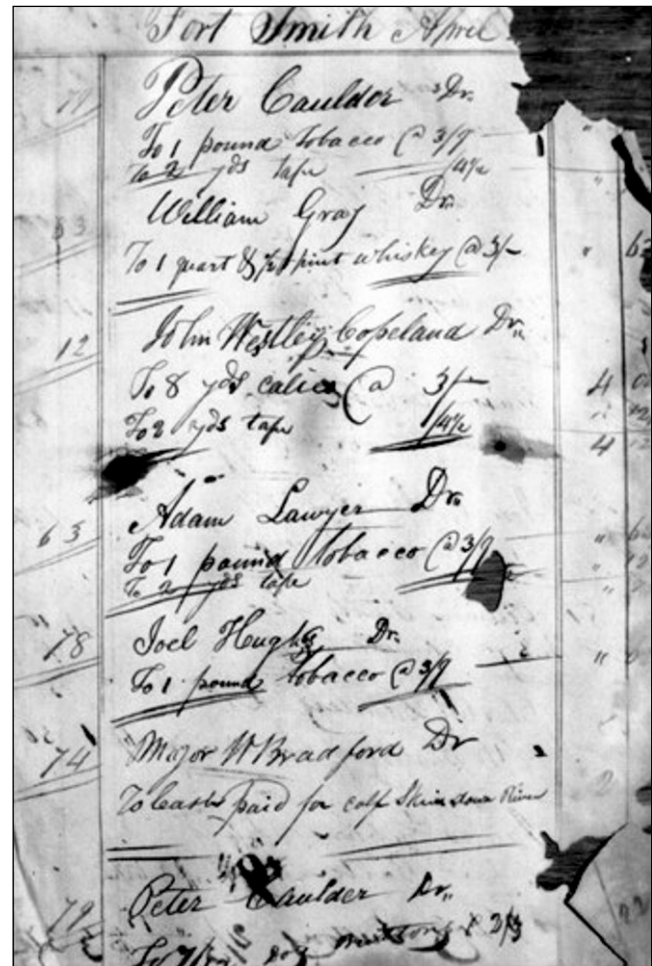
The 1803 Congressional Act that permitted laundresses “to accompany troops,” specified that she must be the wife of a soldier, but this requirement could be relaxed at the discretion of the company commander. The washerwomen under the Act received “one ration” daily consisting of meat, bread, and whiskey (soldiers were allotted one gill of rum at the end of a day of duty). The Act set fees the women could charge for laundry and mending services and provided they be paid for those services before the sutler was paid for their account charges. That meant that the women settled their credit bill with the sutler just as the soldiers did on payday. Between paydays, purchases at the sutler store were written down as credit in trader account books kept by a store clerk. Those account books are archived and give a legible record of daily transactions in the sutler store at Fort Smith from 1820-1823. An article in the *St. Louis Enquirer* newspaper revealed that the garrison at Fort Smith had not received provisions in over a year. Bradford complained in letters up the chain of command about his soldiers not being paid on time. Bad for the soldiers and laundresses, but good for the historians looking for scraps of evidence that appear in the existing trader account books about daily life in early Fort Smith.

Susan Loving (wife of William Loving) and Emila Brower (wife of John Brower) were laundresses at Fort Smith. Their purchases at the sutler store indicate sociability. As it was for the soldiers, whiskey was a standard purchase, often purchased for themselves or others. Peter Caulder’s name appears frequently in the trader account book, such as buying a comb for six cents and whiskey for Susan Loving and himself for twelve cents in January 1822.

Zacheus Waldo’s trader account record shows him buying whiskey for Susan Loving at least twice between July 22 and late September 1821, one on a Saturday, one on a Sunday. A second record for Waldo showed four entries for whiskey purchases attached to Susan Loving’s name between October 4 and November 8, 1821. Three entries were on weekdays. Waldo’s November/December trader account record showed not only Waldo buying Susan a drink, but Waldo buying ribbon the week before Christmas.

Emila Brower’s sutler records for October/November/December 1821, showed daily purchases of whiskey, sugar, and molasses. During this time, molasses was manufactured in the U.S. at a rate of ten million gallons a year, of which eight million gallons were used in preparation of spirits besides beer. Ms. Brower bought ribbon once in October and again in December with her whiskey close to Christmas.

Susan Loving’s trader account record, in addition to regular purchases, has two entries regarding receiving credit for her laundry fees: washing, \$2.50; ironing, \$1.50.



**PAGE FROM FORT SMITH TRADER’S
ACCOUNT BOOK, 1820-1821**

(Photo from Billy Higgins, *A Stranger and A Sojourner*,
Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 2004).

This means that she received store credit for those tasks. Her account shows regular purchases of whiskey, sugar, coffee, and rice. One entry is “molasses by Waldo” for eighteen cents. Ms. Loving purchased molasses with her whiskey, the first cocktails on the American Southwest frontier? November 30, 1821, Susan bought green ribbon, and she bought ribbon again in December. Maybe to wrap a Christmas package for her toddler son. Capt. Daniel R. Bell reported in his journal that on Sunday, September 17, 1820, a “soldier’s wife of the garrison was delivered of a fine boy weighing 12 pounds.”

The level of cordiality and sociability reflected in the sutler account records conflicted with the premise of “squalor personified.” In fact, the Lovings lived in their own house “on the plain across the river from Belle Point” (with Bradford’s permission) for the sake of privacy and because she was pregnant.

Protection of privacy probably was why laundresses occupied a barracks outside the fort walls, uncovered by

the archaeological dig and labeled by one author as Soap Suds Row. Separate housing might be viewed as a fitting reward for the hard work the laundresses did, almost a precursor to military off-base family housing. The washerwomen had to do heavy manual labor, and have knowledge of cleaning processes, mending procedures, materials selections and usages, and soap/lye making.

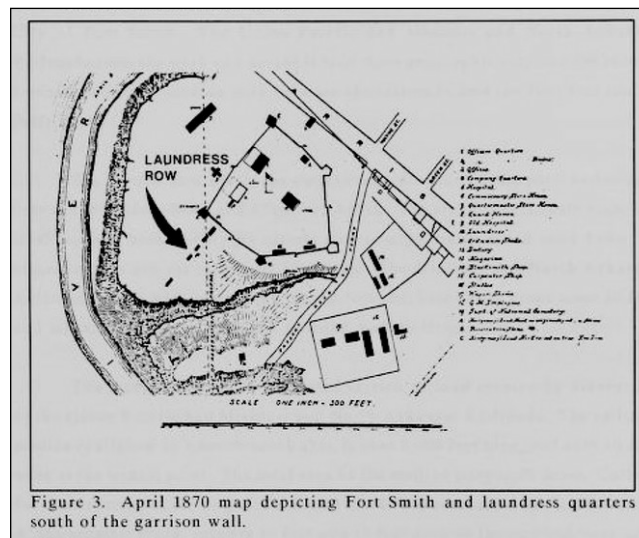
Scientific discoveries in an archeological dig shed light on activities at the two fort sites in Fort Smith. The archeological investigation performed by Roger E. Coleman, et al, brought up interesting clues to the military and social organization of the fort. An initial blueprint of Fort Smith showed the square fort surrounded by accommodations for sellers and vendors, including the sutler.

Excavation of the site produced many valuable artifacts. Two-hundred, thirty-seven buttons: military buttons; general service buttons without regimental numbers; artillery buttons of two varieties; infantry buttons, some with eagles, some with foliated script or block "I." One-hundred, forty-eight civilian buttons: porcelain, bone, shell, rubber, glass, brass, pressed steel.

Other buttons: hospital button; an ordinance button, three-piece shell over cannon device; dragoon, shield with a "D" or block letter "D"; rifle, embellished with hunting horn encircling "Rifle" and two rows of five-pointed stars totaling fifteen stars, dating from 1816-1821; unidentified general staff; defaced buttons with intermediate device. Fatigue buttons were type-K primarily used on trousers beginning in 1812. These buttons spoke loudly to the military presence of veterans of that war.

The archeological investigation exposed glass in many colors and shades during the dig. Shards numbering 6,332 were found. Twelve forms of bottles were found, demonstrating the life and activities of the people. Variety included bottles for soda, canning, condiments, bitters, liquor, whiskey, extract, patent/extract, wine/champagne, patent medicine bottles, prescription medical bottles, vials and snuff jars. The extracts and bitters may have been used to soften the harshness of medicine, or they could have been used in the preparation of concoctions likened to cocktails. The consistent sale of whiskey, molasses, and sugar suggested a social use. The bottle embossed "GIN" removed all doubt about its purpose. Twenty-seven additional figural bottles were found. These typically were used for schnapps, gin, or bitters.

Based on these finding, extrapolations could be made about the ladies bringing their femininity to the frontier. The ribbon might have gone on curtains, tablecloths or bloomers. Women have their own way of establishing order in the home and outside the home, their own brand of organization, and their own kind of morality and work



THIS DIAGRAM was made following excavations of the second fort. The first fort site was also excavated.

(Diagram from Roger Coleman, *Archeological Investigation for Construction of a Pedestrian Trail and Identification of Laundress Row*. Fort Smith National Historic Site, Arkansas, 1990)
Available at the web address:
<https://archive.org/details/archeologicalinv90trail>

ethic: nothing is too much, nothing is impossible.

It must have seemed impossible, however, to feel safe and protected if you were Susan Loving, pregnant, your husband away, the Indians circling your home, painted, screaming, and waiving scalps, which occurred once during the April 1821 rampage of Osage war chieftain Mad Buffalo. Mad Buffalo had a fierce reputation: murdering Cherokees and then raised 300 braves to push back the Cherokees. He made a bold attack trying to seize the arsenal at Fort Smith, thought of as too small to be defend itself.

The fort did defend itself under the command of Lt. Martin Scott who trained the fort's six-pound cannons on the Osage war party across the river. With a force outnumbering them five to one, the riflemen's disciple held the day. No doubt the drill and discipline imposed on the men and the orderly and militarily sharpness of their uniforms during these years of hard and incessant work in building a fort from scratch was due to the laundresses who keep the men outfitted in proper military attire. In a way, one might credit the washerwomen of the fort for adverting its capture by the Osage warriors. The resolute defense resulted in the melting away of this huge threat, as the war party disbanded to go on its annual buffalo hunt. Arkansas in this way escaped an Indian war.

The episode evidently convinced the government that troop reinforcement of Fort Smith was necessary. In June 1821, Colonel Matthew Arbuckle was ordered from Florida to Fort Smith with a detachment of 250 men. Bradford's



MARKERS FOR TWO FOUNDERS OF FORT SMITH: *Major William Bradford, right, and Surgeon Thomas Russell at the Fort Smith National Cemetery.*

(Photos courtesy of Pebley Center archives)

rifle regiment was absorbed into the Seventh Infantry.

When Bradford was replaced at Fort Smith by Arbuckle, a lawsuit brought against Bradford may have caused him some trouble. He was accused of “barbarously and repeatedly” punishing an enlisted man, George Riley. Riley was kept in quarters for fifteen days and paddled to compel him to re-enlist. Bradford was found guilty by a jury and charged \$1,450. This would be about \$30,636.66 today.

Bradford retired in 1824 from the army and received a pension of fifteen dollars per month, resulting from his combat wound at Fort Meigs while serving under Gen. William Henry Harrison during the War of 1812. Bradford was appointed brigadier general of the Militia of Arkansas Territory and then appointed “Sutler to the Cantonment,” located at the mouth of the Kiamichi River (Fort Towson). Bradford entered politics, but Henry W. Conway beat him in a bid for territorial delegate to the U.S. Congress. On October 20, 1826, Bradford died in Fort Smith of yellow fever and was buried in what became the Fort Smith National Cemetery.

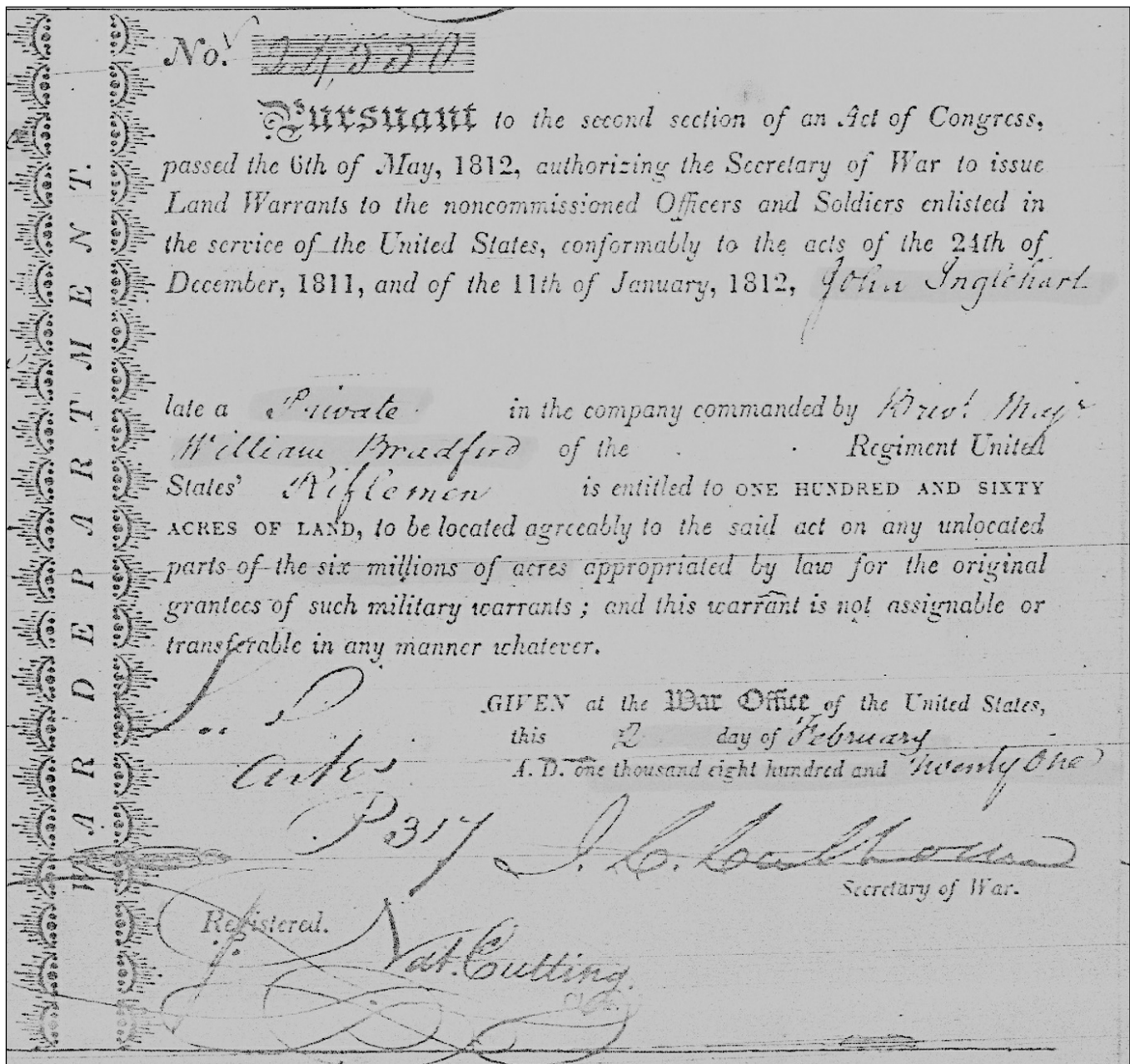
The town around the fort grew considerably larger. Town population expanded when wives and families came

to work in and around the fort. The birth of a child, a daughter named Sarah, to town settlers John and Rebecca Tichenor was recorded in December 1823.

Records of births and deaths and taxes suggest a permanent society. Dr. Thomas Russell, the fort’s first physician, arrived in late 1818 only to die in August 1819 from what was described as “nervous fever.” Dr. Russell’s death and burial began the Fort Smith National Cemetery.

Botanists Thomas Nuttall received permission from Bradford to explore fauna and flora in Indian Territory. Nuttall spent a month at Fort Smith in 1823 and wrote about the “ague and bilious fever” that incapacitated up to twenty percent of the men. Fifty men died at Fort Smith in 1823 from yellow fever.

Land bounties for veterans of the War of 1812 encouraged settlement in Arkansas, and out of the sixty-nine men listed on Bradford’s 1817 roster, fifty-two applied for and received warrants for bounty land grants in Arkansas Territory. But, Crawford County was not surveyed, so the bounty lands did not raise the stability in western Arkansas. Warrants were for 160-acre plots of land that could be cultivated. Applications for the bounty land



LAND WARRANT FOR PRIVATE JOHN INGLEHART, *Bradford's Company*.

(National Archives)

grants were permitted to be claimed by wives, as in the case of Abigail Waldo claiming and being awarded the grant of Zachariah Waldo following his death.

Peter Caulder, one of the black riflemen, was disappointed when he went to Sharp County and found that his bounty land had no water in the summer. Peter Caulder, a self-sufficient hunter and trainer of bear hunting dogs, settled in Marion County instead, part of a free black community on the White River where his friend David Hall lived. Caulder found better land and living conditions, and he found love. Eliza Hall, one of David Hall's twin daughters, became Caulder's wife.

The fort aided white settlement as evinced by Crawford County tax records that date to 1821. Maj. Bradford paid eleven dollars and seventy cents in taxes assessed for four "slaves over 10 years old," six horses, mules, and jacks, thirty-three neat cattle over three years old, three stud horses, and four slaves between ten and forty-five. Former soldier John Inglehart appeared in the 1829 Tax Records. This scarcity of entries indicated that soldiers from the post, once their term of service expired, typically did not take up residence in Crawford County.

The fact that the territory had a system in place to assess, collect, and record the tax information reveals U.S.

Bradford's Company, 1817 Founders of Fort Smith Arkansas River at Belle Point

Name	Place of discharge Date	Register #	Ark County/ Year Land Warrant #	Name	Place of discharge Date	Register #	Arkansas County/ Year Land Warrant #
Captain/Brevet Major							
Bradford, William	Fort Smith	roll 2, pg 20 7623		14 Frederick, George			Conway 1828 991 Exchanged to Sharp
Enlisted men				15 Gallway, William			Lawrence 1822 22844
1 Baker, Joseph	Fort Smith July 22, 1819	1 -225 2581		16 Garrigas, Jesse	Fort Smith Sep 21 1819	7 - 108 767	Izard 1823 23433
2 Bayard, Anthony				17 Gill, William			No
3 Brower, John			Lee 1823 24558	18 Graves, John	Fort Smith Oct 11 1819	5 - 147 1823	Faulkner 1820 21315
4 Brown, Mathew		2 - 143 5369		19 Haines, Christopher		6 - 51 574	Lonoke 1820 23214
5 Caulder, Peter (c)	Fort Smith June 1824		Sharp 1824 24899	20 Harris, William	Fort Smith Sep 21 1819	6 - 282 5926	White 1821 24175
6 Clark, Joseph (c)	Fort Smith June 1819	M233 848	Sharp 1824 24454	21 Harville, William			No
7 Cole, Thomas			Lonoke 1821 24165	22 Hestiloe, John	FS 1819 re- enlisted	6 -284 3075	Lonoke 1824 24555
8 Copeland, Wesley			Lonoke 1823 24466	23 Holmes, Aaron		6 -23 268	Prairie 1822 25066
9 Craig, James			Lawrence 1820 23450	24 Holmes, Jesse			Jackson 1822 25065
10 Cross, Joseph (musician)		roll 3, pg 32	Lawrence 1820 7774	25 Howell, John		6 - 45 3727	Conway 1829 24711 Exchanged to Perry
11 Forbes, David			Lee 1820 22052	26 Howell, William		4 - 211-2 6326	Conway 1822 24712 Exchanged to Perry
12 Smith, Joshua			No	27 Inglehart, John			Pulaski 1824 24556
13 Dykes, Thomas				28 Kelly, John			Arkansas 1820 22238

29 Kramer, Balathazar (died)			Lee 1820 22051	51 Teal, Lewis		12 - 84 76	Monroe 1821 23849
30 Lane, Peter			Arkansas 1824 25639	52 Tipton, Bryant			No
31 Loving, William R. (married)			Lee 1824 24900	53 Tompkins, Daniel			No
32 Monds, Job R.			Lonoke 1820 23103	54 Turner, James (c)			Pulaski 1824
33 McKensie, Daniel			Monroe 1823 25074	55 Turner, Martin (c)			Indep 1824 24559
34 Milligan, James			Conway 1821 23586	56 Waldo, Zacherus (musician)			Indep 1824 24562
35 Mullins, David			22402	57 Wallace, William			St. Francis 1820 22258*
36 Norill, Amos			No	58 Wart, Herman		13 - 144 1611	White 1820 23448
38 Norman, Daniel		9 - 121 231	Arkansas 1836 24560	59 Watkins, Perry			Cleburne 1821 23587
39 Pledger, Jesse			Faulkner 1823 24057	60 Webb, Bennett, Cpl	Ark Post Reenl July 14, 1819		Jackson 1828 26082
40 Purfele, John			No	61 Webb, John		13 - 203 2296	White 1824 25637
41 Quarles, Henry			No	62 Weddington, Josiah		13 - 207 2348	No
42 Roach, Benjamin			White 1820 21997	63 Westfall, Jonathan		13 - 22 2516	Faulkner 25636 Exchanged for Ind
43 Rose, Jacob			Faulkner 1821 24308	64 Wingate, Stephen		13 - 121 4940	Cleburne 1825 25204
44 Sloan, Robert			Faulkner 1835 26619*	65 Worman, Solomon		13 - 126 4990	White 1821 11582
45 Smith, Eli	FS reup Feb 28, 1819	11 - 100 16	Prairie 1827 25780	New men after founding			
46 Spear, Allen	FS April 29, 1819	11 - 19 71	Faulkner 1823 25403	Cook, Caleb (c)			
47 Spencer, Josiah			No	Calhoun, Andrew			White 1821 22053
48 Sterling, James			Indep 1820 8901	Eaton, Samuel			22217
49 Sutley, Henry			Indep 1820 22651*	Smith, Joshua	FS Sept 6, 1819	11 - 259 3587	
50 Taylor, John	FS Sept 5, 1819	12 - 24 26	Lonoke 1820 23080*				

LIST OF THE SIXTY-FIVE MEN of Bradford's Company who came up the river in 1817. Four new men joined before 1822.
(Pebbley Center archives, UAFS)



(LEFT) STONE FOUNDATION
REMNANT of the 1818 fort built by Bradford's Company overlooking the confluence of the Arkansas and Poteau Rivers.

(Photo courtesy of the Fort Smith National Historic Site)

jurisdiction and governmental organization. The fort provided a gateway for travelers, businessmen, adventurers, explorers, and artists to access nature, the wonders of an untouched, unspoiled wilderness, and a way westward.

On April 2, 1824, Col. Mathew Arbuckle received orders to move his 7th Infantry regiment west and built Fort Gibson at Three Forks deep in Osage country.

Today, Fort Smith is a National Historic Site. Visitors can walk the grounds where stone outlines remain of buildings long gone. A concrete marker on the site says, "Indian Territory, 1834-1907" on one side and "Arkansas" on the other.

The needs of the fort advanced trade, as Native Americans brought in goods sold at the sutler's store inside the fort and sparked the growth of early Arkansas' westernmost town. Merchants, pioneering farmers, craftsmen, traders, lawyers, and speculators followed. Essential to the process were the order, discipline, and organization inherent in a regular army unit.

A. Harris Fennimore thanks the anonymous readers and the Pebley Center staff for their assistance on this article.

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Name	Value	Tax	Assessment
Wm Bradford	4	633	4
Robt Bell	15	39	188
Robt Buchanan	20	23	102
Wm Black	4	2	145
Andy Buchanan	2	2	62
Adam Baty	2	2	62
John Baty	15	4	11.6
Wm Batton	1	1	80
Joseph Baty	2	2	62
Mark Bean	20	35	453
Wm Bean	2	8	14
Wm Bean	4	4	40
Wm Bean	2	2	62

1821 CRAWFORD COUNTY TAX ROLL with William Bradford's Assessment.

(Pebley Center archives, UAfS)

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“What a time we had on Garrison”

Avenue has long been a hub of activity in Fort Smith

By Sue Robison

On a spring morning in 1865 in Fort Smith, Arkansas, a group of men gathered at the east end of a wide dirt road they called Garrison. Some of the men wore military uniforms, but most were in their best suits as they stood in unison representing local service organizations. It was Wednesday, April 19, 1865, and when the clocks struck noon, the group marched forward to the drum beat of the 18th Iowa military band heading westward on Garrison to the parade ground at the Army fort where, in a solemn ceremony, they mourned the assassination a few days earlier of President Abraham Lincoln.¹

This organized parade on Garrison, began a long tradition of Fort Smith citizens pouring forth that street, a central gathering point, to express their shared grief, joy and hope. Fort Smith citizens celebrated the end of two world wars on the avenue, as well as countless holidays and rodeo celebrations. The road has witnessed the highest and lowest points of our history. In July 1922, just fifty-seven years after the parade to mourn President Lincoln, Garrison sheltered silent onlookers hiding in the doorways of buildings at midnight to watch a stream of automobiles brought to town by the Ku Klux Klan motoring the length of the avenue before proceeding to a rally point.²

When something important happened in America, it was reflected on Garrison.

John Rogers, a merchant credited with bringing business to a frontier army settlement, arrived from New Orleans in 1822 to a Fort Smith with no main thoroughfare. By 1837, the avenue was in place, but it was not until the town incorporated in 1842 that Garrison Avenue became its main street.³ An 1840 government map shows Garrison extending seven blocks and ending at Eleventh Street. By 1870, Garrison was a straight line from the river to Texas Road, much as it is today.⁴

As the area grew, entrepreneurs from across the country flooded into Fort Smith hoping to prosper by serving a military population and travelers bound for points west. In the 1850s, a young man from Switzerland opened a



E.B. BRIGHT'S 1870S BUILDING
then (above) and now (below).
(Photos courtesy of Chuck Raney and Floyd Robison)



cobbler's shop just beyond the second fort's walls at Third and Garrison. Felix Helbling quickly became a lucrative businessman, possessing more than 100 casts that allowed

him to custom fit his shoes and boots to Army officers and the elite of Fort Smith's society. Like many early settlers, Mr. Helbling's descendants remain in the Fort Smith area, continuing to frequent Garrison Avenue and retell the story of its earlier days.⁵

In 1866, George Tilles told of his family's arrival in Fort Smith from Saint Louis, saying Garrison Avenue was a sea of mud and he "got mired in the mud knee deep and had to be pulled out." Tilles became one of Garrison's most prolific businessmen, with dealings in cigars, real estate, and the Phoenix Bookstore and Bazaar at the east end of the avenue.⁶

As early as 1870, business boomed on the west end of Garrison. Well-known merchant, E.B. Bright, declared in a print advertisement for his Red Mill that, "Ye shall hear the sackbut, the psaltery, the dulcimer and the whandoodle" when you bring your grain to be "pulverized commensurate to the spirit of the age."⁷ E.B. Bright's Marble Hall stands in the Garrison Avenue Historic District at 311 Garrison and is the oldest surviving building on the avenue.

The selling of alcoholic spirits has been part of life in downtown Fort Smith since the first settlers arrived. In 1875 the city recorded more than thirty saloons on Garrison.⁸ Competition sprang up between the establishments, and merchants developed elaborate plans to lure customers to their bars. The John McNamee Saloon at 719 Garrison offered "chili con carne, wienerwurst, and ham and eggs neat and clean" so their 1897 patrons might have breakfast or lunch with their drinks.⁹ When the Electric Saloon opened at 423 Garrison in 1900, its owner promised it would be the most popular establishment in town, and the Mint Saloon at 511 Garrison did a brisk business until fire destroyed the building in 1908.¹⁰ A December fire in 1894 destroyed the Wyatt Saloon at 719 Garrison, and most of the *Elevator* newspaper office above the bar.¹¹

In 1908, Tom Taylor's House of Lords at 501 Garrison was closed for keeping an illegal Jim Crow bar underneath the saloon. Things got so out of hand that A.J. Kunz, a saloon owner, hired an off-duty patrolman to look after his business and slow the fighting that often broke out between patrons. A 1907 newspaper article proclaimed that the block of Garrison next to the train depot turned in more ten-dollar fines than any other police beat in Fort Smith.¹²

Many saloons, however, were respectable establishments and catered to the wealthier citizens. The Palace Bar at 912 Garrison was an upper avenue establishment known for its fine service and genial atmosphere. The saloon's owner, LaFayette E. Woodward, moved the Palace from 320 Garrison, opening its doors in 1907 in the new location. The Woodward family continues to live in Fort Smith, with L.E.'s grandson, Marcus Woodward, teaching in the city's school system.¹³

Responding to requests to clean up Garrison, the city



HOUSE OF LORDS SALOON served spirits upstairs and illegally downstairs in this building in 1908.

(Photo by Floyd Robison)

government acted against the saloons on August 1, 1914, by passing a no-license law that closed existing saloons on Garrison, prohibited licensing new establishments and moved more than \$100,000 worth of alcohol off the avenue. However, by 1915 new liquor laws were in place and "the doors swung open" once more on Garrison Avenue's legal saloons.¹⁴

Ratification of the Eighteenth Amendment in 1919 dried up Garrison Avenue's liquor flow. Enthusiastic supporters of prohibition gathered in 1916 in such numbers they filled the entire floor and several balcony seats at the New Theater at 923 Garrison.¹⁵ By the time prohibition ended in 1933, customers at local watering holes might have been discussing the dust bowl and an economic depression. Bars and private clubs have kept their doors open since 1933, continuing to offer gathering places for Fort Smith citizens.

The post-Prohibition avenue had not changed much since John Rogers opened its first hotel in the 1820s.¹⁶ The dirt road plagued merchants with so much dust in the dry season, but when their prayers for rain were answered, they cursed about mud so thick it bogged down wagons. These complaints were the constant bane of city government. When mule-drawn trolley cars made their first run up Garrison in 1883, they brought a sense of modernization to town. Later, buggy drivers were warned to avoid damaging their wheels on trolley tracks, and men hired as street sprinklers beat back the constant dust blowing on the road during dry seasons.¹⁷ By 1884 Garrison Avenue had storm sewers. A few stores boasted of electric lights.¹⁸

In 1868 Mayor John Stryker had the avenue leveled and graded and urged citizens to plant shade trees along

walkways. Garrison bustled with business, boasting more than 200 wagons on the avenue one December day in 1877, giving merchants “silver plated smiles.” When the Boston Store opened in 1879, the town was eager for a shop offering quality merchandise from the east.¹⁹

Paving such a wide thoroughfare as Garrison was a challenge. The first mention of asphalt was in 1911, but it was decided to use wood paving blocks at a cost of \$67,457. Although Mayor Fagan Bourland argued in favor of asphalt over bricks, the KAW Paving Company of Kansas City was contracted in 1923 pave Garrison with three-inch-thick vertical fiber brick.²⁰

Garrison was always a gathering place for Fort Smith citizens and those passing through town, many of whom came with money to spend on specialized items on Garrison. Banks opened along to serve financial needs of merchants. The National Bank of Western Arkansas, which later became First National Bank, organized in 1872. The German Bank, catering to German-speaking families moving to town from communities east of Fort Smith, opened its doors at 508 Garrison in 1891, Merchants National Bank was doing business at 623 Garrison in 1908, the Day and Night Bank did business at 911 Garrison beginning in 1911, and First Federal began construction at 524 Garrison in 1961.²¹

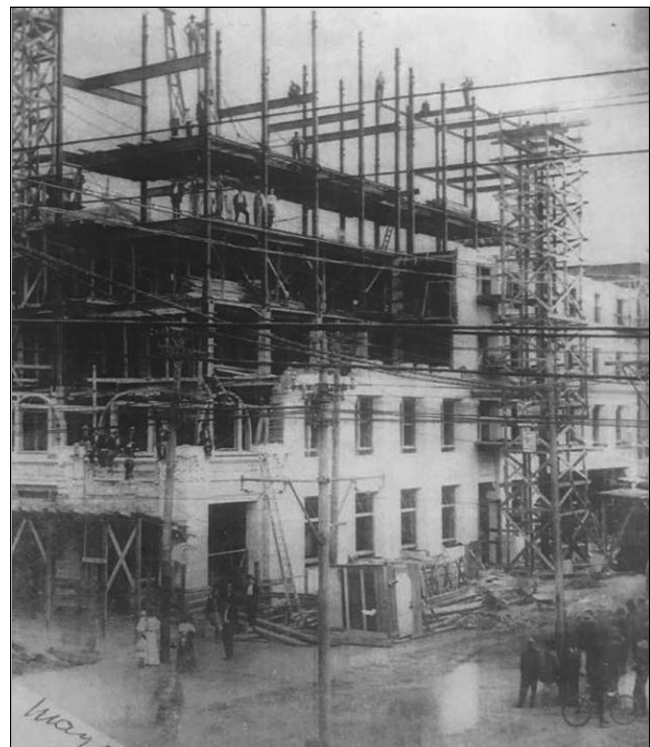
There was enough money changing hands on Garrison during the turn-of-the-century Victorian Era to keep bankers busy and happy. Confidence in Fort Smith brought out the entrepreneurial spirit in local investors, and many new businesses on the avenue.

Some of these early businessmen began family traditions in Fort Smith that continue today. Jules Girard arrived in Fort Smith in the 1840s, ending a journey that began in Belgium, and took him through France and New Orleans. Girard’s business on Commercial Row was one of the first confectionaries in Fort Smith and is mentioned in the Weaver Collection of historical writings as the first shop in town to offer commercial ice cream to patrons. The building featured a state-of-the-art J.W. Tufts fountain made of Tennessee marble, a symbol of the elegance and affluence displayed in downtown Fort Smith. From Edward Girard, who traded with Native Americans and operated a ferry across the Arkansas River, to Charles Girard, historian and current vice-president, First National Bank, the Girard family has maintained a constant presence on Garrison Avenue since 1840.²²

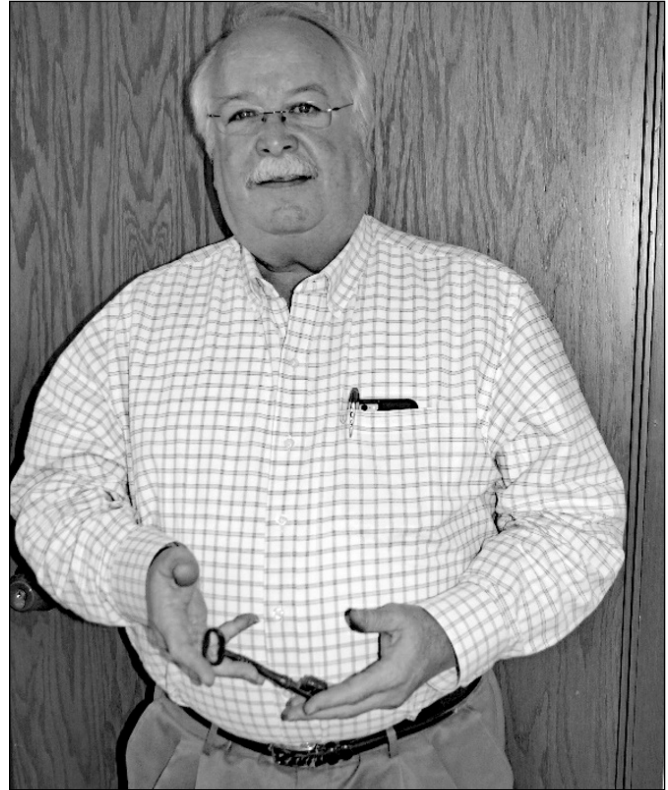
Strong citizen connection to the avenue in the early days contributed greatly to its growth. Long before automobiles crossed the Arkansas River, citizens met at the Grand Opera House at 424 Garrison in 1888 to establish a fund to assist in the construction of a railroad bridge to connect the city to the Indian Territory. They helped on the condition the



THE BOSTON STORE *hosted annual fall openings.*
(Photo courtesy of Chuck Raney)



FORT SMITH’S EIGHT-STORY *First National Bank at 602 Garrison under construction in 1909.*
(Photo courtesy of Chuck Girard)



(TOP LEFT) Fishback building and LeFlore Hotel at Fourth and Garrison.

(Photo courtesy of Chuck Raney)

(LOWER LEFT) Hotel Main postcard.

(Used courtesy of Chuck Raney)

(ABOVE) Chuck Girard holding a key that opened the door at Jules Girard's Confectionary.

(Photo by author)

Missouri Pacific Railroad would finish the railroad, wagon and foot bridge within one year of their assistance. The bridge opened to great festivities in 1891.²³

Easier commuting meant more travelers to Fort Smith; more people needing a place to stay and a hot meal. Several establishments opened to fill those needs. The Fishback name over the doorway at 316 Garrison is a reminder of the man who constructed the building and opened the original Adelaide Hall in 1870.²⁴ The LeFlore Hotel stood beside the Fishback building and was, in 1923, used by the government as a headquarters for transients. Due to its size, the LeFlore was able to hold 400 men at a time as they traveled the state looking for work.²⁵

The McKibben Hotel, soon to be known as the LeGrand, opened in 1884. Shortly thereafter, the Board of Health declared the lot between the City Hotel at 410 Garrison and the LeGrand at 400 Garrison a public nuisance and recommended property owners in that block subscribe to the city's water works for sanitary reasons.²⁶ The city was quickly outgrowing the public well system.

The Hotel Main opened at 604 Garrison in 1888 and sent carriages to greet trains arriving in Fort Smith and solicit guests. By 1894, the hotel was in decline, and owners leased it to Lawrence Mivelaz and David Mayo. Fort Smith Mayor Fagan Bourland purchased Hotel Main in 1919, and it became the permanent residence for the mayor and his wife, Julia. Bourland owned the hotel when it was suddenly overrun by rats arriving at such a rate they could not be handled by usual methods. To rid the building of the nasty creatures, it was decided to release opossums into the hotel, thinking the animals would handle the problem in a natural way. The plan made the local newspaper, but did little to solve the problem, and experts from Little Rock were eventually called in to send the little vermin back to the river from whence they came.²⁷

The Stage Hotel hosted travelers at 607 Garrison. This small, popular hotel was raided by police in 1909 and relieved of a great deal of gambling paraphernalia, which was burned on Garrison in full view of passersby. Just two years later, two men were arrested at the LeFlore Hotel for



(LEFT) *Goldman Hotel, which stood on the north side of Garrison in the 1200 block.*

(Photo courtesy of Chuck Raney)



(RIGHT) *Peacock Walk entrance to the New Theater*

(Photo courtesy of Floyd Robison)

putting chloroform through a hose into keyholes of guest's rooms to drug the occupants and then rob them.²⁸

In 1924, the Haglin Hotel at 609 Garrison was reopened under a new name, only to have the same hotel remodeled and reopened again in 1941. The buildings at 521 and 523 Garrison were demolished in 1929 to allow for the construction of the Ward Hotel.²⁹

The pride of Garrison Avenue, the Goldman Hotel, opened its doors in 1910. The grand, brick building sat as a jewel at the head of the avenue, welcoming noteworthy guests, setting trends in design and art and hosting memorable events in Fort Smith's history. The hotel called itself "the house of comfort" because of the overstuffed furniture decorating its lobby. Doing a banner business, the Goldman expanded and opened a new annex and wing of apartments in 1928.³⁰

The ballroom in the Goldman hosted the 1934 celebration of President Franklin Roosevelt's fifty-second birthday.³¹ More than 1,000 guests attended the ball after marching by torch light up Garrison Avenue. When the ballroom could hold no more revelers, the overflow celebrants jammed into Café Royal across Garrison to continue the party. Elenore Roosevelt made a visit to the Goldman in 1939 to promote the new March of Dimes effort to battle polio and sat for an interview with the high school newspaper staff in the hotel's lobby.³² The Goldman was the site of the "All Fort Smith Get Together and Fifty Cent Dinner" evening in 1921 organized to acquaint the

town's citizens with its tremendous possibilities. KFPW brought radio to Fort Smith from a studio inside the Goldman Hotel on July 9, 1930.³³

Yet, not even the Goldman could withstand the economic and cultural changes of the late twentieth-century. After being reduced to an empty eye-sore, the Goldman was sold and demolished in 1994.³⁴

While the ballroom at the Goldman was a favorite destination for couples looking for a good time, it was not the first popular night spot to grace Garrison Avenue. As early as 1823 there were reports of "saloons, gambling halls and places of entertainment catering to soldiers" in the Belle Point community near the first fort.³⁵

Equal to the Goldman's ballroom in elegance was Fort Smith's Grand Opera House at 424 Garrison that opened in 1887. Live performances by touring companies filled the Opera House for years, but new venues lured patrons away and the Opera House was sold in 1909 for \$75,000. The building was remodeled in 1913 to be used as a wholesale house before eventually being demolished, leaving only its cornerstone visible in the existing structure to stand witness to its passing.³⁶

Fort Smith's New Theater originally opened with its entrance on North Tenth Street, but in 1921 added an entrance at 923 Garrison. This second entry created a long hallway quickly dubbed "the peacock walk" for the high fashion displayed by the theater's patrons as they would promenade their way to the ticket window.³⁷

The Imp Theater at 1018 Garrison made its mark on Fort Smith history in 1918 when the film being shown to patrons suddenly burst into flame.³⁸ The popular Joie Theater was located at 808 Garrison, the Kinetoscope Theater stood at 1111 Garrison in 1909, and the Fort Theater welcomed guests at 501 Garrison in 1941.³⁹ Through the years, other theaters came and went along the avenue.

The upper, eastern end of Garrison never had the same rough-and-rowdy atmosphere that became almost a trademark of the lower end of the avenue. When the UTC club's Winter Garden opened at 1116½ Garrison it quickly became the destination of choice for young couples and a gathering place as America approached a second world war. On January 20, 1940, 700 guests attended a Winter Garden Military Ball.⁴⁰ Later, as the war raged, Garrison Avenue welcomed troops from Camp Chaffee with music, dancing and good company.

It has always been the people on Garrison who gave the avenue life, and at least a thousand of those people gathered in September 1912 to attend the third annual fall opening of the Boston Store. The event was so popular it grew into an annual style show hosted by the entire avenue in 1915 with doors and windows lighted from Fifth to Twelfth Streets while "throngs of charmingly gowned women swept up and down Garrison." Fashion was often featured on Garrison, as it was when the remodeled Fair Shop at 313-315 Garrison opened in 1921 to a gala fashion show and live music outside the store.⁴¹

There was a free spirit about Garrison that moved its merchants to explore new possibilities and take risks. The Louis Weinstein Style Shop at 615 Garrison was so intent on promoting the luxury of washable men's neckties in 1922 that they placed a washing machine on the sidewalk and demonstrated how to launder the new neck wear. They were fined five dollars by police for making a mess of soap and water on the walkway, and it is unclear if audience members were impressed enough to purchase a tie.⁴² The Weinstein display pales in comparison to the eleven-foot alligator skin displayed in a window to lure clients to John Kerwin's Harness Store at 707 Garrison in 1920.⁴³

Two gentlemen friends, a Mr. Johnson and a Mr. Matthews, took a chance and erected an oven to barbecue meat at Eleventh and Garrison on a cold January day in 1892. Mr. John Jones followed up their success by opening the city's first sandwich shop, the Wayside Café, at 423½ Garrison in 1910 and the Kress Store at 810 Garrison perfected the idea of a public meeting place offering quick, popular food when they installed their soda fountain in 1912.⁴⁴ This happened after the city declared outdoor lunch stands a dusty and dirty nuisance and forced their closure in 1908.⁴⁵

Good ideas and generous actions sprinkle the history of the avenue, beginning when John Carnall opened the first



THE KRESS BUILDING
(Photo courtesy of Floyd Robison)

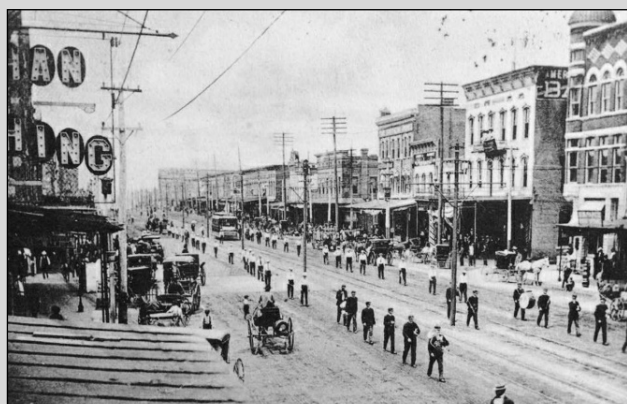
elementary school in town at the corner of Garrison and third street in 1840. The first high school followed about four decades later, operating out of the second floor of a building at 913 Garrison.⁴⁶

Children often benefited from Garrison Avenue activities. When Garrison Plaza, now known as Cisterna Plaza, opened with crushed stone walkways, swings and light fixtures donated by the Light and Traction Company, headquartered at the time at 301 Garrison, it was the perfect playground for families. The community Christmas tree stood in the Plaza for the first time in 1914, and 1,000 under-privileged children received Christmas gifts from Santa himself. Mayor Chester Holland turned on the Christmas lights while the Senior High band marched down Garrison in 1941, and the avenue drew national attention as one of the longest decorated streets in the country.⁴⁷ Not bad for a main street that allowed stock animals to run loose until 1907.⁴⁸

Christmas wasn't the only time children were the focus of all eyes on the avenue in 1913. Four hundred youngsters were treated to rides in more than sixty touring cars from Fifth Street to Thirteenth Street to allow them the opportunity to ride in an automobile. Garrison was closed from Sixth Street to Towson in 1916 to allow for Halloween hilarity, and in 1941 the Joie Theater offered free movie admission to children who turned in ten tin cans as part of a city clean-up project.⁴⁹

As natural disasters, depression and war moved through the country, Garrison adapted and found ways to help. During World War II, the owners of Hunts Department Store at 802 Garrison extended a helping hand to allies by collecting shoes to distribute in war-ravaged England. More than 600 pairs of shoes were collected and sent to Europe from downtown Fort Smith, but a German submarine sank the ship carrying the donation and the shoes never reached their destination.⁵⁰

PARADES ON GARRISON AVENUE



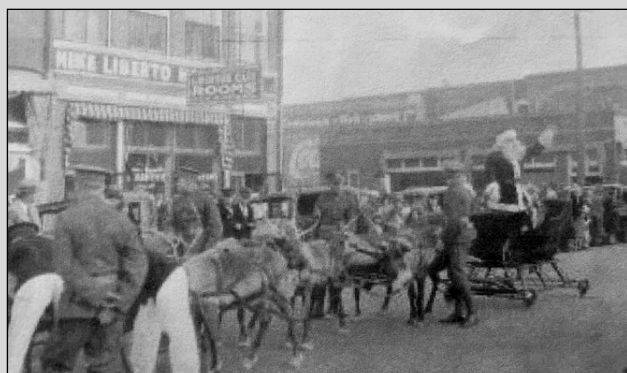
**EARLY TWENTIETH-CENTURY PARADE
ON GARRISON.**

(Photo courtesy of Chuck Raney)



PARADE OF VEHICLES.

(Photo courtesy of Chuck Raney)



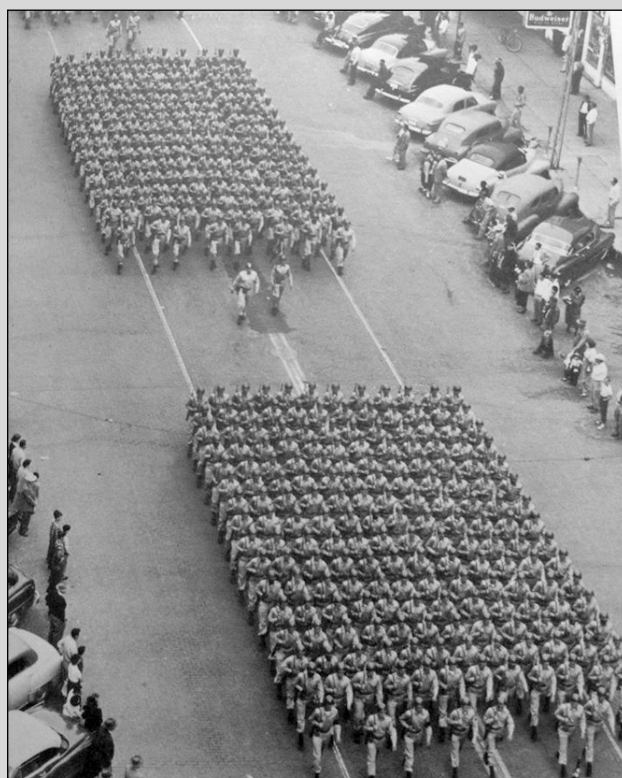
WORLD WAR I SOLDIERS *with
Santa Claus and reindeer*

(Photo courtesy of Chuck Raney)



WORLD WAR I ARMY BAND *parades
down Garrison Avenue.*

(Photo courtesy of Chuck Raney)



1953 ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE
with Camp Chaffee's 5th Armored Division.

(Photo courtesy of Chuck Raney)

Checkered Cab drivers took their futures into their own hands in 1937 when they staged what was called a “riot” in front of their office at 1206 Garrison. The drivers demanded an increase in the speed limit to forty miles per hour to allow them to pick up more fares in a work day, but a compromise of a five cents to each additional passenger they carried at one time quelled the uprising.⁵¹

Sinda Robinson, arrested in 1908 for roaming Garrison

in men’s attire, may be the most interesting person to ever stroll the avenue.⁵² Sinda had a habit of dressing as a man and visiting the bars on lower Garrison, but it was only illegal because of an 1891 ordinance in the Digest of City Ordinances for Fort Smith that prohibited “the movement of any woman on the city streets after 9 pm.”⁵³ The ordinance was meant to combat prostitution on the avenue, but it could explain Sinda’s fondness for men’s clothing.

Luckily, the ladies turning out in November 1990 to watch then Governor Bill Clinton and his wife, Hillary, dance at Sixth and Garrison in celebration of his carrying Fort Smith for the first time in a gubernatorial race were not bound by same laws as Sinda. Hundreds stood in great good humor in a light rain as Don Bailey's Jazz Combo with Henry Rinne played "Satin Doll" while the future president and first lady danced in the soft glow of street lights.⁵⁴

Garrison Avenue survived tornadoes, wars, the Great Depression, and the advent of shopping malls. As Fort Smith continues to grow and change, so does its avenue, and every step we take into the future is made in the shadow of those who first walked on Garrison.



Sue Robison is a member of the Fort Smith Historical Society and has written articles for the Journal including an award-winning biography of Mary O'Toole Parker, the Judge's wife, whom she portrays in re-enactments at the Museum of Fort Smith History and the National Historic Site.

Endnotes

- 1 Edwin Hicks, *The Fort Smith Story, 1817-1896* (Eastern National Parks & Monument Association, 1988).
- 2 Stan Kujuwa, *Fort Smith, Arkansas, Garrison Avenue Crime, Facts, Humor* (Camelot 2K publisher, 2011).
- 3 *Southwest Times Record*, April 15, 1976, "John Rogers."
- 4 Fort Smith National Historic Site map.
- 5 Dusty Helbing, personal interview, November 2017.
- 6 Mary Ellen Carver, *Talk with Tillis* (Mary Ellen Carver publisher, 2002).
- 7 *Fort Smith Herald*, April 16, 1897, "Merchants."
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- 9 *Fort Smith Herald*.
- 10 *Southwest American*, March 9, 1907.
- 11 *The Weekly Elevator*, January 4, 1885, "Fire."
- 12 *Southwest American*, August 24, 1907, "Fines."
- 13 Marcus Woodward, personal interview, December 2017.
- 14 *Southwest American*, August 1, 1914, "No License for liquor."
- 15 *Ibid.*, February 15, 1916, "Meeting at Opera House."
- 16 J. Fred Patton, *The History of Fort Smith*, (North Little Rock, Arkansas: Prestige Press, 1992).
- 17 *Fort Smith Elevator*, April 16, 1897, "Dust storms."
- 18 Kujuwa.
- 19 *Fort Smith Herald*, April 16, 1897, "Silver plated smiles."
- 20 *Southwest American*, June 22, 1911, "Asphalt."
- 21 Kujuwa.
- 22 Charles Girard, personal interview, November, 2017.
- 23 Patton.
- 24 Kujuwa.
- 25 *Southwest American*, November 4, 1933 "LeFlore Hotel."



GOVERNOR BILL CLINTON dances with Ms. Hillary Clinton on Garrison Avenue in 1990.

(Photo courtesy of Judge Jim Spears)

- 26 *Fort Smith New Era*, August 7, 1884, "Sanitation in downtown Fort Smith."
- 27 *Southwest American*, March 18, 1919, "Fagan Bourland and the Hotel Main."
- 28 *Ibid.*, June 7, 1911, "LeFlore Hotel."
- 29 *Ibid.*, January 26, 1929.
- 30 *Ibid.*, January 11, 1928.
- 31 *Ibid.*, January 30, 1934, "Franklin Roosevelt."
- 32 *Ibid.*, June 1, 1939, "Eleanor Roosevelt."
- 33 Kujuwa.
- 34 *Ibid.*
- 35 *Southwest Times Record*, April 25, 1976, "The Military Fort."
- 36 *Southwest American*, December 23, 1909.
- 37 Kujuwa.
- 38 *Southwest American*, July 28, 1918, "Imp Theater Fire."
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- 41 *Southwest American*, September 21, "1915 fashion."
- 42 Kujuwa.
- 43 *Southwest American*, June 16, 1920, "Alligator."
- 44 *Southwest American*, December 1, 1912, "Kress."
- 45 *Ibid.*, November 6, 1908, "Lunch stands closed."
- 46 *Ibid.*, April 25, 1976, "Bicentennial edition."
- 47 *Ibid.*, December 24, 1941, "Downtown lights."
- 48 *Ibid.*, March 9, 1907, "Livestock on Garrison."
- 49 *Ibid.*, April 25, 1976, "Bicentennial edition."
- 50 *Fort Smith Times Record*, June 17, 1941, "Hunts sends shoes to England."
- 51 *Southwest American*, January 5, 1937, "Checkered cab riot."
- 52 Kujuwa.
- 53 Benjamin Boulden, *Living Under A Red Light: Fort Smith's Bordello Row, 1898 to 1948*. (Little Rock: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, January 1994).
- 54 *Southwest Times Record*, November 1990, "Clinton dances on Garrison."



VISITORS TO THE FORT SMITH MUSEUM OF HISTORY view Samuel Seymour's 1820 watercolor "Fort Smith Arkansaw" of Fort Smith.

Samuel Seymour

Artist created a visual record of Long expedition

By Caroline Speir

Samuel Seymour was an artist assigned to Stephen H. Long's Rocky Mountain Expedition of 1819-1820, whose mission it was to explore the country between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains. Seymour was to make a visual record of the landscape, populations, and wildlife of the West, giving us some of the first sketches of the Southwest after the purchase of the Louisiana Territory. Although his personal history is elusive, Seymour's artwork documented what prior expeditions to the West had not accomplished: sketching images of Native populations in their native lands; illustrating the first interactions of those Native populations with government sponsored expeditions; and depicting the American

military's interactions with an expanding country.

Likely an Englishman by birth, Seymour resided in Philadelphia and New York City. His occupation has been listed as an artist, both as a landscape and portrait painter, an engraver, and a draftsman. As early as 1796, and stretching out over the next twenty years, Seymour exhibited his landscape paintings at various shows sponsored by the Pennsylvania Academy of Arts in Philadelphia.

A friend of William and Thomas Birch, he engraved three of their works, "The City of Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania North America" (1801); "The City of New York in the State of New York, North America" (1803); and "In Memory of Gen. George Washington and His

Lady” (1804). Around 1815, Seymour produced a drawing titled, “Battle of New Orleans and the Defeat of the British under the Command of Sir Edward Packenham. by Genl. Andrew Jackson, 8th Jany. 1815.”

Because of Seymour’s artistic experience both in landscape paintings and military drawings, he was commissioned in 1819 as the landscape artist to the Major Stephen H. Long Expedition, which departed for the Rocky Mountains via the Missouri River in June of 1819. Samuel Seymour was specifically commissioned to “furnish sketches of landscapes, whenever we meet with any distinguished for their beauty and grandeur. He will also paint miniature likenesses, or portraits if required, of distinguished Indians, and exhibit groups of savages engaged in celebrating their festivals, or sitting in council, and in general illustrate any subject, that may be deemed appropriate to his art.” Also on the expedition was fellow artist Titian Ramsey Peale, an assistant naturalist who was commissioned with capturing the flora and fauna of the West through scientific drawings. Together Seymour and Peale created hundreds of sketches of the landscape, its inhabitants, its wildlife, and its vegetation from the Mississippi River west to the Rockies.

Seymour fulfilled his mission with works of landscapes such as “View on the Arkansa Near the Rocky Mountains;” portraits of Native Americans titled “Kaskaia, Shienne Chief, Arrappaho” and “Wanotan And His Son;” Native tribes represented in council as “Oto Council” and “Pawnee Council;” and one illustration titled “War [Dog] Dance in the Interior of a Konza Lodge.” On publication, this plate

was incorrectly titled as a war dance. The Konza’s performance was intended as entertainment for the soldiers and not a proclamation of war.

Of his works, one of the best is the 1820 watercolor “Fort Smith Arkansaw” especially significant to this area and to the bicentennial celebration. The stunning original, away for the past 198 years, is here and on display at the Fort Smith Museum of History, on loan from Drexel University’s Academy of Natural Sciences.

Samuel Seymour disappeared from history circa 1824, but examples of his illustrations from two Long expeditions, along with the drawings of Titian Ramsey Peale, can be seen in official accounts of both expeditions contained in the following works:

Account of an expedition from Pittsburgh to the Rocky Mountains, performed in the years 1819, 1820. By order of the Hon. J. C. Calhoun, Secretary of War, under the command of Maj. S. H. Long of the U.S. Top. Engineers. Compiled from the notes of Major Long, Mr. T. Say, and other gentlemen of the party.

Narrative of an expedition to the source of St. Peter’s River, Lake Winnepeck, Lake of the Woods, &c. &c. performed in the year 1823. By order of the Hon. J.C. Calhoun, Secretary of War, under the command of Stephen H. Long, Major, U.S.T.E.

Caroline Speir is the exhibit designer for the Museum of Fort Smith History. She continues her research on Seymour and plans a larger article with more detail about the elusive artist for the September issue.

Letters From Readers

Inquiries will be published in the *Journal* as space allows and should include the following:

- Your full name and address.
- Full name of ancestor about whom you desire information.
- Definite time period (birth, marriage or death date or date appearing in a certain record at a definite time period).
- State the relationships (names of parents, names of children, names of brothers and sisters, or in-laws).

Material should be submitted using word-processing programs supported by Windows. Do not abbreviate any words; put all surnames in capital letters; capitalize only the first letter of

given names and places; write dates as follows (day, months, year: example 25 January 1978).

Suggestions for Submission of Articles

We welcome the submission of articles, previously unpublished, covering significant historical events and persons in Fort Smith and the surrounding area.

Manuscripts, including quotations and footnotes, must be double-spaced, using *The Chicago Manual of Style* (University of Chicago Press). Footnotes should be numbered

consecutively in the text, assembled at the end of the article, along with a list of additional sources.

The author’s name, address and phone number and email address should appear only on the title page. Manuscripts may be submitted on CD disks, using word-processing programs supported by Windows. Photographs should be submitted in digital format.

All correspondence and manuscripts should be submitted to:

Managing Editors
*The Journal of the Fort Smith
 Historical Society*
 P.O. Box 3676
 Fort Smith, AR 72913-3676

How I met **Thomas Adams Smith** *(the fourth)*

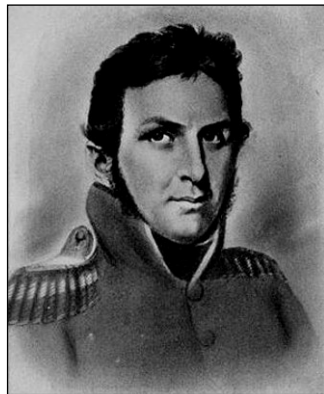
By Jerry Akins

In the 1990s, when I was a collector of antique guns and was set up for a gun show at Bagnell Dam, Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri, a man came down the aisle, and seeing my address on my business card remarked, “That town (Fort Smith) is named after my great-great-great-grandfather, and I have the same name.” We passed a few words at the time, but didn’t say much more. A few months later, at a show in Kansas City, the same man came by my table. This time he pulled out his wallet and said, “Just to show you I’m who I say I am.” And he offered his driver’s license. I said, “I never had any doubt. Nobody’s going to tell me a story like that unless he knows what he’s talking about.”

I asked Tommy, as he’s known, if he had any history on Thomas Adams Smith. He said that he did and that he would send it to me. At some time during our correspondence he told me about his relative, a doctor, who lived in Kansas City, and he sent me some family history that included a small brochure that was a history of a church in the region where Thomas Adams Smith settled after he left the Army in 1818. It turned out to be more of a history of Smith than the church.

In that information was a mention of The Patriots War. I had to find out about this war that I’d never heard of. I knew it wasn’t our Revolutionary War. It turns out that Smith played a big role in it.

The title of the first book that I read on the war was *The Plot to Steal Florida: James Madison’s Phony War* by Joseph B. Smith (1983). And that’s exactly what it was. In 1812, Florida was still a Spanish possession. Spain had not sold Florida to France when they sold the Louisiana Territory, but the U. S. wanted it. The Georgians wanted the U. S. to have it. The Spaniards and the Seminoles had a



**GENERAL THOMAS
ADAMS SMITH,**
*namesake of a city
that he never visited.*

HISTORY
of the
MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
AND THE
EXPERIMENT FARM
OF NAPTON, MISSOURI

with some remarks on the history of Jonesborough
(now Napton) and the Smith Chapel (Methodist)
and Zoar (Baptist) churches

By

THOMAS B. HALL, M.D.

totally different idea and laws regarding slaves. They were more like sharecroppers. Worse yet to the American slave owners, black folks could own guns and could sue white folks in court. Slaves in Georgia were escaping into Florida, and Georgians feared attacks across the border that could spark a slave revolt.

The Patriots War has been called, by historian James G. Cusick, “The Other War of 1812.” Georgians assembled a “Patriots Militia” to go into Florida to “rescue” Americans living there from the Spanish. The intent of the nefarious expedition was to overwhelm Spanish authority and get Florida for the United States.

Colonel Thomas Adams Smith commanded a U.S. Army post near the Florida border. He and his men were assigned the task of going along with the Patriots Militia to

protect them if they were attacked by the Spanish. They succeeded mainly in being eaten by mosquitos while the clothes rotted off their backs because they were not resupplied, but clearly Spanish control of Florida was in jeopardy. By 1819, after another invasion, this one led by Gen. Andrew Jackson, Spain conceded Florida to the United States.

Thomas Adams Smith's name turned up in history occasionally before he appeared in the West as commander of the Rifle Regiment headquartered at Belle Fontaine, Missouri Territory. As a young lieutenant, Smith was assigned by General James E. Wilkinson in 1806 to carry an urgent and very secret document from New Orleans to Washington, "in a shorter time, if possible, than the same route had ever been traveled." The document gave evidence of the general's accusations of treason against Aaron Burr. Later, Smith participated in an invasion campaign against

Canada in the War of 1812. But in 1818, shortly after he sent Bradford and Long on their trip that established the fort that came to bear his name, Gen. Smith resigned from the U. S. Army and accepted an appointment as Collector of Monies for Missouri Territory (land commissioner), which until 1820 included Arkansas Territory. Smith had a farm and large orchards of fruits which, until then, were largely unknown in lands west of the Mississippi. The farm is near Marshal, Missouri, and near where Tommy (Thomas Adams Smith IV) now lives.



Jerry Akins is author of Hangin' Times in Fort Smith: A History of Executions in Judge Parker's Court (Butler Center, 2012) and has done extensive research for and about the Fort Smith National

Historic Site.

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When Truth Won't Do:

Fort Smith, Arkansas, Confederate Monument— A Small Snapshot Among the Vast Southern Landscape of Falsified Historical Narratives

By Luke Pruitt

In a 1975 article in the *Southwest Times Record*, author Taylor Joyce related a brief history of Fort Smith's Confederate monument that was erected in front of the Sebastian County Courthouse in 1903. In it, Joyce explained that in addition to the courthouse monument, a Confederate monument exists in the Fort Smith National Cemetery as well, saying "but for a controversy over its design, the marker at the courthouse would also have been placed in the National Cemetery. At least that is what its sponsors originally intended."¹ Joyce did not explicitly list the sources used for the article, but he relies heavily on newspaper reports in the *Fort Smith Elevator* and the *Arkansas Democrat* in Little Rock. The two newspapers, which are held at the main branch of the Fort Smith Public Library from the mid-nineteenth century through today, are conspicuously missing the years 1902 and 1903. However, the *Fort Smith News Record* does have the issues that covered the argument over the monument's location.

According to Joyce's article and speeches printed in the *News Record* shortly after the Civil War, a sandstone shaft was erected between the graves of two Confederate soldiers in what is now the National Cemetery. Both soldiers were killed in 1862, one in the battle at Pea Ridge and the other at Prairie Grove.

After a tornado in 1898 destroyed the monuments, "The government replaced the sandstone shaft with a simple marker with the names of Generals Steen and McIntosh inscribed on it." Joyce explains that "Since the base also contains the wording 'The Unknown Confederate Dead,' it is apparent the marker was intended as a memorial to the generals' comrades in arms as well....The marker is only five feet tall and contains virtually no ornamentation." Joyce claims that in October of that year the Varina Jefferson Davis Chapter of the Daughters of Confederacy was formed in Fort Smith to raise money for a new monument. After several years of fundraising, the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) had selected a design, but as it neared completion in late 1902, Secretary



INSCRIPTION "LEST WE FORGET" on Confederate memorial, Sebastian County Courthouse, Fort Smith.
(Photo courtesy of Shane Vaughn)

of War under President Theodore Roosevelt, Elihu Root, on behalf of the Quartermaster General of the Army wrote to inform the UDC that the statue could not be erected in the National Cemetery, at least not in the finished form. Joyce explained that "Root 'didn't like the statue of the Confederate soldier standing atop the thirty-foot pedestal and objected to the Confederate flags carved on one of the facings. And, he [Root] was most unhappy with the inscription 'Lest We Forget.'"

Joyce reported the vehement response from editors of the *Fort Smith Elevator* following Root's letter dated December 15, 1902. John Foster Wheeler, a Confederate sympathizer during the Civil War, wrote that "This is an instance in which the government of the greatest republic in

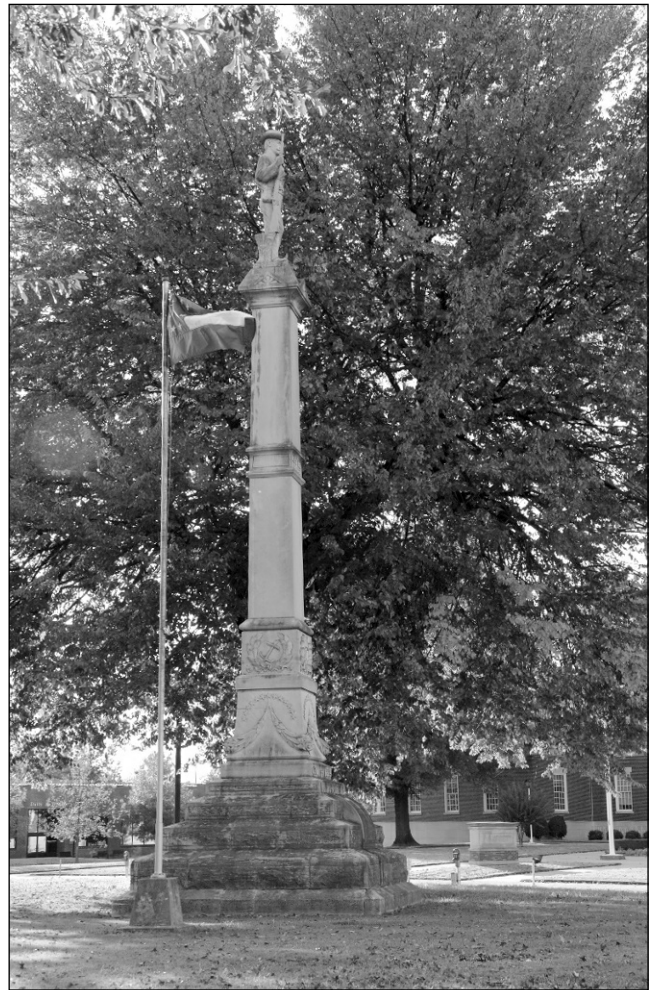
the world, whose leading men are wont to boast of its superior intelligence, civilization, and exalted spirit of its people, descends to an exhibition of smallness that would shame the potentates of the kingdom of Dahomey.” Painting the Daughters of Confederacy as victims, Wheeler continued that of course “the Daughters of the Confederacy will submit to no such humiliating conditions as those exacted by the department of ‘the best government the world ever saw...’ they will erect the monument, but upon another site.”²

Immediately after the new year the Daughters arranged with the city council to put the statue in front of the courthouse. On January 6, 1903, the *Fort Smith Record* reported on the city council meeting:

A communication was read from the Daughters of the Confederacy to locate the Confederate monument in the court yard....Judge Rogers addressed council on the matter....He said the monument would be very ornamental, that it was very similar to the one in Galveston, which was so much admired, but would be much handsomer. The site asked for had been chosen as it was the most public place in the city, not on Garrison avenue and was on a street that the city was required to always maintain in good order.”³

So, the statue was erected on September 10, 1903, in front of the courthouse in downtown Fort Smith, to great fanfare. A parade traveled Garrison Avenue and around the courtyard. Many veteran soldiers and their families came into town. Among the speakers was James H. Berry, U.S. senator from Arkansas, and an ex-Confederate soldier. It is difficult to tell from the newspapers what the crowd might have numbered that day, but by examining the rise in interest of Southern history during this time, we can assume a goodly number and derive a cultural context in which to consider the societal significance of the celebration.⁴

In 1996, the statue was officially listed as a National Historic Site for having statewide significance and meeting the criteria of having commemorative properties. Cited in the registration form is an essay titled, “Something So Dim It Must Be Holy: Civil War Commemorative Sculpture in Arkansas 1886-1934.” The essay was researched and written by Charles Russell Logan as part of a study conducted from 1991-1994 by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program to identify the state’s cultural resources. What we learn (if we had not already realized it during our travels through Arkansas) is that Fort Smith was not unique in its statue. Logan stated that between 1886 and 1934, “Arkansas saw thirty statues erected in commemoration of the Civil War, of these perhaps three honored Union troops.”⁵ Logan wrote at length about a



MONUMENT TO THE CONFEDERATE DEAD,
Sebastian County Courthouse, Fort Smith.
(Photo courtesy of Shane Vaughn)

growing interest in celebrating Confederate States history during this time. From “1898-1912, almost 100,000 people attended each yearly reunion and general festival of the South [meaning the United Confederate Veterans organization]. In 1907, the dedication of a monument to Jefferson Davis in Richmond drew 200,000 spectators, perhaps the largest crowd ever assembled to honor the Confederacy.”

With this rise in interest there seemed to exist a reciprocal departure from realities of the war and the causes for it. Southerners involved in these events “celebrated a vastly different legacy than the ‘real’ one left by the war in Confederate Arkansas and throughout the South in 1865.”⁶ The war in Arkansas, most of it unconventional, left the state devastated and set the economy back from a midpoint status among the states as far as economic indicators were concerned to very near the bottom of the list. And it was not simply celebrating the state’s Confederate history that was the goal for the UDC and UCV. They wanted to write

His Acquittal.—When the case came to a vote, on May 16th, thirty-five of the fifty-four senators were for conviction, nineteen for acquittal. It requires a two-thirds vote to convict. This could not be had. The chief justice gave judgment of acquittal and the court dissolved. Secretary Stanton resigned. The President won the fight and continued his denunciations of Congress.

Re-Admission of States, 1868.—By the end of June, reconstructed governments had been set up in Arkansas, the Carolinas, Florida, Georgia, Alabama and Louisiana. Their mongrel legislatures, composed largely of negroes, carpet-baggers, and Federal soldiers, willingly ratified the Fourteenth Amendment, which was proclaimed a law on July 28th. Congress approved the constitutions adopted by the States just named, and admitted them to representation. Virginia, Mississippi and Texas declined to accept the constitutions prepared for them by reconstructing conventions, and were kept under military governors for some years longer.

General Grant's Election, 1868.—General Grant was next elected President by the Republicans. The negro voters in the reconstructed Southern States followed the "carpet-baggers" like sheep, and the Electoral College gave General Grant a majority of 134, although he received only some 300,000 votes more of the 6,000,000 cast than did Horatio Seymour, the Democratic candidate.

Fifteenth Amendment.—Before General Grant was inaugurated, Congress voted for a Fifteenth Amendment, which gave the right of suffrage to the negroes, and empowered Congress to enforce it. This amendment, being ratified by the requisite number of States, became a law the next year. The three Southern States not yet "reconstructed" were required to accept it as well as the fourteenth, before they should be re-admitted to the Union. Within twelve months, the strong military rule brought them also into subjection, and they, too, were counted among the States.

Oppression Under the Reconstructed Governments.—

These "reconstructed governments" in no way represented the people of the Southern States. The military authority had never professed to be anything but arbitrary. Some of the generals who ruled in the five districts were more conscientious and humane than others, more prudent and considerate of the white population under their domination; but all had been oppressive and dictatorial, and there had been no pretence of freedom. Under reconstruction there was the mockery of a representative government, which ignored many of the most intelligent white population, while it oppressed and robbed them without mercy. The reconstruction policy turned the Southern States into what one of the strongest Northern writers describes as "a political hell."¹

Loyal Leagues.—In order to increase their influence for evil over the colored people, these crafty white leaders introduced among them secret societies known as "Loyal Leagues," or "Lincoln Leagues."² The meetings were held at night, when violent speeches incited the negroes to evil deeds, and to outrages too horrible to be described. The Freedmen's Bureau, especially, encouraged these pernicious leagues.

¹ This was the harvest time for the carpet-baggers, whose principal motive in life was to enrich themselves. In South Carolina, the governor, lieutenant-governor, and all the other State officials were either carpet-baggers or negroes. In other States, officers of the army which had desolated them shared the government with other Northern adventurers and with negroes. Many of these negro legislators, judges, and magistrates could neither read nor write, and had not the sense to understand the important questions of the evil times. Government, in such incapable hands, became every day more corrupt. The ignorant negroes, elated at their fancied equality with their white colleagues, were entirely subservient to their will. All base devices were used to gain money for the greedy adventurers. The impoverished States were taxed more heavily than the most prosperous times warranted, and those taxes had to be paid by the disfranchised whites. Railroads and other schemes were chartered which bribed the State officials enormously to "put them through." Corporations and private citizens were fleeced without mercy. The debt of South Carolina was increased from \$5,000,000, in 1865, to \$30,000,000, ten years later. The same conditions prevailed elsewhere, and Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas suffered as deeply as South Carolina. The lot of the intelligent white population was made harder by the officious interference of the Freedmen's Bureau in their social and domestic life. Whatever story against a white employer any idle, vindictive negro carried to an officer of the Bureau was eagerly listened to, and was sure to occasion an offensive rebuke or admonition to the accused party, while the negroes were encouraged in idleness and lawlessness.

² These leagues seem to have been partly religious and partly political. The members took solemn oaths to carry out the objects of the society, which were to strengthen the Northern adventurers, and injure the Southern whites.

EXCERPT FROM SUSAN PENDELTON LEE'S *BRIEF HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES*,
adopted textbook in most Southern schools.

it into textbooks and to teach schoolchildren their version. The mission of the Varina Jefferson Davis chapter of the UDC in Fort Smith was "To search for and preserve the *true history* (italics added) of the brave deeds of our Southern men and women and see that it is taught to the rising generation."⁷

An economy formed around this Southern nationalism growth pole. An 1899 story in the *Fort Smith News Record* titled "A New South Indeed" reported the opening of a distribution center on Garrison Avenue in downtown Fort Smith for B. F. Johnson Publishing Company of Richmond, Virginia. The article boasted that "A Great Southern School Book Publishing House Has Sprung into Existence; and now Southern Authors and Southern Literature, From this Time Henceforth, Shall Be Duly Recognized."⁸ The full-page article expressed especially a need for history books. "Never since the civil war [sic] did the South stand more in need of any one thing than a just and true school history of our country."⁹

Susan Pendleton Lee from Virginia would write that history in her book *School History of the United States*. The book was "used throughout the states of Virginia and largely in North and South Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia, and in many schools in other states and at the State University at Fayetteville."¹⁰ As of the date of that article in 1899, Fort Smith schools had not adopted Lee's school textbook, and it is not known if they did, although the article explicitly suggested it. Likely the books were adopted given its widespread use in the South and within Arkansas.

It seems that UDC chapters across the South now had the passion, the network, and the necessary tools to execute their mission. By observing Lee's *A School History of the United States*, we get an idea of what the author and the many Southern nationalist groups gaining in popularity had in mind when they talked about educating the next generation. A sampling of the Lee textbook discourses follow.

On Southern slaveholders:

who were an intelligent, refined, cultivated, God-fearing people, had come to the opinion that the holding of slaves was nowhere forbidden in the Bible. They knew that the laws of their individual States expressly sanctioned it, and that the constitution of the United States had not interfered with it. They knew also that the Negroes in bondage were the best clothed, best fed, best cared for, and happiest class of laborers in the world.¹¹

On the Thirteenth Amendment:

The character of the Negroes, and dreading the evils which were apt to result from their sudden freedom and release from all restraint, most of the legislatures enacted strict regulations as to vagrants; and also as to contracts for labor, and other relations between employers and those employed. In some of the States, these regulations were equally applicable to white and colored people; in others they were expressly prepared for the negroes and mulattoes. All guaranteed protection to the Negroes in their rights, but felt bound to extend some protection likewise to the whites.¹²

On the Freedmen's Bureau:

Any story, carried by an idle, vindictive Negro, of real or imaginary wrong done by a white employer, was eagerly heard by some Bureau official, from whom the party accused was certain to receive some offensive reproof or admonitions, while the Negroes were encouraged in idleness and insubordination.¹³

And finally, on the Ku Klux Klan:

The different societies were after a while known by the one name of the "Ku Klux Klan," which became quite powerful and influential. The methods resorted to for intimidating the "Loyal Leagues," and protecting white women and defenseless families, had proved so efficacious, that they were now employed for political purposes. The enormous Negro majorities in the Southern States were seen to be the potent weapon of all the misrule and dishonesty everywhere prevalent, and the "Ku Klux" devoted its efforts to keep the Negroes from voting.¹⁴

Ms. Lee's depiction of African Americans in her textbook, of course, was by no means an isolated one. So many such ideas were emerging in print that African American scholar and Harvard trained historian W. E. B. Dubois devoted the final chapter of his *Black*

Effects of Reconstruction Rule.—I have told you very little of the horrors and iniquities of the "Reconstruction Period." Except in loss of life, the South suffered far more than during the war. The lawless exercise of despotic power, the disregard of moral obligations, and the greed for wealth which trampled upon honor and honesty, produced long and lasting evil consequences to the whole nation. After years of mingled endurance and resistance, oppression and plundering fell into disgrace in the South. Slowly and grudgingly Congress doled out amnesty to the Southerners, and the States got the reins of government into their own hands. Native patriots once more guided their councils, and the long reign of terror came to an end.

QUESTIONS.—1. For what was President Johnson impeached? 2. Tell of his acquittal. 3. What States were re-admitted in 1868? 4. What three States refused to accept the conditions of re-admission? 5. Who was elected President in 1868? 6. What is the Fifteenth Amendment? 7. Describe the oppression in the South under the Reconstruction governments. 8. Who filled all the offices, and how were they elected (note)? 9. How were the troubles increased by the Freedmen's Bureau (note)? 10. What were the Loyal Leagues? 11. Was patient submission possible? 12. How did the white men try to protect themselves? 13. Tell of the "Ku Klux Klan." 14. What were its plans, and how it was afterwards abused (note)? 15. What is the history of the South from 1865 to 1876? 16. Describe affairs in Louisiana, her two governments and how she was robbed (note). 17. What was the Force Bill? 18. What were the Returning Boards? 19. What were the effects of the Reconstruction Rule?

EXCERPT FROM LEE'S BOOK *explaining the horrors of Reconstruction to Southern schoolchildren*

Reconstruction in America, "The Propaganda of History" to a countering study of these disparaging tropes.¹⁵

It is within this context that we should observe the speeches of the erection ceremony in front of the courthouse in Fort Smith on September 10, 1903. It seems unlikely that very many African Americans would have attended the ceremony and mention of slavery or African Americans did not appear in the published speeches. We see similarities between the tropes employed by Ms. Lee and those studied by Dubois in issues of the *Fort Smith News Record*. An anecdote titled "The Negro's Saint" reads:

Cons P. Wilson stands a good show of being made the patron saint of the Negro race. He has discovered a way to preserve water melons. When the Negro can sit down in mid-winter to a spread of 'possum and 'taters, with water melons for desert, he will canonize Cons P. Wilson. Mr. Wilson has two preserved melons on exhibition at his saloon now.¹⁶

But racism, nor black oppression need not be so explicitly expressed at the ceremony. By this point, they were being written into law. Distinguished Southern historian C. Vann Woodward explained that "the barriers of racial discrimination mounted in direct ratio with the tide of political democracy among whites. In fact, an increase of Jim Crow laws upon the statute books of a state is almost an accurate index of the...triumph of white democratic

movements.”¹⁷ While no segregation laws were implemented between 1865-1885, for five years after 1887 each Southern state adopted them, Arkansas in 1891.¹⁸

Elihu Root upheld the Quartermaster General’s objections to the statue prompting Joseph M. Hill, son of a recently deceased Confederate veteran and longtime member of the Fort Smith community, to make a scapegoat of Secretary Root. Hill told of the troubles that the Varina Jefferson Davis chapter of the UDC had gone through to raise money for the statue, but he lamented the statue “is not on the site contemplated, by reason of the intolerance of a Secretary of War, whose name should not be mentioned on a day dedicated to honoring American patriots.”¹⁹ Instead, the statue was erected in front of the courthouse where it stands today, the most public place in the city.

It was in that environment that Senator Berry, not only a Confederate veteran, but also one who had lost a leg in combat at the battle of Corinth, Mississippi, spoke to the crowd at the dedication of the statue at the courthouse. His speech was excerpted on the September 11, 1903, issue of *Fort Smith News Record*, with an introduction from the editor noting that Senator Berry had “forcibly pay[ed] his respects to the government whose actions had prevented the monument from being erected in the National Cemetery....paid his splendid tribute to the leaders and the soldiers of the Confederacy.”²⁰

No, I am going to say something in answer to the charges that our honored leaders and their men were actuated by motives of greed and ambition. Let us see if this is the case. Take first, Jefferson Davis, who was the president of the Confederacy....No man who ever knew him ever doubted his patriotism and his devotion to duty; no man ever doubted that he believed with his whole heart and great mind the justness of the cause of the people of the South. He was devoted to it. He never believed and never could believe that he could fail until it was all lost. I say here today that his whole life shows that he was moved by the very highest patriotism.

Next, Senator Berry considered the accusations of greed and ambition on General Robert E. Lee:

He was in the spring of 1861 Lieutenant General of the United States Army. His father before him was a soldier in the Revolutionary War....he had no cause for greed. He had all in the world that his heart could desire. The highest ambition that ever floated through his brain was that someday he might become the commander of the United States Army...[yet] when this highest hope, his highest ambition, was offered to him by General [Winfield] Scott, he refused it. When the letter came making him the offer, he

and his wife knelt upon the floor and prayed to God Almighty; he arose from his knees and calmly wrote General Scott: “I cannot accept your offer, I go to share the misery of my people of the South.” Do you suppose that this perilous leader, this splendid soldier, was animated by greed?

Berry then referred to Stonewall Jackson as “a patriot of the purest dye, a noble Christian gentleman, a man in whose mind an impure thought never existed... Can it be said that such a man, such a splendid patriot, was animated by motives of ambition and greed? A thousand times no!” The editor concluded that the speech was a gem, and “at its conclusion, he [Berry] was compelled to hold a handshaking event which lasted for some time. It was an enthusiastic demonstration in the honor of the veteran Senator, who is and always has been a favorite with Fort Smith audiences.”²¹

Berry, a Redeemer, certainly represented the Confederate viewpoint well for those in that corner of the fight. Most people of Fort Smith, however, had a pro-Union sentiment before the Civil War and the city experienced a significant and influential Union Army veteran migration into the city afterward, men hardly sympathetic to Confederate monuments.*

So often today in the debate about Confederate monuments, racism is at the core of the discussion. This happens for good reason. By the turn of the century, African Americans were forcibly prevented from participating in the process of shaping the American political and social landscape. To read these speeches and the cultural context surrounding these monuments, it seems clear that black subjugation was, by privilege of law—*de facto* and *de jure*—and centuries of societal dominance, far less in the forefront of the white mind than was the framing of a society that simply did not include them. Nothing must be about race whenever a dominant group can create an historical memory without input from its non-dominant groups. White supremacy is effectively a silent institution.

*Editor note: See *Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society*, Vol. VI, No. 1 April 1982, p. 2 for more on this subject.



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Book Reviews

Nuevo South: Latinas/os, Asians, and the Remaking of Place

By Perla Guerrero. (Austin, Texas: University of Texas Press, 2017. Pp. 238. Preface, introduction, five chapters, conclusion. \$29.95.)

Nuevo South: *Latinas/os, Asians, and the Remaking of Place*, by Perla Guerrero, is an important contribution to understanding contemporary notions of race and ethnic relations ranging from local Arkansas communities to the national discussion on immigration. A Fort Smith Northside High School graduate, Guerrero lived part of the social history she is now explaining from the interdisciplinary standpoint of American Studies. From her personal experience upon her arrival to Arkansas in 1996, of being asked by stymied Arkansans "What are you?," she teases out, layer by layer how the old Southern binary of white/black racial designations has been challenged and reconstituted in the past five decades. Her focus is specifically on Northwest Arkansas from Fort Chaffee to Bella Vista. Her scholarship adds a much needed voice and a crucial perspective on this local subject.

The Nuevo South comes into focus as Guerrero examines, each in turn, the arrival of Southeast Asians to Fort Chaffee in 1975, the Mariel Cubans in 1980, and migration of Latinas/os and Marshall Islanders into Northwest Arkansas beginning in the 1990s. She shows how the arrival of each new group altered the manner in which the dominant white population articulated conceptions of race by framing each new group in relation to each other, from viewing Southeast Asians through the lens of "yellow peril" to pathologizing normal behavior of "illegal aliens" then holding up Vietnamese as a model minority. Guerrero's methods vary from primary documents and newspaper accounts to personal interviews. By untangling interpersonal relationships she reveals how whites struggled to incorporate the addition of each of these

new populations into their preconceived views of race, while Southeast Asians and Latin Americans remade Northwest Arkansas as their home.

This is a timely publication for Arkansans and historians alike to understand the contemporary role the region plays in the local and national debates on immigration. Guerrero emphasizes that, “As Asian and Latina/o communities grow in the region, the way they are defined and racialized by southerners will make regional racial formation important as a focal point of analysis for multifaceted understandings of race and ethnicity across places in the US South” (182). *Nuevo South* succeeds in revealing the complexity of race and ethnic relations as Arkansas continues to be a frontier space within which brave new pioneers continue to forge a homeplace.

Reviewed by Dr. Daniel Maher. Maher is Associate Professor of Anthropology and Sociology, University of Arkansas—Fort Smith and author of Mythic Frontiers (University Press of Florida, 2016)

Bridging Borders & Time: A Bicentennial Portrait of Fort Smith

By Fort Smith Bicentennial Committee, chaired by Sandy Sanders, Mayor. (Covington, Georgia: Bookhouse Group, Inc., 2017. Pp. 265, photographs, \$46.)

When the handsome coffee table book *Bridging Borders & Time: A Bicentennial Portrait of Fort Smith* arrived in homes just before Christmas 2017, reactions, including many voiced on social media, seemed divided into two categories. Those who were seeking a celebration of the western Arkansas city were satisfied by the sumptuous, full-page, four-color photographs. Those who were expecting a new, comprehensive history of the town were less pleased.

To be sure, the book meets its title’s promise. This is a portrait of Fort Smith, created on the eve of its 200th birthday. It includes enough history to give people new to the area an understanding of the frontier that shaped today’s city without overwhelming the people who just came for the pictures.

The photos are amazing. Those who love Fort Smith will find all their favorite vistas: an evening view from the J. Fred Patton Garrison Avenue Bridge of fireworks over

the Fort Smith River Park, a look at the Arkansas River Valley from the McClure Amphitheater at Chaffee Crossing, an aerial view of the Riverfront Blues Festival, sunset behind the Park at West End, mountain bikes at Ben Geren Regional Park, and the Northside High School Mayo-Thompson Stadium on a crisp autumn evening.

Familiar indoor venues include everything from the Now and Then Shoppe to the Fort Smith Little Theatre to the Savoy Tea Company, and from the National Historic Site to the Fort Smith Museum of History to Bowling World.

The 19th and early 20th century photos reprinted in *Bridging Borders & Time* include the familiar and the less known. Among the black and white photos are the opening of the Albert Pike Free Bridge, the concessions building at Electric Park and the haircut heard ’round the world—Elvis Presley’s buzz cut.

In sepia tones are photos of the Hotel Main, the Belle Grove School and many shots of Garrison Avenue before it was paved.

Those who have some working knowledge of the history of western Arkansas will not find much that is new here, certainly nothing that goes beyond Ed Bearss and A.M. Gibson’s *Fort Smith: Little Gibraltar on the Arkansas*, Billy Higgins’ *Fort Smith: Vanguard of Western Frontier History*, or the beloved if occasionally flawed *History of Fort Smith* by J. Fred Patton.

What *Bridging Time & Borders* offers that is fresh is the curation of the basic elements of the city’s history augmented by submitted essays about many of the landmark companies and institutions that were important in shaping Fort Smith and remain important today.

Filling in blanks in the history are stories submitted by ArcBest and Baldor Electric Company (now ABB); Beshears and Forsgren; First National Bank and Arvest; First Baptist Church, First United Methodist Church and St. John’s Episcopal Church; and many more sponsors.

This bicentennial book presents a fond look at a Fort Smith that is well-known and comfortable. Its value is not as a history book, but as a snapshot of a city proud of its past, defiant about its challenges and ready to embrace the future.

This is not a book to read and throw away or to shove on a book shelf. It is a book to show to guests and to pass on to children. Fifty years from now people will look at it not for what it says about 1817 Fort Smith, but for what it says about 2017 Fort Smith.

Reviewed by Judith Hansen. Dr. Hansen is Advancement Editor for the University of Arkansas—Fort Smith Alumni Association and former editor of the Southwest Times Record.

Who Knew?

Who knew...or even dreamed of all the changes that would occur to Fort Smith in 200 years? Fort Smith is celebrating its bicentennial year throughout 2018.

Fort Smith pondered preservation our history during an earlier Bicentennial, our countries' 1976 celebration. A group of eleven individuals concerned with safeguarding history met in October 1976. The committee determined that even with the Fort Smith Museum and a program for the preservation of historic homes and buildings in place, there still was a deficiency. The Fort Smith Historical Society was formed 1977 to fill that gap, "The express purpose of this organization is to locate, identify, collect and preserve historical data; record oral history; and to publish source materials and historical articles of the Fort Smith area, so that the lives of our families, our friends and our neighbors may be made richer by knowing our historic past. *The Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society* began as a result with the first issue, Volume 1, Number 1, September 1977, Amelia Martin, editor.

Author Joyce Faulkner was our January guest speaker. She shared her secrets with us, "**Researching a Historical Novel: Tips, Tricks, and Tools.**" She discussed resources; historian/author partnerships; and the importance of researchers, librarians, archivists, and historians to that project and the thrill of the hunt. She is using this process to write her latest historical fiction novel, with the working title, *Garrison Avenue*. It tells the story of a lynching that took place in 1912, when a man was hanged from a pole that supported trolley cables running down Garrison Avenue.

Joyce Faulkner does not back away from a challenge. A University of Pittsburgh graduate with a chemical engineering degree, Petroleum Option, was not the typical goal of a woman in 1976 when she started. As in everything, Joyce is insightful and totally committed to her goals for each book. There are no shortcuts. Example: Her book *Windshift* is a look into the lives of Women Air Service Pilots (WASP) during World War II. Along with all her other research, Joyce took flying lessons to know how "her" pilots felt. She now knows the difficulty these women had flying a huge plane while sitting in the cockpit designed for an average size man.

Joyce Faulkner is the writer of numerous books, among them *Vala's Bed*. When a German war-bride with two sons

were relocated to a small Ohio town by her spouse, the family faced flashbacks from the World War II horror they had just seen while enduring prejudices of post-World War II America. Joyce accompanied her husband to Europe on a business trip, and while there visited two former concentration camps to research this book. She came back home after their trip and began working on her book. In *The Shadow of Suribachi*, Joyce tells the story of what seven American GIs encountered during the thirty-six days of combat in the World War II battle for Iwo Jima. To prepare for this one, she explored the stories her father about that time in his life. She talked to many survivors. One reviewer of her work said: "You have to believe that author Joyce Faulkner was a warrior from some previous lifetime—if you believed in reincarnation at all. She gives you such an honest and intimate portrayal of men who are in combat that one would think that she was actually there." These and other Joyce Faulkner books are found on Amazon.

We are asking the readers to please help with the research for Joyce's new book set here in 1912. She is looking for the answers to seven basic questions. It is important for us to have this time in our history recorded as accurately as possible. Please look through old records your family might have saved or passed down. Ask questions of your older family members. They may remember their parents or grandparents talking about this incident.

Those who have reported and recorded the account in our more recent history did a beautiful job. There were rumors or truths that pages were torn from books, newspaper articles were missing and that there were missing court records. The story begins with conflicting accounts of the events that happened. We do know that Pocahontas Ross, Sanford Lewis (the victim of a lynching), Andy Carr, a deputy constable, John B. Williams, a friend of the deputy constable, were all at the scene when Andy Carr was murdered or accidentally shot. The ramifications of that bullet and man's inhumanity to man vibrated throughout the county. It brought out the worst in some and the best in others.

History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be

unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again.

—MAYA ANGELOU, *On the Pulse of the Morning*.

Please respond if you know the answers to any of the following questions about *Garrison Avenue*. Send an email through our web page: info@FortSmithHistory.org our website: <https://www.fortsmithhistory.org/> and you'll get a response soon after.

"Storytelling reaches across time, space, culture, ideology and language to touch people who you have never met."

—Joyce Faulkner

❖ Does anyone have copies of indictments that resulted from the investigation into the Sandford/Sanford Lewis lynching on March 23, 1912?

❖ Does anyone have a transcript of the trial of John B. Williams for involuntary manslaughter in the death of Andy Carr on March 23, 1912?

❖ Does anyone have information about Sandford/Sanford Lewis and his family?

❖ Does anyone have any information about a young woman named Pocahontas Ross who was arrested on Texas Corner on March 23, 1912, for disorderly conduct?

❖ Does anyone have information about what happened to Bryant Barry, Chief of Police on the night of March 23, 1912, before and after that night?

❖ Does anyone have information about Cathey Pitcock?

❖ Does anyone have information on the descendants of Patrick Andrew "Andy" Carr?

"Historian/author partnerships; and the importance of researchers, librarians, archivists, and historians to that project."

Partners/Team *Thank you, team.*

Joyce Faulkner, Author

Dr. Micki Voelkel, (Coauthor) UAFS

Karen Daggs

Mary Kaye Smith

Gary and Mary Black

Russ Jester

George Simmons

Angela Walton-Raji

John Hagen

Joe Wasson

Charles Raney

Sherry Toliver

Caroline Speir, Fort Smith Museum of History

Dr. Michael Crane UAFS

Barbara Qualls Turner

Burley Clay Johnston III

George Allen Johnston

FSPL Genealogy Department

Fort Smith Historical Society

Bob Neufall, Fort Smith Trolley Museum

Shelley Blanton

Carolyn Joyce, "Miss Laura"

Maria and James Sanders

THE FIND: Joe Wasson found a transcript of the inquiry into police maleficence regarding incidents and actions that occurred after Andy Carr was killed. A true "thrill of the hunt" moment.

THE FIND: John Faulkner made a great find.

No. 294—On the 25 day of March 1912

City of Fort Smith v. Pocahontas Ross

Charged with violating of said city ordinance of said city by *Being Disorderly*

To which charged said defendant pleads *Not Guilty* the court having heard the evidence, doth find the defendant *Guilty*.

Adjudged by the court that the defendant *Pay the City \$25.00*.

And in default of paying said fine and costs, it is ordered that he be committed to the city jail for the period of 25 days, that being at a rate of one dollar per day for the discharge of said fine and costs.

Margin says *Com notice of appeal*, John Harrington Police Judge.

"Research Sources: Starting with the basics."

(Samuel) Cathey Pitcock, Fort Smith detective, March 23, 1912.

Marriages. Year: 1898; County, District: Fort Smith;
Book: "F"; Page 41901
Bride: Nation, Florence
Age: 18 (1880)
Groom: Pitcock, Cathey
Age: 21(1877)
Date of Marriage: 18980201 Feb. 1, 1898
Officiant: S A Renfrow

1910 Census. Fort Smith, Sebastian, Arkansas, Ward 3, August 1910. Fam. 63; 64; 412 So 6st.

Pitcock, Cathey, head of household; male; wht, 32(1878), married, 12yrs; born Ark, Father & Mother born Ark; speaks English; Policeman; worker; not out of work; rents, house; not vet., blind or mute.

Pitcock, Florence; wife, female, wht, 28, (married 12 years; 6 live births, 6 still living; born Ark, Father and Mother born Ark; speaks English; works home; can read, can write.

Pitcock, Joseph; son, male, wht, 11; born Ark, Mother and Father born Arkansas; speaks English; can read, write, attended school.

Pitcock, Billie; son, male, wht, 7; born Ark, Mother and Father born Arkansas; speaks English; can read, write, attended school.

Pitcock, Annie; daughter; female, wht, 7; born Ark, Mother and Father born Arkansas; speaks English; read (left blank), write (left blank), attended school.

Pitcock, Dalton; son, male, wht, 5; born Ark, Mother and Father born Arkansas; speaks English.

Pitcock, William; son, male, wht, 4; born Ark, Mother and Father born Arkansas; speaks English.

Pitcock, Finn; son, male, wht, 2; born Ark, Mother and Father born Arkansas; speaks English.

Pitcock, Rebecca; mother, female, wht, 60, (marital status, births left blank); born Ark, Father born Missouri and Mother born Ark; speaks English; works none; can read, can write.

Wetin, Lorner; mother-in-law, female, wht, 54, (marital status, births left blank); born Ark, Father born Missouri and Mother born Ark; speaks English; works none; can read, can write.

This was on Fort Smith Police Department Web page, the fallen officer tab:

Patrick Andrew Carr was born in 1870 in West Virginia.

He was a detective on the Fort Smith Police Department when he was shot and killed. Andy Carr and his wife, Della James Meek, lived at 601 South 17th Street in Fort Smith and had five children: Pansy Romaine, Della Mae, Jack Meek, Margaret Stanhope, and James Andrew.

On Saturday night, March 23, 1912, Fort Smith Police Detective Andy Carr was shot and killed while helping other officers capture an escaping prisoner. Another Fort Smith Police detective, Cathey Pitcock, had observed a 24 year old black male, Sanford Lewis, engaged in a loud verbal confrontation with a black female on Garrison Avenue. Detective Pitcock arrested Sanford Lewis and began escorting him to jail. The prisoner pulled away from the detective and fled. Detective Carr observed Sanford Lewis making his escape and joined with others in pursuing the escapee.

During the pursuit and recapture of the prisoner, shots were fired and Detective Carr was struck above the right eye by a bullet. The officer died nine days later in St. Edward Hospital without ever knowing what had happened to him. He was laid to rest in the Oak Cemetery.

1910 Census Fort Smith, Sebastian, Arkansas Ward 4, 601 So 17

Andy Carr, w,m, Head, 40, b1870, W. Virg., Married, father Ireland, mother Ireland, Speaks English, Constable, Wage Earner, owns home, free of mortgage, house, able to read, write, wk, 12 mo.

Della Carr, w,f, wife, 36, b1874, La, Married, Father Ala., Mother Ala, Speaks English, reads English, 5 children born, 5 living children.

Pansy Carr	F	W	daughter	16
Della Carr	F	W	daughter	14
Meek Carr	M	W	son	12
Margaret Carr	F	W	daughter	10
James Carr	M	W	daughter	8

James H Meek, M W, Brother in law, 47, Wid., reads, writes, speaks English, owns business, carpenter, emp

James D Meek, M, Nephew in law, S, B. Ark, speaks, reads, writes English.

Marriages. Year: 1891; County, District: Fort Smith;
Book: "D"; Page 51702

Bride: **Meek, Della**

Age: 19

Groom: **Carr, Andrew**

Age: 22

Date of Marriage: 18911218

Officiant: Julian C Brown

Marriages. Year: 1878; County, District: Fort Smith;
Book: "B"; 25301 Page
Bride: **Kelly, Mary**
Age: 17
Groom: **Barry, Louis B**
Age: 23
Date of Marriage: 18780102 January 2, 1878
Officiant: Michael Smythe, Priest

Bryant Barry Chief of Police, Fort Smith, March 23, 1912.
Buried Calvary Cemetery Fort Smith, Arkansas
Barry, L Bryant S. 1854-1930

1878 Year

Fort Smith County District
B Book 25301 Page
Bride Name: KELLY, MARY
Bride Age: 17
Date of Marriage: January 2, 1878
Groom Name: BARRY, LOUIS B
Groom Age: 23
18780102
MICHAEL SMYTHE, PRIEST

Census 1900. Sebastian, Upper, District 0122 Street Number 326, Family 331 Street: South "R"

Barry, Bryant. Head, White, Male, Sept 1854, 45,
Married 22 yrs.; Born, Mississippi; Father, Mississippi;
Mother, Mississippi, Constable; can read, write and speak
English, Owns free of mortgage, home.

Barry, Mary. Wife, White, Female, Oct 1861, 38,
Married 22 yrs. 7 live births, 7 still living; born
Mississippi; can read, write and speak English.

Barry, Jim. Son, White, male, Nov. 1887, 21, Single;
Born, Arkansas; Father, Mississippi; Mother Mississippi;
Day Laborer; can read, write and speak English.

Barry, Ethel. White, female, daughter, Dec. 1881, 18,
Single; Born, Arkansas; Father, Mississippi; Mother
Mississippi; at school, 9; can read, write and speak English.

Barry, Louis. White, male, son, Jan 1886, 14, Single;
Born, Arkansas; Father, Mississippi; Mother Mississippi; at
school, 9; can read, write and speak English.

Barry, Henry. White, male, son, Nov 1887, 12, Single;
Born, Arkansas; Father, Mississippi; Mother Mississippi; at

school, 9; can read, write and speak English.

Barry, Theodore. White, male, son, June 1889, 10,
Single; Born, Arkansas; Father, Mississippi; Mother
Mississippi; at school, 9; can read, write and speak English.

Barry, Carl. White, male, son, July 1893, 6, Single;
Born, Arkansas; Father, Mississippi; Mother Mississippi; at
school, 9; can read, write and speak English.

Barry, Sidney. White, male, son, June 1885, 4, Single;
Born, Arkansas; Father, Mississippi; Mother Mississippi; at
school, 9; can read, write, and speak English.

Census 1910. Fort Smith, Arkansas, Sebastian, Ward 7, District 0165

Barry, L. B. Head male, white, 56, M1 Married 32 yrs.,
Born, Mississippi, Father—Alabama, Mother—Georgia;
speaks English; occupation—none, own income; reads,
writes, owns residence, free of mortgage; house.

Barry, Mary E. female, wife, white, 49, M1 Married
32 yrs., 7 live births, 7 still living, Born, Ark, Father—
Ireland, Mother—Ireland; speaks English; occupation—
none; reads, writes.

Barry, Ethel. female, daughter, white, 26, single, Born,
Ark, Father—Ireland, Mother—Ireland; speaks English;
occupation—none; reads, writes.

Barry, Theo. male, son, white, 20, wd, Born,
Mississippi Father—Ireland, Mother—Ireland; speaks
English; occupation—helper, Eng., W, not out of work;
reads, writes.

Barry, Earl. male, son, white, 16, S, Born, Arkansas
Father—Ireland, Mother—Ireland; speaks English; none;
reads, writes, attended school.

Barry, Sidney. male, son, white, 14, S, Born,
Arkansas Father—Ireland, Mother—Ireland; speaks
English; none; reads, writes, attended school.

Barry, Henry. male, son, white, 22, S, Born, Arkansas
Father—Ireland, Mother—Ireland; speaks English;
Salesman, Mrs Tailor, reads, writes.

Fort Smith City Directories

Fort Smith City Directory 1907 p. 68
Barry, Bryant, police captain 2321 North B

Fort Smith City Directory 1911 p. 78
Barry, L Bryant, r, 2321 North B

Fort Smith City Directory, 1925 p. 57
Barry, L Bryant, watchman, 3520 Belmont

Fort Smith City Directory, 1928 p. 55

Barry, L Bryant, flagman, r 3520 Belmont

Barry, Lewis Bryant, buried Calvary Cemetery, Born: September 6, 1854; Died: March 21, 1930.

Father—James Madison Barry.

Mother—Sarah Jane Barry.

1900 Census. Arkansas, Crawford, Richland Dist. 0060. Number of dwelling, 62, Family number: 62.

Macy Howell, black male, head; born Oct 1875 in Arkansas; 24 years old; married 3 years; a farmer; unemployed three month this year; reads; writes; speaks English; rents farm; farm schedule 58.

Sophia Howell, (Macy's wife; mother to Pocahontas and Willie Bill.), black female; born April 1874; married 3 years; 2 children born; 2 children living; Father born in South Carolina; Mother born Texas.

Willie Bell Ross, black female; born Jan 1889; age 11; Ark, farm laborer; reads; does not write; speaks English.

Both sisters lived with their Step-father.

Pocahontas Ross, black female; born Aug. 1891, 8 S Ark, School 2 months, reads; does not write; speaks English.

Sophie Howell (Pocahontas Ross' Mother) and Macy Howell (Pocahontas' Step-father)

1910 Census Muskogee, Harris, Oklahoma

(There were no street names or house numbers on this portion of the Census.) #20; Family #20;

Howell, Messia (Macy); Head of Household; male, black, 35; married once, 11 yrs.; born Arkansas; Father & Mother born Arkansas; speaks English; carpenter; working code OA (on own account); not a veteran, not blind, not deaf and dumb.

Howell, Sophia; wife, female, black, 36; married once, 11 yrs; 2 live births, 2 still living; born Arkansas, father born Alabama, mother born Texas; speaks English; no occupation; can read, write.

Beal, M. H.; brother-in-law; male, black, 32, widowed, born Arkansas, father born Alabama, mother born Texas; speaks English; no occupation; can read, write.

1930 Census Fort Smith, Sebastian, Arkansas

The street is listed as Third Street. 920 North Third Street, Fort Smith, Sebastian, Arkansas; dwelling; Dwelling No. 155, Family No.176.

Howell, Macy; Head; rents; home value 10, res. not farm; male, neg., 49, married at 21 yrs; not in school; can read, can write; born Arkansas, Father & Mother born Arkansas; speaks English; Carpenter, Houses, yes, not a veteran.

Howell, Sophia; wife, female, neg., 55; M; 18; not in school; can read, can write, born Arkansas, Father born No Carolina, Mother born Texas, speaks English; as Woman, works at home; yes.

Macy C. Howell to Sophy Ross

Marriage date: 1 Oct. 1897, Crawford County in Arkansas compiled marriages from select counties, 1779 to 1992.

City Directories

Howell, Sophie. 12 N 9th b. 220 N. 14. Under the heading "Notions", in the 1925 Fort Smith City Directory, pgs. 270 & 699.

Howell, Mayse (*sic*). H Fort Smith City Directory 1951. Pool room mgr. King Reed h 1723 North 14th.

Howell, Macy. Fort Smith City Directory 1955(c) (Sophie) lab r 920 N 3rd.

Howell, Macy. Fort Smith City Directory 1955 Living 1525 Lyman.

Writing a historical novel is not for the faint of heart. The process has just begun for Joyce Faulkner, a very kind, thoughtful and patient woman.

We thank her for tips, tricks, and tools she shared. We thank you for any contribution you can make to this project.



Mary Jeanne Black, Journal Inquiry Coordinator writes the regular department, Who Knew? Material in her article are highlights from research requests and emailed exchanges to the Fort Smith Historical Society.

1918 Newspapers

The centennial anniversary of Fort Smith, which encompasses all of the year 1918, had been officially celebrated—in grand style—over a one week period in October of 1917 and received little notice during the actual centennial year. What is noticeable is a subtle shifting of attitudes by much of America as a result of the war in which we were now so deeply immersed.

Patriotism began to take on a darker hue, as sedition laws and requirements for alien registration, gave those fighting the war from home a newer, closer enemy to direct its anger towards. Racism remained an accepted practice and the inequality of the period was often on display in the newspapers of the day.

The war took its toll of local lads, heroes all, and Fort Smith mourned and honored them. Death was a constant companion, not only abroad, but in every aspect of daily living. Fort Smith was lonely for its boys overseas and relished the respite of entertainment whenever possible—as

was the case when a certain baseball star made his way to town for a most memorable exhibition game.

Wednesday, January 2, 1918

AGED WOMAN DIES OF FEARFUL BURNS

Mrs. Frances Chapman, 69 years old, died at 7 o'clock Monday night from burns received at noon Monday, when her clothing caught fire at her home, 119 North Fourth street.

Sitting before an open gas stove Mrs. Chapman was found enveloped in flames, when her daughter, Mrs. F. B. Willis, a cripple, came into the sitting room from the kitchen, where she had noticed the smell of burning clothes. She attempted to extinguish the flames but her mother pushed her away, probably to prevent possible injury to her daughter.

Mrs. Willis' screams attracted two negroes who were passing, and they tried in vain to stop the flames by throwing a quilt around Mrs. Chapman. Dr. and Mrs. X. G. May, who live across the street, attracted by the screams, pushed into the house and after much difficulty put out the fire, which by that time had terribly burned the aged woman all over her body. She was removed to St. Edward's infirmary, where examination showed there was no hope for her recovery.

The explanation for the tragedy, Mrs. Willis thinks, probably is that her mother's dress caught fire from the match struck to light her pipe, which she smoked a good deal. She said her mother was not near enough to the gas stove to have ignited her clothing from the blaze.

The remains were being held last night at Fentress Undertaking parlor, awaiting arrival of daughters who live in Oklahoma.

Sunday, January 6, 1918

FADJO CRAVENS RETURNS

Mr. Fadjo Cravens left Saturday night for Pittsburgh, Pa., to continue his studies, after a fortnight's holiday visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Cravens.



Sunday, January 6, 1918

**LOCAL GRID STAR IN THANKSGIVING GAME
IN FRANCE**

Louie Fishback, one of the strong linemen on the Fort Smith High school football team of 1916-1917, was in the middle of a hot gridiron battle "somewhere in France" on last Thanksgiving day, according to a letter received from him by his mother, Mrs. Jessamine Fishback. Mail travels slowly from the battle front, and the letter, written a few days before the game, has recently reached here.

Louie Fishback enlisted last spring in the regular army. He writes from "Billet, American Expeditionary Force in France, November 22," as follows:

"We, the men of Company F, are to play the officers of the ----- a game of football on Thanksgiving day if the weather continues good. It is now exceptionally so for this country.

"The officers played the men of one of the other companies baseball and beat them. Everyone has had good coaching in college or high school so you see it will not be exactly a walk-away for us. We have far the larger number to pick from though and believe me we hope to do something to them.

"There is nothing like it mamma. They have always paper books, places to write, a kind word for every man, and even tobacco for those who use it.

"I certainly enjoy my papers—they come regularly now and I am keeping up with the football game at home.

"Don't be worried, we do all we can for the French and they do all they can for us. I ask the censor for permission to send a lot of French papers to you. The enclosed for sister is French work. It must be very fine.

"Love to all,

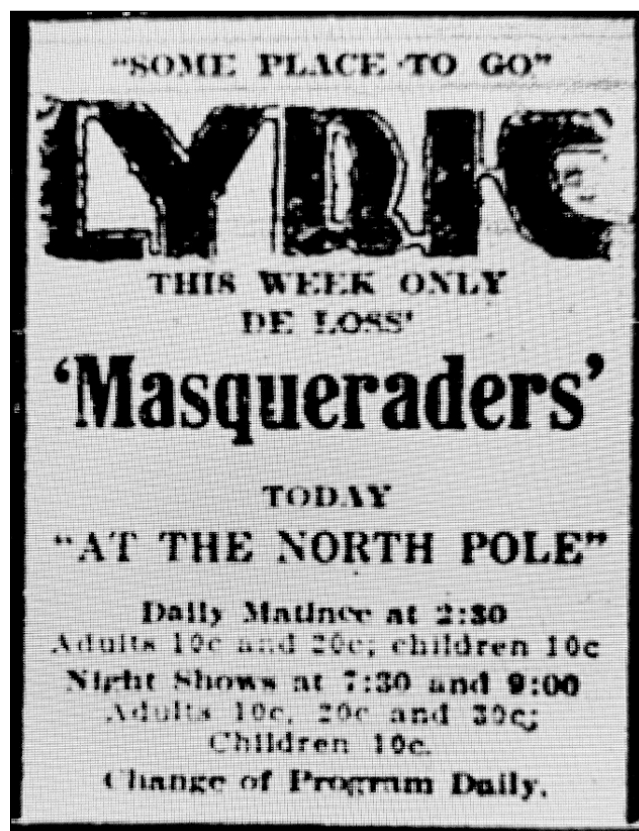
"LOUIE"

Tuesday, January 8, 1918

FORT SMITH GIRL IN MUSICAL COMEDY

One of the outstanding features of DeLoss "Masqueraders" the big vaudeville revue playing at the Lyric theatre this week, is the first appearance of Miss Ruth Irene Phillips in her home town as leading soprano with the company.

Miss Phillips was born in Fort Smith and received her musical education here. She is one of the most strikingly beautiful young women seen on the local stage in some time and wore exquisite gowns. She was greeted by a host



of friends at both the matinee and night performances and her rendition of the ballad "When you Come to Me, Love, In Dreams" showed her voice to splendid advantage. The management announces that today she will sing Lillian Russell's favorite song, "The Island of Roses and Love."

"The Masqueraders" proved to be one of the classiest shows of the season at the Lyric. The company carries special scenery such as is used only by the big road productions and the costumes were of the highest class. A feature that will cause much comment is the smallest member of the Crane family, a mere tot, who performs marvelous feats of hand balancing, and the Jazz brass Trio Hyland, Grant and Hyland proved to be a novelty seldom seen in shows of this kind.

Tuesday, January 8, 1918

FALLS THROUGH ICE TO DEATH

The body of Oscar Morris, prominent stockman and farmer of near Williams, Okla., found in the Poteau river Saturday, was buried in Oak cemetery here Monday afternoon.

Clad only in his underwear and shoes, the body was found in the water, directly under a hole in the ice, at noon Saturday, probably twenty-two hours after his death.

Conditions surrounding the body indicated that he had frozen to death or died from heart failure superinduced (sic) by the shock of striking the icy water. Practically no water was found in the lungs, which fact apparently disposes of the drowning theory.

Morris had left Spiro for his home about noon Friday, carrying a shotgun with which he intended to shoot ducks at the river. He failed to come home and a telephone call from M. C. Burke of Fort Smith, his partner, to Mrs. Morris revealed that he was neither at home nor in Fort Smith. A search was instituted which resulted in the finding of his team, his clothing except his underwear and shoes and his gun lying on the bank of the stream. The hole in the ice attracted attention and a drag hook caught the body immediately.

The theory of those who visited the scene is that Morris shot one duck, which was found by the gun, then killed another out on the ice. Fearing that the ice was too weak to bear his weight, it is believed he removed his clothing to lessen the danger of breaking through and to facilitate his movements if the ice should break. The ice apparently did give way with him, precipitating him into the icy water, where he died either from the effects of the shock or from the cold.

When his body was recovered the arms were drawn taut, as though he had supported himself on the edge of the ice with his elbows until he lost consciousness and then slipped into the water.

Morris was formerly in business in Fort Smith in the firm of Hatfield and Morris. For 5 years past he and M. C. Burke of Fort Smith had been partners in the farming and cattle business and had been out on a trip together when Morris started home Friday afternoon.

Saturday, January 12, 1918

BELOW-ZERO WEATHER GRASPS FORT SMITH; RIVER FREEZES

For two nights and two days Fort Smith and this vicinity have been in the grip of the most severe winter weather for many years.

The snow of Thursday was the heaviest in years—more than six inches. Friday there came a spectacle—rare in this section—of snow drifting into banks under a near-zero wind.

At 5 o'clock Friday morning the temperature was 6 above and it rose only two degrees higher during the day. The thermometer struck the toboggan at 3 o'clock and had reached a degree below zero at 7 o'clock last night, with the forecast of going five or six degrees still lower before this morning.

Mack's Musical Review at the Princess Theatre



The heavy storm raised havoc with telephone and telegraph wires, putting many distance connections out of business. The Mackay was completely cut off Friday.

The street car men had a most strenuous time in their experience. Cars were run on all routes all night Thursday and Friday night to keep the tracks open, and the wrecking crew was on call all the time to get cars back on the rails.

The first morning car yesterday on Grand avenue line went into the ditch and the line was not opened again until about 9 o'clock, the remaining car running shuttlewise to the suburban..... Nearly all cars ran off schedule and running time was a secondary consideration.

There was cause for congratulation that gas pressure with the exception of a short time yesterday morning was good. Some complaint was reported in this respect in Van Buren. The storm has taxed the gas supply as never before in the history of local natural gas.

Frozen ears, cheeks and fingers were plentiful among the school pupils who were forced to walk far. Teachers in several of schools were called upon to render first aid and some pupils had to be sent home for treatment.

For the first time in more than 10 years the river was frozen from bank to bank near the Van Buren bridges. Up to 4 o'clock the channel between the Frisco and the free bridge was open, but it got frozen over before 6 o'clock.

There will be good skating there today.

Sunday, January 13, 1918

12 BELOW ZERO IS COLDEST WEATHER EIGHTEEN YEARS

Saturday was the coldest day in this city for 18 years. At 6 o'clock yesterday morning the official thermometer at the local weather bureau registered 11 degrees below zero, and during the night hours, it had gone one degree lower, making the low point 12 degrees below zero.

Sunday, January 13, 1918

13 BOYS ARE CREMATED WHEN FLAMES DESTROY DWIGHT INDIAN SCHOOL

Marble City, Okla., Jan. 12.—(Special to *Southwest American*.)—Thirteen Indian boys, all students of the Dwight Indian school here, were burned to death in a fire which totally destroyed the new boys' dormitory at the school about 2 o'clock this morning.

When the flames were discovered, they had virtually enveloped the entire second floor of the building, and all the victims were trapped in their rooms, without chance of escape. It is believed, however, most of them were dead of suffocation before their bodies actually were cremated by the flames.

A score or more boys saved themselves by jumping from the windows to the ground. These boys suffered terribly, many from bruises and contusions caused by the leap to the ground, and all of them because of exposure. None of them was able to save any clothing, and all escaped into the below-zero cold in their night clothing only.

All the injured are receiving treatment and all are expected to recover from their hurts.

The cause of the fire is not known. The building was only recently completed, furnished and occupied, at a cost of \$15,000. It was a two-story frame structure, modernly equipped.

All the dead occupied the second floor of the building. The younger boys occupied upper and elder boys the lower floor. The building housed an aggregate of 55 of the 110 students at the school.

Superintendent J. M. Kobe said tonight that he has no idea how the fire originated nor could he say how much insurance, if any protected the property loss.

The Dwight school is an institution maintained by the

Northern Presbyterian church, for the education of Indian children and has shown steady growth not only in the number of pupils, but in the results accomplished by an excellent faculty and management.

THE LIST OF THE DEAD

❖ Hubert Grant, age 9, Omaha Indian, orphan, native Nebraska.

❖ George Wickett, age 9, Cherokee Indian, Barber, Okla.

❖ Nighthawk McLemore, age 12, Cherokee Indian, Barber, Okla.

❖ Phillip Correll, age 17, Cherokee Indian, McKey, Okla.

❖ Rufus Young, age 14, Cherokee Indian, Vian, Okla.

❖ J. P. Chandler, Jr., age 12, Cherokee Indian, Siloam Springs.

❖ Kenneth Crutchfield, age 12, Cherokee Indian, Claremore, Okla.

❖ Delbert Barnes, age 13, Cherokee Indian, Westville, Okla.

❖ Wilson Beaver, age 14, Cherokee Indian, Okmulgee, Okla.

❖ George Tiger, age 10, Creek Indian, Okmulgee, Okla.

❖ Robert Daniel, age 12, Creek Indian, Okmulgee, Okla.

❖ Simon Bruner, age 10, Creek Indian, Checotah, Okla.

❖ Newton Goins, age 12, Choctaw Indian, Smithville, Okla.

Sunday, January 13, 1918

THAW OUT METERS, FIRES ARE RESULT

The fire department answered fire calls yesterday to the Will Reynolds and D. T. Goldsmith homes. In each instance an attempt to thaw out gas meters had resulted in fires which endangered the homes.

After the fire department had been summoned the gas was cut off at the curb and the fire thus extinguished. There was a complaint in various localities over weak flow of gas, but no serious situation resulted.

Tuesday, January 15, 1918

INDIAN SCHOOLBOYS TO BE BURIED TODAY

Muskogee, Okla., Jan 14.—The bodies of all thirteen of the Indian boys who lost their lives in the fire which Saturday morning destroyed the boys' dormitory at Dwight Indian Mission will be buried in one steel vault Tuesday

afternoon. The funeral services will be held in the school chapel at 2 o'clock and the bodies will be interred in the cemetery at the school.

All thirteen of the bodies have been recovered from the ruins of the wooden structure.

So charred were they, that there was no possibility of recognizing any of them.

About twenty relatives and friends of the fire victims will attend the funeral, in addition to the students at the mission, who will take a special part in the services.

Wednesday, January 16, 1918

OLD NEGRO COUPLE FROZEN TO DEATH

Old Dave Hall, aged about 98 years, and his wife, almost as old, were found yesterday in their home, frozen to death.

The bodies were found in the home of the couple on the Texas road, on the Dr. Gardner place, about six miles from the city. It is believed the aged couple had been dead 24 hours or more.

Discovery of the bodies is said to have followed a visit to their home by neighbors who had not seen them, and who had gone to bring them fuel, food and other necessities.

Old Dave and his wife were both widely known and were respected by their many white friends.

They had lived in this section for very many years and quite a number of white residents had aided in making their declining years easy, among these being Rev. Dr. P. F. Horan, rector of the Catholic church of the Immaculate Conception, to whom the news of their death caused deep regret.

Friday, January 18, 1918

NORTH FORT SMITH WILL GET MORE AMPLE PROTECTION FROM FIRE THROUGH NEW STATION

Arrangements are being completed for the establishment of a fire station on the property of the Harding Glass company, near the corner of the Eleventh street car line and Kelly Highway, in Midland Heights.

A deal has been closed between the Harding Glass company and the city whereby the company leases to the city for 99 years without cost so much of its land as is needed for the fire station. The papers are to be signed today.



Friday, January 18, 1918

U. S. MARSHAL PREPARED TO MAIL REGISTRATION DATA

United States Marshal J. H. Parker yesterday began the preparation of the public notices and instructions about registration of German enemy aliens, and today will commence mailing them to all the newspapers in the western district of Arkansas under instructions of the department.

Sunday, January 27, 1918

CITY HAS TROUBLES WITH PAVEMENT AND CHOKING OF SEWERS

Melting of the snow has brought its troubles to the city.

A force of workmen was kept busy all day Saturday, attempting to straighten out the wood block paving on Garrison avenue, which again went on the war path and refused to lie down like a well behaved pavement. Garrison avenue resembled a relief map of the Rocky Mountains on a large scale, with little hillocks sticking up in innumerable places.

Though the Garrison avenue paving has been repaired numerous times since it was laid, this is the first occasion when the city has had to bear the cost. The maintenance bond, made by the contractors, expired last fall.

A jammed sewer pipe between First street and the river was also causing trouble Saturday. City Engineer Evans worked on it all day Friday, trying to remove obstructions, and succeeded in getting out several sacks and other articles that had no place in a sewer. Saturday the rod which is used in clearing sewers was lost and it will be necessary to break the line in order to clear it.

Tuesday, January 29, 1918

POOL HALL OWNERS MUST BE WATCHFUL OR LOSE LICENSES

Pool hall proprietors must see that no liquor is drunk on or about the premises, or their licenses will be revoked, Mayor Arch Monro said Monday morning in police court.

The statement was the result of several charges of drunkenness, in which it was testified the booze was taken on at pool halls.

One prisoner was ordered to stay away from pool halls, and the police were instructed to arrest him if he were found in one. The mayor told the prisoner a man with six children had no business loafing around a pool hall.

Pool hall proprietors as a whole take entirely too lenient a view of drinking about the places, the mayor said, and the practice must be stopped, if he had to revoke licenses to put an end to it.

Wednesday, February 6, 1918

ST. LOUIS MAN IS NEW PROPRIETOR OF NEW SOUTHERN HOTEL

W. C. Klocke of St. Louis, a hotel man of experience and who is widely known to the travelling public of the southwest, has purchased and taken over the Southern hotel in this city and has already begun the work of remodeling and renovating the establishment.

It has been known for some time past that Ed Taylor, who has been the proprietor and manager of the Southern hotel for years, has been negotiating with Mr. Klocke for the purchase of the establishment and the deal was closed several days ago, the new proprietor taking possession on February 1. The consideration was not divulged.

The Southern hotel has long been one of the popular hostelrys in this city and section, and Mr. Klocke said last

night he plans to maintain it in that capacity, even adding to its facilities and increasing its ability to comfortably accommodate its clientele.

Mr. Klocke stated last night that he intends thoroughly to renovate the building, painting it inside and out, and installing a considerable amount of new furniture. He anticipates that some time will be necessary to carry out all his plans, especially as the work will be done in such manner as not to interfere with the convenience of the patrons of the hotel, and that when the work is completed, the Southern will be on a par with any of the hotels in this section, its class.

Friday, February 8, 1918

FOOD ADMINISTRATOR KENNEDY MAKES VIOLATORS COME CLEAN

Grocers who sell more than the allotted quantity of flour and sugar to customers will be cut off from all sources of supply by the food administration, if they persist in violating the regulations, Food Administrator Allan Kennedy said Thursday.

All day Thursday the office of the administrator was flooded with complaints that various persons had laid in large supplies of flour, in excess of the amounts allowed by the administration—24 pounds for a city dweller, and 48 pounds for the farmer.

Numerous letters were mailed out to such persons by the administrator Thursday requesting that they return excess quantities before any steps are taken to discipline them.

Several grocers of the county, one in Fort Smith, have been reported to the administrator as aiding hoarder's allowance. No such practices will be tolerated, the administrator said.

"If patriotism is not sufficient to induce a man to abide by the food regulations, we have some inducements that will work," said Mr. Kennedy.

Mr. Kennedy declined to give out names of violators of the regulations until he had given them an opportunity to "square themselves."

Friday, February 8, 1918

THREE LOCAL MEN ON TORPEDOED *TUSCANIA*

At least three men from Fort Smith and Van Buren were on board the torpedoed liner *Tuscania*, according to information from relatives and lists of units aboard the vessel supplied by the war department.

They are:

- ❖ Max Friend, son of Joe Friend, proprietor of the West End Drug Store, Fort Smith;
- ❖ William E. Bennett, former manager of the Bennett Lumber Company of Van Buren;
- ❖ Ralph Kramer, son of Mrs. A. Kramer, of Meadows, near Van Buren, Crawford county.

No messages had been received by relatives here last night from any of the three men.

Available lists of survivors contained none of their names, but only 28 names of survivors had been received here at a late hour last night, out of a total of more than 2,000 who were rescued from the vessel.

Reports that Joe Constantino, second lieutenant, was on the boat were denied by his family, who stated he is now at Camp Beauregard, La.

Relatives of Lt. Walker Halliburton, also reported to have been on the boat, stated he is now in Waco, Texas.

Max Friend is a sergeant major of the headquarters company of the Twentieth engineers, reported to have been aboard the vessel. He entered the service about six months ago, and was stationed at Camp Pike until recently when he was moved to the Atlantic seaboard to prepare for the voyage.

William E. Bennett is a member of Company D. Sixth Battalion, Twentieth Engineers, forestry regiment, recently formed.

Ralph Kramer is a member of the 168th aero squadron, reported aboard the ship. Kramer was in the shipping room at the Berry-Beall Dry Goods company until October 15 when he enlisted in the aero services. He was transferred to the 168th squadron a few days ago when his squadron, the 229th, sailed while he was in the hospital with measles.

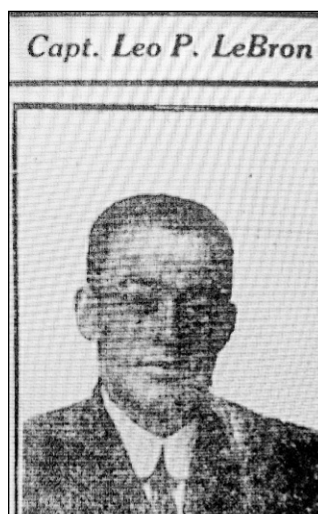
Thursday, February 14, 1918

LEBRON AND BENNETT ARE LOST; TWIN CITIES MINGLE THEIR TEARS OVER DEATHS OF SOLDIER HEROES

The mailed fist has snuffed out the lives of two brave ones of the twin cities of western Arkansas.

The torpedo that sent *Tuscania* to the bottom of the sea, sent Captain Leo. P. LeBron of Fort Smith and Private William E. Bennett of Van Buren to soldiers graves on the shores of Scotland.

After more than a week of suspense, the Associated Press announced Wednesday that Captain Le Bron and Private Bennett were among the identified and buried with military honors on the shores of the sea that was their River Jordan.



The twin cities today realize with a new sense that the fight is on.

The realization that the deadly weapon of humanity's common enemy has struck without warning, like a knife in the back, and sent to their death two men who were friend, neighbor or relative to hundreds of people in the twin cities, cast a cloud of sorrow over the community, but stiffened the resolve to abate no effort till they and the thousands of others not so dear as these, but Americans, are avenged.

Captain LeBron and Private Bennett went because duty called.

No sooner had war been declared, than Captain LeBron, then assistant civil engineer of the Fort Smith Western railroad, wrote the war department and asked permission to organize a company of railroad men in this vicinity for foreign service, at the same time offering his services.

The war department instructed Mr. Bennett to form an unofficial organization, from which many men were later drawn into the service. Captain LeBron himself was commissioned a captain of engineers before he attended a training camp. In September he left for Camp Leavenworth, Kan., where he entered training.

With some military experience in the Iowa guards already to his credit he quickly mastered the course and was transferred to Camp Grant, Rockford, Ill., where he was stationed when he was ordered into foreign service attached to the Twentieth Engineers, forestry, unassigned.

Captain LeBron was a native of Keokuk, Iowa, whence he came to Guthrie, Okla., ten years ago, with the Fort Smith & Western railroad. Five years ago he was transferred to Fort Smith, which was his home until duty called.

The captain was familiarly known to hundreds of Fort Smithians as "Count," a name founded on his French lineage. His forefathers were members of the French nobility, and it was fitting that he should have given up his life for the land of his fathers and his own.

Mrs. LeBron and two children, Nan, age 14, and Robert, age 4, were in Fort Smith until three weeks ago, when they went to Guthrie to live with her parents.

William Earl Bennett, Van Buren's first hero to fall in what might be called actual service against the enemy, told several of his friends, after he had enlisted, that he had no fear of the enemy, but that he felt sure the troopship which was to carry him to Europe would have trouble with a submarine, and he knew the dangers from submarines was ever constant.

William Earl Bennett, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Bennett, was born at White City, Kan., November 4, 1892. About seven or eight years ago the family moved to Rogers, Ark., and young Bennett graduated from Rogers High school in 1913. About the same time the elder Bennett established a lumber yard at Van Buren, and Will Bennett soon was placed in charge as manager, which position he resigned to enter the army as a volunteer, on December 12, 1917.

Young Bennett enlisted at the Fort Smith recruiting office, and the same day left for Jefferson Barracks, Mo., where his company, Company D., Twentieth Engineers, Forestry, was concentrated.

Sunday, February 24, 1918

CHILD FALLS INTO WELL AND IS RESCUED AFTER FIREBOYS ARE CALLED

Tumbling into an open well, alarming the neighbors, having the fire company called out and being rescued in true picture show style, was the experience of four-year-old W. T. Bromley, Jr., who Saturday night was playing at his home as if the afternoon had brought him no severe ducking.

The boy is the son of Mrs. W. T. Bromley, 414 North Eighteenth street and his heroic rescuer is J. R. Miller, Jr.

The child was playing near the well when he fell headlong into the water, twenty feet below. Hearing cries for help men rushed to the scene and called out the firemen.

In the rescue, a common garden hose was used, Mr. Miller making a loop at the bottom end, and standing in it was let down and drawn out by four or five men at the top.

He stated that the youthful diver was going down for the last time when he grabbed him.

Besides a decided surplus of water, the husky youngster showed no ill effects.

Sunday, February 24, 1918

CHILD SUCCUMBS TO FEARFUL BURNS

Fighting for nearly 20 hours for her life, after being severely burned Friday night, little Nontrey Henderson, 11-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Henderson, Saturday afternoon succumbed to the effects of her injuries and died at 5:30 at the local sanitarium.

The child was burned at the family home, 810 South Twentieth street, when her clothing caught fire from a stove.

The child recently participated in the Kitmess at the high school auditorium and Friday night, attired in the flimsy costume, she repeated the dance, at a party at her home, in honor of a visiting relative from Camp Beauregard. Later she went into the bath room, where flames from a heating stove ignited the costume. Almost immediately she was all aflame. From the first it was thought that she was beyond medical aid, but a rally early Friday night gave some hope of her recovery.

Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the residence. Rev. J. H. Kirkpatrick officiating. Burial will be in Oak Cemetery.

Tuesday, February 19, 1918

GIRL IS KILLED WHEN STREET CAR HITS AUTOMOBILE

Eva Chastain, 14-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Chastain, of Mulberry, was almost instantly killed about 3 o'clock Sunday, when an automobile in which she was riding was struck by a street car, at the intersection of Garrison avenue and Ninth street.

The street car was going east and the automobile was moving south on Ninth street, attempting cross the car tracks, when the motor vehicle was struck by the trolley car.

The automobile was crushed against an iron trolley pole, and the Chastain girl was thrown from the auto, her body finally resting beneath the street car, which it was necessary to lift before the girl's body could be removed. The child was alive, although unconscious, when taken from beneath the car, but passed away in the ambulance while being taken to a hospital.

The Chastain girl was one of a party of six young people

of Mulberry who had driven to the city for the afternoon. In the party were Mary Chastain, aunt of the dead girl; Sibyl Fisher, Floyd Burkhead, Cantwell Henderson, John Harper, nephew of Win Harper of Fort Smith. The Harper lad was driving the car which was owned by his father.

All the members of the party were 14 or 15 years of age, Harper himself, the driver, being 14 years, it was said.

Parents of the children in the party did not know they had come to Fort Smith, and would not believe first reports of the accident. The Chastain girl is the sister of Clyde Chastain, who was stabbed to death at Mulberry in July, 1916 by the father of his sweetheart.

The body of the girl was sent to Mulberry Sunday night, and a funeral was held there yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock, with services by Rev. Mr. Stanfield, at the Baptist church. Interment was made in the cemetery at Dyer. Quite a number of relatives and friends from Fort Smith were in attendance at the obsequies.

Following the accident, formal charges of manslaughter were filed by the police against the crew of the car, Motorman J. M. Woodward and Conductor J. M. Pew, and a hearing was fixed for next Monday, in the police court. At the same time, there will be testimony taken in the complaint filed against members of the police department by a local undertaker who is said to have informed Mayor Arch Monro that the officers were unduly active in behalf of another local undertaker at the time of the accident.

Tuesday, February 19, 1918

MARTIN RESIGNS FROM HIGH SCHOOL

Otto C. Martin, instructor in chemistry at the Fort Smith High school yesterday tendered his resignation to the school board, through Superintendent George W. Reid, and will leave today for Washington, where he has been summoned by the chemical committee of the National Council of Defense.

Mr. Martin said last night he will remain in Washington a month, perhaps longer, although he would not discuss the nature of the work he is to do while at the national capitol.

Saturday, March 2, 1918

GREENWOOD MINERS ASK WAR SECRETARY TO INTERN GERMANS

Miners at Greenwood have adopted a resolution addressed to Secretary of War Newton D. Baker, in which he is urged to take the necessary steps to prevent enemy

aliens, Germans or Austrians, from holding positions in coal mines, where there are many opportunities to do great property damage and endanger the lives of hundreds of American miners.

Thursday, March 7, 1918

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Editor *Southwest American*, Dear Sir:

Please allow me a small amount of space in your columns. I would like very much for some patriotic sweat shop owner to tell me how a girl of eighteen can live on \$3.50 or \$4.00 per week at this time?

The writer's step daughter got a job (not position) in one of the city's foremost enterprising establishments, where they pay the girls on the piece work plan, (to side step the minimum wage law) they are not supposed to work more than nine hours per day or 54 hours per week. This particular place works their girls nine hours every day, and about one-third of the time they work them nine and one-half hours per day.

Last Saturday during the girls noon hour her mother called for her daughter over the phone saying that it was necessary for her to talk to the girl she was informed that it was against the rules of the company, they refused to call the girl, the mother was compelled to send a note to the girl telling her to come home at once.

That same day the daughter went to work at another and better place, and as her former employers pay off on Mondays, she knew she would be unable to leave her new position so she gave an order to another party to get her pay. The company refused to honor that order and informed the bearer that the girl would have to call in person for her money.

In addition to paying starvation wages, the same factory charges each girl ten cents per week for the laundry of an apron they furnish her.

A half century ago there was a great civil war, to abolish slavery, as it was against the law of mankind, although the slaves received their board, clothes and a place to stay, in return for their labor.

In my opinion the slaves then were better off than most of the lawful slaves of today. What do you think about it Mr. Factory owner?

We have some Kaiserism right here in our own home town that needs looking after.

Yours for Democracy

P. C. Burkert

1805 South U street

Fort Smith, Ark.

Sunday, March 10, 1918

ACCIDENTAL SHOT KILLS PLAYMATE

Two boys playing with a loaded revolver yesterday resulted in the instant death of Arthur, twelve year old son of Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Triplett at their home in Allendale addition. The lad and a neighbor's son James Davis were in the yard of the Triplett home and playing with a pistol, which it is stated was thought to have been unloaded, when in some manner the weapon was discharged, the bullet penetrating the boys left chest and passing through the base of the heart.

The family physician was instantly summoned but the boy had expired before his arrival.

The tragic death of a boy caused a profound shock to the community and sorrow among his school mates among whom he was popular. Funeral arrangements had not been announced last night.

Thursday, March 14, 1918

GET YOUR HAIR CUT ELECTRICALLY NOW

"Do it electrically" now applies to hair cutting and scalp treatment in the barber shop of J. P. Haskins, 615½ Garrison avenue. The new electrical tonsorial equipment is attracting no end of attention. The device consists of an electrical motor suspended on a traveler running on a taut trolley wire over the chairs. The traveler carries a vertical rod to which is attached midway an electric light socket. At its base is attached a little motor which drives clippers, a massage appliance and other devices for treating the hair and scalp. The electric clippers may be run along the trolley over any chair at which it is to be used.

Saturday, March 16, 1918

**FEDERAL MARSHAL CONFISCATES GREAT
NUMBERS OF VOLUMES OF "FINISHED
MYSTERY," ON ORDERS**

United States Marshal J. H. Parker yesterday, in compliance with telegraphic instructions from the department of justice at Washington, confiscated and had removed to the federal building literally tons of the seditious book, "Finished Mystery," the pile of books nearly filling the marshal's contraband store room. There were approximately 3,000 of the books.

Notwithstanding the warning which had been given by

**MULES
MULES
MORE
MULES**

STOP

Range from 2 to 6 years and 600 to 1400 lbs in weight
—Positively the best you can buy in this part of the country
Any Kind, Color and Size You Want

**BUY NOW---AND IF YOU FIND YOU DONT NEED
THEM--YOU CAN SELL THEM FOR A GOOD PROFIT
IN THE SPRING**

If you want to save money you had better see this stock at once

Leon A. Williams

444 PONY EXPRESS 108 NORTH 10th STREET

Commissioner Dunblazier several days ago that holders of the book were as guilty of sedition as the man Van Houton, who was seeking to sell it, and that the safe course was to get rid of the book, there was no response by local followers until Friday after Marshal Parker had secured a search warrant from Commissioner Dunblazier in compliance with departmental orders. Up to last night only two persons had turned over copies of the book in their possession. C. L. Knowles and Charles Lunsford reported to the marshal the possession at their homes of about 200 copies of the book. The marshal's force later took possession of a great stack of the books which were stored at the O. K. warehouse in the name of Knowles.

In a talk with the government officers Knowles is reported to have admitted the sales had reached many thousands in the past few months. Also that from some source which he did not divulge, the headquarters of the International Bible Students' association had received hundreds of thousands of dollars as a fund for publishing the book. It is alleged that the machinery of the association has been selling the book practically at cost. The book has been offered for sale here at 60 cents the copy. It is a cloth-bound book with pages 5x7 and containing 600 printed pages. Both Knowles and Lunsford disavowed to the marshal any intent to be unpatriotic in selling the book or in assisting in its dissemination.

Sunday, March 17, 1918

NOTICE FROM MARSHAL PARKER

United States Marshal J. H. Parker in common with the marshals in other districts, has received advices from the department of justice at Washington, that all persons guilty

of circulating, selling or attempting to sell the book "Finished Mystery," are to be prosecuted vigorously. The book has been interdicted and its publication, distribution or circulation from person to person forbidden.

The question has been asked and passed up to the federal officials, the extent and character of penalty for violation of the sedition law, as is charged against the circulators of the "Finished Mystery." The answer is not more than \$1,000 fine and not more than five years in the federal penitentiary.

Thursday, March 21, 1918

OKLAHOMA PEOPLE TAR AND FEATHER SEDITIONOUS FARMER

By The Associated Press

ALTUS, Okla., March 20—Ten automobiles loaded with masked and heavily armed men stopped at the farm of O. F. Westbrook, 17 miles north of this place, shortly before day break Wednesday morning, dragged the farmer from his bed and after escorting him to a thickly wooded spot, forced him to kiss the American flag many times, to swear to the oath of "eternal allegiance of the Knights of Liberty," lashed him to excess with a blacksnake whip, coated him with hot tar to which feathers were applied and charged him to leave the county before noon.

At the same hour another band of masked men entered the home of Henry Huffman, ten miles south of Altus and after forcing him to kiss the American flag, lashed him with a blacksnake whip and the hot tar and feathers applied as in the case of Westbrook. Following this Huffman was taken to the county line and headed toward Texas.

Today every road intersection in Jackson county has been posted with notices to "pro-Germans and slackers" to leave the county or suffer treatment similar to that dealt to the two men.

It is understood that Westbrook and Huffman, both of German descent, have openly cursed the American government, have upheld Germany and her war ambitions and have refused to subscribe to either of the Liberty loans. They also refused to contribute to the Red Cross and ridiculed the War Savings Stamps.

Saturday, March 23, 1918

PLAZA WILL BE MADE MORE ATTRACTIVE AS SUMMER REST PLACE

A little remodeling to improve the appearance of the Plaza at Garrison and Eleventh streets and to put into it a

bit of attraction to the footsore and weary is being worked out by Mayor Arch Monro.

Several lawn swings have been donated by D. C. Green, manager of the traction company, to be placed on the Plaza, and a quantity of crushed stone with which to construct walks has also been offered the city.

The mayor is considering the possibility of installing a spraying fountain and a drinking fountain on the Plaza and otherwise improving its appearance.

A total of \$300 has been appropriated by the city commission for parks during the summer months, and a portion of this may be used to pay for the work.

Saturday, March 30, 1918

DISLOYAL LETTER OPENED BY ERROR

Special to *The Southwest American*

OZARK, Ark., March 29.—A letter to a local citizen, which was opened by mistake by another person of similar name, may result in getting a Sunflower state inhabitant into very serious trouble with Uncle Sam. At the first glance and before discovering the mistake in delivery the recipient discovered that the writer was expressing sentiments of rank disloyalty, using many strong epithets against the president and the country.

Later the citizen reported what he had discovered to the postmaster at Meg, through whose office it had been delivered. The postmaster at once sent out orders for the man to whom the letter was addressed to return it to the post office. He did so, and the letter has been placed in the hands of the department of justice at Washington. The man to whom the letter was addressed is a citizen of Barham township.

Saturday, March 30, 1918

GLASS FOUND AGAIN IN GROBER'S BREAD; LICENSE IS REVOKED

Karl Grober's bakery was closed and his license revoked, by order of the food administration, Friday morning, because glass had been found in his bread for the second time within five weeks. The order was issued by Allan Kennedy, local food administrator.

The glass was found by J. D. Newton, 700 North Fifth street, several days ago, but not until Friday morning was it definitely established by chemical analysis that the bread really contained broken glass.

When a report was submitted from the chemical

laboratories Friday morning, a conference was called between Mayor Monro, Food Administrator Kennedy, United States District Attorney Mahoney, Grober and his baker, Henry Stoppleman.

Grober was informed that the glass had been found. He protested that he knew nothing whatever of its origin, and was at a loss to explain how it found its way into the loaf. Stoppleman also declared he knew nothing of it.

Mr. Kennedy told the bakers that he was not accusing either of them of pro-Germanism, but that regardless of their sympathies, his action would be the same.

"If you cannot keep glass out of your bread, you cannot be permitted to bake and sell bread, he said. "There is but one thing I can do under the circumstances and I have done that—I have revoked your license."

Grober and Stoppleman vigorously denied any pro-German tendencies and reiterated their assertions that they knew nothing of the origin of the glass.

Finding of the glass by Newton in reality is the third discovery of the kind, Mr. Kennedy said. When the glass was found in the bread at the Rosalie Tilles home on February 20, Grober told him, Mr. Kennedy said that glass was found in his bread ten days before, and that he was unable to explain how it occurred.

Immediately after the Rosalie Tilles incident, Grober closed his bakery for several days, overhauled the machinery and cleaned out his bins.

Mr. Kennedy Friday afternoon telegraphed to the federal food administration at Washington that he had revoked Grober's license and ordered the place closed.

Tuesday, April 2, 1918

GRAMLICH AND DUFFY SENTENCED TO PRISON

Joe Gramlich of Fort Smith was sentenced to one year in the state penitentiary in circuit court Monday, following his conviction on a charge of manufacturing intoxicating liquors. Gramlich's motion for a new trial was overruled and he was given 90 days to perfect his appeal.

James Duffy, convicted of forgery was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary.

Tuesday, April 2, 1918

VICTIMS OF HARTFORD MOBS DISMISSED BY AUTHORITIES; NO EVIDENCE OF PRO-HUNISM

"A special representative of the government has made an investigation of the conditions at Hartford, which

resulted in these six defendants being brought before your honor. He reports that personal interviews with fully 75 citizens failed to develop any evidence which the government can present. Therefore it is recommended that the defendants be discharged.

Above was the statement of Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Hold, Monday, at the opening of the hearing before Commissioner Dunblazier in which six men from Hartford were before the commissioner charged with seditious acts.

The government offered no testimony and recommended that the defendants be exonerated. Commissioner Dunblazier then discharged the defendants. In doing so, both the commissioner and prosecuting attorney recommended that defendants consult their attorney, Judge Holland, before returning to Hartford.

The six defendants were the men who had been brought to this city last week, after having been severely manhandled in Hartford on charges that they were disloyal to the country. During the hearing, counsel showed to the court that one of the defendants is wearing a Red Cross button and is entitled to wear it, and that at least three other defendants have contributed to some of the war funds. At the calling of the hearing, Judge Holland, as counsel for the defendants, asked to make a personal statement, saying:

"I want to say to this court, and to the government, that I would not defend any prisoner whom I had reason to believe in any degree disloyal to our country. I would at no price defend a traitor. When asked to defend these men I first sent a personal representative to Hartford to find out as near as possible the real facts behind this case.

"I do not desire to say more to the government of what was reported to me and the commissioner, than just this: I am sure of the innocence of these men of the charges which have been made against them, and so convinced, I am defending them."

The men, two of whom were painfully but not seriously hurt when they were beaten by the Hartford mob, the night they were forced to leave the town, were Carl Jaryzac, John Silling, George Skibra, Otto Webert, Albert Damel and Hugh Gillin.

Wednesday, April 3, 1918

TIGERS AND REDS CLASH HERE NEXT

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

At least two of the brightest stars of the baseball firmament—Christy Mathewson and Ty Cobb—will be seen in action in Fort Smith on April 9, when the Cincinnati Reds, under the leadership of Mathewson, play an exhibition game with the Detroit Tigers.

Proceeds of the game, which are expected to be large, will be donated to the comfort committee of the Navy league, it was announced Tuesday.

The game will be staged in the Stadium, and advance indications are the crowd will be a record-breaker.

Saturday, April 6, 1918

ONE KILLED; 32 HURT WHEN TRAIN PLUNGES INTO SWOLLEN STREAM

HUGO, Okla., April 5—(By the Associated Press.)—Crashing through a weakened bridge over Long Creek, four miles north of here, three coaches of Frisco passenger train No. 716, northbound, plunged into the swollen stream at 7:30 this morning, killing C. A. Welch, express messenger, of Monett, Mo., and injuring 32 persons, passengers and crew.

The engine and tender had almost cleared the bridge, traveling at 30 miles an hour, and running late, when the piers weakened by the heavy rain of last night collapsed. The engine rolled down the embankment. The baggage car was demolished and the first coach turned over with the rear end resting in the stream.

Passengers broke out windows and swam to safety.

Mrs. Joe Miller of Durant, swam to the bank through water thirty feet deep, carrying her 1-year-old baby.

Escaped passengers swam back to the partially submerged coach in search of bodies, but it was believed late today that all had been accounted for.

Low temperature and a hard rain added to the difficulty of rescue. Surgeons and high school volunteers from Hugo reached the scene at 8 o'clock, thirty minutes after the wreck, and worked valiantly with the injured.

Traffic had not been resumed late tonight, and northbound passenger No. 6 was still held up here. Four spans of the bridge went out.

The list of injured follows:

- ❖ William Phillips, Dunbar, Okla., hurt internally, serious.
- ❖ E. M. Noble, Harris, Okla., injured about head and shoulders, serious.
- ❖ S. S. Holcomb, Ada, Okla., injured head, shoulder, arm and internally, serious.
- ❖ Engineer Skelton, Fort Smith, injured in left-leg and head, not serious.
- ❖ Fireman Meeh, fractured right arm, back and head injured.
- ❖ W. E. Sublett, 322 North Seventeenth, Fort Smith, cut on face.
- ❖ Conductor W. R. Land, Fort Smith, bruised on head.

- ❖ W. G. Payne, Meyers, Okla., light injuries.
- ❖ W. E. Bass, Antiers, Okla., arm and hip hurt, not serious.
- ❖ H. I. Shaffer, Hugo, Okla., minor bruises, not serious.
- ❖ H. J. Harris, Leflore, Okla., bruises and cuts.
- ❖ Mrs. E. M. Goss, Hugo, Okla., dislocated shoulder.
- ❖ Eulah Simpson, Finley, Okla., bruises.
- ❖ Sam Fry, Bennington, Okla., cuts and bruises.
- ❖ O. E. Griffith, Hugo Okla., bruises and cuts.
- ❖ K. W. Caten, Dallas, Texas, side injured.
- ❖ Prof. Marion Orr, Durant, Okla., back bruised.
- ❖ Mrs. J. J. Miller, Durant, Okla., ankle injured.
- ❖ Prof. J. J. Miller, Durant, Okla., rib fractured.
- ❖ C. E. Hearne, Dewar, Okla., bruises and cuts.
- ❖ H. O. Hern, Hugo, Okla., mouth injured.
- ❖ J. Sies, Livingston, Ill., head cut and bruises.
- ❖ H. O. Runge, Hugo, Okla., body bruised.
- ❖ H. H. Hawley, Paris, Texas, artery cut in hand, shoulder mashed.
- ❖ T. E. Zebermy, Dallas, Texas, side injured.
- ❖ W. G. Moore, Hugo, Okla., head and back injured.
- ❖ Mrs. C. E. Hearne, Dewar, Okla., internal injuries.
- ❖ Bob Davenport, Finley, Okla., injured in chest.
- ❖ J. P. Shaw, Hugo, Okla., severe cuts.
- ❖ M. I. Dudley, Hugo, Okla., back injured.
- ❖ Sidney King, train porter, slightly injured.

Wednesday, April 10, 1918

CROWD SEES DETROIT VANQUISH CINCINNATI TEAM BY BIG SCORE

All the men and women—and the High and grammar school boys and girls—who could find seats or standing room in the grandstand and bleachers at the Stadium, and a good number of others who stood on the foul lines on both sides of the field, grew enthusiastic yesterday afternoon, while Ty Cobb, Onie Bush, Harry Heilmann, Heinie Groh, Eddie Rousch and other big league baseball stars themselves enjoyed a baseball contest that was interesting throughout, although only occasionally was there a flash of real big league baseball to distinguish the affair from the lower grade games.

Detroit won the contest 15 to 8. It was the eighth game played in the spring exhibition series by these two clubs, and the seventh of the series to be won by the Tigers.

Nobody who knows anything of baseball expected to witness a sure-enough, "cut loose" baseball game, this early in the season. But the players who participated in yesterday's game are all in mighty fine physical condition and need only a small amount of work yet to put them on

edge for the season's fray—even if they need any.

Although there were other men to hit the ball harder and more often and other men also who stole a base during the game, nevertheless the one big feature was Ty Cobb—just as he comes mighty near being the feature of all games in which he partakes. The crowd laughed and applauded more than once, when Cobb was safe on a bag, primarily because of his nifty manner of dropping under the outstretched hand which held the ball, ready to tag him.

There was lots of hard hitting in yesterday's game—but much of it was due to the fact that the park is smaller than the major league gardens, and the fields plainly were cramped for room—notable first and third basemen, the outfielders and the catcher, all of whom found the fence far too close in to give them a fair chance at a put out. Four homers, two triples and four doubles made up the extra base hits. And it was some hitting bee—an aggregate of thirty-five singles for a total of fifty-five bases is some hitting, even in an exhibition game.

There were no formalities—but at the end of the sixth inning, Ray Gill made a two-minute talk, in which he called the attention of the audience to the Liberty loan drive, the Navy league's comfort committee work, the meeting last night at the courthouse where baseball stars were among the speakers and the womanless wedding next week. Then Hughie Jennings, Detroit manager, briefly announced that all the ball players stood firmly in support of the Navy league.

There were calls for Christy Mathewson and Ty Cobb, but these bashful fellows had crawled under the stand, and would not be brought up to face the crowd and make a speech.

The weather was fine, and the crowd plainly enjoyed the afternoon's contest, even if it was not star baseball. The players, who arrived from Oklahoma during yesterday afternoon, left again last night, en route homeward, to start the season's pennant play.

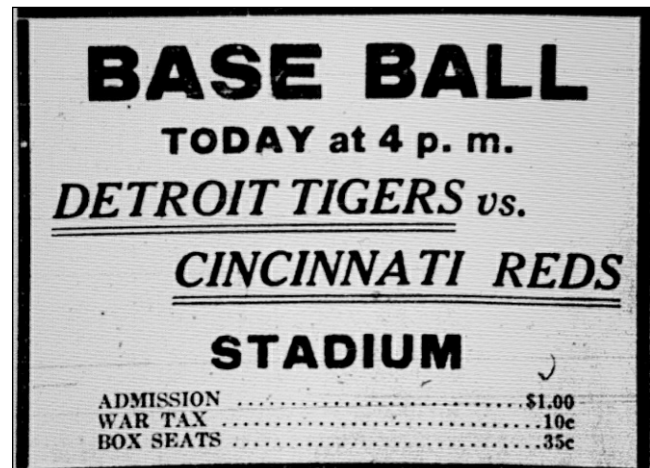
Wednesday, April 10, 1918

FLAG RAISING ON PLAZA ON FRIDAY

Plans are almost complete for the hoisting of an American flag on the Plaza, corner of Garrison and Eleventh street, Friday evening.

George Rye and Will Rebsamen, in charge of the movement to purchase and erect a flag and pole, expect to have everything in readiness by that time, and arrangements are being made for the program.

All choirs of the city, and all singers interested, are requested to meet at 8 o'clock Thursday evening at the



Central Presbyterian church, North Ninth and B streets, for a rehearsal of the musical program.

Friday, April 12, 1918

GIANT BARLING OAK 400 YEARS OLD SAYS EXPERT

Last week the *Southwest American* published a description of the giant red oak tree on the Nance farm near Barling, challenging the state to produce evidence that it is not the largest tree in the southwest. The circumference was given as 27 feet, three feet above the ground, and the supposed height 100 feet. The story attracted wide interest, as evidenced by communications received relating to the tree.

One of these communications came from an expert timber cruiser and agent of the government forestry department in Missouri, and it is of special interest because he gives expert data in proof of his assertion that the tree should be not far from 400 years old. Do you get it? If the estimate is trustworthy, the acorn which produced that oak at Barling must have germinated about twenty years after Christopher Columbus discovered America, and more than 100 years before the Pilgrim Fathers landed at Plymouth Rock.

Sunday, April 14, 1918

MRS. CHOWNING DENIES ANY KNOWLEDGE OF WOMAN FOUND WITH PROFESSOR IN CHICAGO

Mrs. Willis Raines Chowning of Fort Smith last denied that her daughters, Mrs. Rufus M. Granger and Miss Della Raines, are in Chicago, and expressed the opinion that the

woman found in a Chicago hotel with Dr. William I. Thomas, the University of Chicago professor, is impersonating her daughter.

"My daughters are in New York," said Mrs. Chowning. "Only today I had a letter from Mrs. Granger, mailed in New York on Wednesday. Della has been in New York for several years, ever since she was here, and I am sure she is not in Chicago."

Dispatches from Chicago Saturday stated that Mrs. Granger and Miss Raines, who is also in Chicago, are daughters of Mrs. Chowning.

"I know nothing whatever about the Chicago affair, except what I have seen in the papers," Mrs. Chowning continued. "My daughters have not sent me word about it, because they probably don't know anything about it. If they see in the papers Sunday that these women have given their names and mine, they will undoubtedly telegraph me and clear up the situation."

Mrs. Granger's 3-year-old baby boy is with Mrs. Chowning at her home, 505 North Twenty-first street.

Rufus M. Granger and Miss Pearl Raines were married in Fort Worth, Texas. He worked as a telegraph operator in Fort Worth, Pine Bluff, Ark., and other places. Both have visited here at various times. Mr. Granger enlisted in the signal corps of the army last winter, and is now in France with the American expeditionary forces. Mrs. Granger accompanied him to New York when he sailed and has been there for several weeks with her sister, Miss Della Raines, a moving picture actress.

THOMAS UNDER ARREST

(By Associated Press)

CHICAGO, April 13.—Prof. William Isaac Thomas of the department of sociology of the University of Chicago, who was arrested with Mrs. Pearl Granger, the young wife of an army lieutenant now serving in France, in a downtown hotel Thursday, spent ten minutes in jail late this afternoon.

Thomas, who is called "Daddy" by Mrs. Granger, was arrested on a warrant charging disorderly conduct, and made returnable in the morals court Monday morning. He secured his release on a \$400 bond and immediately returned to his home, where Mrs. Thomas who was a member of the Ford peace mission, had given refuge to Mrs. Granger.

Professor Thomas, who is 55 years old, with a national reputation and a family socially prominent, was called by his wife a "foolish boy, who had committed an unutterably stupid act not wrong, but indiscreet." Mrs. Granger, who is 24 years old, with a baby boy living now with his grandparents in Fort Smith Ark., Mrs. Thomas referred to as an "immature child, dazzled by the distinguished professor."

Following the arrest of the professor and Mrs. Granger after their trip from Washington, Mrs. Thomas motored down town to visit Mrs. Granger and her sister, Miss Della Raines, an 18-year-old motion picture actress, and took both girls home with her to talk over the whole situation.

"When husband comes home I will abide in happiness with him, and him alone." Declared Mrs. Granger, when asked what further consequences of the affair might be, and then she added:

"But there will be shooting—shooting, I say—when he comes back. And if he learns it now he will immediately desert to come."

Professor Thomas declared he was willing to stand the consequences. "I am going to stick by Mrs. Granger through thick and thin," he said. "She is a nervous wreck as a result of the questionings she has gone through."

The professor declared that Mrs. Granger was under the care of a physician at his home.

Meanwhile there was a hastily assembled meeting of the University of Chicago faculty, but it was said in university circles that no action will be taken until next week.

Sunday, April 28, 1918

BOY RANGERS HELP STAMP DAY WORKERS

An organization of boys which bids fair to grow and become a power in the boy world has been conceived by C. F. Wilmans of this city, who has given it the name of "The Boy Rangers."

Troop No. 1, with a membership of over 100 boys, is gaining a name and reputation for patriotic service in which they will be proud in years to come.

When the committee in charge of the advertising of "Stamp Day," May 1, called upon them to assist in the work, over 83 Boy Rangers reported and with an earnestness and spirit that was commendable, distributed over 10,000 circulars in a remarkably short time. Despite the fact that they had arranged to go on "hike" in the country, they gave up their intended trip and answered the summons of Grand Chief Ranger Wilmans with the enthusiasm of young soldiers.

Saturday, May 11, 1918

NEGRO BOY DROWNS IN ARKANSAS RIVER

Disregarding a warning to stay away from the river front, Will Johnson, 12 years old, colored, slipped into the

Arkansas river and was drowned about 4 o'clock Friday afternoon. Late Friday night his body had not been recovered.

The boy was one of a half dozen who were playing about piles of drift wood in the river, just below the pumping station of the Fort Smith Ice company, at North First and D streets.

An employe (sic) of the ice company said the boys had played in that vicinity quite often, despite repeated warnings of the danger. In fact, he said, it was but three hours prior to the tragedy that the boys were warned to seek a safer place to play.

Monday, June 3, 1918

WANTS \$10,000 FOR FINGER BITTEN OFF IN FISTIC CONTEST

Because he charges Walter Barry bit his finger off in a fight last November, N. T. Johnson filed suit Monday for \$10,058.04 as damages. He asks \$58.04 as expense, \$7,500 as compensatory and \$2,500 as punitive damages.

Both are well known old residents of Fort Smith, who live on Park avenue, in the eastern part of town.

Sunday, May 19, 1918

CAR DRIVERS MUST BE OVER EIGHTEEN

Numerous complaints have reached the police department lately that minors under the age of 18 years are driving automobiles, in violation of the city ordinance.

Police Chief Phillip Ross requested yesterday that all motorists be warned that violations of this ordinance will not be tolerated. No exceptions are to be allowed.

"We do not wish to fine any one for violation of this ordinance, and are therefore giving warning." He said. "Hereafter, all drivers under 18 will be arrested and fined. It is necessary for the public safety that no one drive automobiles except those competent to handle them."

Sunday, June 9, 1918

THOUSANDS WATCH ECLIPSE OF SUN

The 1918 total eclipse of the sun played its forecast engagement on Saturday evening, in the presence of



MANHATTAN CAFE

NOW OPEN
At 620 Garrison Avenue

Visit Us In Our Handsome New Quarters

WE have opened the largest, best equipped and most conveniently located Cafe in Fort Smith—In the heart of the business and shopping district

SPECIAL attention will be paid to short orders and after-the-theater parties

The Manhattan Is Always Open

With us, cooking is an art
--not a cold commercial proposition

Our dinners and luncheons are the highest expressions of cooking skill and cunning

Take dinner or luncheon here. Come in with your family and friends

The surroundings, the food and the service will in every way reflect the spirit of a satisfying meal



OUR CHEFS ARE EXPERTS

MANHATTAN CAFE

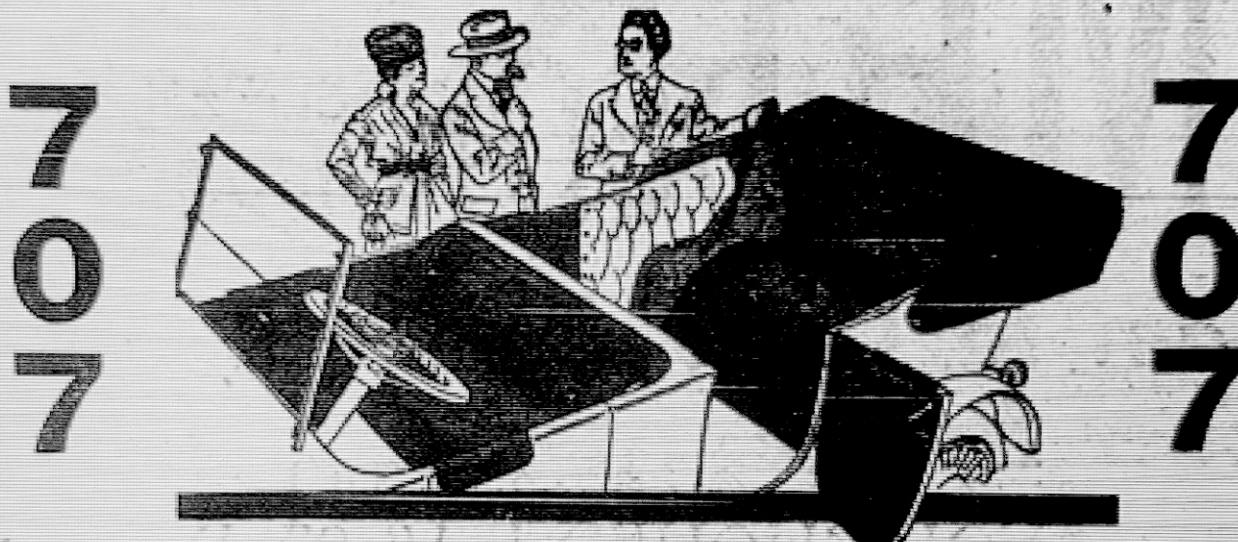
New Location—620 Garrison Avenue

thousands of keenly interested spectators in this section. They viewed the grand spectacle from the tops of most high buildings and every point of vantage. The forecast by the weather observer of bad weather nearly came true, for a heavy rain of nearly an inch fell, during the morning and not an hour before the eclipse did the sun give promise of breaking through the clouds. As it was, the sun shone feebly through thin cloud veils.

The shadow of the moon first touched the face of the sun at thirty seconds after 5:30 o'clock. Within an hour and four minutes the eclipse of the sun was total, and the shadow passed in time for an hour or more of bright sunshine before sunset. Under instructions of the national weather bureau Forecaster Guthrie and a corps of interested assistants and spectators, observed the eclipse from the roof of the federal building where they had the benefit of the Neplescope and took the half-minute records of wind and clouds and other phenomena of the eclipse. The clouds prevented an observation of either the corona or the shadow

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YANTIS-HARPER CO.

Twelfth and Garrison Avenue

bands which accompany an eclipse.

A most interesting feature of the observation was the action of swallows, sparrows and other birds. As the weird darkness came on, the birds performed their usual night practices. Flocks of swallows circled high in the air and then flew into the big chimneys for the night. As the darkness passed, the little fellows quit their night roosts and just as they would do on any morning, flew down and took their morning dust bath on the lawns and driveways.

Thursday, June 13, 1918

LINEMAN BATTLES FOR LIFE

For thirty seconds Wednesday afternoon G. C. Moore, a lineman for Fort Smith Light and Traction company, fought death when he came in contact with a high tension feed wire while at the top of one of the tall poles of the company at Garrison avenue and Hotel Main alley.

Moore owes his life to W. H. Hall, a brother lineman, who was working with him on the opposite side of the pole. Both were readjusting wires from the old wooden poles to the new iron uprights. His escape from electrocution was miraculous—2300 volts passed through his right side. He was burned about the hand and knee.

With his companion Moore was engaged about 2:30 o'clock in transferring a feed wire from the wood pole to the iron suspension pole. Just as he placed his right hand on the wire, Moore's right knee came in contact with an iron brace attached to the cross arm. He received the full force of the current.

Persons standing in the vicinity heard a frightened yell and observed the lineman waving like a leaf under the thumps of the heavy voltage. They stood awe-stricken. Moore was being rapidly shocked to death.

Hall, on the opposite side, grabbed the wire in his gloved hand, and forced it from Moore's grasp. As it came back into position, Moore grabbed the death dealing wire again. Hall for the second time forced Moore free of it, caught his body



as he (unreadable) backwards, and saved him from plunging to the pavement beneath. Moore was then strapped to the pole, where he remained ten minutes before he attempted to descend to the ground. He suffered a burned hole in the palm of his right hand, and another on the right knee.

"That's the second close call with death," he exclaimed after reaching the ground. "The other was a little closer, but this one wasn't far away from the Grim Reaper."

Thursday, June 13, 1918

**POISONED CANDY GIVEN
CHILDREN BY STRANGER;
MOTHER AVERTS TRAGEDY**

What is said by local health authorities to be a dastardly attempt to poison several children in the vicinity of Sixth street and the suburban railway crossing, was disclosed Wednesday by analytical examination of candy and apples given them by a stranger presumably a foreigner, who drove up in an automobile to where they were at play on the sidewalk.

He then hurriedly left the scene. No trace of the man has since been found. The candy was shown to contain Paris green, an arsenic preparation, sufficient to kill all who ate of it.

It was due to Mrs. S. R. Duncan that her children were saved a violent and tragic death. She observed the man drive up in the automobile, call the children to him and give them apples, a bottle of soda pop and a quarter pound box of candy. The candy was what is commonly known as marshmallows.

Suspicious of the man's action, Mrs. Duncan looked at the candy. There was a greenish substance over part of it. Taking possession of the confection, Mrs. Duncan brought them to the city authorities. City Commissioner Bayley sent the articles to the city laboratory, with instructions that an analytical examination be made. Wednesday morning he was given the report of the chemist. It read:

"Soda pop contains no poison. Apple contains no poison. Marshmallows contain paris green, or technically called copper arsenate."

Commissioner Bayley stated that he had been advised by the chemist that the candy contained sufficient of the poison to cause death of any who ate part of it. In the opinion of the health authorities, the attempted wholesale poisoning was rather crude, as the candy was covered with the poison. A child unattended however never would have noticed it.

The reason or motive for the attempt to poison the children is clothed in mystery. The man is said to have driven hurriedly from the scene, in the direction of Van Buren.

Friday, June 14, 1918

**LOCAL BOY FINDS LOCAL PRODUCT IN WAR
FRONT CANTEEN**

Products of the Best-Clymer company, a Fort Smith concern, are to be had in the Y. M. C. A. canteens on the war front in France, and a local soldier boy now over there in the battle against the Hun has written the local company of his joy at the discovery he made.

Max W. Friend, sergeant major of the Sixth battalion, Twentieth Engineers, and who was one of the many soldiers saved from the transport Tuscania when she was sunk off the British coast by an enemy submarine, is the local boy who found Best-Clymer products in the Y.M.C.A. canteen, and he hastened to buy a can of pineapple for a taste of "back home." Then he used the reverse side of the label on that can to write to the company of the experience.

Here's his letter:

"Best-Clymer Manufacturing company, Fort Smith.

"Gentlemen:—The Temtor label caught my eye. It was on the shelf of the Y. M. C. A. canteen. They had just received some goodies from home for the boys and that's how I got it.

"It's just another link keeping us in touch with home and reminding us of what awaits us when we return. Here's hoping I see more of those Fort Smith labels over here and a Greater Fort Smith when I return."

Sunday, June 16, 1918

**REAR ADMIRAL EBERLE
RETAINS COMMAND
AT ANNAPOLIS ACADEMY**

Local friends of Rear Admiral Edward W. Eberle, formerly a Fort Smith man, and brother of Dr. J. G. Eberle, will be pleased to learn, from the following article in an Annapolis newspaper, that Rear Admiral Eberle will retain the command of the naval academy at Annapolis.

"Rear Admiral Edward W. Eberle, superintendent of the Naval Academy, will remain in charge of the tremendously important work of training the youths of the United States as naval officers."*

*Editor's note: See Jim Spears, "Fort Smith's Admirals: Eberle and Cooke," *Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society*, Vol. 33, No. 1, April 2009, 32-37.

Friday, June 23, 1918

**REGISTRATION OF ALIEN WOMEN
IS BRINGING OUT
MANY STRANGE FACTS**

One of the radical shake-ups which result from the war will be in the matter of what constitutes American citizenship. The registration of German aliens is emphasizing this point.

There was an illustration in the office of the United States marshal in this city. A Fort Smith woman came in to find whether she has to register. She had been told she would but the "very idea that she was not as much of an American as anybody" was too much for her to believe, Said she:

"Why, I was born here and so were my ancestors as far back as we know anything about. If I am not a real American citizen I do not know who is."

Inquiry brought out the fact that she had married a German whose father had come from Germany when the



boy was 3 years old. All their lives this couple have been Americans in very deed. But they were not, and both had to register.

When the order came to register alien German men, this man searched the records and found that his father had taken out first papers many years ago, but no evidence that he had ever completed his naturalization. That left his son an alien.

"Well, if I'm a German alien, I'll register"—and she went yesterday and got her pictures taken and registered.



Al Whitson selects historically significant entries from microfilmed newspapers of Fort Smith as reported one hundred years ago.

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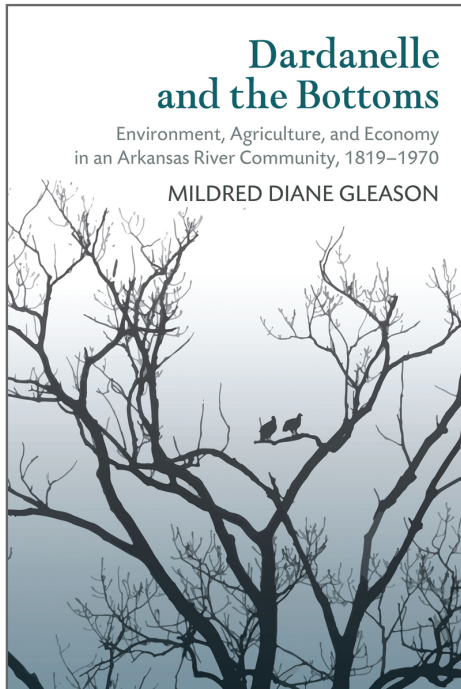
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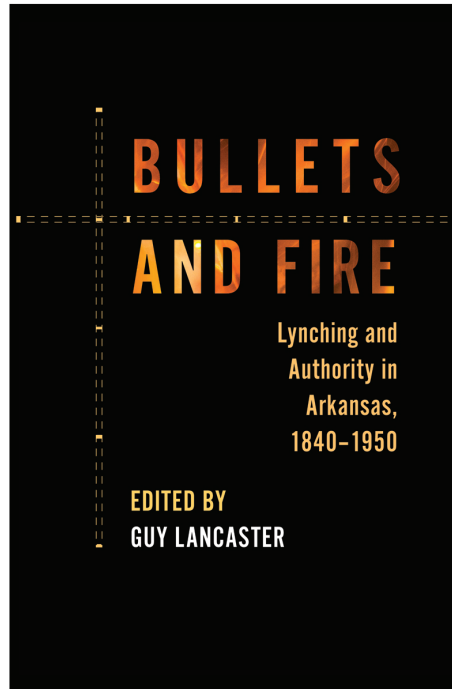
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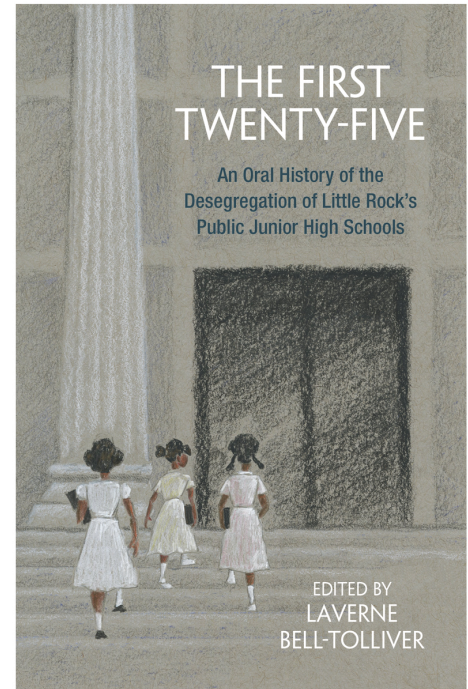
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